



2024

LENT PRAYER JOURNEY



day one		TODAY'S DATE: / /
THEME: NEW SCHOOL YEAR	CHILD: RITAH NAKATO	CLASS: P7
<p><i>Lord our God, in your wisdom and love, you surround us with the mysteries of the universe. As we begin our 2024 school year, I ask that you send your spirit upon all students and fill them with your wisdom, understanding, and blessings. Grant that they may devote themselves to their studies and draw ever closer to you, the source of all knowledge. Thank you for giving them an opportunity to be in school. I ask you to bless their parents and guardians so that they may continue providing for them. Today I pray for each student that your favor may rest upon their lives. May they work hard, but it is only with your favor that they will have a bright future. Give them wisdom and understanding that they may navigate through life according to your holy principles. Amen.</i></p>		
NOTES:		
day two		TODAY'S DATE: / /
THEME: FOR JUSTICE	CHILD: ANGELLA NAKAWUK	CLASS: P7
<p><i>Dear Lord of lords and King of kings, I thank you for giving hope to the hopeless. I thank you for your love letter to us, the Bible. It is full of words of hope. Lord, may you heal the hearts and bodies of those who have suffered at the hands of injustice. Mend their brokenness and wipe away their tears. Comfort them with your love, assuring them that justice will prevail. Grant them the strength to forgive and the hope for a better future. I thank you, Lord, for you are our healer and restorer. Amen.</i></p>		
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day three

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AGAINST INJUSTICE OF DENYING GIRLS EDUCATION

CHILD: HASIFAH NAKIBULE

CLASS: S3

Heavenly Father, here we are before you our king. We give you glory and honor. We praise you because we have reason to do so. We ask for your forgiveness whenever we go wrong. Cleanse our hearts. Dear Lord, before you are your children calling to see your glory. There are many uneducated children in the world, especially girls. They are forced into unwanted marriages, and they are going through grief. They are physically and mentally disturbed. This makes them forget about your love towards them and this forces them to do evil things. Help the girls to also get education through different people and touch the hearts of these parents and relatives who refuse to educate the girls so that they may end the unjust practices. You are the provider of all nations; may you provide for us all. May your parental love comfort the victims of denied education and have a prospectus future. Amen.

NOTES:

It is an injustice to deny someone access to education for no other reason but because of their gender. This practice is prevalent in poor, rural families and in situations where a girl child has lost her parents and depends on relatives for support.

In my village, girls who come from large Muslim families are often victims of this injustice. I know this because I was raised in a Muslim family. These families have bad attitudes towards educating girl children. Instead, they choose to prepare the girl child for marriage. Often, when the girl reaches the age of 15, she is set off for marriage.

I am a survivor of being denied education and child marriage. My father has a bad attitude towards educating girls because he follows the statement of one historian who remarked that the office of girls is the kitchen, and we shall not stress ourselves on their education.

When I finished my primary level, my father told me I should not proceed with studies because he could not see the reason as to why I was studying. He stopped paying my school fees and he only paid for my brothers leaving me home because I was a girl. This greatly affected my life, and I began seeing myself as a burden at home and I became desperate. I began thinking of how my future would be if I did not get education and it hurt me as I saw my fellow girls from other families going to school. This practice has greatly affected most of the girl children in our villages. Uneducated girls fail to get good employment and in most cases their marriages also fall apart because the girl child is set off for marriage before she is ready. I thank God for Raise the Roof Academy and being sponsored to attend school now. It is because of this program that I am now in Senior 3 of High School. I want to help end this injustice.



day four

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AGAINST CHILD
NEGLECT

CHILD: JULIUS SEMPINGA

CLASS: S2

Our Heavenly Father, I pray for each child that is neglected by a parent or relative. Lord, let all these children see and feel your love and presence through all of us. Father, may you provide these children with joy and happiness. I pray that you forgive every person that has ever neglected a child, may you change their hearts, fill them with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and may they realize their mistakes and change. Holy Father, give us leaders who will protect the children every day. Father, let every person know that child neglect is an injustice so that they can stop practicing it. Help us at Raise the Roof to also help and fight for more children and to help the adults change. In Jesus' name, Amen.

NOTES:

Child neglect is common in many homes and families with many children. Sometimes people take it as a simple thing to do. This is where you find a parent leaving the child because maybe a father has married another woman, that woman produces her children, and the father, as a head of the family abandons his children from the first wife and takes care of the children of the second wife forgetting that he is the one to take care of children he had before, too.

In my village, I saw a father once separated from his wife, by the time they separated, they had five children. The woman took one child with her, and the rest remained with the father. The children who remained dropped immediately out of school. I used to see the children cry to their father that he should take them to school, but he refused. Instead, he took them to work with them in the garden from morning to evening.

One day, he heard that the police were arresting parents who had not taken their children to school. He rushed and took them to a nearby school and the children were very happy to be back in school. But he did not provide resources or supplies and did not pay the school fees. Eventually, the school dismissed the children for not paying tuition fees. When the children got home, the father told them that the only solution they had was to remove their uniforms and go to the garden and work.

Later, the grandmother intervened and one of the boys started going to school. Again, the boy was happy. In the first two years, things were going on well and the boy was happy. After some time, the father again refused to help. He said that the boy was now getting old and that he needed to work and pay his own fees by digging in gardens for other people. In this family the children were neglected, they were always dirty, and wandered the village hungry looking for food and not in school.

Most people in my village do not see child neglect as an injustice. I want to help raise awareness about this bad thing.



day five

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR VICTIMS OF WAR
AND ARMED CONFLICTS

STAFF: AKWEDO JANE

SCHOOL SECURITY TEAM

Dear Lord, I pray for the people that have had scars due to being victims of war. So many have lost their loved ones, homes have been destroyed, and seeds of violence and hatred have been sown. I ask that you forgive all those who brought permanent disability and tears to the innocent people. Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth, bring healing to the families of the affected and create space within their hearts to find peace. I pray for the political stability of our country Uganda, East Africa, and Africa at large, may the peace that you give shine upon your people so that we love one another, just as you loved us and sent your only son Jesus Christ to die for our sins. For our brothers and sisters who have chosen to join the army, cover them with your peace, surround them with your spirit to guide their footsteps and actions. Let them be slow to anger and shed no more blood of innocent people. We ask you, Lord of mercy, to offer protection to our children, to our relatives, to our leaders and to our nation that nothing but peace shall prevail over our land! Amen.

NOTES:

Peace seems to be an illusion to people who have suffered injustices especially those who are casualties of war. There are thousands of people whose life experiences have since become nightmares due to insurgencies.

Growing up, my father narrated what had happened to his father (my grandfather). He told me that during the time the Lord's Resistance Army was attacking our villages there was neither peace nor justice. He recalled how he was abducted by the rebels, and he spent 10 months in captivity, where he was subjected to torture and hard labor. He witnessed relatives and friends lose life to ruthless armed rebels.

During the war he lost his leg and sustained severe injuries that he still lives with. He said that he had wanted to walk again so that he could be able to support his family and loved ones, but the doctors could not do much, he now lives with a permanent disability. My father was subject to the great injustices that still haunt him and our family. His greatest pain is that because of the loss of his leg due to violence against him as a captive of the rebels, he has been unable to give his children the life he had always imagined.

The war left my dad with trauma that eventually also traumatized the rest of us. Being unable to look after his children, he felt sorry for his state of life and frequently would break down into tears and wished he had died during the war. His family lived in absolute poverty, and he regretted his birth. Like my father and family, many families are victims of heinous injustices. I work at Raise the Roof Academy as a security officer. **I want to make sure children and families are safe. Protecting people is an act of justice.** Wars have consequences and many families that live through wars never fully recover from the trauma and injustices they endure.



day six

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR NURSES

CHILD: ADRIAN SSEKYANZI

CLASS: P7

Loving Father, I thank you for the gift of life. I thank you for your love towards us. Thank you, Lord, for all the nurses and for our dear school nurse, for the way they care for their patients. Give them strength and wisdom as they dedicate their lives to their patients. As they care for those in pain, give them soothing words. As they care for the aged, give them patience. And when they have to work for long hours, give them perseverance, Lord. Surround them with love and comfort, quiet their minds and give them rest when they sleep. May they feel safe and secure knowing that you are in control. Thank you for their families, too. Amen.



