

years after the Virgin's first apparition at Kibeho, is recognized as an important historical reference for anybody who would like to know what happened and form a judgment on it. This date of November 28, 1989, is kept by the ecclesiastical authority as the time-limit for the occurrence of these phenomena. *-Bernard Kellett*

**Entrance antiphon: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.**

**First Reading: Wisdom 7: 7-11**

**Responsorial Psalm: 89: Fill us with your love that we may rejoice.**

**Second Reading: Hebrews 4: 12-13**

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Mark: 10: 17-30**

**Memorial Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

**Communion Antiphon: When the Lord appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.**

"Christ has no body now, but yours. No hands, no feet on earth, but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ looks compassion into the world. Yours are the feet with which Christ walks to do good. Yours are the hands with which Christ blesses the world." St Teresa of Avila



## **Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B, 2024 Weekly Reflection:**

### **Marian Shrine Rwanda (ii) (Continued from last Week)**

Many people begged for signs of credibility. At the time of the ecstasies, students and teachers were free to apply tests on the body of Alphonsine in order to check and to verify her sincerity. It was even suggested that if it was really the Blessed Virgin Mary who had visited the school, they would take it seriously, if she at least appeared to other students

instead of just that poor Alphonsine from Gisaka, a region which had a reputation for the practice of magic. Alphonsine asked the Virgin to respond to the challenge by appearing to others and exhorted her schoolmates also to ask her for themselves to receive necessary enlightenment. A short time later, two new alleged seers appeared in the high school, one after the other, and in close proximity to Alphonsine: notably Nathalie Mukamazimpaka on January 12, 1982, and Marie Claire Mukangango on March 2, 1982.

In spite of the critics and objections of all sorts against the apparitions, a movement of belief began to develop quickly enough inside and outside of Kibeho High School. Before the Christmas holidays of 1981, a group of "converted" students and teachers appeared at a regular prayer meeting with Alphonsine, where they recited the rosary accompanied by hymns in the honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The time of significant apparitions ended practically in 1983, during which most of the alleged seers then known by the public, left the scene, one after the other, declaring that the apparitions were finished for them.

The apparitions of Kibeho officially ended on November 28, 1989, a date on which Alphonsine, who was at the beginning of these events, experienced the Virgin's last apparition in public. She specified that she would not have any more apparitions publicly. This meaningful fact, which was introduced 8