

## Miracles happen around us every day

Elisabeth Koriang is from the village of Niapa in Turkwel Parish, Lodwar Diocese, Kenya. Naipa is 105 km from Lodwar District Hospital, a journey that could take two days. The roads are extremely rough; they are made out of gravel and stones, there is no public transport from this village, it is an outpost far from all necessary amenities. Elisabeth is nine months pregnant and needs medical care for a safe delivery. In the past, it is unknown what might have happened. Fortunately, Kalemunyang is not too far and through word of mouth – there is a new maternity clinic. Hazardous as it may seem, Elisabeth managed to reach Kalemunyang with the



*Elisabeth Koriang*

aid of a motorcycle. It was a tedious journey but knowing that in Kalemunyang she would get the necessary help, motivated her to reach it.

I arrived at Kalemunyang at 10am on the 15<sup>th</sup> January to visit the new maternity unit. This is a fine building, it has all the necessary rooms, equipment and space that is necessary to function and offer quality services to expectant mums. There is a reception, pre-natal room, delivery room, post-natal room and a qualified staff to insure safe deliveries. Next to the maternity unit is the clinic which has laboratory, a clinical officer and a pharmacy. All providing a remarkable medical facility to the local people.



*Sr Pascalia and Aruna Abishai Kulubi (Nurse) inspecting the incubator*

When I first visited Kalemunyang in 2003, there was an old clinic made of timber, with one



*The New Kalemunyang Maternity Clinic with the very proud staff.*

room. I often carried expectant mums to Lodwar and there were sometimes occasions when the baby did not survive. What has happened in Kalemunyang is nothing short of a miracle for expectant mums. Many miracles happen around us every day and are the result of

people's generosity, kindness and looking out for their fellow human being. This is what happened in Kalemunyang and a great appreciation goes to all of you who donated towards this maternity clinic with special thanks to the Faith in Action Group who spearheaded the fundraising and to Sr. Pascalia. She is a wonderful Kenyan Sister who worked tirelessly to bring this project to its successful completion.

Let's get back to our friend Elisabeth Korieng. Just before I arrived at Kalemunyang, Elisabeth gave birth to a beautiful baby girl named Ruth. Thanks to the medical help from the staff, Mum and baby are doing well. I asked Elisabeth could I take a picture of Baby Ruth and she agreed. I hope one day Ruth will come to learn that her birth was greeted with joy seven thousand miles away in the Church of the



*Baby Ruth*

Holy Spirit, Dennehy's Cross, Cork, Ireland.

### **Fr. Oliver Noonan, SMA**



*Fr. Patrick Devine SMA, Sr Pascalia, Teresa Echarait, Fr. Oliver, Aruna Abishai Kulubi at the Kalemunyang Maternity Clinic*



*Sr Pascalia,  
Fr Dismas Masinde  
(Parish Priest of  
Turkwel and chairman  
of the Board of  
Trustees of the  
Kalemunyang Clinic  
and Materinty Ward)  
Aruna Abishai Kulubi,  
Teresa Echarait  
Fr. Oliver  
inside the Maternity  
Ward.*