NOTES:

day seven

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR FORGIVENESS

CHILD: DANIEL SSENYONDO

CLASS: P7

Dear Lord, please forgive all sinners for their sins that they commit. The thieves, kidnappers, and those who bring harm to others. I bring them to you, oh Lord, seeking for your mercy upon them. I ask you that you help them to cope with the emotions they are experiencing as a result of their wrong doing. Please guide them, sustain them, and help them heal from the pain and shame that they experience. Help them to remember that they are children before you, and give them the power to make it through this season of Lent. As human beings, we are all sinners and we are prone to experience joys and pains. Lord, please help us to remember the power of forgiveness. Help all sinners to move past what was said and done by filling their hearts with forgiveness. In Jesus' name I have prayed, Amen.



NOTES:

day eight

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: COMMUNITY LEADERS

CHILD: YOSIA SSEMPIJJA

CLASS: P7

Our Lord, I thank you for the gift of our community leaders. They are loving, caring, and patient. I thank you for the lives you have given to them. Thank you for giving them knowledge, for guiding and counseling us. They are good examples to us and the growing generation. They always encourage us in times of fear, and guide us on what to do. Their guidance has made every one strong. We pray for them to live long on earth. We are proud of them and we love them. We pray for your protection upon them and their families. We pray for good health and wealth as they lead others. Lord, send your Holy Spirit to guide them and strengthen them so that they can do their work well. And Lord, we pray for your presence upon them. Thank you, Lord, because you are going to use them to do your work. There is hope in our communities because of our leaders. Thank you, Lord! Amen.



NOTES:

day nine

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR INJUSTICES
AGAINST WIDOWS

CHILD: ANGELLA NAKUYA

CLASS: S4

Heavenly Father, I want to thank you today for the gift of life. I want to thank you for the privilege to be in school. This is a new, unique and blessed season in everyone's life for God to make it beautiful, marvelous, and prosperous in His own way. May your Holy name be magnified, praised, and honored. Lord, I surrender to you every issue concerning injustice against widows and the elderly in this world. Father, there are very many widows and the elderly who need justice in this world. Many are vulnerable and powerless, and they are tired of fighting injustices with no clear path of victory.

Father, I pray for your constant love and enduring mercies upon Dezira's life. The Lord of justice, I know and believe that you are the Lord who mends all the broken hearts, and you are the answer to every question. Lord, I pray for your preservation and protection of your people in this world from the daily arrows of injustice, destruction, envious adversaries, rejection, and oppression.

Lord, I bless your Holy name for my friends and relatives. King of kings, you heard the fervent prayers of Abraham for Lot and his households to be delivered from condemned Sodom and Gomorrah. Lord, look upon every elderly person, hear their prayers and deliver them from every impending injustice, condemnation, and destruction. Heavenly Father, I pray that you open the doors for widows to have prosperous and successful lives. God of justice, I pray for wisdom and understanding upon the people who fight for justice in the world. As in "1 Kings 3:16-28" Solomon judged a difficult case because God gave him wisdom. Help us to stand with the widows and elderly and all who are victims of injustice. In Jesus' name, Amen!

NOTES:

Dezira is a sixty-year-old widow in our village near my school, Raise the Roof High School. She and her husband had five children, a house, and a plot of land. Over 10 years ago, her husband died and then her in-laws came and threw her out of the house. They took over the house and grabbed the plot of land from her. **Dezira reported the case to the police and when they summoned the in-laws, they bribed the police and the courts of law.** It has been ten years since she filed the case, and still she has not attained the justice she deserves.

What happened to Dezira happens to many widows in my country. Grieving the death of a husband is hard enough and when it compounds with land grabbing and displacement from relatives, it becomes an all-consuming injustice and burden. Dezira needs our help.

Please pray with me for Dezira and other widows who suffer such injustices and many who have never received an answer to their injustices.



day ten

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: THE INJUSTICE OF THE GENOCIDE, MY FAMILY

STAFF: EMMANUEL KIIZA

PRIMARY SCHOOL DEPUTY HEAD MASTER

Please pray with me: Merciful God, the most high. We cry out to you to protect the world from any other genocidal ideologies. Help us in our frail humanity to realize that we all have the potential to choose to do wrong or to act justly. Help us to be worthy of your gift of free will, so that we can hasten the time when peace and harmony banish prejudice and hate, and the words of the Prophet can be fulfilled. Nations shall no longer lift up swords against nations, neither shall they learn to make war anymore. May the resting place of all victims of genocide be a constant reminder of our human duty. To love our fellow, who is like us. We thank you for the safe refuge and warm co-existence we have today but also many do not have. May He who makes peace in high places grant peace and fellowship to us. Amen.

NOTES:

The genocide occurred in Rwanda between 7th April and 15th July 1994. It was a civil war between the members of the Tutsi minority ethnic group and the Hutu. It was conceived by extremist elements of Rwanda's majority Hutu population who planned to kill the minority Tutsi population and anyone who opposed those genocidal intentions.

It is therefore believed that more than 2 million Rwandans fled the country before, during, or immediately after the genocide. Being a Tutsi, my grandfather and my grandmother had to leave the country before the genocide. They walked from Rwanda to Uganda. In one of the conversations I had with my father, he said being the elder son, they came carrying their siblings and slept in the bushes for more than 20 days.

On arrival in Uganda, they landed in one of the homes in Masaka where they worked as casual laborers. It was from that very home that my father started attending school in Masaka Baptist Primary School and later joined Kijabweme Secondary School. Since his parents were just casual laborers, they couldn't raise his school fees. He therefore worked in other gardens and raised some money. He got himself a bicycle that he used as a means of transport and started transporting bananas to different homes in Masaka. **Through selling bananas, he got money to pay for his fees.** That is how we were born in Uganda. Our grandfather and grandmother planned to go back to Rwanda in 1997. It was a campaign that took place within greater Masaka. More than 20,000 Rwandans returned to their country at that time. My father couldn't go back to Rwanda because he had children and he imagined how he could begin in a country he didn't own land and had now acquired in Uganda.

After the death of my grandfather, my aunt, my father, and I went to Rwanda to attend the burial. On our way to the burial place, we stopped in Kiramuruzi, a small trading center. Someone gave us a young man of around 17 to take us to our destination. The boy narrated to us how his family members were murdered. All the family members were killed. He only survived because he had gone out of the house carrying his one year old baby sister on the back because she was crying.

When I met this boy, his sister was 6 years old at this time. This boy had taken care of his sister alone in the house his parents had been killed during the genocide. This experience changed the way I see children. Yes, my parents were able to escape, but many did not. **This story inspires me to love children and serve them so we will never have another genocide.**



day eleven

TODAY'S DATE: / /

**THEME: AGAINST THE
INJUSTICE OF HUMAN
TRAFFICKING**

CHILD: BETTY NAZZIWA

CLASS: S6 HIGH SCHOOL

Oh Lord, thank you for the gift of life. Thank you for our continent Africa and for protecting us. I dedicate our lives to you, Lord and pray that you continue watching over us. Lord, I dedicate to you the victims of human trafficking for example those who have lost their body organs through trafficking. Protect them and heal their wounds, also those who practice it. Lord, touch their hearts so that they can end these bad acts. Give us strength to resist injustices such as human trafficking and sexual exploitation. Empower our leaders to protect us and fight for us. Free and heal every victim. Empower every survivor to speak up. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen!

NOTES:

The East African region is currently battling with the menace of human trafficking. Men, women, and children are trafficked from rural communities to large cities like Kampala, Nairobi, and Da-El-salaam for labor and sexual exploitation.

