

*Celebration of
life*

Sr. Colombiere Kelly IBVM

21/06/ 1919 - 09/01/ 2021



“Sacred Heart of Jesus; I place all my trust in You”

FUNERAL PROGRAM

8:00am: Arrival at Montezuma Monalisa Funeral home

Short prayer at the funeral home before departure by Fr. Moses or Sr. Lucy

8:00am to 9:00am: Adoration led by Novices

8:45am: Arrival of the body at Msongari Chapel

9:00am – 9:45am - Holy Rosary, followed by the Litany of the Sacred Heart led by Valley Road Community and the novices; Viewing of the body

Welcoming Remarks by Sr. Lucy

10:00am Requiem Mass

Eulogy by Sr. Wamuyu

Tributes:

1. Sr. Mary Owens
2. Sr. Caitriona Kelly
3. Fr. Laurence Njoroge
4. Catherine Kuria (Past pupil)

Votes of thanks by Sr. Mary Gitau

Procession to St. Austin's Cemetery

Burial service

Laying of Wreaths

Final Prayers

Lunch

Guests leave at their own pleasure

Motto: 'Fiat voluntas tua' - 'Thy will be done'



Eulogy of the late Sr. Colombiere Kelly IBVM

A LIFE OF FIDELITY TO A LOVING AND CARING GOD; A LIFE OF LOVE, CARE, COMPASSION AND SELF-GIVING TO GOD’S PEOPLE AND GOD’S OTHER CREATION

Family Background:

Sr Colombiere will always be fondly remembered by us, the Loreto sisters here in the Eastern Africa province who affectionately called her Colomb or aunty ‘Kitty’. Kathleen Colombiere (Kitty) Kelly (Sr Colombiere) was born on 21st June 1919 at Bonnetstown, Kilkenny, Ireland. A loving daughter born to Mary Kelly (nee Quinn) and Matthew Kelly. Her mother was from County Tyrone in the North of Ireland. She was the last born in a family of 6 children (three girls and three boys). These were, in order of birth, Mary Bridget (Maisie) Walsh nee Kelly R.I.P, Ellen (Cissie) R.I.P, Timothy R.I.P, Peter R.I.P, Patrick (Paddy) R.I.P and Catherine (Kitty) Colombiere R.I.P. All her siblings married so she is survived by many loving nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews and cousins. Among these family members are her nieces Mary Farrell nee Walsh the eldest daughter of Maisie and Teresa Walsh who is a Holy Rosary Sister.

Christian Life:

Sr Colombiere was baptized on 22 June 1919 and received her first Holy Communion at the age of 7 years (1926) and confirmation at the age of 13 years (1931).

Education and Professional training

Sr Colombiere attended primary school at Bonnetstown National School, Kilkenny from 1925 to 1932 and secondary school at Loreto Convent, Kilkenny from 1932 to 1937. She attended the University College, Dublin, Ireland from 1944-1945. She also undertook other studies through correspondence in a South African University from 1954-1955 where she also attained another degree in Arts (Kiswahili, English, History and Geography). She attained BA Degree Major in English and History.

She also undertook other long and short term courses for instance a one-month in-service teacher training in 1941 in Loreto Falcarragh, Ireland; a Diploma in Scripture in Pretoria, South Africa in 1960.

Leadership in the province

Sr Colombiere taught and held leadership positions in schools from 1948 -1986. 25 of these years were spent in Loreto Limuru. She was also in the Loreto House (Provincialate) community and here she played a very supportive role to the leadership. The best way to capture this role is in the words of one of the province leaders she was with, Sr Caitriona, “She is my wisdom figure and great companion on the journey”. One sentence describes Sr Colombiere during this time – “a caring, compassionate, generous, and trusting companion who got her strength from the Lord”.

Religious life:

Sr Colombiere entered religious life as a member of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (IBVM) commonly known as Loreto sisters on 1 September 1937 and was received into the Novitiate on 17th June 1938. She made her first profession on 17 June 1940 and perpetual profession on 18 June 1945. She celebrated her silver jubilee in 1962 and golden jubilee in 1987. She always celebrated, in a very special way, the 15th of February, the feast of Claude de la Colombiere, her patron saint.

