

Healing & Hope in Rwanda

Empowering Widows, Single Mothers & Vulnerable Children through Faith. A Catholic mission of compassion, reconciliation, and human dignity

FR. FELIX KAYIRANGA, CATHOLIC PRIEST AND PASTORAL HEALER

A Mission of Healing Rooted in the Gospel:

For nearly three decades post war and genocide, many women in Rwanda—widows, single mothers, and caregivers of vulnerable children—have carried heavy burdens of grief, trauma, and poverty. Many continue to struggle to provide food, education, and a stable future for their children.

Inspired by the Gospel and guided by Christ's call to "love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34) and the Church's preferential option for the poor, Fr. Jean De Dieu Felix Kayiranga has devoted and exercises his priestly ministry through close pastoral accompaniment—listening, praying, and walking with families toward healing and self-reliance of poor vulnerable women. Through prayer, listening, and practical support, he has helped build a faith-centered community program that restores hope, strengthens families, and renews dignity.

This mission is not about the past—it is about healing hearts, rebuilding lives, and nurturing hope for the next generation

THE DAILY CHALLENGES FAMILIES FACE

In many rural parishes, families continue to struggle with:

- Extreme poverty and food insecurity
- Limited access to clean water
- Children unable to attend school due to fees
- Single-parent households and family instability
- Risky survival strategies driven by desperation

As Fr. Felix often reminds the community:

"If you educate a woman, you educate a family and a society." "An empty stomach cannot listen."

REACHING FAMILIES THROUGH PARISH LIFE

With an initial grant of \$10,000, Fr. Felix launched parish-based initiatives in three rural parishes in northern and eastern Rwanda:

- Mugote Parish - 350 families engaged in farming and small livestock projects
- Ruhuha Parish - 275 families committed to cooperative work and self-reliance
- Munanira Parish - 200 families, including widows choosing unity and cooperation

Nearly 1,000 families are benefiting. Each week, families gather at the parish to:

- Begin with prayer and Eucharistic adoration
- Share experiences and encourage one another
- Learn practical skills for income generation
- Grow in faith, trust, and mutual support



Leadership that connects and delivers.

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WHAT YOUR SUPPORT MAKES POSSIBLE

Spiritual & Emotional Healing

- Weekly prayer gatherings
- Pastoral counseling and accompaniment
- Safe spaces for forgiveness, reconciliation, and inner healing

Food Security & Sustainable Livelihoods

- Agricultural farming
- Raising pigs, goats, and chickens
- Tailoring, sewing, and handicrafts
- Small local trade and cooperatives

Unity & Reconciliation

- Women choose collaboration over division, building friendships rooted in faith and shared purpose.

Contact Information

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WHY THIS MISSION BEARS FRUIT

The program integrates:

- Prayer, Mass, and parish life
- Community dialogue and mutual support
- Practical training and economic initiative
- Constant priestly presence and guidance

Like yeast in the dough (Matthew 13:33), each parish becomes a source of renewal for neighboring communities—and ultimately for the wider Church.

“Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” (Matthew 25:40)