For example, Banyarwanda commercial sex workers in Nairobi and Kampala are often trafficked from Rwanda with promises of better jobs. Children and their parents from Karamoja are also trafficked to Kampala to be professional beggars. Urban authorities are often reporting about these vices, but they persist. Sometimes we think our leaders do not care. **Others who seek better job opportunities in the Middle East are often recruited under vague contractual conditions that can encourage subsequent abuse by human traffickers.**



According to the victims, they are often lured to these destinations for better paying jobs than at home. They are silenced and forced to live and work in conditions that are inhumane. They are pushed in harsh conditions because their perpetrators want to dodge the high costs associated with licensed labor recruitment companies. They promise them visas to go and work in middle eastern countries such as UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar, among others. An increasing number of East African people are targeted by companies that are advertising through online job scams that promise to pay well in southeast Asia.

For example, a girl who had just completed her Senior 4 class in high school and had no more money to push her to the next level of school, was trafficked overseas under the guise that the labor recruiting company would pay for her education and that the money she makes will help her family at home.

In the process this young girl became a sex victim to 7 men as they sailed by sea to work in the Middle East. The girl's name is Jennifer. She is terribly damaged and traumatized and because of the violence done to her, she is not able to have children of her own. **I am going to school to fight for girls like my friend Jennifer.**

day twelve

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AGAINST THE INJUSTICE OF RITUAL CHILD SACRIFICE

STAFF: DIANA KINTU

TEACHER

Loving Father in the name of your son and our savior Jesus Christ, I ask you to forgive us for the injustice of child sacrifice that has been taking place over the years in our communities. Our hearts break, we grieve and mourn each life of a child or adult that has been taken. We are sorry that we have for centuries allowed such lies to exist in our societies. Give us wisdom, courage, and the will to do more. Heavenly Father, I pray that you touch and change the hearts of those who sacrifice children. Let them know that You are the source of everything that we desire. Open their eyes to the truth and redeem them and transform them with your love and forgiveness. We also pray for the families of all the children who have been sacrificed, may you heal their hearts and give them rest. You alone oh Lord can mend broken hearts. Lastly Lord Jesus, protect all our children in Uganda, Africa, and the whole world. It is in the name of your son Jesus Christ our savior we pray. Amen.

NOTES:

In my profession as a teacher, I am often the first person to notice some of the major changes in my students. This could be emotional, physical, or even spiritual. My students are diverse and each one of them comes to class with different lived experiences from their villages.

During this season of Lent, we are revisiting the topic of Child Ritual Sacrifice which is one of the most horrific forms of child abuse. My students are very familiar with many forms of child abuse, but the horror of child sacrifice scares us all. This form of abuse and violence against children is rooted in a number of socio-economic and cultural factors, and above all traditional beliefs that the ritual murder or mutilation of children can bring health, wealth, fertility, and good fortune. Children easily fall victim to sacrifice compared to adults, because they are more easily lured and believed to be "pure." Adults drawn to the practice are tricked into believing that the purity of a child makes the ritual more powerful.

On May 4th, 2021, the Ugandan Parliament passed The Prevention and Prohibition of Human Sacrifice Bill, specifically addressing the crime of child sacrifice. This bill was signed into law by the President on the 14th of July 2021. The sacrifice of children is more rampant in rural settings similar to the ones my students come from where children are at risk of abduction and sacrifice. This form of abuse and violence against children is rooted in a number of socio-economic and cultural factors, and above all traditional beliefs that the ritual murder or mutilation of children can bring health, wealth, fertility, and good fortune. Some of the perpetrators of this injustice can be relatives of children who have been deceived by witches and sorcerers. Witch doctors stress that their gods can only be satisfied by human blood, especially that of young virgin children. To choose to practice witchcraft and sorcery is to be deceived and lied to. Some people who are involved in these practices believe that if the first born is a girl, that's a curse to the family so she must be sacrificed to do away with the curse.

Child sacrifice is total injustice to the innocent children and brings lifetime trauma to their parents and entire communities. The children we love and want to protect deserve our protection and our society must do more to raise awareness, educate the masses, and end all manner of human sacrifice. Child Ritual Sacrifice is injustice that urgently needs God's intervention since security organizations have not done much to curb this vice.



day thirteen

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: REPENTANCE

CHILD: SHARIF SSENDAGI

CLASS: P7

Heavenly Father, Creator of heaven and earth, I come before you with a broken heart for all the injustices that happen around the world. The injustices of education inequality, police brutality, discrimination, violence, and others. I repent, Lord, for all those injustices happening and I pray for those fueling them to stop. Give all of us wisdom that we may discern the truth from falsehoods. Grant us courage to stand up against injustice and the strength to protect the innocent. I pray that your justice will prevail over evil. That every person will speak against evil and protect the weak. I trust in your righteous judgment and thank you for being our guiding light. Amen.



NOTES:

day fourteen

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: NGO WORKERS

CHILD: YUSUF KAVUMA

CLASS: P7

Lord, I ask for your Holy Spirit to illuminate the ins and outs of the Non Governmental Organizations and the teams they work with so that they may recognize your presence and shine your light on the areas within those organizations for which you would like them to pray. Show them who needs their intercession and encouragement. Allow them also to see where you would like to reveal truth in their lives in relation to their organizations. I pray for peace, love, and harmony to all teams who work with Non Governmental Organizations that you may show them the righteous path always. I pray for the leaders in all of these organizations that you would bless them with good health so that they may live to see the fruits of their hard work and sacrifice. Amen.



NOTES:

day fifteen

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR IMMIGRANTS

CHILD: HARRIET NAMAGANDA

CLASS: P7

Dear Lord, I praise your name for it is worthy to be praised. Psalm 24:1-2, The earth is the Lord's and the fullness in it, the world and they that dwell in it. I give you thanks for people working in troubled countries and ask for blessings on them. I thank you that you are the Lord of all the earth and all its people are loved by you. I lift all immigrants who left their homelands in search of a better life. Fulfill them, Lord and help them to feel safe. Strengthen them and watch over them. Protect them from all the evils of the world. I pray that you will bless their toil and multiply it. Thank you, Lord, for answered prayers. Amen.



NOTES:

day sixteen

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AGAINST THE INJUSTICE
OF FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

CHILD: PROSSY NAKAYIMA

CLASS: S6 HIGH SCHOOL

Lord, the source of all gifts, creator of space and time. We prostrate ourselves before you, oh most gracious Father, to offer you our most fervent thanks for the blessing you have bestowed on our country. We shall incessantly praise your ineffable mercy and confess that you are alone are God, our helper, and our protector. Henceforth, our entire confidence shall be placed in you! Everywhere we shall proclaim loud your mercy and generosity, so that your great love and great deeds may be acknowledged.

Father, we realize that there are many things about culture that have persisted, and people feel like they cannot change. But we know that this is a lie. All things can change, and we want to see change in those areas that have hurt and harmed us for so long.

We truly believe that you can help us transform our country and bring an end to cultural practices like the Female Genital Mutilation because it is unjust, and it creates a state of misery to your own people.

Merciful Father, send us your Holy Spirit to counsel our sisters who have already tasted the bitterness of Genital Mutilation, and may you help them overcome all the trauma and hardships that come with this vile act. May the devotion of your holiness increase more and more in the hearts of all your people to love you and love their neighbor. I pray for restored dignity among those who have experienced Female Genital Mutilation. I pray for courage and strength to all who work on behalf of those who cannot stand up for their rights. To you be the praise and the glory. Amen!

NOTES:

In Uganda, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is common among the Sabinu tribe from the Eastern part of Uganda. The harmful act is rooted in primitive beliefs that are no longer acceptable in society. Those who enforce this act argue that FGM helps control sexual immorality among the Sabinu women and young girls. But we call it an injustice.

