



ETHIOPIAN CATHOLIC SECRETARIAT

# Newsletter

Vol. IV - No. 8

March 2010



## “Peace be with you” Jn. 20:19



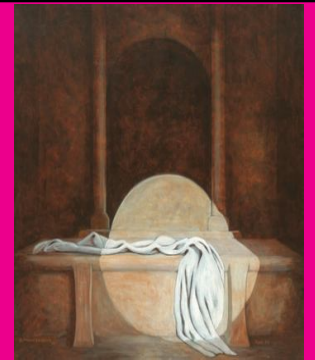
**I**n different parts of the world people do share and wish, Peace to one another in their own respective cultural con

text.

If we think about it in a deeper sense it is one of the most precious gifts that we share with one another. We understand its depth from its Biblical meaning. Peace, in the Biblical language, has two words with the same meaning: Shalom (Hebrew) in the OT and Eirene (Greek) in the NT. “Shalom” is “completeness. Wholeness: to be faultless, healthy, complete.” It also carries with it the idea of “to be at rest” (I Chronicles 4:40.) “Shalom” is complete.” It also carries with it the idea of “to be at rest” (I chronicle 4:40.) “Shalom” is “peaceable” or time of peace. The Bible describes peace as good life, healthful sleep (Psalm 4:4), length of life (Proverbs 3:2), prosperity (Psalms 37:37), and tranquil death after full life (Genesis 15:15; Judges 6:23). In the same way, the peace of the nation or of the family is its prosperity and security.

Peace is often economic prosperity (I Chronicles 4:40, 22:9) and is described in some passages as a state where in society and nature are harmoniously joined in covenant (Leviticus 26:6; Job 5:23-24), Political security is also peace (II Kings 20:19; Isaiah 32:18).

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# Family Life Promotion Section



Teen STAR (Sexuality Teaching in the context of Adult Responsibility) program is continued to be implemented at targeted project sites of Addis Ababa (5 schools), Don – Bosco Youth Center and 2 schools of Debreziet, 12 schools of Modjo and 10 schools of Wonji. Totally 4000 students are following the program.

Teen STAR program was supported technically and financially by Pathfinder International Ethiopia from 2003 to 2009 at the above mentioned sites under ACS and MCS. Additionally Teen STAR program is funded by Natural Family Planning Center Washington D.C. through PEPFAR (President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) from 2006 to 2009. As the first year fund was delayed one year no cost Extension is allowed up to November 30, 2010.

Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) of Teen STAR Ethiopia performed November 2009 with the technical support of AED staff.

Teen STAR program founder and Executive Director Dr. Hanna Klaus, M.D. from Natural Family Planning Center (NFPC) Washington D.C. visited Teen STAR program activities in Ethiopia from February 18-28, 2010.

On Feb. 18 she arrived in Addis Ababa Airport and was welcomed by Ato Abel, new head of Family and Laity, Desta W/Yohannes, country Teen STAR Coordinator, with newly acquired Toyota pick up assigned to Teen STAR program. Dr. Hanna stayed with Medical Mission Sisters in Addis.

Feb. 19, Dr. Hanna met Abba Haile Gabriel, OFM, Deputy Secretary General of ECS, reviewed progress of Teen STAR to date, then had briefing with Ato Abel, Desta and Ato Girma Gared.

Plans for future expansion, as part of the next application for funds to complete the terms of the five year contract with the government of Ethiopia was discussed with Dr. Hanna:

Year 1 (2011) Archdiocese of Addis Ababa (expansion), dioceses of Hawassa and Meki

Year 2 (2012) Sodd Hosana, Emdebir, Adrigat and Nekemte

Year 3 (2013) Jimma Bonga, Harrer and Gambella

Government schools apply for teachers/ training through the dioceses.

ECS Teen STAR staff and Dr. Hanna visited National Center for prevention of harmful Traditional Practices, mainly female genital cutting, also uvula cutting and removal of milk teeth. She received literature and saw video made by FIGO 'The Cutting Tradition' narrated by Mery 1 Streep was Excellent. Reasons for continuing tradition of FGC is that it is viewed as a prerequisite for marriage. It is alleged to preserve women's chastity by removing the clitoris thought to be the seat of libido. In some Christian areas the practice has been reduced in Ethiopia, but is still found in the south. There are still taboos against mothers discussing even menstruation with their daughters. (the contrary has been true among Teen STAR users)

Feb. 20 Visit to Wonji with Abel, Desta and Girma. Aman Dessalegn hosted visits to several classes and a meeting with teachers. There have been good responses from families, and the youngsters are challenging the daily messages received vs. HIV. All students want to come to discuss their problems vs. sexual pressures from boys.

The male teachers stated that they found it difficult to teach about hormones to girls. She reminded them that it was the female teachers' job, which the men did not accept readily, but since it is our policy Desta will ensure that only women teach girls. She noted afterwards that the girls did not like being taught about their bodies by men. Dr. Hanna suggested showing the course videos. All religions are welcome. Most students are Muslim or Orthodox. One Muslim girl in the class had to overcome considerable parental resistance, but was able to persuade her parents in the end.

