



**2012**



# Giornata Missionaria Rogazionista

UFFICIO MISSIONARIO CENTRALE  
DEI ROGAZIONISTI  
VIA TUSCOLANA 167  
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C/CP N. 81835019  
CAUSALE "PROGETTO KIGALI"

## PROJET KIGALI

Centre d'écoute  
Saint Annibal Marie Di Francia  
KIGALI, RUANDA (AFRICA)



- UMUNSI W'YOGEZABUTUMWA W'ABAROGASIYONISTE ✿
- ROGATIONIST MISSION DAY ✿
- JOURNÉE MISSIONNAIRE ROGACTIONNISTE ✿
- JORNADA MISSIONARIA ROGAACIONISTA ✿
- JORNADA MISIONERA ROGAACIONISTA ✿
- ARAW NG MISYONG ROGASYONISTA ✿
- DZIEN MISYJNY ROGAJONISTA ✿
- DITA MISIONARE ROGAACIONISTE ✿
- HARI MISI ROGASIONIS ✿



PERIODICO DI COLLEGAMENTO  
DELL'UFFICIO  
MISSIONARIO ROGAZIONISTA

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# Rogationis

Dearest,

the Holy Father, Benedict XVI, in the concluding words of his message for World Mission Sunday last October, which had for its theme the urgent need to evangelize the globalized world, expressed the following wish: The Mission Day revives in each of us the desire and the joy of "going" towards humanity by bringing all people to Christ.

It is clear that, beyond the different aspects that can be seen in the series of annual celebration of the Mission Day, the final aim of this event is to go and bring Christ to mankind. While the Pope reminds us of all this he feels the need to add that each one of us must rekindle the missionary desire, which will be accompanied by the joy of going and bringing Christ to others, in contexts in which we are called and inserted.

Moreover, as Rogationists, we recognize to be called and sent by the Lord to bring to the Church and to the world the charism of the Rogate, urged by the Zeal of the Heart of Jesus for the glory of the Father and the salvation of souls. This is our specific mission.

Even on this occasion we are invited to look back to our origins and hence to the road that have traveled since the beginning.

In this way, we confront ourselves with the tireless apostolate of Father Hannibal and his sons and daughters who have joined him from the beginning, both in assisting the orphans and the poor and in promoting the prayer for vocations.

They allowed themselves to be guided by charity, by love for God and neighbor, as the apostle and missionary St. Paul very strongly reminded the Corinthians: the **love Christ compels us** (2 Cor 5, 14).

We know that Father Hannibal, although initially acted in a limited context due to scarcity of collaborators, however, from the outset he looked far and envisioned, **dreamed**, his own sons and daughters as missionaries, even to the point of drafting out detailed regulations for the preparation and the apostolate that they should pursued.

Certainly he was moved by zeal to spread of Rogate, wherein he saw the great secret for the glory of the Lord and the salvation of souls.

Today, with the blessing of the Lord, his dream has become a reality. Notwithstanding the difficulties, we Rogationists and our sisters Daughters of Divine Zeal contin-

## AVVISO AGLI AMICI

Le Poste Italiane hanno disposto che dal 2 maggio 2006 non sarà più possibile visualizzare la parte RETRO del bollettino e pertanto avvertiamo i nostri Benefattori di non utilizzare per la causale la parte RETRO.

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# 1st Mission Day 2012



ue to bring the Rogate to new countries, with the valuable collaboration of the lay who associated with us in various ways.

I wish on this occasion to renew the sentiments of gratitude for the missionary sensibility manifested by you in the context in which you operate, for the support you give to the missions. Particular gratitude goes to those who have made the timely missionary choice of going on a mission or are currently living away from their country of origin.

I urge everyone to treasure the missionary zeal, according to the possibilities we have, knowing that, especially in this area, it is in "giving" that we "receive" more abundantly.

The Rogationist Mission Day is a strong moment of this missionary awareness. As is stated in its constitution, it seeks to achieve the following purposes, of which we have been already reminded yet would be nice to recall: (a) Promoting missionary awareness in all areas of the Congregation (religious communities, parishes, schools, colleges, oratories, etc.); (b) Implementing initiatives that lead to reflection on the ecclesial co-responsibility; (c) Inviting all (religious, students, the faithful and those who are in contact with us) to spend at least a day to join in universal communion with the Rogationist Missions; (d) Keeping in mind that the missions invigorate the faith and the identity of Rogationist charism, giving new impulse and generating more genuine enthusiasm and motivation of faith: "faith is strengthened by giving it"; (e) Making known the reality of our missions, the work of the Rogationist missionaries, their concerns and needs, difficulties and achievements, as the heritage of the whole Rogationist family; (f) Opening our parishes and schools to the universality of the Rogationist missions, promoting interest for concrete actions; (g) Promoting, participating and supporting projects of the Rogationist missionaries, especially where there are greater economic difficulties; (h) Enhancing and promoting the vocational dimen-

sion of the missionary proposal even as volunteers"(Circular of 4.12.2007, prot. N. 390/07).

