

**FINAL PROFESSION OF VOWS 2019**  
**DAUGHTERS OF MARY AND JOSEPH**  
**AFRICA PROVINCE**



Hello everyone,

I thank God for the gift of vocation, for enabling the four of us to reach this stage of life and for giving me this chance of sharing my joys of the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019.

Firstly, it seemed like a dream when I received a letter of acceptance from the Congregational Leader. I was so overjoyed that I would at times think that I was just dreaming about it. The preparations went on smoothly, not forgetting the thirty days retreat that was a very rich and powerful encounter with the Lord.

The 30<sup>th</sup>, the Eve of the profession, I was touched by the spirit of the DMJ sisters. They were all heading to Ibanda community from various communities and each one of them was busy with the preparations. That evening, we had a beautiful prayer that was prepared by Sr. Marie Claire. It is then that I felt that the time was close.

On the 31<sup>st</sup>, morning, I kept asking myself several questions, one of which was, how it was going to be at the mass. Meanwhile, the anxiety was high but I tried to calm down by telling myself that I was just going for mass as usual. At the Parish, most of the people were in time, even if we had to wait for some time before mass started. The choir was excellent and the participation of everyone at mass was motivating. I don't know how I lost my anxiety. During mass, I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit. Even when it came to the time of professing my vows, I was strong and bold. It was one of the most beautiful celebrations I have ever attended.



After mass, we had a wonderful and well prepared reception on the compound of Ibanda community. A lot of people who were at mass joined us for the reception, including the two Bishops, priests, religious from other communities, the choir, our parents and all the other visitors. There, we had lunch, cutting of the cake, entertainment and speeches. The day ended well and everyone departed with joy.

My deepest appreciation goes to God for making the day a success. The Congregational Leader and team, thank you for accepting us to profess our vows. The Africa Province leader and team, God bless you for your love and care. I also thank

the DMJ sisters who were present mostly for all the hard work and those that joined us in prayer. Finally, I thank all the people that joined us for mass.

I conclude by asking each one of you to keep us in your prayers, so that we may remain faithful to what we have vowed and continue to joyously be Instruments of Mercy and Compassion in the hands of God. May God bless us all.

Gladys Kyoshabire



**JOY! JOY! JOY!**

***31/8/2019 A SPECIAL DAY! MY TOTAL CONSECRATION TO THE LORD! A DAY OF THANKSGIVING, AN EXPERIENCE THAT BROUGHT MY PROMISES TO THE LORD TO FULFILLMENT!***



Give thanks to the Lord for it is good to make music to our God on high, for He guides us every day and He watches through the night; let us praise Him as we sing together Holy God of Light. Glory to the Father, sing glory to the Son, glory to the Spirit glory, glory everyone, glory on the earth He made it glory up above glory glory everybody we have seen the father's love!

Indeed I have seen and experienced the Father's love, "Yes lord, you know that I love you"! Since my childhood I have lived and nurtured a deep desire to thank God in a special and unique way. As I grew up, I prayed, discerned and discovered that Psalm 116 v12; "what return can I make to the Lord for all His goodness to me?", has the right and suitable words I can use to express my joy and gratitude to God for his loving kindness to me. I deeply felt that being a religious; an instrument of Mercy in the hands of God was the best way to express my deep and sincere gratitude to the Lord. His grace has brought me this far!

To me as Alice, being a religious would loose meaning if I forgot that the only reason I am a religious today is to thank God. Gratitude is the hook that Jesus used to catch me!

I sincerely thank you my sisters for helping me to say my simple but big thank you to the Lord in a special and unique way as a DMJ. Thank you very much for your prayers, warm congratulations, best wishes, nice and encouraging words in beautiful cards, emails, phone calls, whatsapp messages, gifts, time and hard work with dedication all manifesting true unity in diversity



that made our profession day grace filled, memorable and colourful. May God bless you abundantly. I count on your prayers, advice and support to live a life of thanksgiving in love, joy, courage and enthusiasm each and every moment of my life.

Our founder inspires me thus, "Ne vous decouragez jamais, recommencer toujours avec un nouveau courage et une humilite plus parfaite"

"You are the instruments of the mercy in the hands of God, let no difficulty stand in the way of this ministry"

United in prayer with deep gratitude

Alice Kyasiimire

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## **Solemn Profession**

### **Daughters of Mary and Joseph at Ibanda.**



I am Sr. Monica Kyoshabire.

This is to share with you my gratitude for the wonders the Lord has done for us all. This follows the great and grand day that I had longed for and desired to reach by God's mercy. "YES LORD, YOU KNOW THAT I LOVE YOU" Jn 21:16

I will never forget the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019. I had long imagined how it would be and in reality it was a success. Join me thank the almighty God who in his love granted us a cool and calm day, not even a drop rain interfered with any of the programs.

At day break, I was both anxious and happy. I was quite sure that this was the day the Lord had made so I had no excuse but to rejoice in him. My parents arrived in time which even



made it a more happier occasion for me. I was very glad that my father came because he had missed my first vows.

I was very impressed by the DMJ culture of keeping time that has held for long. We were at the church by a quarter to ten ready for the mass. DMJs as usual led by the choir were in procession where as the rest of the Congregation waited for us in church.



The main celebrant was Archbishop Paul K Bakyenga assisted by bishop Callist of Kabale. Although mass started a bit late, it did not alter the order that everything was to flow.

The choir was super and smart. They sang very well with all the confidence including songs in strange languages like French. I was lucky to be seated near them so, I sung with all my heart.



The decorations especially the rose flowers indicated the difference and exhibited the DMJ touch. Thank you to the sisters who decorated and to the Ibanda Parish sister.

During mass I felt as is the time for pronouncing the vows came at an appropriate time and so filled with confidence, I let my voice out through the microphone and called upon the Lord to receive my heart's desire - the vows. Thanks a lot to all those who were present and also to those absent who were united with us in prayer. I felt the Lord's presence and I am very sure that our Holy founder was delighted the whole day.

Thanks to Sr. Marie Claire for coming and received our vows in the name of the Congregational Leader and you my DMJ family.

After mass a few photos for souvenir were taken and we proceeded for the reception at our DMJ SYLVIA house.

The food was delicious and with all the joy I had, I just ate a bit and felt satisfied. Thanks to our catering group led by our sisters Hedwig and Rosette.

I was happy that everyone at mass was invited for the meal and so everyone ate. God bless you our sisters for such great organisation.

We all enjoyed the entertainment and thanks to our sisters who took us through the Kirundi dance. It was so beautiful. The cake was so delicious and big enough for each one to have a bite. We also had some for the sisters that did not make it especially from the nearby DMJ communities.

To me the day was very successful and I feel that it is all the many different hands that were involved that made it a wonderful one.

I conclude by thanking everyone who in one way or the other participated, supported us in order to make this day colourful. May the good Lord we serve guide you and keep us united.

God bless you.

Sr. Monica Kyoshabire.





