

HIS GRACE ARCH BISHOP EMERITUS R.S.

NDINGI MWANA A'NZEKI

Celebrating the Life

DECEMBER 1931 — MARCH 2020



ARCHDIOCESE OF NAIROBI

"His master replied, 'well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things: I will put you in Charge of many things. Come and share your master's Happiness!'

Matthew: 25:21

MAIN CELEBRANT
HIS EMINENCE JOHN CARDINAL NJUE

CHOIR
HOLY FAMILY BASILICA YOUTH CHOIR

MC Fr. David Njau
LITURGIST Fr. Bernard Kabiu

PROGRAMME OF THE DAY

9.00 am. Departure from Mater Hospital
9.45 am. Preparation for Mass

READINGS

1st Reading Marylnn Mumbua
Psalm Marylnn Mumbua
Gospel Deacon Charles Wachira

Homily His Lordship Maurice Muhatia – *Bishop of Nakuru*

Eulogy Rev. Prof. Lawrence Njoroge

Interment

ROBI COMMUNICATIONS

MISA MWANZO

AS THE DEER

As the deer panteth for the water,
So my soul longeth after Thee
You alone are my heart's desire,
And I long to worship Thee

You alone are my strength,
My shield, to you alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire,
And I long to worship Thee

You're my friend, and you are my brother,
Even though you are a King
I love you more than any other,
So much more than anything

I want you more than gold or silver,
Only You can satisfy
You alone are the real joy giver,
and the apple of my eye

NAINUA MOYO WANGU

Nainua moyo wangu kwako wewe ee Bwana,
Unikinge na uovu, tumaini wewe tu.

Nijulishe njia zako, nifundishe ukweli,
Hekimayo niongoze, tumaini wewe tu.

Ewe Baba ukumbuke wema wako milele,
Nifutie dhambi zangu, tumaini wewe tu

Nitazame kwa huruma, ewe Mungu amini,
Nitubishe mwenye dhambi, tumaini wewe tu.

Shida zangu angalia, niokoe dhikini,
Nisamehe dhambi zangu, tumaini wewe tu.

Njia zako zote Bwana nifadhili na kweli,
Niongoze mtoto wako, tumaini wewe tu

CENTINARY MASS

Utuhurumie ee Bwana ee – ee
Bwana tuhurumie (ee Bwana)*4

(Ee Kristu tuhurumie, tuhurumie utuhurumie ee,
Ee Kristu tuhurumie, ee Kristu tuhurumie)*2

Utuhurumie ee Bwana ee – ee
Bwana tuhurumie (ee Bwana)*4

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sifa – sifa kwako ee Kristu Bwana,
Wewe – wewe ndiwe Neno la uzima.





SOMO LA KWANZA

(HEK. 3: 1-9)

SOMO KATIKA KITABU CHA HEKIMA YA SULEMANI

Roho zao wenyе haki wamo mkononi mwa Mungu, wala maumivu hayatawagusa. Machoni pa watu walio wajinga walionekana kwamba wamekufa, na kufariki kwao kulidhaniwa kuwa ni hasara yao, na kusafiri kwao kutoka kwetu kuwa ni uharibifu wao; bali wao wenyewe wamo katika amani. Kwa sababu hata ikiwa (waonavyo watu) wanaadhibiwa, hata hivyo taraja lao limejaa kutokufa, na wakiisha kustahimili kurudiwa kidogo watapokea wingi wa mema.

Kwa kuwa Mungu amewajaribu, na kuwaona kuwa wamemstahili, kama dhahabu katika tanuru alwajaribu, akawakubali mithili ya kafara. Wakati wa kujiliwa kwao watang'aa, na kama vimulimuli katika mabua makavu watametameta.

Watahukumu mataifa na kuwatawala kabilia za watu; naye Bwana atawamiliki milele na milele. Wenyе kumtumaini watafahamu yaliyo kweli, na waaminifu watacaa naye katika upendo; mradi neema na rehema zina wateule wake.

Neno la Bwana

WIMBO WA KATIKATI

1. Bwana ndiye mchungaji wangu,
Sitapungukiwa na kitu.
Katika malisho ya majani mabichi hunilaza,
Kando ya maji ya utulivu huniongoza.

*Bwana ndiye mchungaji wangu,
Sitapungukiwa na kitu.*

2. Hunihuisha nafsi yangu; na kuniongoza
Katika njia za haki kwa ajili ya jina lake.
Naam, nijapopita kati ya bonde la uvuli wa
mauti,
Sitaogopa mabaya;
Kwa maana Wewe upo pamoja nami,
Gongo lako na fimbo yako vyanifariji

3. Waandaa meza mbele yangu,
Machoni pa watesi wangu,
Umenipaka mafuta kichwani pangu,
Na kikombe changu kinafurika.

4. Hakika wema na fadhili zitanifuata,
Siku zote za maisha yangu,
Nami nitakaa nyumbani mwa Bwana milele.

SHANGILIO

Njoni, mliobarikiwa na Baba yangu, urithini
ufalme mliowekewa tayari tangu kuumbwa
ulimwengu.