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# Water And Sanitation Unit (WATSAN)

By Belema Gemechu

## 1. Introduction

Human life, as with all animal and plant life on the planet, is dependent upon water. Not only do we need water to grow our food, generate our power and run our industries, but we need it as a basic part of our daily lives - our bodies need to ingest water every day to continue functioning. Communities and individuals can exist without many things if they have to - they can be deprived of comfort, of shelter, even of food for a period, but they cannot be deprived of water and survive for more than a few days. Because of the intimate relationship between water and life, water is woven into the fabric of all cultures, religions and societies in myriad ways.

Water for basic needs (households, services) represents a relatively small amount of the total quantities withdrawn for other uses. Yet, although many fortunate people throughout the world are able to take water for granted where it is available, for an estimated very large number of people - water rules their daily lives with the cruel irony that it is often both the most precious and sought after of commodities, requiring grinding daily labor to acquire.

The Ethiopian Catholic Church Social and Development Commission (ECC-SADCO) is taking every effort to contribute to the endeavor to alleviate the potable water shortage problem of the Ethiopian people in view of intimate relationship between water & life. ECC-SADCO WATSAN unit is one of the units involved in alleviating problems related to access to adequate water supply and sanitation services of the society.

## 2. Activities Accomplished (October 2009 to March 9, 2010)

The ECC-SADCO WATSAN unit has currently accomplished the drilling of fourteen new water wells and rehabilitation of one old existing well in different locations as described in the following table. Records regarding the drilling with associated construction and rehabilitation of these wells as well as their locations (including project holder or financier) are described as follows:

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# Letter From Heaven

In memory of all victims of the Ethiopian Airlines plane crash  
and  
Haiti earthquake

Dearest Mommy, Daddy, family and friends,

Some things I'd like to say, but first of all to let you know that I arrived okay. I'm writing this from Heaven, where I dwell with God above, where there are no tears or sadness, there is just eternal love. Please do not be unhappy, just because I'm out of sight. Remember that I'm with you, every morning, noon, and night.

That day I had to leave you, when my life on earth was through; God picked me up and hugged me, and He said, "I welcome you. It's good to have you back again, you were missed while you were gone. As for your dearest family, they'll be here later on. I need you here so badly, as part of My big plan. There's so much that we have to do, to help our mortal man."

Then God gave me a list of things He wished for me to do, and foremost on that list of mine, is to watch and care for you. I will be beside you, every day of the week and year, and when you're sad, I'm standing there to wipe away the tear. When you lie in bed at night, the day's chores put to flight, God and I are closest to you in the middle of the night.

When you think of my life on earth, and all those loving months, because you're only human there's bound to be some tears. Do not be afraid to cry, it does relieve some pain. Remember, there would be no flowers, without a little rain.

I wish that I could tell you, of all that God has planned. But if I were to tell, you would not understand. One thing is for certain, though my life on earth is over, I am closer to you now than I ever was before.

And to the rest of my family and my many friends, trust God knows what is best. I am not far away from you; I'm just beyond the crest. There are rocky roads ahead for you, and many hills that you must climb. Together we can do it, taking it one day at a time.

It was my philosophy, and I'd like it for you too, that is, give unto the World, so the World will give to you. If you can help someone who's in sorrow or in pain, then you can say to God at night, my day was not in vain. And now I am contented that my life, it was worthwhile; knowing, as I passed along the way, I made somebody smile.

So, when you're walking down the street, and you've got me on your mind, I'm walking in your footsteps, only half a step behind. And when you feel a gentle breeze of wind upon your face, that's me giving you a great big hug, or just a soft embrace.

When it's time for you to go from that body to be free, remember you are not going, you are coming home to me! I will always love you, from my home way up above. I will be in touch again soon.

Love, hugs and kisses,

Yours, Mr. Andrew  
P.S. God sends His Love.

Source:- Internet

Special Features

# Social Rehabilitation Unit



In spite of the many child focused project activities carried out both by governmental and non-governmental organizations, the problems of children seem to remain the same. One needs to ask oneself why studies conducted by African Child Policy Forum show that many children in all parts of the country suffer physical, emotional, psychological, and sexual abuse. Due to family problems, children leave their homes and become street dwellers.

The Family Focused Development Approach is one of the activity components of the Social Rehabilitation Unit. The Ethiopian Catholic Church Social Rehabilitation Unit when creating the Family Focused Approach, thought it is best to tackle the issues of children through families and neighborhood groups.

The main reason for planning to work with families is to be able to tackle the problems of children, especially those abused and neglected and to help families see that the fundamental solutions come from the family itself. It is certain that families and neighborhood groups, if united and collaborative are able to provide a safe home for their children.

