

## Recollection and Anniversary Meal in Timau, Kenya



It was with great joy and excitement that the Sisters of Notre Dame in Timau Community, Meru Diocese in Kenya, happily participated in the start of the Jubilee year's events. After receiving the recollection and cultural materials they got ready for the day's celebrations. On 25<sup>th</sup> January, around 9:00A.M after Holy Mass in the Parish on the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, all the sisters gathered in the community room for their recollection. Sister Mary Teresa, the Local Superior, led the opening prayers by invoking the presence of the Holy Spirit, the Patron of the Delegation, with the song: *'May the Spirit of the Lord Come Down...'* The three aspirants, Petronilla, Moreen, and Peninah, who is a teacher at Our Lady of Visitation Secondary School, were part of this noteworthy event.

The Sisters took their time on the recollection material: Confidence is our heritage with reflection and sharing. Sister Mary Irene Nyile led the prayer and adoration in the community chapel. They had a fruitful time in recalling our Spiritual Mother, Saint Julie, and gaining more confidence and trust in God. As they reflectively prayed, the melodious words from Mother Julie's psalm were echoed from the chapel... *"He will always be, God is clothed in majesty, God is from eternity, God is good!"*.

Celebratory meal preparation brought much fun as the sisters cooked unfamiliar cultural dishes on the 26<sup>th</sup> evening. Sister Mary Magdaline Kalekye and Aspirant Petronilla prepared the leek soup which was very delicious with the right ingredient! The Sisters joyfully worked together to cook spaghetti with meat sauce and bake wild garlic bread, which was very appetizing. Sister Mary Beth prepared the dining table with special days' setting style ready for this jubilant event. The 175-year meal sharing started with a song of praise to God: *Praise and glorify the Lord, sisters...* It was indeed a wonderful time to have a special meal from another continent creatively and lovingly brought to our table. We rejoice and thank God for blessing us with these wonderful moments!