

Dear Friends,

Please pray for this situation in Kenya. We hope to have Sr. Florence join us by conference call at our next DGAAN Meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

I spoke with Sr. Florence Muia, ASN, on Monday January 7<sup>th</sup> regarding the upheaval in Kenya due to allegations of vote tampering in the most recent presidential election. According to the *Associated Press*, 486 people are dead and 255,000 are displaced. An untold number of people have fled the city in an attempt to escape the blood letting. Tension is still building as rioting, looting, raping and killing continue in Kenya.

In her conversation, Sr. Florence asked for continued prayers because of the unrest. She spoke about being psychologically traumatized and not wanting to watch the news.

The fear of violence has spread, and the police in Naivasha have imposed a 7 p.m. curfew. Although Sr. Florence and the others at Upendo Village are safe, they're sense of security is precariously fragile. The situation is alarming as tensions increase over the conflict between opposing political parties, said Sr. Florence.

News reports gathered from *AP*, *Reuters* and the *New York Times* agree that the current president of Kenya, Mwai Kibiki, and his opponent, Raila Odinga, are negotiating. The possibility of power sharing is among the topics for which the two are seeking mediation.

Our Franciscan family members and friends there have not gone unscathed. Many fear for the health and well being of relatives living in the midst of the violence.

Sr. Florence said the churches are packed with Kenyans praying for peace. Every night the media has broadcast ecumenically lead prayers from 6-7 p.m. Both Christians and Moslems are leading the prayers.

Attached is a letter from the Franciscans in Kenya which further elaborates the situation.

Peace and all good,

Sr. Sheila Kinsey, OSF  
Co-Chair  
DGAAN