INJILI

(YN. 11: 32-45)

Lazaro, njoo huku nje.

SOMO KATIKA INJILI ILIVYOANDIKWA NA YOHANE.

Mariamu alipofika pale alipokuwapo Yesu, na kumwona, alianguka miguuni pake, akamwambia, Bwana, kama ungalikuwapo hapa, ndugu yangu hangalikufa. Basi Yesu alipomwona Analia, na wale wayahudi waliofuatana naye wanalia, aliugua rohoni, akafadhaika roho yake, akasema, Mmemweka wapi? Wakamwambia, Bwana, njoo utazame. Yesu akalia machozi. Basi Wayahudi wakasema, Angalieni jinsi alivyompenda. Bali wengine wao wakasema, Je! Huyu aliyemfumbua macho yule kipofu, hakuweza kumfanya na huyu asife? Basi Yesu, hali akiugua tena nafsini mwake, akafika kwenye kaburi. Nalo lilikuwa ni pango, na jiwe limewekwa juu yake. Yesu akasema, Liondoeni jiwe. Martha, dada yake yule aliyefariki, akamwambia, Bwana, ananuka sasa; maana amekuwa maiti siku nne. Yesu akamwambia, Mimi sikukuambia ya kwamba ukiamini utaona utukufu wa Mungu?

Basi wakaliondoa lile jiwe. Yesu akainua macho yake juu, akasema, Baba, nakushukuru kwa kuwa umenisikia. Nami nalijua ya kuwa wewe wanisikia sikuzote; lakini kwa ajili ya mkutano huu wanaohudhuria nalisema haya, ili wapate kusadiki kwamba ndiwe uliyenituma.

Naye akiisha kusema hayo, akalia kwa sauti kuu, Lazaro, njoo huku nje. Akatoka nje yule aliyekufa, amefungwa sanda miguuni na mikononi, na uso wake amefungwa leso. Naye Yesu akawaambia, Mfungueni, mkamwache aende zake.

Basi wengi katika wayahudi waliokuja kwa Mariamu, na kuyaona yale aliyoafanya, wakamwamini.

Injili ya Bwana

MATOLEO

Ee Bwana, pokea sadaka tunayokutolea leo.

1. Mkate na divai – Baba upokee
Ni mazao yetu – Baba upokee.
2. Zigeuze mwili – Baba upokee
Na damu ya Yesu – Baba upokee
3. Tupokee sisi – Baba upokee
Moyoni twatubu – Baba upokee
4. Sadaka ya leo – Baba upokee
Ikupendeze tu – Baba upokee
5. Ikusifu Baba – Baba upokee
Ikukuze Baba – Baba upokee
6. Itufae sisi – Baba upokee
Tulio wanao – Baba upokee

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

MTAKATIFU

Mtakatifu mtakatifu – mtakaifu Bwana Mungu
Mtakatifu mtakatifu – (mtakatifu Bwana Mungu wa majeshi) *2

Mbingu na dunia zimejaa utukufu,
Mbingu na dunia mbingu na dunia
Mbingu na dunia (zimejaa utukufu wako) *2

*(Hosana juu *3 hosana juu mbinguni) *2*

Mbarikiwa ye ye ajaye kwa jina,
Mbarikiwa ye ye, mbarikiwa ye ye
Mbarikiwa ye ye (ajaye kwa jina la Bwana) *2

MAMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Yesu Kristu alikufa – Yesu Kristu alikufa
Yesu Kristu alifufuka – (Yesu Kristu atakuja kwetu tena) *2





MWANA KONDOO

(Ee Mwana kondoo wa Mungu uondoaye dhambi za dunia ee, ee mwana tuhurumie Mwana kondoo wa Mungu ee – ee Mwana tuhurumie) *2

Mwana kondoo wa Mungu ee – Amani utujalie Mwenye kuondoa dhambi zetu ee – Amani utujalie

(Utujalie Amani ee – Amani utujalie) *2



HOLY COMMUNION

HII NI KARAMU

Hii ni karamu, uzima wa roho, yumo Bwana Yesu,

Kwa mwili wake kweli, na damu yako.

