

Caritas Rwanda Newsletter

April – June 2026



HONOURING WORK, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES



Dear Readers,

Welcome to the April-June 2026 edition of the Caritas Rwanda Newsletter.

This edition reflects on the dignity of work and the spirit of service that continues to guide Caritas Rwanda in its mission to support people and communities in need. As we celebrated Labor Day, we were reminded that every form of honest work contributes to the well-being and development of our society.

Over the past three months, Caritas Rwanda and its partners continued to translate this spirit into action through initiatives promoting social welfare, health, livelihoods, child development, and community resilience. From strengthening support to vulnerable people and displaced communities to equipping young people with opportunities for self-reliance, these efforts demonstrate the power of solidarity and collective action.

We also honour the memory of the victims of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi and reaffirm our commitment to building a society rooted in dignity, compassion, peace, and solidarity.

We invite you to explore the stories and achievements featured in this edition and join us in celebrating the people, partners, and communities whose work continues to make a difference.

Happy reading!

Caritas Rwanda Team

Caritas Rwanda celebrated Labor Day in style



In a spirit of thanksgiving, reflection, and appreciation for the dignity of work, Caritas Rwanda celebrated the Labor Day at Centre Missionnaire Lavigerie Kigali on May 1, 2026.

The day started with the celebration of Holy Mass. In his sermon, Father Oscar Kagimbura, Secretary General of Caritas Rwanda stated that

Saint Joseph is celebrated on the Labor Day because he is the role model of workers / employees. As he stated, Saint Joseph honored his profession/job which was considered as cheap while keeping raising the son of God (Jesus).

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Caritas Rwanda paid tribute to victims of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi



the Genocide against the Tutsi in 1994, including former colleagues, at the Nyanza Genocide Memorial.

The commemoration included reflections on the history of the genocide against the Tutsi, particularly focusing on the history of the area where the Nyanza Genocide Memorial is located, testimonies, and wreath-laying in remembrance of the victims.

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On Thursday, April 30, 2026, Caritas Rwanda and its affiliated institutions, Librairie Caritas Ltd and Centenary House Ltd, paid tribute to the victims of

A journey of Hope by CRS Country Office representatives

Heads of Social Welfare Department from Caritas Rwanda and the 10 diocesan Caritas met at Saint Paul Centre in Kigali on May 8, 2026, for a meeting aimed at strengthening collaboration and reinforcing efforts to support the vulnerable.

During the meeting, participants reviewed the achievements made in 2025 and discussed the challenges encountered, as well as strategies to strengthen future interventions.

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Raising awareness on Caritas Spirit at Kabgayi Major Seminary

The session included a presentation on the social doctrine of the Church, the history of Caritas, and the importance of fostering a culture of compassion and service to the most vulnerable, delivered by Sister Gaudiose Nyiraneza, in charge of Awareness and Emergency Response in the Social Welfare Department of Caritas Rwanda.

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In collaboration with Caritas Kabgayi, Caritas Rwanda conducted an awareness session on April 29, 2026, to promote the Caritas Spirit at Saint Thomas Aquinas Major Seminary of Kabgayi.

Awareness on Caritas Spirit at Saint Joseph Major Seminary

As part of inspiring Caritas Spirit and serving the most vulnerable, Caritas Rwanda conducted awareness session at Saint Joseph Rutongo Major Seminary, on April 22, 2026. The seminarians also raised question about the selection criteria for vulnerable children to benefit from educational support, as some are unable to continue their studies.

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Strengthened efforts to fight Malaria in Nyamasheke, Karongi, and Rutsiro districts

Caritas Rwanda, in collaboration with the Nyamasheke, Karongi, and Rutsiro districts, on May 30, 2026 conducted malaria prevention activities in the sectors most affected by malaria namely Nyabitekero, Mubuga, and Musasa.

Residents were reminded of key malaria prevention measures and encouraged to seek early and appropriate treatment when experiencing symptoms.



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Stakeholders Validated Findings of the ECD Project Impact Assessment in Gatsibo, Bugesera and Nyaruguru Districts



Caritas Rwanda, in partnership with Plan International Rwanda, successfully convened validation meetings in the districts of Gatsibo (16/06), Bugesera (17/06), and Nyaruguru (18/06), to review and validate the findings of the ECD Project Impact Assessment covering the implementation period from 2022 to 2025. The impact assessment findings demonstrate the positive contribution of Home-Based ECDs to children's holistic development across the three districts.

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Caritas Rwanda and Nyanza District raised awareness on HIV prevention and adolescent pregnancy through sport

Caritas Rwanda, in partnership with Nyanza District, organized a youth awareness campaign on June 21, 2026, aimed at preventing new HIV infections and reducing teenage pregnancies. The initiative is part of ongoing efforts to support the Ministry of Health, through the Rwanda Biomedical Centre (RBC), with funding from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.



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From Saving to Shoemaking

Terimbere Rubyiruko Zinga, a youth saving group from Munyaga Sector, Rwamagana District, supported by the Gera Ku Ntego Youth Project, started in March 2024 with members contributing as little as Rwf 200 per week, alongside a social fund contribution of Rwf 50. Through regular saving and internal lending, the young people gradually built their financial confidence and began exploring opportunities to improve their livelihoods.

Through the Gera Ku Ntego Youth Project funded by CRS Rwanda, and implemented by Caritas Kibungo in partnership with Caritas Rwanda, the group acquired a sanding machine and a sewing machine, allowing them to venture into shoemaking. Today, they produce mainly Maasai sandals and plan to expand into other styles of men's footwear.

The business is also meeting a real need in the community. Previously, residents had to travel to Rwamagana or Rubona markets to buy shoes, spending considerable time and money on transport.

“We realized that producing shoes here would save people the time and transport costs of travelling to distant markets,”

***Espérance Mushimiyimana,
the group's President***



One of the group members, while using a shoe making machine.

WATCH THE VIDEO >>>