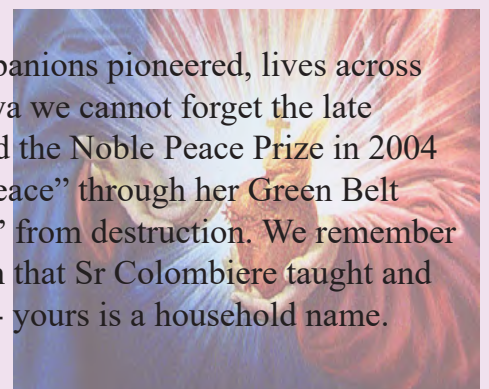
Her motto was 'Fiat voluntas tua' which means "Thy will be done". She exemplified her motto by the way she lived her religious life – faithful unto death.

Her Ministry

Sr Colombiere will be remembered as a great, renowned, greatly loved and revered teacher. She left Ireland as a beautiful young woman, full of great youthful dreams to answer God's call "go therefore make disciples of all nations"(Matthew 28:19-20). Sr Colombiere's "yes" led her to Africa and to Kenya where she served without ever looking back until God called her back home on Saturday 9th January 2021. Anyone who had an opportunity of interacting closely with Sr Colombiere would remember her favourite saying, "I have never regretted ever coming to Kenya. I love the people and the country". Narrating, in this small space and within a given short time, a journey, of such a great woman and educator, who gave her youthful and indeed all her adult life to the people of Kenya is humbling. My hope is that all of us here today and those of us who are watching virtually will be challenged to reflect on our own lives and on the legacy we hope to leave behind. Hopefully her story will live on and inspire future generations. Sr Colombiere together with her earlier companions such as the late Sr Teresa Joseph and the late Redempta Kenny took a risk by empowering the African girls at a time when this was considered "a no go zone". This was not without great sacrifice. Listening to Sr Colombiere she would tell stories of the first students running away from Loreto Limuru school due to the cold weather, while others were with very little and felt very fulfilled. Yet, in all this sacrifice a "mustard seed" was planted and now has become a mighty tree. You and I are reaping the benefits of this seed.

The Loreto Sisters are one of the few groups given a special award to acknowledge their contribution to the education of the Kenyan girls and women. Sr. Colombiere accompanied by Sr. Nuala and Sr Seraphine went to the State House on 12th December 2013, when Kenya celebrated its golden jubilee, to receive the award from His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta, the President of the Republic of Kenya, on behalf of the Loreto Sisters.

Through the education of girls that the Sr Colombiere and her companions pioneered, lives across the world have been touched in various ways. For instance, in Kenya we cannot forget the late Professor Wangari Maathai, the first woman in Africa to be awarded the Noble Peace Prize in 2004 "for her contribution to sustainable development, democracy and peace" through her Green Belt movement that advocates, nurtures and protects our "Mother Earth" from destruction. We remember too, the many people that have been touched through all the women that Sr Colombiere taught and modelled through her life as a consecrated woman. Sr Colombiere - yours is a household name.



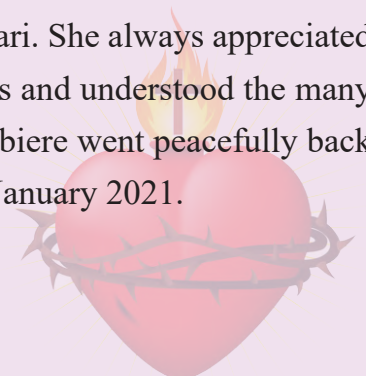
The women you taught are now mothers and grandmothers passing on the Loreto spirit to their children and grandchildren, their husbands and their communities in many and varied ways. Sr Ephigenia Gachiri, one of our first African Loreto sisters, a later generation past student of Loreto Limuru and currently the Director, of Loreto Abundant Life Centre, dedicated to championing for “Zero tolerance to FGM), recalls stories she heard of these courageous and selfless women who had laid a strong foundation in a school that she is very proud of to date. Today we witness this courageous spirit ignited in the lives of the women they taught and formed who are serving in different capacities in both Kenya and the global world as renowned educators, legislators, lawyers, judges, doctors, journalists, peacebuilders, ambassadors, the list is endless. We cannot forget the students who became great religious women, among the earliest of them is Sr. Gachambi (the foundress of the Assumption Sisters of Nairobi) and Sr. Edel Bahati one of the first Africans in Kenya to join the then Our Lady of Charity (O.L.C). Many sisters from other diocesan congregations were educated in Loreto Limuru. Colomb you never forgot to pray for these students. We are assured that you will continue to intercede for them and us now more than ever. Sr Colombiere also had interest and dedicated her time to issues of justice and peace attending meetings whenever she was in a position to do so.