1. Alisema Bwana: twaeni wote, mule, ni mwili wangu.
2. Alisema Bwana: twaeni wote, munywe, ni damu yangu
3. Nasi twasadiki ni mwili wake kweli, na damu yake.
4. Alituamuru kufanya hivyo kwa ukumbusho wake.
5. Tukifanya hivyo, tunatangaza kifu cha Bwana wetu.
6. Kwa hii karamu, twashiriki uzima wa Bwana wetu.
7. Huu ni upendo aliotuachia Mkombozi wetu.
8. Hapa duniani twaishi na Baba kwa karamu hii.
9. Na huko Mbinguni tutaishi na Baba milele yote.

POKEA MOYO WANGU

Pokea moyo wangu ee Mungu wangu, niweze
kukupenda kwa pendo lako.

Unipe moyo wako, ewe Yesu Mkombozi
wangu, shinda kwangu, nami daima kwako.

1. Onjeni mwone kwamba Bwana yu mwema,
Na heri yule mtu anayemtumaini Yesu Kristu.
2. Katika nguvu za giza katutoa,
Na kutukaribisha katika ufalme wa pendo
lake.
3. Habari njema alituhubiria na kutufungulia,
Akatangaza mwanga wa neema
4. Mchungaji wangu mkuu ndiye Bwana Yesu,
Sikosi kitu kamwe, huniongoza kwenye njia
nyofu.
5. Baraka na heshima na utukufu,
Na uweza kwa yeye, mwana kondoo wa
Mungu milele.

YESU MWEMA NAJITOLEA KWAKO

@ (TRADITIONAL)

Yesu mwema najitolea kwako,
Kwa leo hii na siku zote
Nafsi yangu na moyo wangu wote
Heri kweli, heri kweli,
Heri kweli raha ya uwingu *2

Ndani mwangu umekuja daima,
Kuwa nami ni pendo lako
Ewe mpenzi mwenye utamu
mwingi
Ni mapendo, ni mapendo,
Ni mapendo ya moyo wako *2

Nitaweza kukurudishia nini,
Kwa wema huu na pendo lako
Roho yangu umeifadhilia
Nikupende, nikupende,
Nikupende ni tamaa yangu*2

Weka Rabi katika roho yangu,
Wema wako na unyenyekevu,
Na pendo kuu fadhila ya imani
Niongoze, niongoze,
Niongoze katika imani *2

WHEN PEACE LIKE A RIVER

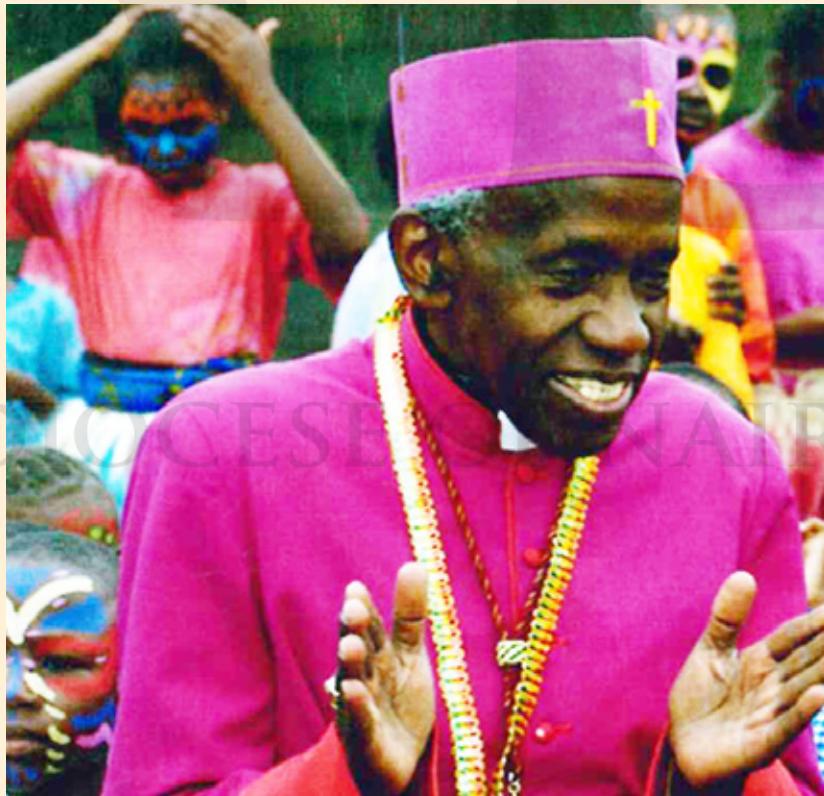
When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

*It is well with my soul;
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

Though Satan should buffet, though trials
should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed his own blood for my soul.

My sin—O the bliss of this glorious thought!—
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be
sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall
descend;
“Even so”—it is well with my soul.



