

St. Nicholas Children's Centre Kemondo (NCCCK)

Bukoba Catholic Diocese

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Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!"

And she told them that he had said these things to her.

Joh 20:18

Easter 2021

Dear Friends and Supporters of St. Nicholas!

The second year with the Corona-pandemic has begun. In October 2020 I moved to Germany with my two daughters. Germany has been under lockdown ever since we moved here, therefore adjusting to our new life has been difficult.

One year ago I tried to protect the children at St. Nicholas from a Covid-19 infection by declaring a 3-month lockdown on our compound. However, when the President of Tanzania re-opened the schools and declared that there is no Corona in the country, I gave up trying to isolate my children.

Sadly, 61-year old President Magufuli died on March 17, 2021 after being sick for two weeks. Officially he died of heart failure, most likely he died of Covid-19.





Tanzania's new President Samia Suluhu Hassan paying her respects at the funeral of late President Magufuli on March 26, 2021

The president was very popular in Tanzania. Foreign press was more critical of him. The vice president Samia Suluhu Hassan has been sworn in as the new leader of the country. So far the country has remained peaceful. If you want to read more about the current situation in Tanzania, I would like to refer to the following newspaper links:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/17/world/africa/tanzania-president-magufuli-dead.html>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-56437852>

<https://www.africanews.com/2021/03/26/tanzania-s-magufuli-laid-to-rest-after-mysterious-death/>

But how are the children and staff doing at St. Nicholas? I stay in touch with everyone through video-calls, text messages and I receive weekly reports. I am very proud to see how well the leadership team manages everything. In February Sr. Grace joined the leadership team. Now two Sisters together with two men are managing St. Nicholas.



Njunwa, Sr. Celestina, Sr. Grace, Clemence

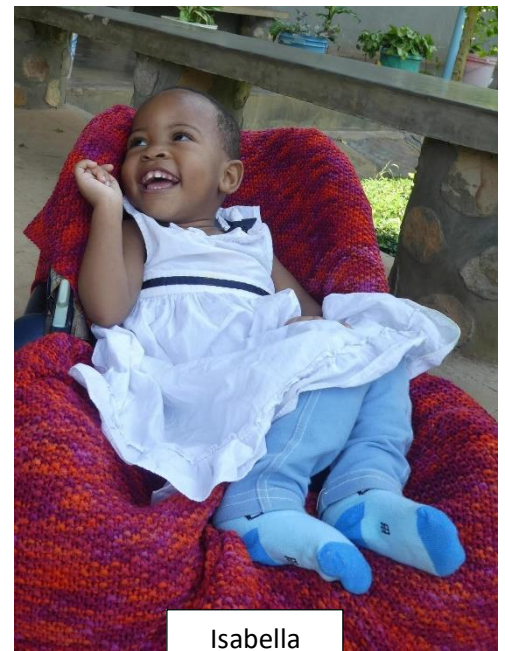


Aglipina

We received two new children in February. Aglipina is the younger sister of three boys who have been living with us for a long time. The children share the same mother but have different fathers. The mother has a mental disability and is not able to care for any of her children. Aglipina is 5 years old. She adjusted quickly to our large family and has started kindergarten.

Then social services brought us Isabella. She was found – just in time! – in a pit latrine. Because of her severe disabilities Isabella is developmentally delayed and it is hard to guess her age. We think that she is about 3 years old. She is such a sunshine!

The St. Nicholas kids are doing great. Almost all go to school. Three young men have started with vocational training schools. When I see the kids on the video-calls I am amazed how much they grow from week to week! I plan to visit Tanzania in July. I can't wait to see them all again in person!



Isabella



Thank you for your faithful support! We wish you a blessed Holy Week and a joyful feast of the Resurrection! Please stay healthy and safe!



Stefanie Köster, St. Nicholas leadership team, the children and caregivers