To let the Family Focused Development Approach take off and to see if the idea is workable for the dioceses, the Unit decided to first pilot this approach in three parishes of Addis Ababa. The piloting activity began by establishing volunteers in three parishes responsible for creating awareness on the issues of children at the parish level. So far, discussions on the problems of children have been held with different Mehaber groups in all three par-

ishes and each group has had one to seven meetings so far. The questions posed to the groups

1. Do you know children being abused and neglected, be it physically, verbally and emotionally in your neighborhood?
2. In the case of child abuse, what are the situations that expose children to abuses and neglect? What can we contribute to help uplift children in vulnerable situation?
3. As Christians, followers of Christ, what are we doing to help these children?
4. What does the Bible say about our responsibilities to protect children?

In order to help families improve their income, the Unit planned to involve some families in the use of solar cooking. This is believed to help families economically by saving money they normally spend on charcoal, firewood, or kerosene, socially by saving time as solar cooking is unattended cooking. It will also contribute to the betterment of their health by enabling them to cook free from smoke, and it will benefit the environment by fostering less use of fire which will help combat climate change.

In February, seven young women took the training on solar cooking in Debre Zeit at the Partners for Integrated Sustainable Development Association (PISDA). They are expected to train three families each on the use of solar cooking. The first round trainees in fact were very excited about this simple but useful technology. If this is successful, we hope to sell the idea and technology to all who wish to try.



Visit the Ethiopian Catholic Church Web site

([www.ecs.org.et](http://www.ecs.org.et))

**ETHIOPIAN CATHOLIC  
CHURCH**



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# Pastoral Coordinations

**Three months activities of Pastoral Coordination Office  
(Oct. 2009-Jan. 2010)**

**Introduction**

PAC is one of the two wings of Ethiopian Catholic Church activities coordinated by Ethiopian Catholic Secretariat. PAC has a role of coordinating eleven diocesan pastoral coordination activities. In October 2009, the Pastoral Coordination Office started its activity with two new staff members. One of the challenges of PAC has been the frequent transfer of PAC Coordinators from the office. The office needs stable Coordinators in order to implement the strategic plan of the Office. This report does not include the reports of other Units of PAC such as Laity and Family, Peace and Justice, Teen STAR, Social Communication and Printing Press which will give their separate report. At the moment we are implementing the five years pastoral strategic plan (2006-2011).

**The Church We Want to Be  
(December 2002)**

In the past, several workshops have been conducted by PAC and in the last three months the Office organized different workshops on “The Church We Want to Be” for two Eparchies and four Vicariates. Although the Pastoral Letter of the As-

sembly of Catholic Bishops of Ethiopia was published in December 2002, it is still relevant to the Church of Ethiopia today. The document is selected for the very fact that it contains the nature and mission, the main pastoral challenges we face and the common pastoral vision of the Catholic Church in Ethiopia. In the last three



months six jurisdictions participated in the workshop. The other four jurisdictions took part in the previous workshops organized from Feb. - Sept. 2009. The participants of the

workshop consisted of priests, religious sisters, catechists, women, teachers, youth and laity council members.

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Here below indicated a chart of six jurisdictions and the number of participants on “The Church we want to be” workshop since Oct. 2009

No	Date	Eparchy /Vicariates	Place	Participants
1	20-22 Oct. 2009	Nekemte	Nekemte	57
2	17-20 Nov. 2010	Hararghe	Asebe Tefere	34
3	23-27 Nov. 2009	Awassa and Meki	Jighessa	35
4	26-29 Jan. 2010	Addis Ababa and Emdibir	Addis Ababa	32
Total				158



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At the end of the workshops all the participants drew up a plan of action to be implemented on their return to their respective jurisdictions. All the participants expressed their satisfaction in the workshop and recommended to organize similar workshops on different topics. Some of the Vicariates and Eparchies did not send the requested numbers of participants for the workshop, and in the future we suggested the jurisdictions to make efforts to send the suggested numbers of participants.

**A Year for Priests**

A brochure published by PAC in collaboration with Our Lady's Association of Priests in Ethiopia has been distributed



to all the jurisdictions to mark the year for priests (June 2009-June 2010). We published 2,000 copies and it contains prayers for priests, how to support priests in their daily duties and the contribution of the faithful in the promotion of vocation to the priesthood. Similarly "The message of Jesus to his priests" (in Amharic) is under way for publication and we may publish and distribute 1,000 copies. In July 2010, PAC, in collaboration with CMRS and Our Lady's Priests Association is planning to organize a symposium to mark a year for priests.

**FIKRINA SELAM/LINK**

On December 9, 2009 a meeting of the Editorial Board of FIKRINA SELAM/LINK took place to plan for the coming three months. We agreed to meet on regular basis every three months to discuss its publication. We underlined that the publication should be made available to the readers by the first Sunday of the month according to the Ethiopian Calendar. On the other hand, the running cost of FIKRINA SELAM/LINK is becoming expensive, and we may be constrained to add the price from two to four Birr per copy. We suggest that the parish priests announce to their faithful about the importance of hav-

ing a Catholic newspaper at their home and subscribing for its membership.