PROCESSION TO THE BURIAL SITE

HUNIONGOZA MWOKOZI

Huniongoza Mwokozi, ndipo nami hufurahi
Niendapo pote napo, ataniongoza papo

Kuongoza, hunishika kwa mkono wa hakika
Nitaandamana naye Kristu aniongozaye

Pengine ni mashakani, nami pengine rahani
Ni radhi ijayo yote, yupo nami siku zote

Mkono akinishika, kamwe sitanung`unika
Atachoniletea, ni tayari kupokea

Nikiishika kazi chini, nitakwenda nako mbinguni
Nako nitamtukuza, Kristu aliyeongoza

NIMEPIGA VITA

Nimepiga vita, vilivyo vyema,
Vita vya roho na mwendo nimeumaliza *2

Sasa nangojea kupewa taji ya washindi
[Na] sio mimi peke yangu *2

Pamoja na wateule waloshinda vita

1. 1. Ninakuagiza mbele ya Mungu na mbele
ya Kristu
Ukalihubiri Neno uwe tayari siku zote
Ukaripie unene kwa uvumilivu
2. Nao watajiepusha wasisikie yalo kweli,
Tena kuzigeukia hadithi zao za uongo
Bali wewe uwe na kiasi katika mambo yako
3. Uvumilie mabaya fanya kazi ya muhubiri
Uihubiri injili uitimize huduma yako
Mimi sasa wakati wa kufa kwangu umefika