Her time in Retirement

Sr Colombiere came to *Shukrani* Msongari where our senior ailing sisters live in a community with younger members who are involved in various apostolates. Sr Colombiere was a member of our Institute House of Prayer and House of Prayer representative of the Eastern Africa Justice and Peace Committee. She had great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and prayed faithfully in our oratory morning and evening, even during the week of her final illness. She dedicated lots of prayers for the sisters in the various apostolates and also for our families. Equally, she had great devotion to the Sacred Heart, and ensured that the area where the statue of Sacred Heart was placed was adorned with flowers and a burning candle. We promise to continue this tradition.

Sickness

Sr Colombiere enjoyed good health most of her life except in her later days. She lost the ability to see and also had difficulty walking but one thing she never lost was her sense of beauty, love for life, taking short leisure walks, connection with her family back home in Ireland, our family here in Kenya, her past students, the intrigues of the politics in Kenya, the National and international news and the interest in the different apostolates our sisters were engaged in here and abroad. During the last few years she was in and out of hospital and was always very appreciative of the care she received from her Doctors and Nurses in Nairobi hospital and the community in Msongari. She always appreciated the staff who cared for her. She was very interested in their personal lives and understood the many struggles that they had to face. She prayed for them every day. Sr Colombiere went peacefully back to her Creator whom she loved dearly and served faithfully on the 9th of January 2021.



Sr Colombiere will be fondly missed by her Loreto sisters and her many family members, as well as those she served in Loreto Limuru and our other institutions. There are so many people whose lives she touched in a very unique way over the years and all of them were very special to her.

Sr Colombiere, you left the emerald green Isle of Ireland far across the sea to dwell and serve God among us. You have now gone to another place where the pastures are greener; for surely goodness and mercy will follow you all days of your life, and in God's house you will now dwell forever and ever. Shalom, it is well our dear, Sr Colomb.



Mass

Blessing of the body

Pokea moyo wangu ee Mungu wangu
Niweze kukupenda kwa pendo lako
Unipe moyo wako, ewe Yesu Mkombozi wangu
Shinda kwangu, nami daima kwako

1. Onjeni muone kwamba Bwana yu mwema
Na heri yule mtu anayetumaini Yesu Kristu
2. Katika nguvu za giza katutoa
Na kutukaribisha
katika ufalme wa pendo lake

3. Habari njema alituhubiria na kutufungulia
Akatangaza mwaka wa neema
4. Mchungaji wangu mkuu ndiye Bwana Yesu,
Sikosi kitu kamwe huniongoza kwenye njia
nyofu.

Entrance

Christ Be Beside Me

1. Christ be beside me,
Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me King of my heart;
Christ be within me,
Christ be below me,
Christ be above me never to part.
2. Christ on my right hand,
Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me shield in the strife;
Christ in my sleeping,
Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising light of my life

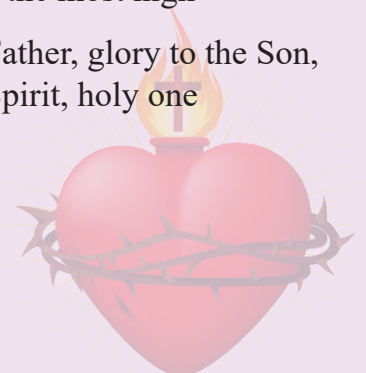
3. Christ be in all hearts
Thinking about me
Christ be in all tongues telling of me
Christ be the vision
In eyes that see me
In ears that hear me Christ ever be.

Kyrie: Gaba Mass

O Lord have mercy*4
Jesus Christ have mercy *4
O Lord have mercy *4

Glory to God in the highest

1. And on earth, peace to all
Peace to all who are Gods friends
2. God almighty Father heavenly king
We praise you and we bless you
3. We adore you, we glorify you
We give you thanks for your great glory
4. Lord Jesus Christ only son of the father
Lord, Lamb of God, Jesus Christ
5. You take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy, receive our prayers
6. You are seated at the right hand of the
father
Have mercy, Lord Jesus Christ
7. You alone are holy, you alone are Lord
You alone are the most high
8. Glory to the Father, glory to the Son,
Glory to the Spirit, holy one



First reading (by Elizabeth Kithiora - Past pupil)

The lord will swallow up death forever

A reading from the book of Isaiah (Isaiah 25:6a – 9)

On that day: on this mountain the lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of fat things. And he will destroy on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death forever and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day; “behold, this is our God; we have waited for him that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The word of the lord.