**Books imported**

The Catholic Book Center was opened sixteen years ago and recently it has been moved from Holy Savior building to its original ECS building. The Catholic Book Center provides spiritual books to the faithful in Ethiopia. In November 2009, books shipped from Paulines, India for the use of the Catholic Book Center have arrived at Djibouti port, but its consignment is creating problems. We hope we will get them and put them at our disposal.

**Meeting the Assembly of the Ethiopian Catholic Bishops**

On December 15, 2009, Pastoral Coordination Office presented to the Assembly of the Ethiopian Catholic Bishops a report on the pastoral activities of PAC. We suggest appointing of a full time Pastoral Coordinators in all ecclesiastical jurisdictions of Ethiopia.

**Retreat**

In preparation for Christmas celebration PAC organized a half day retreat to ECS staff members on 6 Dec.2009, at St. Francis Friary, Addis Ababa and most of the staff members took part in the retreat. Abba Dawit Wubshet gave an input to the retreatants. After Eucharistic celebration the retreat ended with luncheon served at the Capuchin Friary.

**Pastoral Coordination Meeting**

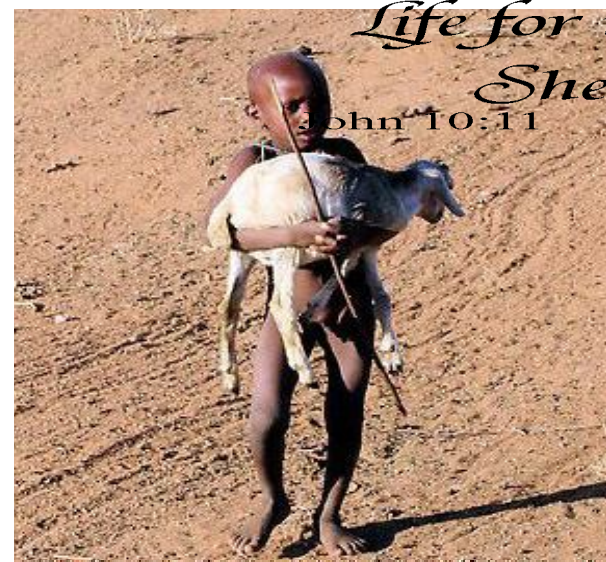
On 10 February, 2010 all Pastoral Coordination Personnel, Dr. Daniel Keftassa and Alemu Kenaa met to see how to coordinate PAC activities and avoid duplication of pastoral plans.

We agreed that each unit looks for its fund separately, yet prepare a common pastoral plan in the future. From 10-11 March, 2010 planned to organize a workshop to all Diocesan Pastoral Coordinators, Peace and Justice Units and to the heads Catholic Church Institutions involved in the pastoral activities. The workshop will discuss a national pastoral plan for the year 2010. The workshop will take place at Catholic Bishops Conference Center, Addis Ababa.

**Limitations**

It is our desire to organize more workshops and produce more publications, but some of the pastoral activities could not be implemented, due to the financial constraints. At the moment PAC is facing financial deficit, and we hope our donors will come to rescue us from the crisis.  
PAC

*The Good Shepherd Gives His Life for the Sheep.*  
John 10:11



## Family Life Promotion Section of ECS Got a Car



### Teen STAR

Family Life Promotion Unit of ECS got a double Cabin Pickup Toyota Car with a support of USAID ETHIOPIA. The car was blessed and officially inaugurated on Feb.22, 2010 with a brief spiritual ceremony led by Abba Hagos Hayish and Abba Hailegabriel Meleku the Secretary and Deputy Secretary Generals of ECS respectively. Prof. Hana Klaus member of MMS sister, Executive Director of International TeenSTAR and Natural Planning Program, and all the staff of ECS attended the blessing ceremony. The brief message of Abba Hailegabriel stated that, the car means a lot to the services that are carried out by the family life promotion unit of ECS through out Ethiopia.

### Family ...

Continued from page 2

The teachers' advisory committee includes community members, who help to make the program sustainable. Three parent meetings have been held. There is no word about abortions now, which were high before. The parents are happy with the program. There is community mobilization within normal social gatherings and more informational materials are needed.

Feb. 22 Formal blessing of Teen STAR vehicle by Abba Hagos, ECS Secretary General, followed by business meeting to review program and plan progress. The government schools in Wonji and Modjo have been very helpful, and allow teachers time for Teen STAR training.

Each diocese needs a focal person as a contact for the program.

Feb. 23 Debreziet. Pre and post tests have been administered. Note: We visited grade 5 & 6 classes at Don Bosco parish school. Dinberowa and Yosef are the Coordinators. At Holy Angels

High School, we met Thadios, Asst Director, and Sr. Amaz OSF the school directress for both campuses.