The new Norms have reminded us to give necessary attention to this occurrence when it declares: "We celebrate the Rogazionista Mission Day in all the houses of the Circumscription on the most convenient date with due attention to the local liturgical calendar " (Art. 107).

Each year, the Mission Day is an important moment of awareness, at the same time, through the collection of funds it becomes a sign of solidarity and sharing in support to a particular charitable social work.

In this line, for this year our contribution will be intended for the project of our House in Kigali, Rwanda, for construction of the "**St. Hannibal Maria Di Francia**" Multipurpose Centre, which is located in proximity to the Novitiate of the African Quasi Province.

The project aims at building a multi-purpose hall to be used for the promotion of diverse social and cultural activities, putting up of an assistance center to respond to the growing phenomenon of teenage mothers who are exposed to social exclusion and deviance, and are confined to situations of great poverty and distress; a day-care center for vulnerable street children and to promote their human and moral recovery; thus putting up in Kigali a Rogationist assistance center which is able to organize charitable action in combating poverty, exploitation, marginalization in all its many manifestations.

We just recently entered into the New Year, so let us ask the Lord and the Immaculate Virgin to fill our hearts with zeal that inflamed Father Hannibal, and the gift of the Spirit to guide us in the mission entrusted to each of us.

With this wish, I greet you with affection in the Lord.

P. Angelo A. Mezzari, R.C.J.  
Sup. Gen.





## The Land

The territory of Rwanda lies between Lake Kivu and the eastern highlands that are part of the High Nile basin (*Kagera*) and occupies a region with an average level between 1200 and 2000 meters. The *Karisimbi* volcano in the *Virunga* mountain range reaches the maximum height of 4507 meters, bordering with Democratic Republic of Congo.

The climate of Rwanda is affected by altitude. The central plateau enjoys a temperate climate, with abundant rainfall distributed twice a year. The eastern plateau, hilly and dissected by rivers, is covered with lush herbaceous vegetation sometimes depleted by over-intensive grazing, interspersed with forests of eucalyptus, from dense formations of papyri in the lower areas, where rivers tend to stagnate, and limited areas occupied by plantations, neat and regular, sometimes arranged as terraces on the slopes.

The area of Lake Kivu is characterized by dense vegetation and the thin mist that

blurred the outlines of the relief: the Lake (1650 sq km in area) has a very jagged coastline, because of lava flows that reached down from the *Virungas*.

## The People

The favorable environmental and climatic conditions of Rwanda have played a major role in determining historical events of the population of its territory.

Inhabited originally by *pigmoidi*, the *Batwa*, nomadic hunters of the forests, now reduced to a few thousand, then the country experienced a massive migration of *Bantu* farmers, the *Hutus*, who settled in more open areas of the plateau and the basin of Lake Kivu .

The climate is also suitable for the breeding of cattle, that attracted in the thirteenth century, the *Tutsi*, a pastoral people from Ethiopia, most culturally developed, which settled on the plateau and soon was able to impose itself on the more numerous Hutu, while the *Batwa* remained confined in the most inaccessible





areas of the forest. This situation fostered and tolerated by the colonial powers, first Germany, then Belgium, lasted until independence, when the Hutu, relied on their numerical majority in the referendum for the proclamation of the Republic, began to vent the age-old resentment killing thousands of Tutsis and others forcing the exodus.

The ethnic tensions resumed in the '90s, culminating in 1994 in a real civil war, a genocide that claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands of Tutsis and Hutus.

In addition to the dead, the conflict has left many disabled, and caused the temporary displacement of approximately two million people, mainly ethnic Hutus, who fled in the current Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi and Tanzania, but also of ethnic Tutsi, who are primarily directed to the Democratic Republic of Congo (where they had fled on previous occasions, starting in 1959) and Uganda.

Later many of these refugees have returned, even by force, in Rwanda, focusing

on country serious problems of immediate assistance and reintegration.

These events have caused a significant reshuffling of the population, either as a result of spontaneous movements (escape from the hot spots of conflict), or because of actual deportations carried out by the prevailing military from time to time, and thus become difficult to obtain reliable demographic data.