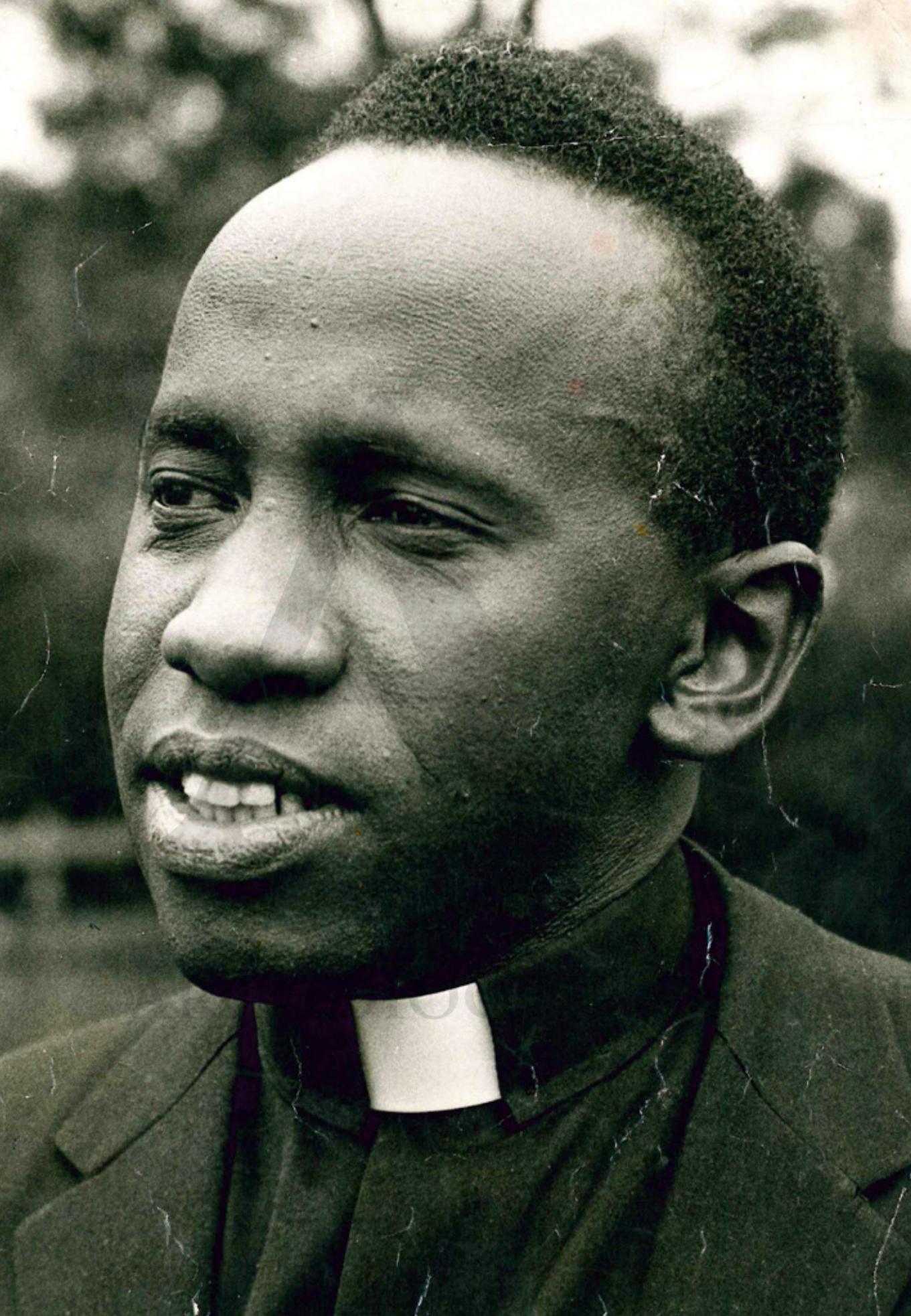
ROHO ZA WAAMINI

Roho za waamini wapate rehema kwa Mungu
(wapumzike kwa Amani) *2

1. Umewapenda wanao, kawajalia Amani,
Tunaomba roho zao zifike juu mbinguni.
2. Ee Yesu uwatume malaika wa mbinguni
Wawachukue wanao ili uwapokee.
3. Wajalie raha ya milele, waangaze nuru ya
milele
(wapumzike kwa Amani) *2

Amina, amina, amina, amina amina *4





EULOGY

CELEBRATING THE LATE RAPHAEL SIMON NDINGI MWANA A'NZEKI

EMERITUS ARCHBISHOP OF NAIROBI

EARLY LIFE

Emeritus Archbishop Raphael Ndingi Mwana 'a Nzeki was born in Myanyani village, Mwala location, Machakos County on 25th December 1931. He was the last born of Maria Muthoki and Joseph Nzeki Ngila. He was brother to Paul Muli, Veronica Kavenge, Ann Muluu and Teresia Katunge.

EDUCATION AND JOURNEY TO THE PRIESTHOOD

During that time the Kambas had not yet embraced western education as a way of bringing up the youth, especially for boys. Herding cattle was their main occupation. The government therefore made it mandatory for each family to volunteer a son to go school or suffer a fine of one cow. Mzee Nzeki, wanting to escape the fine, volunteered a son to go to school. However, this son did not take up the position, so Mzee Nzeki offered Ndingi as a replacement in order not to suffer the dreadful fine of a cow.

And so off Ndingi went to Myanyani Holy Ghost Primary School, and later to Kabaa. While at Kabaa, a plague came upon the area, disrupting learning and resulting in closure of the school. Many students, priests and nuns died. Miraculously, Ndingi escaped the sickness. He continued his education at Etikoni and later proceeded to Kabaa High School for Form one and two. After Kabaa he proceeded to Kilimambogo Teachers' College from which he graduated as a P3 teacher in 1950. Young Ndingi taught for while then proceeded to Kibosho Seminary, Moshi, Tanganyika (now Tanzania) to study Philosophy and later to Morogoro senior Seminary for Theological studies where he qualified to be ordained as a priest.

He was ordained as priest at Kabaa parish on the solemnity of Mary the Mother of God, on 1st January 1961 by Archbishop J J McCarthy CSSp. He was the first Kamba to be ordained as a Roman Catholic priest.



SERVICE IN THE CITY AND STUDY IN THE US:

Fr. Ndingi was posted to Our Lady of the Visitation Makadara which at one time had a formidable combination of diverse characters including Msgr. John Njenga, Fr. Hilary Kailu, Fr. Joseph Kamanu. Fr. Nicodemus Kirima, Fr Isidore Onyango, Fr. Gabriel Kimotho, Fr. George Muoho and Fr. George Gathongo.

One initiative that stands out was their setting up a hostel for young men and women, most of them recent arrivals from the countryside, and who had no accommodation in the bewildering and confusing City of Nairobi. Religious Sisters such as Sr. Edel Bahati and Sr. Martin Wanjiru helped the Njenga/Ndingi team establish the hostel near the parish compound.

Archbishop McCarthy soon appointed Fr. Ndingi his Education Secretary. The young priest was instrumental in the establishment of Forms V and VI classes at Mang'u High School and Loreto High School Limuru. Sr Colombiere Kelly IBVM still recalls Fr Ndingi arguing with senior officials who were reluctant to grant 'A' Level classes. The Loreto educationist reports that she has never seen an angrier priest. When they finally left the Ministry of Education HQs on that "dies irae" that is "day of wrath", Fr. Ndingi had a letter in hand, permitting Loreto Limuru to open a Form V class the following year.

In those days, Fr. Ndingi served as the Catholic Chaplain at Starehe Boys' Centre and worked very closely with Mr. Geoffrey Griffin, Founder and Director of Starehe. Theirs was a professional partnership that lasted a lifetime.

After returning brilliant results in his Cambridge School Certificate as a private candidate, Fr. Ndingi began preparing for his 'A' Levels, again self-taught. He did not sit for these exams simply because Archbishop McCarthy got him a scholarship to proceed to St. John Fisher College, New York, for university studies. There he majored in History and Political Science. Besides earning his degree, Fr. Ndingi made good friends with whom he has maintained communication all these years.