The program is well accepted, the parents like it as they don't want their children to be taught that abortion and contraception are ok, but are aware of other providers who go behind the parents' back, give out condoms and refreshments and recruit for depot. There has been considerable openness between students and parents. I visited groups of grade 5-8 students who all seemed enthusiastic about the program. We also visited Davara school, where Yeshi teaches. All the teachers want to be trained to offer Teen STAR.

Feb. 24 Modjo: Ermias is regional coordinator. We visited the School of Excellence, a 7 year old private school with 1050 students 120 of whom have had Teen STAR so far. The program is still extracurricular, and the parents like it. Some students are HIV +and received ARV's. Pathfinder and IPAS have programs in the community but not in the school. At the parish a Consolata

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**(WATSAN) ...**

Continued from page 3

S/ No	Project Name	Location	Project Holder/ Financer	Accomplishment	Est. No of Beneficiaries	Est. no of livestock
1	Boke	West Hararge Zone	HCS	Drilling of <b>250 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client for community use	-	-
2	Hara Befano	West Hararge Zone	International rescue committee (IRC)	Drilling of <b>150 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client for community use	4100	1800
3	Bedesa, Wolaita	Wolaita Zone	Bedesa Women Center	Drilling of <b>160 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client for community use	More than 15,000	
4	Yekabdi	Gurage Zone	Yekabdi Agro Processing	Drilling of <b>181 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client for community use	3500	2500
5	Jole	Gurage Zone	Latter-Day Saint Charities	Drilling of <b>84 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client for community use	4200	2000
6	Mekanisa LPPDFC	Addis Ababa	Missionary Movement	Drilling of <b>172 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client for community use	2000	-
7	Gibe Yaberi (LafaY)	Gurage Zone	Lafay Int food complex pLC	Drilling of <b>185 M</b> had been completed but the well is dry.	-	-
8	Boka	Meki area (E. Shoa)	MCS	Drilling of <b>232 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client for community use	5300	2000
9	Lera, SHCS	Wolaita Zone	SHCS	Drilling of <b>152 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client for community use	3500	1800
10	Embecho Cleaning & pumping test	Wolaita Zone	CVM	Cleaning and development as well as pumping test had been done and handed over to the client.		-
11	Embecho new borehole Drilling	Wolaita Zone	CVM	Drilling of <b>171 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client for community use	15,000	-
12	Lecha	South Gonder, Estie	CARE Ethiopia	Drilling of <b>60.5 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client for community use	1500	600
13	Liwaye	South Gonder, Estie	CARE Ethiopia	Drilling of <b>63 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client.	1400	550
14	Maynite	South Gonder, Estie	CARE Ethiopia	Drilling of <b>61 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client for community use	2000	650
15	Desqua (Kechene Meda)	South Gonder, Estie	CARE Ethiopia	Drilling of <b>48 M</b> had been completed and handed over to the client for community use	1300	500

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# NEWS IN BRIEF

## ECS Held Annual Health Assembly



The Ethiopian Catholic Secretariat held the annual health assembly of the Catholic Church from Feb. 18 to 19, 2010 at ECS Multi Purpose Hall.

The assembly had the honour of H.G. Abune Berhaneyesus, Metropolitan Archbishop and Dr. Kebede Worku, State Minister of Health.

H.G Abune Berhaneyesus in his remark said that, "Health care ministry is one of the biggest missions the Church took from Christ. The Catholic Church, as part of her goal in helping the society, achieve integral human development provides care treatment and support to the sick, disabled and the poor that need to be cared for.

The Church specifically focus on the poor and the marginalized sector of the society as priority and tries to address primary health care coverage, maternal health care, nutrition programs and HIV/ AIDS prevention and control.

Dr. Kebede Worku, State Minister of Health, on his part said

that the Federal Ministry of Health is well cognizant of the quality services that are provided by the Ethiopian Catholic Church through her humanitarian interventions that has stretched her hands to provide curative, preventive, promotion and rehabilitative health services in her over 171 health institutions in rural communities that are not easily accessible.

The assembly discussed various topics and heard reports.

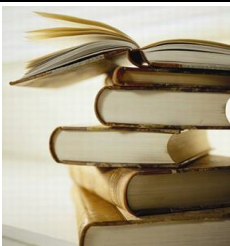
The Ethiopian Catholic Secretariat Health and HIV Unit organized the assembly. Diocesan health desks, Catholic health care institutes, international partners and National and Regional Government representatives attended.

## Seminarians from the United States Visited ECS

A seminarian team from the United States, organized by CRS Ethiopia visited ECS on Feb. 25, 2010 and had a brief discussion with the Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General and National Pastoral Coordinator of ECS.

Abba Hagos Hayish, the Secretary General of ECS said in his welcoming remark that ECS is very happy to have the seminarians. He also explained about the Ethiopian Catholic Church Jurisdiction, development and pastoral activities. Abba Hailegabriel, Deputy Secretary General and National Pastoral Coordinator in his part said that the pastoral activity needs more attention of the partners so as to strengthen the other wing (Development) of the Church. He added that like any bird could not fly with only one wing, co - operations are needed in the pastoral wing as well.