The population, which presented a continuous increase over time (1953 to 1983 is more than doubled, recording, then, in the decade from 1983 to 1993 still increased by more than 40%, driven almost exclusively by natural factor), according to estimates of 2003 about 8,230,000 inhabitants with a reduced growth rate to 8 by thousand (1997 - 2002), a birth rate of 40 by thousand and a death rate of around 22 by thousand.

Infant mortality is still high, life expectancy at birth is very weak, about 45 years: for this reason Rwanda is among the countries with low human development.





In terms of ethnic formation Hutus make up for 80% of the total population, Tutsi 19%, the remaining 1% of the Batwa.

The urban population accounts for only just over 20% of total (2002). The only city that matters is Kigali, with over 800,000 inhabitants, the conflict has more than tripled its population.

For the rest you have only large villages with commercial or administrative functions, some of them have asserted especially by the roles they played in the past, such as Nyanza, residence of the last Tutsi kings, and Butare, the main center at the time of the Belgian administration then a base for cultural activities and a hospital specialized in treating tropical diseases.

### **The economy**

Rwanda is one of the world's poorest countries, whose economies are strongly affected by the enormous population pressure, lack of direct outlets to the sea, which for decades of ethnic conflict and and its effects thus depending almost to-





tally on foreign aid, from the European Union, UN and international agencies for cooperation between African countries.

The domestic income, which in the '80s had recorded an annual increase of 2.5% in the first half of next decade fell by 6.3% per year and GDP per capita, already very low, was further contracted.

Commercial crops have suffered extensive damage from the Civil War and coffee production, estimated by FAO amounted to 27,000 t. in 1993, had dropped dramatically the following year to 2000 t., while tea production fell from 10,000 t in 5000., in subsequent years both are back to grow, however striving hard to reach the pre-war amount.

Subsistence crops (mainly cereals) are not sufficient to cover domestic food requirements. The breeding, although a secondary activity, gets good results, because of the vast available grasslands and limited diffusion of *glossina*, the pernicious tsetse fly, and provides significantly to the needs of the population.

The trade balance is in deficit, as exports of coffee, tea and tungsten and leather cover less than one fifth of the imports of machinery, vehicles, building materials and food.

## The capital Kigali

The capital of Rwanda is an active agriculture and livestock market. Home to small manufacturing companies in basic industries such as textiles and food, and is very common on small business. The booming IT sector is strong and is gaining wide commercial spaces throughout Central Africa.

As of April 7, 1994 it was one of the sites of the genocide caused by the rivalry between Hutus and Tutsis wherein more than one million people were killed. Following the dramatic events a reorganization of the city was initiated in the process of national reconciliation.





## The Rogationist presence in Rwanda and in Kigali

The presence of Rogationists in Rwanda dates back to March 31, 1978. On March 10, 1987 the Delegation of Rwanda

was established as a non-profit organization under the name “Congrégation Rogationnistes des Peres du Coeur de Jésus au Rwanda” approved by the Ministry of Justice no. 92/11 and 93/11 dated May 10, 2006.

Recently, the Rogationist African Delegation was constituted into a Quasi-Province that includes the missions of Nyanza Ville, Kigali and Cyangugu in Rwanda, and the missions of Edea and Ngoya in Cameroon. The opening of the Novitiate in Kigali took place on March 4, 2011.

A land was given to the Congregation by the State of Rwanda for a social work in 1989, and in 2009, in view of opening a vocational training center, the foundations were laid for a construction of a building that would provide 8 good premises where school classes could be held.







## **PROJECT:** ***“The condition of vulnerable women and infants, and street children in Kigali”***

Rwanda is the only parliament in the world with female majority, despite an ancient Rwandese proverb that states “misfortune befalls the man’s house who left the last word to the woman.”

In fifteen years the country passed from the immutability of their secular traditions to springboard the role of women in a social and cultural complex.

According to some experts, the Rwandese woman has changed as a result of the genocide, assuming enormous responsibilities, working tirelessly for the moral and economic growth of the country, crossing the gender division that relegated her

to marginal roles.

Despite the many signs of a development process in place, still a state of widespread poverty creates situations of discrimination, especially if linked to early motherhood and outside of family ties, which is strongly felt in tribal traditions.

The shame of a pregnancy, forced or voluntary withdrawal from the nuclear family is the source of real situations of social exclusion, sexual exploitation and commercialization intended as a last resort for survival from extreme poverty.

