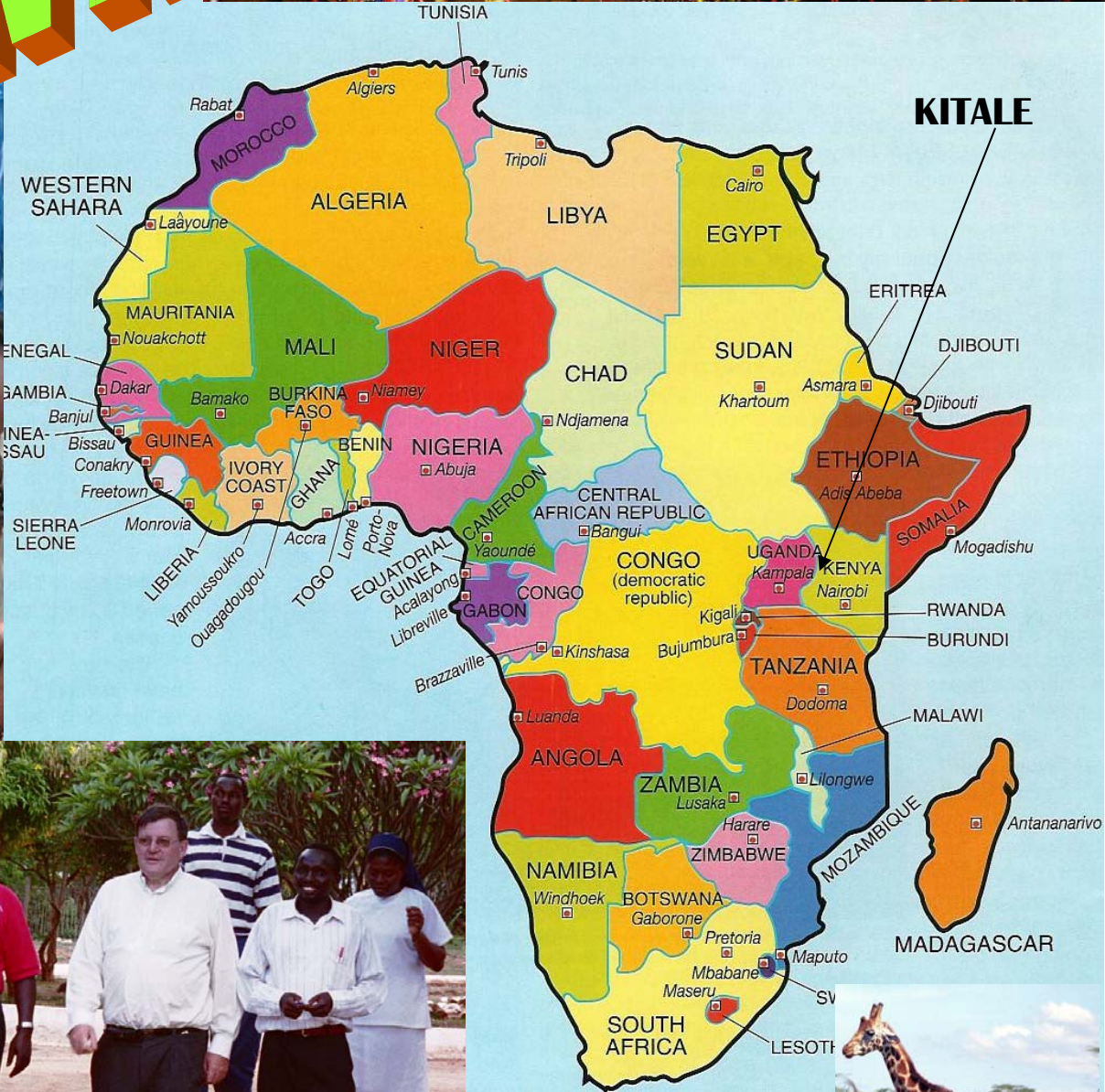


MISSION APPEAL

KENYA



DIocese of KITALE, KENYA
c/o MISSIONS OFFICE,
P.O. BOX 82386,
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SOME FACTS ABOUT THE DIOCESE OF KITALE

The *Diocese of Kitale* consists of the **Trans Nzoia** and **West Pokot** areas of **Kenya**, with a population of over **1 million**, and a vast area of **11,000 sq. kms**.

Tran Nzoia is famed for its rich arable lands, producing most of **Kenya's** maize, but is suffering from widespread unemployment and poverty, fuelled by the collapse of the market for agricultural products within **Kenya**, the declining economy of the country, and the rapid spread of **HIV/Aids**.

West Pokot is a vast mountainous semi-arid region on the edge of the **Turkana desert**. Nomadic pastoralists graze cattle and goats there throughout the interior, and many more live in small remote villages. The main challenges are access to health resources, education and the availability of water.

There are **21 parishes** and over **350 outstations** in the *Diocese*, served by **31 native priests** and **15 missionary priests**, **5 religious brothers**, **56 religious sisters**, and **315 village catechists**.

There are **37 students** for the priesthood in the **Major Seminary** and **98** in the **Minor Seminary**.

On average, each year there are nearly **10,000 Baptisms**, **2,800 First Communions**, and **2,200 Confirmations**.

21 Nursery schools, over **200 Elementary schools**, and **35 High schools** are sponsored by the *Diocese*.

The **Water Program** within the *Diocese* aims to improve community self-development and self management by responding to community water needs. **Spring protections**, **boreholes**, and **rainwater harvesting tanks** help to ensure year round sources of water.

The *Diocese* manages **2 hospitals**, **11 Health Programs**, the highly regarded **Kitale Aids Program**, a program for **children with disabilities**, and the *St. John Bosco Rehabilitation Centre for Street Children*.

The *Diocese* has a vibrant **Justice and Peace** awareness agenda, and a strong **Women and Gender Development campaign**, aiming to improve the profile and quality of life for women in life. *Father Dan* is widely respected as an outspoken champion for **civil rights** in *Kenya*.

The *Diocese of Kitale* was established in **1998** and this year the **young diocese** celebrates their **20th Anniversary**.

Your **prayer** and **financial support** make *great things possible!*