Guests asked about the pastoral challenges that the Ethiopian Catholic Church face. As it is explained in the response, being minority by itself is a challenge to the Church to overcome the pastoral constraints.



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## Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga & Mons. Giovanni Battista Gandolfo, visited Ethiopia

An official meeting to welcome Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga and Mons, Giovanni Battista Gandolfo was held on March 6, 2010, at the Salesian Provincial House.

H.G Archbishop Berhaneyesus, Metropolitan Archbishop, H.E Bishop Markos, Apostolic Vicar of Jimma Bonga, Rev. Fr. Hagos Hayish, Secretary General of Ethiopian Catholic Secretariat, Mr. Lane Bunkers, Country Representative to CRS Ethiopia and Mr. Jerry Jones, Regional Representative of Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA), The Ethiopian Catholic Secretariat Management, Unit heads team and representatives of religious congregations attended the gathering.

A dialogue with the guests took place, and Holy Mass was celebrated by the guest Cardinal. Cardinal Oscar in his remarks said that he was depressed by eye - witnessing the natural disaster that happened to Haiti. He also said that he was happy to see the Church's immediate responses to the incidence.

He underlined that "IT IS POSSIBLE TO ALLEVIATE HUNGER FROM THE WORLD!" if all states, nations, churches and caritas organizations work hard in cooperation.

Regarding the coming generation, he emphasized that we must build democrats in order to prevail democracy in the world. Archbishop Berhaneyesus in his part said that he is very grateful to have the Cardinal and his delegates among us here in Ethiopia.

The Cardinal also visited activities in Adigrat Catholic Dioceses and met the President of Ethiopia.

*"Yes, it is  
possible to  
alleviate  
hunger"*

Cardinal Oscar

**(WATSAN) ...**

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**3. FINANCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT OF PROJECTS**

WATSAN is mainly based on income from projects achievement or projects execution; payments have been prepared for the above executed projects.

From the physical accomplishment of these projects a total of about **3.92 million** Ethiopian Birr is expected to be earned. This money revolves in to purchase of materials, fuel cost, remuneration, insurance premium and other running cost of the projects.

**4. Problems Encountered**

The main constraints and problems encountered during the period were explained as follows:

§ **Lack of owned organized workshop or garage**

The lack of owned garage makes force us to look for private garages for the maintenance and repair of our machinery and equipment.

§ **Lack of different or high capacity submersible pumps.**

When drilling of high capacity well is completed it needs to be tested using high capacity pump. This enables us to know the optimum amount of water to be extracted from the well without affecting regional groundwater table.

Our clients have also claimed high capacity pumps to know the exact amount of water that they can obtain from the well with high capacity water.

§ **Lack of important instruments**

Important instruments like geophysical equipment, field water chemical analysis kit, etc do not exist in ECS. The absences of these instruments suspend what we can do timely and efficiently as well as accurately. Lack of geophysical equipment unable us to participate in full and complete groundwater investigation and electrical logging in the completed wells.

## § The restructuring process of WATSAN unit is not finalized and as a consequence the existing structure couldn't much cope with the current condition of WATSAN work nature.

**5. General Remarks**

In order to resolve the above mentioned problems and constraints, we have given attention and try to purchase the required items. We buy and deposit some materials such as casing, foam, pipes and others, in order to overcome shortage and avoid delay. However, the materials that we can't get from the local market are somewhat constraint on our performance.

However, ECS WATSAN currently possess the capacity to provide a quality services in the areas of groundwater investigation, Water wells drilling and related construction works, rehabilitations and maintenance of the deteriorate wells over the year and old boreholes to increase their efficiency.

**Family ...**

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priest from Kinshasa introduced Teen STAR and the Ovulation Method.

Next we visited Beza school, another private school, where Ato Gezahegn Gebre Kidan, the owner welcomed us with a formal paper that briefs the purpose of the school. He allowed us to talk with teachers and students and asked us to train Teen STAR teachers for the Beza school in Debreziet too. Students reflect on their own sexuality consider how their day to day participation (in the program) effects their behavior toward maintaining abstinence. They want the program to expand to be included in ethics, civics education and biology, as good conduct respects both persons and nations. Currently they have 2 active Teen STAR teachers on the faculty who teach 82 students. 32 male, 50 female. Parents welcome their idea.

Teen STAR. On return to Addis, we visited USAID met Dr. Abeja Zegeye, Deputy HIV team leader, and At Befekadu. Pefpar 2 is planning to integrate HIV prevention and family planning. At Awasa University, 5% of the students are HIV +. Teen STAR has begun programs there at their request)

Feb. 25 Visit to AED: The team met Dr. Michael Dejene and Dilame Gabriel who are helping with TA to Desta, who wants their assistance with training and evaluation, and networking. They await clearance from David Hughes and of course Pamela Wyville-staples to have input on training indicators, financial compliance which will include a staff from the ECS Finance Department, and proposal writing.