Women and young girls are forced to undergo this archaic act against their consent thus taking away their freedom and liberty. This act causes a lot of pain and excess bleeding to the women and young girls thus making them lose a lot of blood. This act is humiliating because it is done publicly which leads the victims to view themselves as social misfits, this sometimes leads to some of the women and young girls committing suicide because they fear shame. **We want to ask you to join us in defending the rights of women and young girls.**



day seventeen

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AGAINST TAX INJUSTICES

STAFF: ALFRED ONYANGO

FINANCE OFFICER

Dear Lord, your word has shown us that you paid tax so that you don't offend the people in authority. But today, we go against this principle and have deliberately not paid taxes and others have deliberately under paid the taxes to the national treasury. We repent of this vice and pray that you forgive us of this sin against our neighbors and nation at large. We pray that you give us the heart to be faithful as citizens to our country. We pray that as far as taxation is concerned, may the mind of all Ugandans be willing to contribute to the national treasury, for no nation can experience economic growth and development if it doesn't include taxation as a foundation for growth.

May those entrusted with stewarding our national resources do so with integrity, transparency, and accountability. Holy God, give all our leaders wisdom and help us to speak up when we see injustices. Give us courage to reject evil in all its forms. Give us a heart to love you and our neighbors that all our actions may lead to the prospering of all. Finally, we pray that the leaders in Uganda have the mind to be exemplary in paying taxes. We pray all this in the Name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

NOTES:

In Uganda, the government has set up systems and structures to enforce tax collection at every level of our common life. An ordinary Ugandan rarely escapes the payment of taxes. In fact, in Uganda tax evasion attracts a 4 year sentence. Tax evasion schemes involve an individual or a corporation misrepresenting their income to the Uganda Revenue Authority. We pay taxes such as PAYE, Local Tax, and other forms of Direct Tax including VAT. Though Ugandans are heavily taxed, we are a country with very poor infrastructure. Service delivery is poor, inconsistent, or and in many rural areas, non-existent. Our government schools are dilapidated, overcrowded, and underperforming. Our few tarmacked roads are so small and full of ever-growing potholes that on average a person who works in Kampala spends more than 20 hours in urban traffic each 7-day week. The few bridges we have are ever crumbling and more lives are lost due to access to health care.



Recently, the IGG (Inspector General of Government), the statutory office in Uganda responsible for investigating corruption and abuse of office in the government of Uganda jokingly and with a mocking tone, said that when she and other politicians and their families get sick, they just charter private jets and fly to foreign countries for treatment. She said she and other politicians drive SUVs so they are not affected by potholes.

At Raise the Roof Academy, we know that our people are not poor because they do not want to work. **We tell each other that poverty is man-made and it can only be solved by people like us.** Ending poverty begins with naming the injustice of tax loopholes that are exploited by those in power, the rich and corporations in the form of abuse of collected taxes, nonpayment of taxes, and hiding of revenues in tax havens outside Uganda. It saddens us to know that the wealthy are hiding their wealth outside Uganda in tax havens, yet they enjoy all the benefits that the state provides without contributing to the National Revenue Collection. There are also multinational companies enjoying a wide range of tax incentives in addition to paying little or no taxes at all after taking advantage of the tax law loopholes. Please pray with me.

day eighteen

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AIR AND WATER

STAFF: DOREEN AMEN-AKURUT

TEACHER

Heavenly Father, we pray for all those who are sick because they lack clean water and those who are suffering because air pollutants hinder their breathing. May the Holy Spirit intervene in their lives and may they receive healing. Let the Holy Spirit guide everyone to know the health benefits of clean air and safe water.

God, we know that water is one of nature's precious gifts to mankind and without water, we cannot survive. Guide us through our daily activities so that we carry them out wisely in order to conserve water and prevent air pollution in our environment. Give our leaders wisdom to enact and enforce laws that protect the environment. May those who run factories and businesses that pollute water and air have a heart of wisdom and do what is right for the people they wish to make their customers. Help us as a nation to refrain from destroying creation but let us love the plants, the water, and the air. Teach us to treasure what you have given us and may the story of creation in Genesis 1 guide us to know that God is creator, and we have no right to destroy and pollute our world. I pray all this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

NOTES:

Around the world today, there are so many different communities that feel the effects of pollution and other environmental impacts. This has become the main issue affecting lives in many ways. It has caused a lot of harm to human beings, animals, trees, and other constituents of the environment.

Air and water pollution majorly occurs in areas with increased industrial zoning. As these industries process different products, toxic smoke is produced and it contains harmful substances that when inhaled in by humans, results in different sicknesses.

These include respiratory and cardiovascular harm especially to children. In our communities we are seeing an increase in people who are dealing with new health challenges such frequent asthma attacks, heart attack, strokes, lung cancer, reproductive harm, premature birth, low birth weight, and early deaths. This has resulted in more health and economic burdens for many families. Children are facing more missed days off school and parents are missing work. All feel the financial strain of medical costs associated with more hospitalizations. In Uganda, many poor people get sick but have no access to healthcare. So, in order to see a doctor, they either borrow, sell the little they have, or have extended bouts of sickness which prolongs cycles of generational poverty.

Uganda seeks to be a much more industrialized country, but I fear the cost on our health is something our business and industries leaders are not taking seriously. For example, our government in partnership with international petroleum companies is building oil wells in the middle of the nation's largest national park. Our capital city Kampala is known to be a heavily congested city as more people move there in search of work in the factories. Communities that are close to factories need to be protected and compensated. Everyone deserves the opportunity to live a full and healthy life. Our nation must ensure that we have clean air that doesn't make us sick and that we our people have access to water that is safe for human consumption. So, I call upon everyone to join hands with me to inform everyone that water and air pollution is an injustice that affects everyone, especially the working poor and the villages that are home to these factories. **Let us join together in sensitizing others and asking our leaders to enact and enforce laws that protect our water and air.** I believe together we can achieve great health free from water and air pollutants.



day nineteen

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AGAINST CHILD MARRIAGE

CHILD: SHADIA NAKISEKA

CLASS: S4 HIGH SCHOOL

First, Holy God, we pray for parents and other people to seek God's guidance, mercy, and control. As your word says, "seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened for you. Dear Lord, I seek your name and cry out for your help because the young generation is fading away. Help the young girls. Keep them safe and help our relatives learn and choose wisely. Protect us from those who would want to marry us before we are ready. Help us to know your words.

May you be the light of the way each girl walks. May you touch the hearts of these big men who also accept to marry the young generation. Lord, as you said that our bodies are the temple of God, Lord do not allow your temple to be destroyed in such unjust ways. May you provide the spirit to overcome in the lives of these girls. Set us free and give us advocates who will fight with us and for us. In the name of Jesus our Savior, Amen.

NOTES:

I have friends who are my age who are already mothers and wives to grown men. These young girls who are still children, are wives and mothers because their relatives hold on to an old belief that girls will eventually become mothers, so it is proper to marry them off early.

But child marriage is an injustice against young girls that are still below 18 years. This injustice is also a violation of the laws of our country, our families, and community. These violations persist in rural settings especially in families where a girl child is an orphan living with other relatives, superstitious religious sects, rebel militia groups, and those who want to gain material wealth and assets from men looking for virgin wives or even multiple wives.

Early child marriages happen for many reasons including poverty, education progress of the girl child, cultural norms, and in some cases if a teenage girl child finds herself pregnant. In some families, girls are married off in exchange for bride wealth that comes in the form of money, cows, goats, furniture, and sometimes food.

A girl child from a poor family who does not excel in class often for no reason of their own making, will be married off because their family is financially strapped and would rather only keep kids who are doing well in school. Those girls who struggle in class often drop out and are forced into marriage.

A girl child will be married off because some families believe that girls will never use the education experience in office settings because they will be stay at home moms. Some families marry off their girls because they want to associate with a man of means who might express interest in their daughter.