Responsorial psalm (by Sr. Victorine)

R: Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!

In you o Lord I take refuge. In your justice set me free.

Into your hands I commend my spirit.

You will redeem me, o Lord, o faithful God.

Because of all my foes I have become a reproach,

An object of scorn to my neighbours

And of fear to my friends.

Those who see me in the street flee from me.

I am forgotten, like someone dead,

And have become like a broken vessel.

But as for me, I trust in you, o Lord;

I say, you are my God.

My lot is in your hands, deliver me

From the hands of my enemies and those who pursue me.

Let your face shine on your servant.

Save me in your merciful love.

Be strong, let your heart take courage,

All who hope in the Lord.



Second reading (by Sr. Nuala Brangan)

We shall see him as he is

A reading from the first letter of St. John (1John 3:1-2)

Beloved: see what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; it does not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel acclamation

Sing Alleluia to the Lord x5

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; he who believes in me shall never die.

Sing Alleluia to the Lord x5

The piercing of Jesus' side.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (19:32-34)

So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs, but one soldier thrust his lance into his side and immediately blood and water flowed out.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Symbols to be offered.

Crucifix and Constitutions – we bring the crucifix and the Constitutions of the IBVM; they represent the life that Colombiere lived for the last 72 years as member of this Institute. As members of the IBVM we thank the Lord who called you to share the life and charism of Mary Ward. (Sr. Maria Goretti Oriambo)

Portrait of Terese ball and a boat – Colombiere was the last of the Irish Missionaries who came on a boat from Ireland in 1948. Terese Ball was the founder of the IBVM in Ireland. The boat symbolizes the missionary journey that Colombiere took 73 years ago. We thank the Lord for the courage and determination that inspired Colombiere to come to Kenya. (Sr. Mary Nyokabi and Alice Achieng).

Portraits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Padre Pio and red candle – these represent the great devotions that Colombiere had in her life. She showed great love to the Sacred Heart and had a place in every house where she lived with flowers and red candle. Colombiere had a great spiritual experience of healing through the intercession of Padre Pio. We have witnessed her spiritual life deepened by these experiences. (Sr. Justina Nthambi, Sr. Patricia Ndunge, Dominic Muindi).

The pot, flowers, book – this African pot represents the years that Colombiere worked in Kenya among us Kenyans. The book represents all the years she spent teaching in various schools here, especially Loreto Limuru where she spent 25 years. The flowers represent the beauty of her life and the joy she brought to all who lived with her. (Mrs Eunice Kirieni).

Basket of fruits – we offer these fruits, symbols of the great work that she did and for empowering so many women in Kenya. They also represent the great friendships she enjoyed all her life. (Mrs Effu Pinto)

O yes, in the presence of the Lord,

I will bring my gifts
In thanksgiving and love
There is joy in my heart.
It is flowing like a river
I will praise the Lord,
In thanksgiving and love.

1 God our Father, everlasting King
Please accept this gift we offer.
Take our bread upon Your altar
And our wine in the chalice.

2 With thankful hearts and joyful songs,
We approach Your holy altar
Bearing gifts of Your creation
We return what You have given.

3 To You Father, now we offer,
With the host and with the chalice.
All we have and all our being
In this sacrifice most holy.

Sanctus: (Gaba Mass)

Holy Holy
Holy Lord God of hosts
Heaven and earth x2 are filled with
your glory
Hosanna
Hosanna, hosanna, in the highest *2
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the
highest *2
Blessed is He

Blessed is He who comes in the
Lords name x2

Proclamation of faith

Lord – Lord by your cross
And – and resurrection
You have – you have set us free
You are the savior of the world

Lamb: Gaba mass

Oh Lamb of God you take away the sins of the
world
Have mercy – have mercy on us. X2
Oh Lamb of God you take away the sins of the
world
Oh grant us – Oh grant us your peace.

Communion

Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All

Jesus! my Lord, my God, my all!
How can I love Thee as I ought?
And, how revere this wondrous gift,
So far surpassing hope or thought?