ORDAINED BISHOP BY POPE PAUL VI:

No sooner did he return to Kenya than he was appointed first bishop of the Diocese of Machakos by Pope Paul VI. It was a historic moment when the Holy Father ordained him to the episcopacy among several African bishops in Uganda in 1969.

During his time of service in the new diocese, Bishop Ndingi distinguished himself as a champion of good African customs and an enemy of evil practices.

One lasting memory of his Machakos years is that he told off politicians who tried to bribe and force innocent citizens to vote for them in the 1969 General Election. This strong stand against evil was just a foretaste of things to come. The political class had seen nothing yet!



WITNESS OF JESUS CHRIST IN NAKURU: 1972 - 1996

The Holy Father transferred Bishop Ndingi to Nakuru, to the displeasure of many folks in Masaku. The loss of Machakos was gain to Nakuru. Remarkable memories of Mwana 'a Nzeki in Nakuru include: contribution to the development of agriculture including Baraka Farm. sinking of boreholes for use by the People of God. establishment of the Diocesan Pastoral Centre. courageous defense of oppressed people during the infamous tribal clashes. There are many witnesses on this including his driver Mr. Samson Mwangi and Fr. Francis Mirango.



ARCHBISHOP OF NAIROBI: 1996 - 2007

For a decade Archbishop Ndingi was the shepherd of the People of God in this Archdiocese. Even without trying, what will we remember him for? (a) the faith prospered with the number of parishes growing from 80 to over 100. This means 3 new parishes every 2 years. (ii) his support for education, education and health institutions, training of personnel in skills (iii) growth of vocations to religious life and the priesthood. Indeed, wherever he has carried out his apostolate, he has invested heavily in education, training and vocations. Many professionals, religious sisters, brothers, priests and bishops know the role of Archbishop Ndingi in their life and vocation.

During his time at the Archdiocese of Nairobi, he ordained 56 priests.

Among his lasting achievements one must include his capacity to develop friendships with good people such as the Cekola family from Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA, who have generously supported the Church in Kenya for decades.

Another memory comprises Archbishop Ndingi's partnership with friends, industry and institutions, too many to name individually.



One recalls his intervention in conjunction with Dr. Wilfred D. Kiboro and the Nation Media Group, among others, when many parts of our country were struck by a serious drought in 1999. Archbishop Ndingi Mwana 'a Nzeki championed an effort that focused on bringing relief to hungry citizens and also sought to find a permanent solution to the challenges of hunger and thirst.

Here lies a good man of God who was capable of anger and did not suffer fools. At the same time, he had a good sense of humour.

Fr. Lawrence Njoroge of the Archdiocese of Nairobi recalls congratulating His Grace for his wonderful swimming skills. Fr. Njoroge added: "Your Grace, you are lucky to have been born near the Athi River and learning to swim at an early age".

The Archbishop immediately shot back: "Let me correct you, Fr. Lawrence. It is not the Athi River that swims. Rather, it is Ndingi Mwana a' Nzeki who learnt to swim in the flowing waters of the Athi River".

After his retirement he spent a quiet peaceful life at the Clergy Home in prayer and hosting visitors who often came to seek counsel from him. His Grace passed on peacefully on 30th March 2020, at around 8:30 PM.



CHAMPION OF JUSTICE:

Our departed Emeritus Archbishop was and is a man who thirsted, pursued and fought for truth and justice.

It is precisely for this reason that in 1996 St. John Fisher College, his alma mater, awarded him a Doctorate of Law (Honoris Causa). He was also honoured with the State Commendation, Elder of the Order of the Burning Spear (EBS) by the Republic of Kenya in recognition of his enormous contribution to national service.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace

AMEN



TRIBUTES

A TRIBUTE TO HIS GRACE, ARCHBISHOP RAPHAEL S. NDINGI MWANA'A NZEKI, ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NAIROBI.

The good Lord will sometimes grant us the special grace of sharing in the life of a person with exceptional qualities in order to remind us, I believe, to keep aiming higher and avoid any form of complacency. Anyone who lived or worked closely with the late Archbishop will most likely agree that he was one of these greater than life figures.

It is difficult to sketch in a few words the figure of the Archbishop because he was a man of different shades. He was both firm and gentle, he was courageous and meek, he was both rich and poor and he was both prudent and reckless. The Spirit blows where it wills and in the Archbishop it is admirable to see the Spirit at work.

