

TIME OF...in Malawi

It is time of the spirit, it is time of pruning, and it is time for new life.

All this is Lent time we have just started with the rite of ashes.

We are all on a journey, sharing the joys and the great suffering of the whole world that aspires to get out from the chains of ignorance, misery and slavery of all kinds. At the end of our Lenten journey, which Pope Francis wishes us to be confident and joyful, awaits the Resurrection, as the great gift of the Risen One who also won the slavery of death.

Malawi with its the beautiful name "warm heart of Africa", won a dubious distinction:

It is the poorest country in the world, according to World Bank statistics, for 2015.

More than half of its population lives below the poverty line, earning less than \$1 a day!

As they say, it rains in the wet. Since the rains began, 15 of the 28 districts Malawi have been declared areas of disaster, because of heavy flooding, which has left about 300,000 people homeless and 300 deaths. According to the organization OXFAM GB, the world spends \$ 59 billion for the ice cream, but it spends \$ 22 billion on humanitarian aid, to save lives in disaster situations. On ice cream we spend three times as much of what is spent for life!

With Nelson Mandela we affirm that:

"Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity.

It is an act of justice.

You protect a fundamental right: the right to dignity and to a decent life "

We should not be discouraged though, but rather to continue the commitment to a fraternal solidarity, offering signs of renewal from the heart of each one, starting from our families, associations and community to reach the whole human family.

We have so much to cry about and let's do it, as we invite Pope Francis, because crying is good and we have to ask "the gift of tears" that marks the pain, but also joy.

"Every minute that passes by when angry, you lose 60 seconds of happiness," says A. Einstein and therefore let us live our time with the serenity that helps us to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep, sharing what we are and what we have.

Together we are strong and with Alleluya band in their next 2015 Tour we can cry

KAMVULUMVULU / VORTEX OF LIFE, because our words become action of a full life for all.

Here in Balaka, from the beginning of 2015, our COMFORT COMMUNITY HOSPITAL, together with its health facilities and Kapandatsitsi Toleza, has helped 10,691 patients, even with special initiatives for the emergency in the villages, caused by persistent rains. Thanks to all and let us be strong, as we continue to support our CCH, small oasis of recovery for the sick, young and old.

Thanks wholeheartedly

Fr. Mario