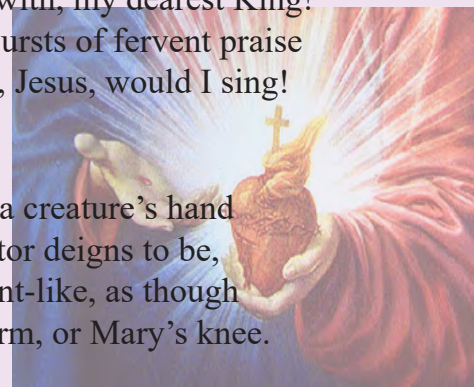
Sweet Sacrament we Thee adore

Oh make us love Thee more and more

Oh make us love Thee more and more

Had I but Mary's sinless heart
To love Thee with, my dearest King!
O with what bursts of fervent praise
Thy goodness, Jesus, would I sing!

O see! within a creature's hand
The vast Creator deigns to be,
Reposing infant-like, as though
On Joseph's arm, or Mary's knee.



Thy Body, Soul, and Godhead, all!
O mystery of love divine!
I cannot compass all I have,
For all Thou hast and art are mine!

Sound, sound His praises higher still,
And come, ye angels, to our aid,
'Tis God! 'Tis God! the very God
Whose power both man and angels made!

Meditation

SWEET HEART OF JESUS

Sweet Heart of Jesus, font of love and mercy
Today we come, Thy blessing to implore.
Oh touch our hearts, so cold and so ungrateful
And make them Lord, Thine own for evermore.

sweet heart of Jesus, we implre

Oh make us love Thee; more and more.

Sweet heart of Jesus, make us know and love
thee,
Unfold to us the treasures of thy grace;
That so our hearts, from things of earth uplifted,
May long alone to gaze upon thy face.

Sweet Heart of Jesus, make us pure and gentle
And teach us how to do Thy blessed will;
To follow close the print of Thy dear footsteps
And when we fall, Sweet Heart, oh love us still.

To Jesus' Heart, all burning
With fervent love for all,
My heart with fondest yearning
Shall raise its joyful call.

Refrain.

*While ages course along,
Blest be with loudest song,
The sacred heart of Jesus
By ev'ry heart and tongue.
The sacred heart of Jesus
By ev'ry heart and tongue.*

O heart, for me on fire
With love no-one can speak
My yet untold desire
God gives me for thy sake.

Too true, I have forsaken
Thy love for wilful sin;
Yet now let me be taken
Back by thy grace again.

As thou are meek and lowly,
And ever pure of heart,
So may my heart be wholly
Of thine the counterpart.

O that to me were given
The pinions of a dove.
I'd speed aloft to heaven
My Jesus love to prove.

When life away is flying,
and earth's false glare is done;
still, Sacred heart, in dying
I'll say I'm all thine own.

Recession

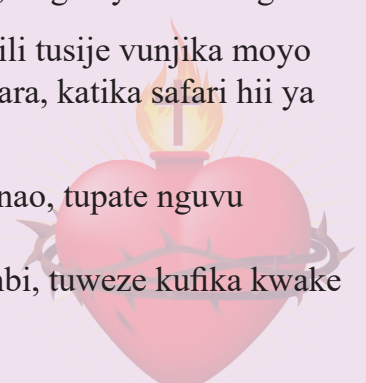
Twakukimbilia Maria, mama Bikira mwenye
huruma
Tutie nguvu ya safari, tufike kwa mwanao Yesu
Kristu

***Angaza njia Mama Maria,
Tufike makao ya uzima
Giza limeyafunika macho
Mama Maria Mama Maria, twapotea,
Tunahitaji msaada wako
Mama Maria Mama Maria, tuone njia***

Safari ngumu Maria, shetani mwovu atusumbua
Hatua ni nzito Maria, miguu yetu imelegea

Utupe nguvu Maria, ili tusije vunjika moyo
Tuwe shupavu na imara, katika safari hii ya
roho

Utuombee kwa mwanao, tupate nguvu
kumshinda shetani
Tujikane tujute dhambi, tuweze kufika kwake
mbinguni



Procession to the graveyard

Bwana U Sehemu Yangu

1. Bwana u sehemu yangu, rafiki yangu wewe
Katika safari yangu, tatembea na wewe
Pamoja na wewe, pamoja na Wewe
Katika safari yangu, tatembea na wewe.

2. Mali hapa sikutaka, ili niheshimiwe,
Na yanikute mashaka, sawasawa na wewe
Pamoja na wewe, pamoja na wewe
Heri nikute mashaka sawasawa na wewe.