Young, unmarried mothers barely teenagers, are living by their wits in Kigali





and in the suburban areas of the capital; the phenomenon is taking on the contours of an absolute gravity, especially when considered in relation to opportunities for educational, social and employment integration from which they are permanently excluded without an intervention in their favor.

Children in need, living alone on the streets would be at least 3000 in the capital Kigali alone, while many others are scattered in the peripheral or in the provincial cities.

Their living condition of poverty is primarily the result of extreme poverty of the families.

Aware of their situation of social exclusion, children and street children are wary of everyone and become unapproachable.

Dealing with them has become an urgent imperative. 10% of street children are female; while males tend to cluster, the girls remain isolated.

Besides the “normal” problems of survival, the girls are confronted daily with the abuse and sexual violence, many of them end up on the street because they are already victims of sexual violence in the family.

On the streets the lives of girls can be transformed quickly into a hell, those who abuse women with violence are generally people infected by HIV / AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases.

The girls are easy victims of these diseases and also risk an unwanted pregnancy; girls are the first ones that need help; they should be removed from the streets, conveniently protected and as soon as possible settled into academic and social reintegration.

The original idea of the project is “The St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia Multipurpose Center.”

Given the seriousness of the problem, the Rogationists are convinced that the project can be targeted to help design and



deliver an educational and training opportunities to vulnerable groups in the context, with particular reference to the status of mothers and children in difficulty.

In this perspective, the Rogationists decided to build in the ground leased to the Congregation in Kigali, a multipurpose center that can be used for different social activities, favoring the emergence of a counseling center for single mothers and vulnerable children of the vast metropolitan area that constitutes the periphery of the Rwandese capital.

The intention is to offer hospitality, to promote the aggregation formation-education training aimed at their societal, family, scholastic and / or professional reintegration.

### Objectives of the project

With this project we propose to:

- Build the “Saint Hannibal Mary Di Francia” Multipurpose Center in the ground leased in the area of Kigali.
- Develop training and educational activities targeted to launch a psychological and moral support to help the formation of self-esteem, reconciliation and education for family and social reintegration.
- Provide security of a “assistance center” (centro di ascolto) capable of finding practical solutions to situations of marginality, exclusion, deviance and extreme poverty for the benefit of mothers and children in difficulty.

### Direct beneficiaries

At least 70 among unwed mothers and children in difficulty within the context of reference.

### Indirect beneficiaries

- Eventual family units of young women and children in the area of Kigali.
- The whole social context of Kigali and Rwanda that will benefit from the solution or the response to a serious social





problem and the ripple effects of similar initiatives in favor of unwed mothers and vulnerable children.

## Realization of the project

The project will be executed in two main stages:

### First phase:

- Meeting with the mothers and children of both sexes in need within the context of reference and their gradual integration in the activities of the “St. Hannibal Maria Di Francia Multipurpose Center” of Kigali.
- Emphasis is placed on the meeting, contact, warmth, listening, recovery, education and training aspects, eventual reconciliation and integration with family, school reintegration of street children, and possible job placement for single mothers.
- In view of the project, an effective cooperation will be established with civil institutions and the administrative authority, with those in charge of youth at different levels, with the services and health centers and hospitals, with centers for vocational training.

### Second phase:

- The promotion of educational and training activities, diversified in small production activities aimed at occupational insertion of street children.
- The orientation to create small cooperatives for income generation adequate enough to avoid fallout into deviance and extreme poverty.

## Resources needed

### Human Resources

For the full functioning of “St. Hannibal Mary Di Francia Multipurpose Center” it needs:



- ✓ 1 responsible for operating the project
- ✓ 1 secretary with administrative function, responsible for the activities of the Centre
- ✓ 2 social workers
- ✓ 1 cook
- ✓ 1 security guard for the day
- ✓ 1 security guard for the night

#### *Material resources*

– The construction of a large room, with toilets, to be used in the project activities, in compliance with local safety regulations.

– Accessory Materials: furnishings needed for the project activities.

### **Duration of the project**

To achieve a good result, the project duration is foreseen for one year (12 months), but an overall assessment of the initiative will certainly be tested over time, in relation to the real family and social integration of unwed mothers and children of the said context.

### **Future sustainability and local participation**

Regarding the sustainability of the project is expected in time the insertion and the start of production activities which are closely related to the proposed vocational training courses, such as the production of artifacts and handicrafts products whose specific skills have been already previously acquired.

Any proceeds will be reinvested for the constant adjustment of the equipment for necessary innovations, both for planning of new educational and training courses.

