

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF KENYA (ACK)

HEAD OFFICE

Archbishop: Most Rev. Dr. Jackson N. Ole Sapit Provincial Secretary: The Rt.Rev. Prof Joseph D. Galgalo Provincial Treasurer: Lay Canon Prof. William O.Ogara Provincial Finance Director: Jackson Kirikiru archoffice@ackenya.org ackpsoffice@ackenya.org info@ackenya.org Tel: 0111 036 800 Tel: +254 734 916 358 A.C.K. Garden House, 2nd Flr. Wing 'C' 1st Ngong Avenue P. O. Box 40502 - 00100, NAIROBI Website: www.ackenya.org



Anglican Church of Kenya

Celebration of Green Anglican Movement Day on 10th October 2025 in Kenya.

I greet you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Praise God! Today, the Anglican Church of Kenya is observing the *Green Anglicans Day* as a special day of prayer and celebration of Mother Nature. The Government has also designated the 10th of October as a national Holiday (*Mazingira Day*) for tree planting. This affirms our collective responsibility to care for God's creation.

This year, the government is encouraging every citizen to plant a tree in their former school. We commend this initiative, as it aligns with the *One Student One Tree Campaign* we launched in partnership with Diamond Trust Bank at Limuru Girls on the 17th of May 2025.

We are living in critical times. Environmental degradation and climate change are increasingly threatening our livelihoods and very existence. Across our communities, we continue to witness uncertain weather patterns, unpredictable rainfall, prolonged droughts, devastating floods, deforestation, and the shrinking or expansion of water bodies.

These changes have led to serious consequences, including disruptions in food production, displacement of communities, and reduced access to essential services such as education, healthcare, and shelter. These challenges are compromising the wholeness and dignity of humanity.

Yet, we must acknowledge that our unsustainable actions have played a significant role in creating this crisis. Cutting down trees, using unclean energy, mismanaging waste, and practicing unsustainable agriculture are just some of the ways we have contributed to environmental degradation.

Board of Mission & Evagelism

In Genesis 2:15, the Bible reminds us: "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."

This verse clearly assigns us a divine responsibility to care for the Earth, particularly its "lungs" — forests, oceans, and ice caps. Sadly, we have strayed from this sacred duty. The lungs of the Earth are ailing and urgently need our attention and action to heal.

As the Anglican Communion, safeguarding the integrity of creation and sustaining and renewing the life of the Earth is our Fifth Mark of Mission. This has inspired the promotion of the Green Anglican Movement, which focuses on four key areas in Kenya:

- i. Ecotheology
- ii. Tree growing
- iii. Waste management
- iv. Clean energy

In 2017, during the Provincial Synod, the Anglican Church of Kenya officially embraced the Green Anglican Movement and appointed Anglican Development Services (ADS) Kenya as the focal point for coordination. Since then, significant milestones have been achieved:

- i. The movement has been localized within dioceses across the country. We are pleased that this year's celebration is taking place at the Diocesan level.
- ii. Over 200 champions have been trained and empowered on ecology, leading engagements in their respective dioceses.
- iii. Our Institutions have adopted and participated in restoration initiatives in some of the country's Forests such as the Ngong Road Forest in Nairobi County, Maragoli Hills in Vihiga County and Kakamega Forest in Kakamega County. These initiatives extend to some of the Country's water towers such as the Mau Complex ecosystem.

- iv. In partnership with like-minded organizations such as Mwangaza Light, about 50,000 ACK households have gained access to energy-efficient household products, improving both their health and well-being.
- v. Collectively, across the province, we have grown more than 8 million trees nationwide. We are deeply grateful to Equity Bank Foundation as well as Furaha, & Baraka for their unwavering support.

These may seem like small steps, but they represent meaningful contributions toward healing the lungs of the Earth, supporting the Government-led *15 Billion Tree Program*, advancing Kenya's Vision 2030, and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The task ahead remains great. The Earth still needs more deliberate action from all of us. We urge each of you to let your voice count in protecting nature.

In 2026, we will celebrate our ACK Decade Focus under the theme: "Wholesome Ecology: Faithful Stewardship for a Flourishing Creation." The Anglican Church of Kenya is committed to:

- Growing an additional 7 million trees across the country.
- Expanding access and adoption of clean and efficient energy solutions
- Promoting responsible waste management practices.
- Fostering behavioral transformation through Ecotheology

We call upon each one of you to integrate Green Anglican Movement activities into your Diocesan and church plans and ministries—including Conferences, KAMA, MU, KAYO, and Children's Ministries—so that together we may fulfill our God-given responsibility to heal the Earth, protect nature, enhance biodiversity, uphold human dignity, and build resilient livelihoods and environmental sustainability.

Together we care for our Mother Earth. Thank you all, and may you have a blessed celebration this year.

The Most Rev. Dr. Jackson Ole Sapit

Archbishop of Kenya, Bishop of the All Saints' Cathedral Diocese & Bishop-in-Ordinary to the Kenya Defence Forces

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All Bishops of the Anglican Church of Kenya