3. Niongoze safarini Mbele unichukue
Mlangoni mwa Mbinguni, niingie na wewe
Pamoja na wewe, pamoja na wewe
Mlangoni mwa Mbinguni, niingie na Wewe

Nearer my God to Thee

1. Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee!
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me.
Still all my song shall be Nearer, my God, to
thee,
Nearer my God, to thee, Nearer to thee!

2. Though like the wanderer, The sun gone
down,
Darkness be over me, My rest a stone,
Yet in my dreams I'd be, Nearer, my God, to
thee,
Nearer my God, to thee, Nearer to thee!

3. Or if, on joyful wing Cleaving the sky,
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, Upward I fly,
Still all my song shall be Nearer, my God, to
thee,

Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

4. Though things go well with me, comfort in
life,
Friends, food and property, money and all,
Still all I want shall be, Nearer, my God, to
thee,
Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

5. Deep in thy Sacred Heart, let me abide,
Thou that has bled for me, sorrowed and died.
Sweet shall my weeping be, Grief surely
leading me
Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

Chakutumaini sina

1. Cha kutumaini sina, ila damu yake Bwana
Sina wema wa kutosha, dhambi zangu kuziosha

Kwake Yesu nasimama, ndiye Mwamba ni salama

Ndiye Mwamba ni salama, ndiye Mwamba ni salama.

2. Damu yake na sadaka, nategemea
Daima Yote chini yakiisha, Mwokozi
atanitosha.

3. Njia yangu iwe ndefu, Yeye hunipa wokovu
Mawimbi yakinipiga, nguvu zake ndizo nanga

4. Nikiitwa hukumuni, rohoni nina amani
Nikivikwa haki yake, sina hofu mbele yake



YESU MWEMA NAJITOLEA

KWAKO

1. Yesu mwema najitolea kwako,

Kwa leo hii na siku zote

Nafsi yangu na moyo wangu wote

Heri kweli, heri kweli, heri kweli

raha ya uwingu *2

2. Ndani mwangu umekuja daima,

Kuwa nami ni pendo lako

Ewe mpenzi mwenye utamu mwingi

Ni mapendo, ni mapendo, ni mapen-

do ya moyo wako *2

3. Nitaweza kukurudishia nini,

Kwa wema huu na pendo lako

Roho yangu umeifadhilia

Nikupende, nikupende, nikupende ni

tamaa yangu*2

4. Weka Rabi katika roho yangu,

Wema wako na unyenyekevu,

Na pendo kuu fadhila ya imani

Niongoze, niongoze, niongoze katika

imani *2

Niseme nini basi

{ Niseme nini basi juu ya mama Yetu Maria

(Mama Bikira Maria)

*Mama mpendelevu mama mwenye neema } *2*

1. Wakati wa majaribu, mwombezi wetu ni

Maria (Mama yetu)

Wakati wa mashaka kimbilio letu ni

Mama (Maria)

2. Mama uliyeumbwa, pasipo dhambi ya asili

Ukamzaa mwanao mkombozi wa walimwengu

3. Moyo wako wa heri moyo safi moyo mweupe

Nijalie neema nishinde majaribu yote

4. Mama wa Mkombozi mnara wetu wa Mbinguni

Mwangaza wetu sisi tunaosafiri gizani

5. Shika mkono wangu unionyeshe njia ya kweli

Nifike kwa Mwanao anakoketi uwinguni

NIMEVIPIGA VITA

Nimevipiga vita

{ Nimevipiga vita, nimevipiga vita

vilivyo vizuri } *2

{ Mwendo - mwendo nimeumaliza

Mwendo - imani nimeilinda

Mwendo nimeumaliza, imani nimeil-

inda } *2

1. Baada ya hayo nimewekewa taji,

Nimewekewa taji, taji ya ahadi

2. Sasa namiminwa, nao wakati

Wangu Wa kufariki kwangu, nao umefika

3. Ataniokoa na kila neno baya

Hadi niufikie ufalme wa mbingu

4. Nami nitaishi kwake Baba milele

Tena nikimwambia Mungu aleluya-



The lord's my shepherd

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not
want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for His own name's sake.



Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.



Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house
forevermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

Salve, Regina

Salve, Regina, mater misericordiae;
vita, dulcedo et spes nostra, salve.

Ad te clamamus exsules filii Hevae.

Ad te suspiramus gementes et flentes
in hac lacrimarum valle.

Eia ergo, advocata nostra,
illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte.
Et Iesum, benedictum fructum ven-tris tui,
nobis post hoc exsiliium ostende.

O clemens, o pia, o dulcis Virgo Maria.