The local religious authorities strongly supports the initiative and hopes the ripple effects of those positive results which will benefit the entire Archdiocese of Kigali for a successful program in the extended area, in favor of unwed mothers and vulnerable children.





Finally, local participation is ensured by all those expectations contained in the solid relationship and trust that the Rogationists, who have been working for years in human and social development throughout the Rwandese territory, have created over time with the people, starting from the most abandoned.



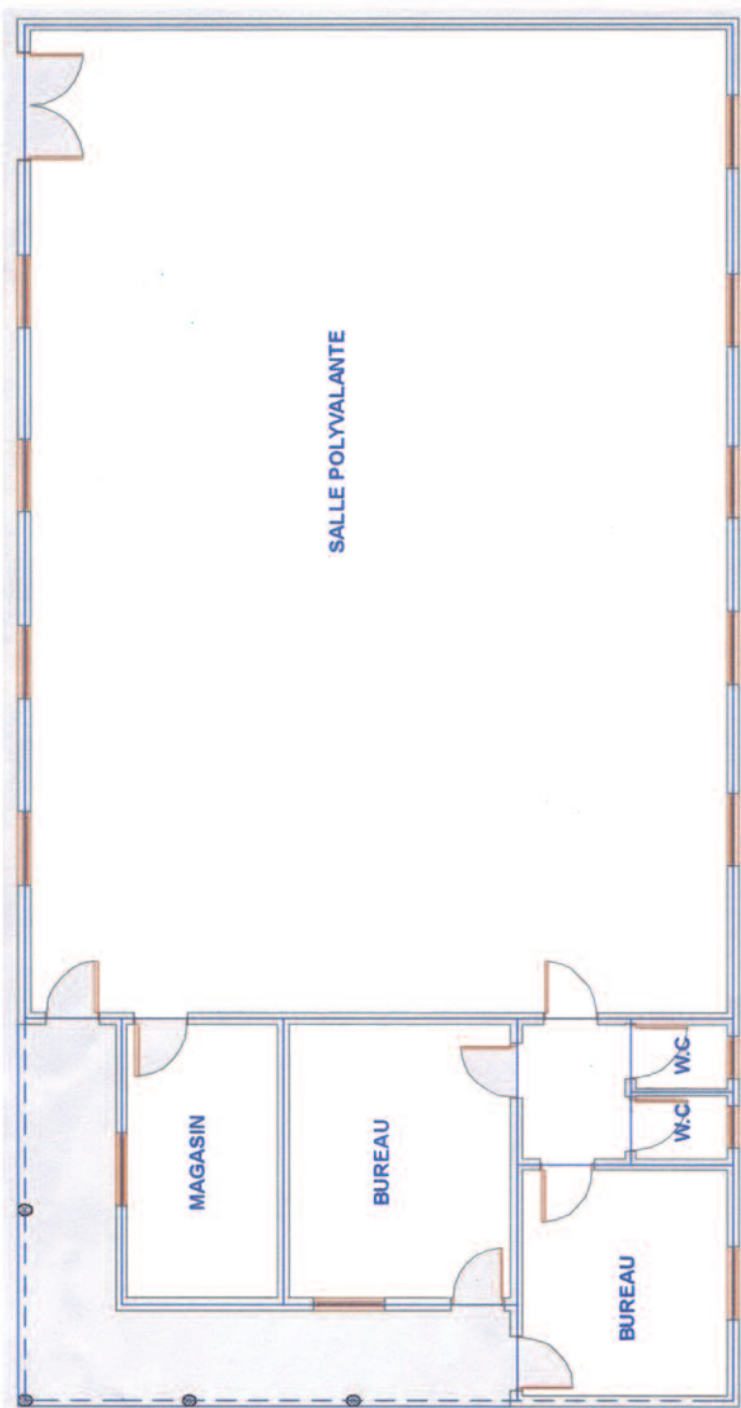


### COMPONENTS AND COST OF THE PROJECT IN FIRST PHASE (1 ° year)

1. Structure (multi-purpose hall, offices, laboratories and services)	Euro 42,500.00
2. Furniture and initial equipments	Euro 13,000.00
3. Personnel and social workers (7)	Euro 12,600.00
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>Euro 68,100.00</b>



**BLOC ADMINISTRATIF – SALLE POLYVALANTE**



**MISSIONI ROG**  
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NAZ. 258-2008  
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**Abbonamento  
annuo € 7,75**

AUTORIZZAZIONE  
TRIBUNALE DI ROMA N. 290/88  
DEL 17 MAGGIO 1988

Stampa:  
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