

Dear Rosalie & Kevin,

Hope this finds you all in good form despite the many ways that our world has been turned totally upside down. Trust you are all keeping well and remain healthy that is the most important asset we can call our own at this most difficult time. I know it will not come as a surprise to you that our Jubilees have been postponed indefinitely and may not happen this year at all. Ireland may have lifted lockdown restrictions early/ shortly but getting a flight out of Kenya will be a different story. There is an occasional 'chartered' one but since Jubilees are off, I don't see the need to come right now.

We are coping as best we can and hunger is the big problem at the moment, people are out of jobs, where they sold some small bits like tea in a flask by the roadside in a kind of hand-to-mouth way, that survival kit is totally gone. All such outlets and markets are closed. So, there is great distress among the people especially those in slums. Schools are closed since early March so kids are home and people find it a great strain to feed them.

I have a number of Trafficked Survivors and they are finding it very hard, all of them need top-up of what they had depended on, most of them need rent even for the kind of shacks they live in, 8' x 10' for the whole family for all they have to do - children trying to study, cook, sleep, wash etc. Just 2 days ago I gave away my smart phone to a girl who is repeating Form/4 so that she can access lessons and tests. Others I have assisted them to get secondhand ones just to cope with this situation.

So, this is Nairobi and the way life is at the moment. I pray that the pandemic departs from our Irish shores and that the explosion we expect here in term of deaths, famines, etc. may soon be a thing of the past.

With all good wishes and thanks for your generosity at so many different times.

Love& Prayers. Mary