Our dear departed father, that is what he was to us, was above all a man of prayer. He put many of us to shame when we saw how committed he was to his life of prayer. The Archbishop began his prayer at 5 am without fail and when his duties demanded he leave home exceptionally early, he went to the chapel earlier than usual. It was always impressive to see that the first thing he did when he entered the chapel was to pull out his rosary. This life of intimate friendship with God and Mother Mary must have been the source of his strength.

Many of us may have faced his wrath. He could really get annoyed if he thought he had good reason to do so. If there was need to tell you something, he would say it to you straight to the face. It was almost unheard of that he would talk about someone when the person was absent. This courage of his extended to board rooms, meetings and even in the public forum.

Strange as it may sound, he was also quick to apologize if he realized he was mistaken. Never did he assume the attitude of one who thinks he is always right. It was humbling to see him make an apology in public and it was even more baffling and more humbling for him to call you to his office and say sorry for something he said or did. The words "mistakes can be corrected" were repeated so often that anyone working with him was imbued with confidence.

And yet, he taught us to be prudent and not make rash decisions. How often he would consult with lawyers, doctors, engineers, politicians, theologians and all manner of professionals before taking a decision. The dignity of his office and the responsibility that went with it was very alive to him and he was keenly aware of the repercussions of the decisions he or his collaborators made.

Archbishop Ndingi was a father. A good father worries for his children, provides for them, corrects them but above all leaves them an example worth emulating. He was this kind of father and we are all better off for having known him and shared a part of his life. Being the good father he is, we ask him to pray for us that we too may be persons worth imitating.

Rev. Fr. Anthony Mwituria



TRIBUTE TO 'UNCLE' HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP NDING'I MWANA'A NZEKI

Uncle belonged to everyone. He wasn't just 'ours'. His vocation meant that He was everybody's Uncle, everybody's Father and Brother. He was generous both with himself and with everything that came into his hands. You would think that having to share him with the whole world meant having less of him, but that was not the case. He was intimately present in all our lives.

He was aware of every success, every failure and every need.

Uncle was an educator, he believed very firmly in the power that education had to change the lives of people. He was the only child of Mzee Nzeki's that had the privilege, and he made sure that all of us, his nephews and nieces in turn got an education. Those of you that had the opportunity to have a conversation with 'Uncle' know that it always featured the word 'School'. 'Is so and so in school? How are they doing? And so on...For this, we thank him.

I know you have sponsored many, including myself, children to pursue education in various schools and colleges.

Uncle, Archbishop Raphael Ndingi Mwana'a Nzeki, you were a pillar, a mentor and mostly a natural inspiration. We thank God for giving you the vocation you choose - a Shephard of His flock. It gave you the opportunity and space to instill Christianity into our lives and the community at large. You were a model to the youth, a teacher, and a positive catalyst for change. We aspire to emulate you. May the Lord rest your soul in eternal peace.

Dominic Kioko-Nephew

TRIBUTE TO 'UMAU'- HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP NDING'I MWANA'A NZEKI

To those that worked with him, His Grace, came across as strict and stern but to us he was a grandfather in every sense of the word. He was wise, and funny, and dotted on us, while making great exceptions for us.

I remember, when Umau was installed as ArchBishop of Nairobi, his office was the only place 12 year old me knew in Nairobi. Therefore, when my school came to the KICC for music festivals, I took the opportunity to show off my grandpa to my schoolmates. I showed up, two friends in tow, at his office, much to the chagrin of Sr. Mumbi who was then his Secretary and managed his diary. Rather than turn us away on account of his busy schedule, he invited us in and spent a good part of his afternoon humouring us.

He continued throughout his life to make exceptions like these for us his grandchildren. Being present in our lives, attending graduations, weddings, baptisms and even in times of loss always being the one to celebrate requiem mass. It pained Umau greatly every time he had to preside over the funeral of a grandchild- Wambua, Kioko, Mbinya, may they rest in peace.



Umau, we are sad that you are no longer here with us, but, it is a great comfort and consolation to know that we now have a personal intercessor in you, and we in turn will continue to pray for you. We shall always carry you in our hearts. We finish with a quote from St. Augustine which describes what you have been to us. Rest in peace UMAU.