However, early child marriages hurt young girls by pushing them into childbearing before they are ready or even know what it means to be an adult. This is an injustice, and a violation of the girl's wishes. I have friends who have known this, and I am a survivor of an early forced marriage push. **I thank God that Raise the Roof intervened in my life and rescued me from early marriage.** In most cases we have children who end up producing their own children before they themselves have established themselves in life. So they end up having unsuccessful lives, dropping out of school, and having more burdens and responsibilities that are beyond their age.



day twenty

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR ALL WHO ARE UNLAWFULLY DETAINED

STAFF: BOSCO MUNEZERO

DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Holy God, we add our voices to the prayers of many people who are praying for the freedom and immediate release of those detained in prisons across my country and the world. Holy God, I pray that those who are detained will find strength and resilience during their challenging times. Lord, I pray that justice prevails, and may they be granted the freedom they rightfully deserve. Make us a people that abhor injustice and speak up whenever we see injustices. Let us stand firm and resolute until your light shines bright in the dungeons of injustice across our villages and nations. We remember all those who are in prisons and their families in our neighborhoods. May compassion and understanding guide those in positions of power to uphold human rights and ensure a fair and just society for all. We pray that all who are unlawfully detained will be released immediately and their rights and privileges restituted appropriately and speedily. We pray all this in Christ's holy name, AMEN!!!

NOTES:

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8 NIV)

In Uganda, unlawful detention has been a concern with instances of inconsistent arrests, prolonged detentions without charges, and reports of torture. Our country has faced criticism for human rights violations, with security forces sometimes accused of suppressing dissent. Advocacy groups and international organizations have raised awareness about these issues, calling for the protection of individual freedoms and adherence to the rule of law in Uganda.



In 2021, during COVID-19, I and two other Raise the Roof Academy members were unlawfully detained. These colleagues of mine were the heads of our Primary and High Schools. We were detained because the police decided that we had disobeyed the presidential directives and gathered more than 20 people in one place.

On the contrary we had permission from the appropriate government agency to carry out our work during COVID-19 which entails serving the children and families in our care. We did show the police officers the documents we had, but they disregarded them and instead locked us up in a tight police cell that was filled with many inmates exposing us to COVID. We are grateful to God that our Raise the Roof team worked tirelessly, and we were released on bail and later set free.

In Uganda, unlawful detention happens for many reasons including the police needing a scapegoat for a crime they can't resolve. Sometimes it is because someone has been framed for a crime they did not commit. Sometimes it is because of an order from the authorities in government. Sometimes it is for speaking out against social injustices. Sometimes it is intimidation so you can pay bribes. Unlawful detention is a very harmful traumatic experience that affects families and communities. Some people die in police custody. In my country, we have many unresolved cases of people who were unlawfully detained by state organizations.

day twenty-one

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

CHILD: MATTHEW MUNYAMBABAZ

CLASS: S3

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of life. You have provided for us, and you have guided your people worldwide. We humbly ask that you protect the persecuted and forgive their persecutors. We dedicate all those who have been denied education, food, medical care, and freedom of worship in your hands on account of their faith. May you console them and send them your Holy Spirit to give them strength so that they continue serving you. Loving Father, let all people persecuting others return to your church, let them repent about their wrong deeds so that they can be transformed. Provide them with a spirit of love, peace, and joy. Merciful Father, let them understand you so that they stop hurting your followers. Amen.



NOTES:

day twenty-two

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

CHILD: FLORENCE NALUBEGA

CLASS: S2

Dear Lord, I pray a prayer of blessing over the whole country. Send your Holy Spirit to always guide and make people have self-control against what they are always going to do. Provide them with the wisdom and understanding so that we live in a peaceful world. I pray for all victims of sexual violence, that you will make them whole and they will be able to live again. May they find people they trust so that they can deal with the pain. Thank you, Lord, Amen.



NOTES:

day twenty-three

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR LABORERS

CHILD: ISAAC MUJUZI

CLASS: P7

Heavenly Father, we come to you the Lord of the harvest knowing that what our Lord Jesus said is true, the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. We are surrounded by lost people who are harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. When we lift up our eyes, we see the fields of men and women that are ripe for harvest. Send out a mighty movement of laborers from our school campuses, who under your authority go and make disciples of all nations. May their numbers increase along with other Christ followers who join as partners and co-laborers from local churches and Christian universities. As you say in Matthew 9:38, pray to the owner of the harvest that he will send out workers to gather in his harvest. Father, I pray that you bless all laborers so that they may always live to rejoice in you. Amen.



NOTES:

day twenty-four

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR DAILY BREAD

STAFF: YAFESI MULUKA

AG TEACHER

Dear Heavenly Father, in this period where we are still troubled with food insecurity in many parts of the world, we pray to you to give those who are hungry daily bread (Mathew 6:11) and end their persistent hunger. Provide the food they need to grow and thrive. Pour out your grace on the hungry families, especially parents straining to feed their children despite dwindling resources. You cause the grass to grow for livestock and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine and bread to strengthen man's heart (Psalms 104:14-15). For our mothers and wives who rise up while it is still night and provide food for their household and portion to their female servants and masters (Proverbs 31:15). For your word says we should consider that our present sufferings are not worthy compared with the grace that will be revealed in us (Romans 8:18). You promised that if we call on you that you will answer and tell us great and unsearchable things we do not know (Jeremiah 33:3). For your word says 'I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread (Psalms 37:25). You promised us to go and eat our bread with joy and drink our wine with a merry heart, for You have already approved it for us (Ecclesiastes 9:7). We therefore thank you for your assurance of endless provision and amazing grace to be upon us, our families, and descendants in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

NOTES:

In the rural villages and bustling cities alike, families struggle to put enough food on the table each day. This struggle is felt in the hearts of the people, and its impact is profound.

Nassolo, a mother of seven living in Kasuleta village, Kasodo Sub-county, Pallisa district in eastern Uganda in her experience defined food insecurity with a lot of agony and trauma. Nassolo lost 3 children to hunger. Today, she works hard tending to her crops and caring for her children, but despite her efforts, there are times when there isn't anything to send to her gut. The unpredictable weather patterns and lack of access to modern agricultural resources makes it difficult for Nassolo and her neighbors to grow enough food to sustain their families.



Malnutrition, starvation, diseases, and high death rates is the order of the day in most parts of eastern Uganda. Despite all these challenges, Nassolo remains resilient. She is resourceful and determined to find remedies to provide for her children. She has joined a Women's Collective initiative against hunger that focuses on sustainable agriculture and small-scale farming. Through this initiative, Nassolo learns new farming techniques and receives a little support from members to run her subsistence farm. For Nassolo and other women in the initiative, there is hope that 'all will be well.' I believe that when all is well, the trauma and agony of her three children she lost to hunger will look different. She will worry no more about what her remaining four children will have to eat in the next few days. However, as a woman, she is challenged in many ways since she is the bread-winner for not only her children, but also her parents, in-laws, and other relatives. My last interaction with her revealed that she was hopeful. She believed she had a way to put food on the table for her family. Though she said this with tears of joy, she also let me know that her biggest nightmare was the sustainability of her current situation.

This story of food insecurity is a real-life experience for mothers like Nassolo. Her story like that of other women is one of resilience, collaboration, and unwavering determination to create a bright future for themselves and their communities. **Despite the challenges they face, the people of Uganda continue to inspire by their commitment to overcoming food insecurity and building a more sustainable and nourished nation.**

Dear Lord, hear our plea to raise up compassionate leaders who are rooted in righteousness, who identify with the oppressed. Listen to our cry for leaders of godly character and intelligence who are committed to lifting those at the bottom to the standard of decency and dignity worthy of a just nation. For our community and nation, may you raise up shepherds after Christ's own loving heart, who are filled with the spirit of Truth, Wisdom and Love.

Renew within us a spirit for justice and compassion for the weak. Confuse and frustrate all the plans and decisions that are unethical. Awaken within us a deep longing for justice for all. May we work to end human suffering.

May we refuse discouragement, may we refuse fear, may we refuse indifference and apathy. Holy God, grow our love for you and the poor. May we learn from you and may we teach each other how to love and serve in humility, generosity, and love.