Dr. Hanna went to greet Dr. Mengistu at Pathfinder and learning of their latest MCH efforts. He and Sister Workinesh think highly of Teen STAR, but had to stop their funding as the grant was restricted to women. (Very few women contract pregnancy or HIV without a male.)

Lastly, we visited Yemannehberhan School, a public school in a low income neighborhood in Addis, with 3000 pupils, 100 to a class, where Ato Befekadu who teaches 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students sought Teen STAR training and has run the program there for at least 3 years. Since Teen STAR began, the drop out rate has gone to zero. The school director is pleased with the program. He has seen behavior change and more openness between parents and children.

Family Life Promotion staff have introduced Teen STAR program and Billing's Method to Pastoral participants who came from all DCSs to Pastoral Seminar at Bishops Conference Center from March 10 to 11,2010 and at ECS General Assembly from March 17 to 18,2010.



# Welcome to ECS



*ECS welcomes Abba Hailegabriel Meleku (Dr.)*

*as Deputy Secretary General & National Pastoral Coordinator*

and

*Sr. Hanna Bruno*

*as Assistant Pastoral Coordinator*



Abba Hailegabriel Meleku, Dr. Capuchin Father, was born on 12<sup>th</sup> October 1955 in Wandara Lala, Walaita, Ethiopia. He made simple vows and joined the Capuchin Order in 1979. He obtained diplomas in Philosophy and Theology from Capuchin Franciscan Institute of Philosophy and Theology (CFIPT) of Addis Ababa in 1981 and 1985 respectively. In 1985, he was ordained priest. Continuing his studies he obtained a Bachelor of Divinity in 1988, and two years later, Masters of Divinity (Licentiate) in Moral Theology from Milton Institute, Dublin 6, Ireland.

In 2003, with a great interest to modern skills, he obtained Certificate in computer science from Laney College, Berkeley, USA.

In 2004 he studied German Language at Schwab, Austria. In 2007, he obtained Doctorate in Moral theology with Summa Cum Laude (with great distinction) from the Accademia Alfonsiana, Roma, Italy.

In service of the Church, he served at St. Francis and Kermelos Parishes of Addis Ababa as Parish Priest, from 1990 – 1993 and 1998 respectively. He was lecturer of Moral Theology from 1990 – 1998, he acted as Dean of studies from 1990 – 1995, and Rector and formator from 1995 – 1998 at Capuchin Franciscan Institute of Philosophy and Theology.

1998 – 2003, he served his own congregation, Capuchins in Ethiopia, as Minister vice Provincial. Again 2007 – 2009 he served as Parish Priest in Lafto Goba and Kurkura, Harar Vicariate. Since September 2009, he ministers the English Speaking International Community of Addis Ababa as a Chaplain.

Currently he is a Deputy Secretary General of the Ethiopian Catholic Secretariat and National Pastoral Coordinator to make the Church benefit a lot from his expertise and wide experiences of spiritual life.

Sr. Hanna Bruno, 46, Franciscan Sisters Missionaries of Christ, is currently welcomed as Assistant Coordinator of the Pastoral Coordination of ECS since Oct. 1, 2009.

Sr. Hanna, with her ever smiling face, likes sharing life experiences, reading different kind of books, visiting friends and playing volleyball. Sister's other interests are listening to pieces of music, songs and watching films. Any story is easy for her to understand if it is written or spoken in Amharic, English, Italian, Kambatigna and Hadyegna.

Educationally, she obtained a "Master of Arts" With Great Distinction in Religion Discipline specializing in Missionary Spirituality and Religious Education from Pontifical Universitatis Urbaniana in Rome, Italy. She has also a diploma in Religious Science from Pontificum Institutum Regina Mundi.

Her career detail includes experiences of serving as a Community Superior, Counselor of Franciscan Sisters Missionary of Christ, Aspirants' Assistant, Pastoral and Vocational Animator, Catechismal Training Center Coordinator, Kindergarten Director and Teacher in Vicariate of Soddo – Hosanna. In Arramo, Vicariate of Awassa, she also served as teacher and Pastoral Activity animator.

In the Archdiocese of Addis Ababa, her birth place, she served in animation of liturgy and teaching the youth catechism and spirituality especially at St. Gabriel Parish, Addis Ababa.

In a borderless missionary spirit, she served in Rome, Rimini, Crotona and Termoli – Larino Diocese as Pastoral Coordinator for the youth, families, and catechists. She also worked as counsellor and coordinator in Major Superiors Italian Union (USMI) in Termoli – Larino, Italy.