"What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like." - St. Augustine

Marylyn Musyimi - GrandDaughter

WE SHALL FOREVER THANK GOD FOR YOUR SELFLESS SERVICE

News of your demise immediately sent everybody back into your life, and how you impacted them. Then naturally, we all went back to when and where you were born, your family, upbringing, schooling, seminary training, ordinations, where and when you served and for how long. Your consecration and consequent Dioceses and Archdiocese of service and duration. The times under which you served, religiously, politically, economically and morally just to mention but a few. The impact you had on the holistic wellbeing of the people of that time. It is in these reflections that we all get to acknowledge and remain overly grateful to God for your selfless service, not just to the Catholic Community of the Dioceses and Archdiocese that you so zealously and passionately served, but to our Motherland as well. A service that naturally endeared you to many, even as you time and again left the high and mighty of the political class uneasy, with your firm positions on an array of matters that touched on the fundamental wellbeing of every person, irrespective of their creed. We cannot help but ask ourselves, why did our heavenly Father take you, at this moment when humanity is visited by yet another scourge, that has forced us into restricted movements and quarantine? The whole Nation and indeed the world would have loved to be physically present, to attend your farewell, and accord you our last and loving respects, even as millions follow and indeed they will on different media platforms, thanks to the exhortation by St. John XXIII and in the spirit of the Second Vatican Council, that indeed the Church must evangelise, using the means of social communication. As you leave, we are painstakingly trying to awaken to this reality, thanks to the compulsion by the Coronavirus Pandemic that is gradually redefining every aspect of human existence and with the potential of resetting our entire human experience and practice, by restricting public gatherings as well as worship including farewells like your own.

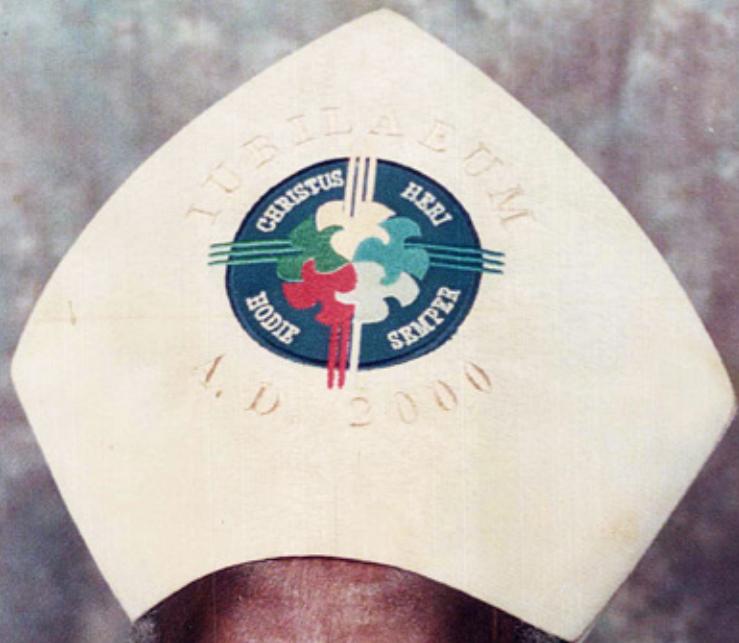
Your service as a Seminarian, Deacon, Priest, Bishop and Archbishop to God's people in the Catholic Dioceses of Machakos, Nakuru and the Archdiocese of Nairobi, shall remain fondly cherished in our hearts. For the mentorship and impact you had in our lives, we shall forever be grateful to God. Personally, I shall forever remember, the confidence you showed in me, thanks to Rev. Fr. Prof. Lawrence Njoroge, as his successor in your

office barely the same year of my ordination to priesthood, going ahead to delegate me to duties; Archdiocesan, National and International and allowing me service in the same Office for seven (symbolic number) years. Your concern for my late Dad Stephen Wesonga Maloba, my surviving Mum Bibiana Okwach Wesonga and my siblings and your kind visit to our humble home in Naivasha, shall remain a special blessing to us. It pained us to see you gradually exit the public arena and retreat into a life of solitude and prayer, not because it was bad in itself, but because we strongly felt, that we still needed your fearless witness to Christ in the defence of our social-religious and political justice at different moments since your retirement from office; and we have had quite a number of wanting situations. I pray, that as we continue in our pilgrimage of life on earth, God may allow us to share an iota of your pastoral zeal and courage in the defence of people's fundamental rights and freedoms, against those, who motivated by selfishness, greed and correctness, tend to trample over them. However, we are consoled and I am a witness, on account of the number of times I visited you in your retirement that you constantly prayed for us and the whole world. As you go before your Father and our Father God, I pray that he grants you a merciful judgement and finds you meritorious enough to be admitted into his Kingdom of Heaven till we meet, when our time will come. We are left with heavy yet grateful hearts, for your selfless and dedicated service to God's people without discrimination or favouritism.

Go well your Grace, may the Angels lead you to Abraham's bosom, may the saints and our relatives who have preceded us welcome you into the Triumphant Church, and may your Predecessor The Servant of God, His Eminence Maurice Michael Cardinal Otunga and your Co-workers who went before be delighted to receive you into the everlasting joy of Heaven.

Fr. Maloba Wesonga





ADON

ARCHDIOCESE OF NAIROBI COMMUNICATIS

Fare Thee Well