Tributes



At 101 years old, dear Columbière, my eldest community companion in Loreto Shukrani, Msongari, I can believe you experienced a Heart to heart call like "Time up...Karibu". Your well grounded devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus was palatable. I owe you a big 'thank you' for your prayers on my behalf to the same Divine Heart.

Le grá Betty



Dear aunty Kitty, it is hard to believe that you are physically gone. Last Tuesday I didn't understand that you had called me for a goodbye! My last visit! Thanks for being a genuine friend and I repeat my last word to you, that you have done your best and God is very happy with you, to which you replied 'yes I think I have done my best' May the Sacred heart of Jesus whom you loved so much embrace you and grant you eternal joy. Sing with the Angeles loved one. Vickie



Farewell my dear and loved Colomb. Thank you for being such a faithful friend for over 56 years. Your friendship is one of the special gifts I will always treasure. You supported me in my times of struggle and pain and shared with me many joys and happy moments. In your ageing years we sat near each other in our small oratory. I was always inspired by your fidelity to prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament and your great love for your special friend The Sacred Heart. Daily Holy Mass was central to your spiritual life. Now you see God 'face to face' so pray for me and all of us. Your grateful friend Caitriona

Sr. Colombiere, In Christ you lived, moved and had your being. Thank you for your generosity, selfless love and deep commitment to your Religious Vocation. Thank you for teaching us how to live and age gracefully as true daughters of Mary Ward. We will truly miss your cheerful and grace filled spirit. Fare thee well Colombiere. May you now enjoy the fullness of life with God and all His Saints. Madeleine Sophie IBVM



Colombiere, you were a faithful follower of Jesus Christ. You never faltered in your call to be a daughter of Mary Ward. I will ever value the friendship we shared. Thank God you are now sitting in the arms of the God you ever served faithfully and unreservedly. M. Philippine.



Thank you dearest Colomb for waiting for me to come home and give me your last warm tender hug. I will cherish that till we meet again. Lenah.

God gave you over a century to live, a rare gift! For the countless lives you touched, may God reward you as now you see Him face to face. Fare thee well Colombiere. Eunice

Sr colomb I will never forget your kindness, you were always good to me! You were like a second mother to me I will never forget you R.I.P dear. Alice



Sr Colombiere was a faithful friend to our Family. She educated several generations of us. We appreciate how she came to our family wedding celebrations, funeral services of our grandparents, parents, aunts and uncles. Thank you Colomb. Ephy.

My spiritual confidant and role model, Sr Colom. You exemplified through your entire life; care, compassion, fidelity, generosity and what it means to be 'wholly God's'. The Wachira family also will always hold you close. Rest peacefully in God's loving arms. It is well with your soul. Wamuyu Wachira (ibvm)

We give you back to God And just as He first gave you to us and did not lose you in the giving, So we have not lost you in returning you to Him. For life is eternal, love is immortal death is only a horizon..... And a horizon is nothing but the limit of our earthly sight. Rest 'HEN' rest in perfect peace until we meet again. Your loving 'chick' Mary Denis.



Colombiere once told me that the old need love and companionship. What I can also remember about Colomb is that she was generous and gave silently not loudly. Goretti

At rest in the arms of Jesus. Rest in peace beautiful soul. Regina



The last time I visited Sr. Colombiere in early August 2019, was to say goodbye to her. She asked how long I was going to be away. I said about two years. This news made her sad. After a short while she said, "I will be gone by the time you come back." That was a hard reality to face at that moment. Today as we bid farewell to you, Sr. Colombiere, I still hear the last words you said to me and the promise to keep me always in your prayers. Thank you for the gift of prayers that you offered me all these years. You will always remain a silent pillar of a religious woman of deep faith and prayer for most of us. May you now rise with Christ in Glory. Amen. Gertie Mallya, Ibvm

Sister colombiere you were the most polite sister and you loved us all we will miss you dearly RIP dearest sister Colomb. Jane-nurse





Sr Colombiere Kelly, a great teacher, a prayerful lady, with a very great devotion to the Sacred Heart. You inspired me to pray and honor the Sacred Heart. You inspired me to read and read more. Very supportive to us young sisters and attended our events generously even at home. May the Lord whom you served so devotedly give you eternal Rest. RIP beloved sister.

