

## **OUR BELOVED SISTER PARISH**

November 25, 2025

Dear Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish and The School.

God is good all the time.

Praise be Jesus Christ, now and forever.

It is with great honor that I take this opportunity to introduce myself to you, Fr. Epiphany Msuri, as the new pastor of the Sister Parish- - Saint Francis Xavier at Kiraeni in Tanzania.

I wish you God's blessing as you prepare for the Advent and Christmas this year 2025. Our Parish has been blessed to have two seminarians who were ordained transitional deacons this year. One was ordained a deacon in July 31<sup>st</sup> and he will be ordained a priest on the 08<sup>th</sup> January 2026. The second was ordained a deacon on 29<sup>th</sup> October and he will be ordained a priest in July 2026. Thank you very much for your prayers and to pray with us for vocations to priesthood, religious life, marriage life and single life.

Fr. Paulinus Mangesho who is a member of a missionary Society (ALCP/OSS) and now ministering in the Archdiocese of Portland briefed me about the mission outreach which was initiated by the parishioners of OLMC and the School in response to the Statement of U.S Catholic Bishops in 2001 "A Call to Solidarity with Africa." Father Paulinus told me that this is where the idea of the Sister Parish between OLMC Parish and Saint Francis Xavier Parish originated.

I believe that OLMC Parish and the School chose Saint Francis Parish in Tanzania due to the fact that Fr. Paulinus was ministering at OLMC Parish and hence opened the way to have an easy connection to a church in Africa. Parishioners of Saint Francis Xavier Parish live in the area that is very dry, almost like a semi-desert and depend on rainfall to survive. Most of the years they experience severe drought two to three or even more consecutively. Your generous hearts and empathy to the Sister parish has brought enormous relief and hope to many lives; people with disability, women and children especially orphans.

Finally, I humbly submit my sincere gratitude and from the parishioners who in unison pray and offer special intentions in the Eucharistic celebration asking God to protect all of you, give you good health and grace you with the commitment and empathy you have toward our sister Parish, Saint Francis Xavier. Fr. Paulinus surprised me also with your donation this year (\$2,500.00) which is on the way coming to our parish. Rest assured that I will give you all the details of every dollar you donate to the Sister Parish.

*Fr. Epiphany Msuri, Pastor*

*Saint Francis Xavier Parish, Kiraeni-Tanzania*