Capture the hearts of our leaders so that they remain committed to good governance, transparency, and accountability. As from today, our land shall no longer be troubled by hardships and poverty, conflict, disease, lack and violence. I pray this prayer in the mighty and magnificent name Lord God, Amen.

NOTES:

Many people have read about how our political leaders have failed us. The history of our country is a history of bad and failed leadership. This goes back centuries, and each successive generation seems to inherit the same problems and then they pass them on to their children and grandchildren. We need leaders who love the people above enriching themselves. We need leaders who are ethical and moral. We need leaders with boldness and have a sound vision. **We are tired of unethical leaders who plunder our nation, are untouchable, and are out of touch with the people.**



In my part of the world, a small section of unethical leaders use every imaginable tool including intimidation, violence, state tools, murder, and blackmail to hold onto power and increase their ranks in government agencies. Countries like mine are rich in natural resources. These natural resources are mined and sold across the world, yet we remain vulnerable and exposed to everything, we have no roads, no hospitals, no schools, in urban centers more people live in slums and ghettos, and many starve.

The decisions of unethical leaders generate harmful consequences including a culture of corruption, embezzlement, corporate fraud, marginalization, tribalism, brain drain and breakdown of the family unit. This too is having a significant negative impact on the environment and public health. The people who hold positions of authority and power no longer have shame. Through their unethical acts, they have normalized many vices that are disenfranchising the weak, poor, the environment, and elderly in our societies.

Unethical leaders have brought shame to our societies and have hurt families in unimaginable ways. They have turned us into beggars, yet we are endowed with intelligence, gifts, and natural resources. Unethical leaders stifle growth, social transformation, and hurt our families. Our entire society is affected as a result of inefficient allocation of resources, the low quality of education and healthcare which have subsequently led to high poverty rates, mortality deaths, and diseases.

Many people who are subject to these injustices feel powerless. So, today, we join them in raising our voices in hope and for change.

day twenty-six

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AGAINST BULLYING

STAFF: GRACE WANYANA

ADMIN ASSISTANT

Heavenly Father, I thank you for the unconditional love you have towards us no matter how many times we sin. Today, I bring to you all the children and youths who are being bullied by those who pretend to be superior. Lord, we pray that you help them make new friends who will be there for them and change the behaviors of those who hurt others. I pray for peace and let your love and forgiveness surround our lives. Let the world be a better place for all of us to live in through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

NOTES:

In the Cambridge dictionary, bullying is the behavior of a person who hurts or frightens someone smaller or less powerful, often forcing that person to do something they do not want to do. This act has happened to children and youths in schools and outside school, and it is a form of injustice against those who are being bullied because it can bring harm physically, mentally, and psychologically.

I was a survivor of school bullying. While in High School, a group of girls from my class abused me and made me do things for them that I never wanted to do. They verbally and physically harmed me for a long period of time. I was threatened not to tell the teachers or go to the authorities. Bullying is harmful to young people. It is an injustice that affects many young people, especially teenagers.



In Ephesians 4: 32 we are invited to be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God has forgiven you. We need to create bullying free zones at school, home and on the internet.

day twenty-seven

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: EMERGENCY WORKERS

CHILD: BRIAN KYABAGGU

CLASS: P7

Loving Father, I come to you with thanksgiving for all emergency workers who risk their lives daily to make the world a better place. I pray for their safety and protection as they serve our communities. Lord, please keep all emergency workers safe as they put their lives on the line for us each day. You who protected David and gave him victory over Goliath, 1 Samuel 17. May you protect all emergency workers and help them succeed at all times. May they rejoice in the skills you have given them which help them to bring hope and healing to those in their care. God, I pray that you will be their defense, in Jesus' name. Amen.



NOTES:

day twenty-eight

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: ALL OF CREATION

CHILD: ANNET NAKABUGO

CLASS: P7

King of kings and Lord of lords, I thank you for all creation: men, women, children, plants, animals, rocks, rivers, forests, and lakes. All creatures were created for a purpose. I thank you Lord for them. I pray that you will help us to live in harmony as we serve our purpose on earth. May we learn to preserve and conserve each other. Teach all humans to appreciate nature. Thank you for the beautiful flowers. Thank you for the beautiful birds. Thank you for the mountains and seas. Thank you, Lord, for making all things beautiful. Amen.



NOTES:

day twenty-nine

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR CARETAKERS

CHILD: ESTHER NAMUGERWA

CLASS: S1

I come to you with a humble heart, seeking your divine protection over all parents, oh God. Father, I ask that you surround them with your love and grace, and keep them safe from all harm in your loving arms. May they find refuge and strength. Let your angels watch over them and be their shield against the enemy's schemes. As you say in Psalms 91:11, for he will command his angels concerning you, to guard you in all your ways. I trust that you will fulfill this promise for all parents. Lord, I ask that you guide them in their daily decisions, ensuring that they walk in your wisdom and righteousness. May their hearts always remain steadfast in their faith in you. Bless their coming in and their going out. Grant them good health that they may live to see the fruit of their labor. Amen.



NOTES:

day thirty

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AGAINST BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION

STAFF: RITAH ALIYINZA

DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY

Dear Lord, the acts of corruption and bribery have contributed greatly to raising the cost of doing business and making it harder for honest companies to compete, discouraging foreign investment and hindering economic growth, undermining social cohesion and trust, increasing inequality, and reducing efficiency and spreading across borders and affecting economies and societies everywhere. I therefore pray to you, Lord, that you will create new hearts and fear in the people in authority. May each person you have entrusted with an office seek to do what is right. We all belong to you, our just God! Teach us to be just in all. Our ways and strengthen us to reject these vices. It is in your son's name we pray Amen.

NOTES:

Mathew 28:11-15. "While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. Then the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, telling them, 'You are to say, 'His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.' If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day".

Bribery and corruption are as old as the earth. Bribery and corruption are related but distinct concepts. Bribery is the act of offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting something of value to influence an action or decision. Corruption is the abuse of entrusted power for personal gain. Corruption can include bribery but also other forms of dishonest or unethical behavior such as fraud, embezzlement, and nepotism.

Corruption permeates all parts of Ugandan society and acts as a major constraint on economic development and poverty reduction. Most people in Uganda have a story where they were asked to pay a bribe to access a public service. Uganda's legal framework for fighting corruption is relatively strong. Several new anti-corruption laws have been passed, but implementation of these laws is weak, especially in cases of grand corruption. This is the case in other countries around the world. Even Jesus' very own, Judas, took a bribe and betrayed him.

Mathew 26:14-16 — Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests and asked, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?" So they counted out thirty pieces of silver. From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.



day thirty-one

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR THOSE EXPERIENCING POVERTY

CHILD: KAKONGE MICHAEL

CLASS: P7

Loving Father, I thank you because you are a just God. I know that the life I live has a meaning because of you, Lord. Thank you for preserving me even when my condition was uncomfortable. I pray for all the children who are experiencing my kind of life. I pray for families that suffer and ask that Lord you will show yourself to them and remind them of your goodness. Provide for them and help their parents find work. Thank you for being a just God. Amen.

NOTES:

Poverty is the state of being poor. Being unable to enjoy the basics of life.

My name is Kakonge, and I am 16 years old. I study at Raise The Roof Primary School and I am in Primary 7. I have five siblings and when I am at home, we all stay in a one single bedroom house together with my parents. Poverty takes away the dignity of people. In my home we used to not have mattresses, bed sheets, or blankets. We used to sleep on the mat and could cover ourselves in the night.

We lacked enough food that could feed the family and often we ate once a day. This was after my parents worked hard, walking miles to get a job so we could buy food. I suffered a lot because I was beaten, slapped, chased, and injured because of poverty. I am happy to be at school because life is good.

