



Welcome to the Comboni Missionaries' Newsletter

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African Proverb of the Week

"Never ask to be told the obvious."

(Kuria, Kenya)



Ghana: Living and dying in Agbogbloshie

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Oral literature: Tortoise and Hare

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Kenya: Rose Wanjikũ Mũriũ, Karate Girl

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International military expenditure not affected by COVID-19

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Latin America

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Herbs & Plants: Piliostigma thonningii, a multipurpose medicinal plant

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MAY 2021

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

**May 15
International Day of Families**

This year's 25th anniversary of Copenhagen Declaration and Beijing Platform for Action comes at a time of one of the most challenging global health and social crises. The 2020 COVID-19 pandemic brings into sharp focus the importance of investing in social policies protecting the most vulnerable individuals and families. It is the families who bear the brunt of the crisis, sheltering their members from harm, caring for out-of-school children and, at the same time, continuing their work responsibilities. [Learn more.](#)

May 22 **International Day for Biological Diversity**

Biological diversity resources are the pillars upon which we build civilizations. Fish provide 20 percent of animal protein to about 3 billion people. Over 80 percent of the human diet is provided by plants. As many as 80 per cent of people living in rural areas in developing countries rely on traditional plant-based medicines for basic healthcare.

While there is a growing recognition that biological diversity is a global asset of tremendous value to future generations, the number of species is being significantly reduced by certain human activities. Given the importance of public education and awareness about this issue, the UN decided to celebrate the International Day for Biological Diversity annually. [Learn more.](#)

May 29 **International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers**

The International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers offers a chance to pay tribute to the uniformed and civilian personnel's invaluable contribution to the work of the Organization and to honor more than 3,900 peacekeepers who have lost their lives serving under the UN flag since 1948, including 102 in 2019. [Learn more.](#)

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