Maggie Chege

I first met Sr Colombiere in 2010, when she welcomed me so warmly to Msongari. I can proudly say that she was my best friend among the nonagenarians and then centenarians of this world! She was always so interested in people, and hearing their stories, and treated everyone with dignity and respect. I learned much from her, as she shared with me about her faith, her decision to become a nun, her time in Kenya, and her service to the poor. She touched the lives of so many, and she will be sorely missed. RIP. Alex Hamilton

“The other Hellen” or “My driver” was the name you called me every time we met along the corridor and you always gave me a big smile and said “am teasing’ you are all my friends. And your blessing every morning was unending. I will miss you dear Friend. Dance with the angels and continue to intercede for us. Fare thee well Dear friend. Hellen A

“Ever inspired by Sr. Colombiere’s great missionary spirit and her continuing acceptance of God’s Will for her in her later years.” Mary Owens



Dear Colomb, you were always faithful to your personal prayer until the last minute and whenever you promised to pray for someone, you seriously did and even kept track of how the person was doing. May you dance with angels as you see God face to face. Violet

Dear Aunty Kitty, Who will answer me, when I call such a nice name? Who will listen to my story with such interest? Who will pray for the impossible cases? May the heart you loved so much be very close to you, ‘The sacred heart of Jesus’. Pray for us Aunty Kitty until we meet one day. Christine

Sr Colombiere was a very welcoming person, generous and showed interest in people, and missions. She was prayerful and devoted to the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ by putting a lit candle at the Statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ Sr.Paulina Lewela IBVM.



Sr Colombiere is one more soul interceding for you in heaven. In August 2019, the Loreto Alumni 'O' class of '79 (I and Wairimu Githiora being present) had the privilege of meeting her at Msongari, and to present her and Sr Philippine some bouquet of flowers, being the oldest there then. And we sang for them. May her soul rest in Eternal Peace. Wairimu Githiora



A silent thought, a quiet prayer, for a special person, in God's care. May you gently rest in God's arms. Rest in peace dear Colomb. Maureen

What a wonderful age she was and what a life and history to have lived! It was an honour to meet her the few times I did. Thinking of you all from a freezing Dublin, best regards, Lucy Franks

Our dear Colomb, ever smiling sister and a darling to all. Fare thee well. We shall meet again. May God reward you with his kingdom. A big gap has been left behind. Basilisa



I am grateful for the opportunity to accompany Colombiere to the hospital all the time from 2008 until the last minute. She has been a very special friend, always the first to welcome me back from ministry. May the Lord rest her soul in peace. Sr. Justina.



I dedicate the words of this song by Lynda Randle to the resting Soul of Sr. Colombiere Kelly IBVM- I call you "a model of missionary life to my generation". To God it is never unfortunate but to me it is; that nature has denied a chance to share my missionary Experience in full details are you always desired. I treasure your words of encouragement that came in form of a question in 2017 on the day of renewal of my Vows at Msongari community; "Is that Nancy from Ghana? I hope it's fun to be in Ghana with Vibrant girls? continue helping them to love God and themselves!". Indeed this has been fun. Thank you for always extending your love and prayers to those in mission. Fare thee well our great missionary. Nancy Mugo-Ghana



One tribute on the way

I have experienced Sr. Colombiere as one of the most welcoming persons that I have ever met. She had a great enthusiasm for life and was interested in everyone she met. Even with failing health, in recent years, she still reached out to all people who came her way. Her ability to reach out to so many past pupils, to all our young sisters, young and old and people from all walks of life, was truly amazing. Rest in peace, dear Colomb, You will have received a warm welcome in heaven. Nuala ibvm



Dearest Sr. Colomb, thank you for the genuine love I experienced from you. Your love and devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus mirrored that which you shared with others. I am consoled by the words of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque that, It is evident that no one in the world will not receive all kinds of Heavenly blessings if they have a true love of Jesus Christ manifested by the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Now you are being caressed by the one you loved most. May your soul rest with Him in the heave glory. I will miss you so much.

Maria Macha.

I will really miss my friend, she was friendly, a warm heart and very concerned about our well-being. May the Almighty God rest her soul in eternal peace. Fare thee well my friend. Poleni Sana Sr tumemupoteza rafiki wakweli. Odhiambo, electrician Msongari



Dearest Colombiere, I will live singing our favorite songs; "O Sacred Heart what shall I render Thee" and "Salve Regina" to remind me of our unique relationship which was strengthened daily by our evening fellowship. Now that you behold the Lord face to face, pray for us who are still on the pilgrim journey. Until we meet again. Santrina