## Inspirational Corner

Your shoes are worth trying. We all have people as role models, who we want to be like. Folks, we live in a world that is populated with more than a billion people. Different people from different background, some are born with silver spoons in their mouths and others with no spoon at all. We live in a world of challenges and solutions, obstacles and stepping-stones, to fit in to, leaving ours behind, trying to live life and act the way our role models do. It's good but that's not a determinant factor that we would be like them, because we would be surprised that we'll come – up short of our expectations if we spend such energy chasing the wind. Success is 2% gift and 98% hard work, so it goes to reason that we all have this 2% in our genetic make – up but we need to put in work, carving out the spoons that we missed at birth. Now, I'm not trying to say it is bad to want to be like somebody else. All I'm trying to say is that is not the main reason why you came to earth. You didn't stumble here from space and definitely you are not meant to imitate and live out other people's life; you are placed for a reason you can find out. You are created with an empty book to write your life in. So while we are here writing our life story, you wouldn't want your book to be filled with other people's story which you wished to be yours. For as you go around trying out people's shoes, who's going to try yours? Even you don't make it big in life, console yourself with the thought that at least your shoes are worth trying out.

Stanely Anukege

Contributed by: Sr. Senait Mengesha  
Social Rehabilitation Unit



## Peace be ...

Continued from page 1

But there is no peace when “sickness,” “wounds,” and poverty break into the society (Jeremiah 6:14, 8:11, 14:19). These troubles can be healed only by Yahweh (Isaiah 57:19; Jeremiah 33:6).

In summary, the Bible describes peace as a state of total well-being, inner harmony, and oneness between God and His People. Peace, as described in Galatians 5:22 is the fruit of the Spirit and is essentially synonymous with love.

It is this infinite love that the Risen Lord confirms to the fearful disciples by offering the inner life of the Holy Trinity of peace and love by saying, “Peace be with you.” It is not simply greeting but a share of life and mission. The Risen Christ mandated those who received the Gift of Peace to bring the same PEACE to every corner of the world. He said again “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, even so I send you” Jn.20:21.

The Catholic Church in Ethiopia, as else where in the world, accepting the mandate of the Risen Lord, continues to bring the Good News of Peace to the people of Ethiopia through the socio-pastoral endeavours. The Ethiopian Catholic Secretariat, on behalf of our colleagues of the Diocesan Secretariats, Religious Congregations, and ourselves extend gratitude to our partners who are here in the country and abroad. Your solidarity to the good cause of the local Church is appreciated very much by the hierarchy of the Church and most importantly by the beneficiaries we serve. Together we can be a true force to bring the Peace of the Risen Christ to the life of many Ethiopians.

As we celebrate Easter, we are encouraged to pray, reflect and contribute especially for the following intentions: First for the forth coming election. We need not only pray in a passive way but contribute towards the election so that harmony and genuine dialogue would reign among the political parties. And that the electing people would be inspired by the Holy Spirit to elect the right leader. The second thought for our Easter prayer and consideration is about the shocking new phenomenon of human trafficking and smuggling in Ethiopia. The church leadership is taking seriously this dehumanizing issue and will come up with some possible working plan in the near future. I invite you to be engaged in these and other issues which blocks us from attaining the genuine Peace.

May this Easter be an Easter, “where love and pardon meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other (Psalm 85:10).

A happy and joyful Easter to all of you.

Abba Hagos Hayish, C.M.  
ECS Secretary General

# Farewell

## ECS said goodbye to Abba Estifanos Felice and Dr. Atsbha G/Silassie

### Goodbye Abba Estifanos !!

Even if it is painful to see off a friend, we wish all the best to your future when it is a must.

Abba Estifanos Felice, the former Deputy Secretary General of ECS and National Pastoral Coordinator, a very friendly priest, was in ECS since 2006 for three consecutive years. He was humble with a welcoming personality to his colleagues. In his stay at ECS he was model to other staff in his strong work ethics and indispensable capability. His ever smiling face invites and comforts anybody to discuss any issue, personal or business.

He is currently serving people in Vicariate of Soddo - Hossana, and he is very happy to be there for Church services and people. In his message on the farewell he said, "It is hard to say goodbye, but for I know that I am a servant of God I say goodbye to you heading to a mission in my own vicariate happily. And I would like to thank you all for your support and cooperation"

Abba Hagos Hayish, Secretary General in his part said that, he was very happy to have Abba Estifanos at his side for he was willing to help in his wise decisions and share the challenges. Finally, Abba Hagos said, "I wish him all the best in his journey to his new assignment."



## We only part to meet again John Gay

Dr. Atsbeha G/Selassie, a Misereor representative to Ethiopia, has left Addis Ababa for another mission in North Africa.



*ECS congratulates H.E Abune Markos and  
Abune Angelo  
on their ordination as Vicar Apostolic of  
Jimma Bonga and Gambella respectively*

## Upcoming events

Ethiopian Catholic Church is organizing an International Conference

On

Climate Justice

June 2-4, 2010 at Ethiopian Catholic Church Bishops Conference Center

Addis Ababa