My school is my safe haven. I get all meals and I am supported with everything I need because of the help my sponsor provides. Poverty is the manifestation of compounding injustices. We should do all we can to end poverty.



day thirty-two

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR TEACHERS

CHILD: SOPHIA NABULYA

CLASS: S1

Lord, I thank you for your loving kindness upon us all. I thank you for being just God. Education is an important part of our lives. Lord, I want to thank you for the gift of teachers all over the world and our teachers here at RTRA. Please grant them your encouragement, wisdom, and peace. I thank the teachers who patiently teach us. I thank the teachers who listen to us daily. For the teachers who never give up on us and who strive to make us win. Almighty God, I thank you for the way teachers give of themselves daily in the classroom, serving and instructing us. Fill their hearts with courage. Provide for their families, grant them good health, Lord. Make them have happy lives and may their children receive the same love and care as they give other children. Grant them good health and protection. Thank you, Lord, for all teachers. Amen.

NOTES:



day thirty-three

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

STAFF: BABIRYE MARY

HOUSE MOTHER AND SUSTAINABILITY OFFICER

Dear Lord, my healer and my strength, I thank you for healing me over the years. I thank you for giving me the courage to look at myself in the mirror again. I pray for all women and girls around the world who are suffering GBV, that they may get justice. May their cases be different from mine for they deserve to be treated with dignity and honor. I pray for families whose people have suffered GBV and were scarred. Lord, may you restore them and help them to trust again. Help them love the children who could have come because of that injustice. You are a just God, may justice prevail in the whole world! Amen.

NOTES:

Gender-based violence against women means violence that is directed against a woman.

Gender-based violence can be sexual, physical, verbal, psychological (emotional), or socio-economic and it can take many forms, from verbal violence and hate speech on the Internet, to rape or murder. It can be perpetrated by anyone: a current or former spouse/partner, a family member, a colleague from work, schoolmates, friends, an unknown person, or people who act on behalf of cultural, religious, state, or intra-state institutions.

Gender-based violence, as with any type of violence, is an issue involving relations of power. It is based on a feeling of superiority, and an intention to assert that superiority in the family, at school, at work, in the community or in society.

I was raped by a male family friend just because he had the power to silence me. This act did not leave me the same and it took me years to feel my body again. I reported to no one, and I have grown up with that trauma. It took me years to heal from that experience. **No woman should ever be subjected to that kind of injustice.**



day thirty-four

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AGAINST DRUG ABUSE

STAFF: TEDDY NAMAKOYE

SCHOOL SECURITY TEAM

Dear God, I thank you for your mercy and loving kindness to us all. I pray for all people who are under drug addiction. I dedicate them into your hands. Have mercy on them. Some are tired and don't know how to overcome it. As you helped me, I pray that you meet them, oh Lord. Those who are students, youth, and their families, have mercy on them, dear Lord. You say in the Bible in Matthew 11:28, Come to me all you who are heavy loaded and I will give you rest. We need you to give rest to our souls. Thank you, Lord, for saving men, women, and children in this situation. All glory I give back to you, Amen.

NOTES:

A drug is a chemical substance which when introduced into the body affects the body's function. Drug addiction or abuse is a condition of the body which results from prolonged use of drugs. Drug addiction or abuse has very many effects on both human life and the community. It leads to poverty, child abuse, spousal abuse, family separation, damage of body organs, self harm, theft, and many others. It also leads to loss of personal value.

I personally come from a family of drug addicts and this affected me from 8 years old. My grandmother used to sell drugs and I got involved in drugs at an early age. The drugs made me fail to concentrate in school because all I thought about was how to get more drugs. I could escape from school to a nearby town to get drugs that I could take.

These drugs introduced me to bad friends and this bad company turned me into a thief and a liar. In 2019, God helped me out of this addiction and I was delivered.



day thirty-five

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AGAINST TRIBALISM

STAFF: FELIX BWAMBALE KYOTHA

PRIMARY SCHOOL
DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

Dear Heavenly Father, we humbly come before you to seek strength and wisdom in confronting the injustice of tribalism that plagues our society. May your grace illuminate our path as we strive to build a more inclusive and harmonious world where every individual is valued for their character and contributions, rather than their tribal affiliations.

As it stated in Galatians 3:28, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Help us embody this message of unity and equality in our interactions with others, transcending the barriers of tribal identity and embracing our shared humanity.

Grant us the courage to stand up against discrimination and prejudice, to champion justice and fairness for all members of our society. May we cultivate empathy and understanding towards those who are different from us, recognizing the richness that diversity brings to our communities.

In your divine grace, we find solace and strength to confront the injustices of tribalism and strive towards a more equitable and compassionate world. Amen.

NOTES:

Tribalism, a detrimental force that has plagued societies throughout history, continues to rear its ugly head even in the modern world. It is particularly heartbreaking to witness the impact of tribalism on educated individuals, who, despite their knowledge and skills, often find themselves at the mercy of this senseless discrimination.

Tribalism is a scourge that has affected our society negatively. It promotes discrimination and injustice, and it undermines our unity. The idea that one group of people is better or worse simply because of their tribe is wrong, and it hinders progress. This problem is particularly detrimental because it denies us access to individuals who are qualified to tend to our needs. Tribalism sidelines many people and we all lose when this happens.

I remember a poignant incident where a highly qualified individual was passed over for a well-deserved promotion at his workplace simply because he did not belong to the dominant tribe within the organization. Despite his stellar performance and dedication, the decision-makers succumbed to the pressures of tribal loyalties, robbing him of his rightful recognition and advancement. This injustice not only affected the individual's career prospects but also took a toll on his morale and sense of belonging within the organization.

The insidious nature of tribalism extends beyond individual injustices and permeates societal structures, breeding inequality, mistrust, and division among people. It undermines meritocracy, stifles diversity of thought, and hinders social progress. As we grapple with the repercussions of tribalism, it is imperative that we come together as a community to acknowledge its harmful impacts and pledge to eradicate this toxic mindset from our hearts and minds.

Let us offer a prayer to the general public, seeking divine guidance in our quest to combat the injustices of tribalism.



day thirty-six

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: WAGES

STAFF: JUSTINE NALUBEGA

TEACHER

Dear Lord, I come before you with a burdened heart full of pain caused by the injustice of wage theft. I pray for those who toil under the promise of wages, but then later are denied their rightful remuneration by employers who prey on their vulnerability. God of justice, loosen the bonds of injustice. We pray for those workers who must struggle for their pay under threat of violence, intimidation, and joblessness. Watch over them and give them courage and boldness to stand until justice reigns down like a mighty river.

Lord, we ask for your help and guidance in addressing this issue. We pray for justice for those that have been wronged and a restoration for what has been taken from them. We pray for wisdom and courage for those who are fighting against wage theft, to ensure that the rights and dignity of every worker is protected.

We take comfort in your word which reminds us that the wages of a hired worker shall not remain with you all night until morning (Leviticus 19:13)

You also said in Deuteronomy 12:14 that 'Do not take advantage of a hired worker who is poor and needy, whether the worker is a fellow Israelite or a foreigner residing in one of the towns. Pay them their wages each day before sunset because they are poor and are counting on it. Lord, we plead with you to put an end to this injustice that is tearing our communities apart.

We ask your healing hand to come upon our communities as we stand together united against this injustice. We pray to you to mend the wounds in our hearts and grant us strength to forgive. Help us to release the bitterness and anger that weigh us down and replace it with peace and forgiveness.

We also pray for your protection and guidance for all workers who are facing this issue and for the employers who are perpetuating it. May you do on earth as it is done in heaven. In your precious name we pray, Amen!

NOTES:

Wage theft occurs when employers do not pay workers according to the contract. It is one way of exploiting workers. Wage theft by employers has become so rampant and it is taking away the livelihood of hard-working people.

Our hearts break for those who are struggling to make ends meet, those who have had their wages stolen from them by people who have power over them. Wage theft or nonpayment of wages to which workers are legally entitled to is a major contribution of low income which results in poor health conditions.

