

A. HOW THE GROUP OF INDABO ZA MARIYA "MARIAN FLOWERS" WAS ESTABLISHED, TIME AND VENUE OF ESTABLISHMENT

Important dates:



- ❖ **On the Christmas day of 2004**, a Christian lady by the names of Emerita MUKAYIRANGA felt the need to visit and offer gratitude to our Mother the Blessed Virgin Mary who gave birth to our Savior and visited us at our home in Rwanda at Kibeho
- ❖ She shared this great need with some brethren and they made a decision of making regular pilgrimages to Kibeho.
- ❖ **On 19/1/2005**, Emerita Mukayiranga, together with Mariya Uwanjye, Godeliva Mukayiranga and Odeta Uwera, made their first pilgrimage to Kibeho. During their visit, they met and interacted with the then Priest in charge of the Sanctuary, Rev. Fr. Rwsa Chrysanthe, and expressed their desire to continue their religious pilgrimages to Kibeho on a monthly basis. The then head of the Sanctuary proposed them a name and immediately named them "**Indabo za Mariya**" (Marian Flowers), following the apparition of the 16/1/1982 when the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared standing in the garden of flowers and asking those she appeared to, to irrigate them.
- ❖ After a year, making their religious pilgrimages, they thought of requesting for a thanksgiving Mass, as their number was constantly increasing. Fr. Anastase Nzabonimana, the then Parish Priest of Kacyiru Parish (where the Brethren used to meet), advised them to look for a spiritual school that would help them to strengthen their Christian faith and to know more about the Blessed Virgin Mary who would help them find Jesus.

Fr. Anastase assisted them to get into contact with the Brothers of St Gabriel; one of the Congregation of Brothers that was founded by St Louis Marie Grignon of Montfort. Brothers of St Gabriel, requested Brother Jean Chrysostome Rurangirwa to assist the newly founded Group of **Indabo za Mariya** (Marian Flowers)



- ❖ **On 26/2/2006**, the first 26 members of **Indabo za Mariya**, after receiving spiritual teachings and getting prepared, dedicated themselves to Jesus Christ through the Blessed Virgin Mary. They made a covenant, saying, "I am yours the whole of myself, and all that belongs to me is yours, my beloved Jesus for the sake of Mary your Holy Mother" (The true way of becoming a beloved of the Blessed Virgin Mary no. 233).
- ❖ St Gabriel Brothers continued to take them through the required spiritual teachings and the dedication process became an annual event. Members take a period of one year to get prepared through theological and spiritual teachings.
- ❖ **On 12/1/2009**, The Group of **Indabo za Mariya** applied to join the Association of Mary Queen of Hearts that is guided by the teachings of St Louis Marie Grignon of Montfort
- ❖ **On 8/12/2009**, **Indabo za Mariya Group** (Marian Flowers Group) was officially admitted in the Association and changed the name to **Indabo za Mariya Nyina wa Jambo Umwamikazi w' imitima** (Marian Flowers Mother of the Word Queen of Hearts). Christians who wish to make their pilgrimages to the holy land at Kibeho are facilitated to travel with group members every last Sunday of the month.



St Louis Marie Grignon of Montfort

B. MISSION, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES OF INDABO ZA MARIYA IN THE CHURCH

- ❖ **Mission:** Sanctification. Members do so through the teachings they are given, in the study of the word of God, getting to know more about the Church and more knowledge of the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the redemption of the world, and so on
- ❖ **Objectives:** The main objective of Indabo za Mariya is to make known and to keep reminding **the messages of the Mother of the Word at Kibeho**. They do so through the teachings that they provide and organizing monthly religious pilgrimages to Kibeho.



- ❖ **Activities:** Group members have delivered the messages of the Mother of the Word of Kibeho to various places inside the country (various Rwanda Parishes) and to the neighboring countries of Burundi and Tanzania.

- ❖ **How the activities are performed:** At the request of various parishes or other prayer groups, members participate in providing teachings on the messages of the Mother of the Word at various places.
- ❖ **In different parishes group members carry out various activities:**
Catechism teachings in lower schools, providing spiritual teachings in higher schools, visiting the sick and delivering messages to Christian families in their homes.
- ❖ The Group of Indabo za Mariya is a member and works with other Catholic Prayer Groups and Associations that belong to the **Catholic Action Movement (MAC)**



C. GROUP MEMBERS AND GROUP STRUCTURES

- ❖ Members of Indabo za Mariya work together with the leaders of the Sanctuary of the Mother of the Word at Kibeho to prepare for the annual celebrations at Kibeho most especially the 15th August every year (The Assumption day) and 28th November (The Apparition day) and other key days. The Group is made up of Catholic Christians: adults, young children and youth.
- ❖ **Organizational Structure:** The Executive Committee consists of the Head of the Group, the Deputy and the Secretary. The committee is assisted by the heads of Commissions and representatives of the Group in various parishes where the Group members are located.
- ❖ **The Group of Indabo za Mariya also has spiritual leaders**
The Chaplain Priest and a Brother who is a Spiritual Patron

D. HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE GROUP OF INDABO ZA MARIYA

- ❖ Being a Catholic Christian by faith.
- ❖ Being thirsty for growing and strengthening one's faith and sanctification.
- ❖ The desire and acceptance that the Blessed Virgin Mary becomes your caregiver and leads you to Jesus Christ.
- ❖ Accompanying Group members in religious pilgrimages and participating in the organized spiritual and theological teachings and other activities that will prepare Group Members for the activity of dedication (at least for a period of one year) followed by an application to become a Family member which is done through writing to the head of the group.
- ❖ Commitment to follow and to abide by the rules of the Group of Indabo za Mariya.
- ❖ After the first dedication activity, teachings continue with planned activities to renew members' dedication commitments on annual basis.



D. CONTACTS

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INDABO ZA MARIYA



"I AM THE MOTHER OF THE WORD, I HAVE HEARD YOUR PRAYER" (The Blessed Virgin Mary talking to Alphonsine Mumureke on 28/11/1981)