When this happens, workers fail to look after their loved ones though they wake up every morning to work in order to earn a living. This results in shame and those affected feel degraded because they are not able to provide the basic needs for their families. Wage theft is an injustice. I joined Raise the Roof Academy after working in schools where I had to push to get the salary I was due. Yes, we have labor laws in Uganda, but still employers find loopholes to exploit workers like myself. This injustice destroys and destabilizes families. We should raise our voices and stand together so we are not cheated of our hard-earned money.



day thirty-seven

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: AGAINST CHILD
ABDUCTION

STAFF: GLORIA AKELLO

SCHOOL NURSE

Please pray with me: Heavenly Father, I pray for every child who has undergone abduction or suffered a loss of family members through abduction. Heal their heart, mind, body, and soul.

Restore back the esteem and hope lost to the lives of your people. The hope of every child is in you alone God, we look to you for total healing. Bring us justice that we may know how to live in peace with you.

Thank you, Jesus, for choosing to take our pain on the cross. When you said it's finished, all our pain and sorrow was also hanging on the cross. I believe in the power of resurrection because you are restoring all that was lost. In Jesus' mighty name I pray. Amen.

NOTES:

Child abduction is the unauthorized removal or retention of a minor from anyone with legal responsibility for the child. In 1998, Joseph Kony established the LRA (Lords Resistance Army) with the claim of restoring honor to his ethnic Acholi people and to install a government based on his personal version of the ten commandments. In pursuit of this misguided vision, Kony destroyed many lives and homes. To date, many families are still traumatized from his evil campaigns.

I am one of those who survived the LRA. My escape from Kony and the LRA took place at my school, St Mary's College Aboke girls which is a girl's school in Northern Uganda.

One day, as a student at this girl's boarding school, I got very sick and my mother requested I go back home for treatment. The next day, while I was away under the care of my mother until full recovery, the LRA rebels attacked my school. This was very early in the morning.

The abducted girls walked long distances through swamps, rivers, hills, and bushes. The following days were terrible. They were raped and mistreated, and now are traumatized. Many girls were forced to become wives to the soldiers. Those who returned home came back with all sorts of ailments including swollen feet.

Jeremiah 30:17 — But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds, declared the LORD.



day thirty-eight

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR REFUGEES

STAFF: EVARIST KALISA

SCHOOL VAN DRIVER

Lord God, help us to remember those who tonight will go to sleep unfed and unwelcome. Strangers in foreign lands, people who have fled for their lives and they are far from their homes.

We lift up to you those who are escaping persecution and conflict, having fled death, torture or ruthless exploitation. So many carry wounds, mental and physical. So many have suffered greatly. Lord Jesus, give us more of your compassion for their plight. Soften our hearts to their situation and help us follow your lead in seeking mercy and justice on their behalf.

We give thanks for people working in troubled countries and ask for more of your blessing so we can bring life, dignity and hope to those that remain. We pray in the name of your son who was born into a troubled life as a refugee. Amen.

NOTES:

My grandfather left Rwanda in 1959 as a refugee to Uganda. In 1959, King Kayibanda, a Hutu, took over from King Kijeri, a Tutsi. So, civil wars started from that period up to the 1993 Genocide. The Tutsi were so persecuted. Some were imprisoned, others were killed, and most of them fled to other countries.

On arrival in Uganda, our grandmother and grandfather took refuge in Buganda homes. My grandfather took care of cows and was paid after a year. He could be given a bullock as payment. When I grew up I was so touched with the refugees and I started to move to refugee camps.

I became a driver and was employed by the UN to take different items like food, clothing, and medicine to refugee camps. I moved to different countries like Uganda, Rwanda, Sudan, Congo, and Tanzania. While in those camps, I saw how people die through bomb explosions, shootings, and diseases.

One day, I drove to Tanzania and I was unjustly arrested and imprisoned. There was no case as to why I was arrested. No one came to my rescue because I was not a Tanzanian. I was tortured in prison. Thereafter I was taken to one of the refugee camps in Tanzania where I suffered more. When I got the chance, I escaped the refugee camp and returned to Uganda. They tortured me in Tanzania because I was a refugee who the police in that country thought had no rights to be driving around in a UN car. It's therefore unfair to torture someone just because they are a refugee.

Please pray with me for refugees.



day thirty-nine

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR FAMILIES AFFECTED BY LAND GRABBING

CHILD: VICKY NDAGANO

CLASS: S5

Heavenly Father, we thank you. Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways. Father, we forgive all those who have hurt us. We also seek your forgiveness that we may live lives that are worthy and just. We are sorry for all the injustices we have done and allowed to continue in our world. Cleanse us and make us righteous as you are.

Father, you are God of the fatherless who is just and upright. We pray that your justice reigns and that you restore every land that was grabbed. Restore the homes and properties of your people that were taken away. Be our defense and help when we are powerless.

God, we know that you reign and rule, and that in you there is no partiality or favoritism. We know that your judgment is fair. May you reign in our communities and all over the world. Rather than making them our enemies, teach us to pursue peace with all those who are around us.

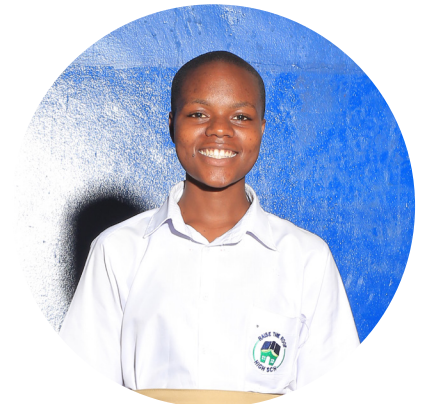
Give us contentment and teach us to trust your promises for provision. We give up all the injustices we have been doing and choose to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with you. Please help us to keep your word in our hearts so we may not sin against you and our neighbors. Empower us to love them and to treat them with dignity in your image. May we not be silent but always speak on behalf of the voiceless. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

NOTES:

Land grabbing is a form of injustice that happens in various countries all over the world. This is when land changes ownership through fraudulent means. This is when land is taken by the powerful from the powerless and vulnerable, and those without the means to defend themselves.

God doesn't agree with injustice. Land grabbers leave people hungry and homeless. This act creates a sense of insecurity in our communities. Since my father died during COVID-19, land grabbers from my extended family have come up to take our family land away from us.

If these land grabbers succeed to grab our land, my family will be left landless and homeless. We are a big target because we are weak and feel helpless because our father is no longer here. I have seen these injustices create a sense of insecurity at home which is not fair at all. The Bible tells us in Micah 6:8 to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with the Lord. Grabbing land from the poor is an injustice that traps people in poverty. We are in court and a lot of land grabbers also exploit courts and the police. Our hope is in the Lord. I invite you to join me and others as we fight this injustice in my family and with many other widows like my family. Let us pray that the rights of the world's poorest people will not be denied.



day forty

TODAY'S DATE: / /

THEME: FOR DOCTORS

CHILD: PHEIBE NABAYINDA

CLASS: S1

Loving Father in heaven, we glorify you, we honor you, we praise you as the Lord of the flesh. You are the King of kings! Lord, we thank you for everything you have done for us and for giving us doctors. We thank you so much because if it wasn't for you, they could not treat people. I glorify you because you can guide doctors on what to do. God, you are the greatest doctor and if you do not treat us, others cannot do it either. God, we ask for your protections, guidance, care, and provision for all doctors. Lord, besides that, we also request you to provide doctors with knowledge, wisdom, and understanding on how to handle their patients. Lord, we know that you are the one who gives all that. That is why we are requesting you, Loving Father.



My Lord, we know that you are the protector. Loving Father, we request you to protect doctors as they are treating your people. God, you are also the provider. Provide all medicine that people who are sick need. Lord, help those who are going to be operated on to be spared. Thank you, loving Father, my Lord and King of kings. Thank you, Jesus Christ! Thank you my Lord. I have prayed in Jesus' name. Amen.

NOTES:

OTHER NOTES:
