



Howdy! I hope y'all are keeping fine. Notice how my grammar has improved from all the places I have been to lately (lol). I am deeply aware that it was about time you heard from me. In fact, I have been itching to share with you what I have been up to since my departure from Verdigre, Niobrara and Bloomfield! First, permit me to offer you my condolences for the parishioners that have passed since my departure. May God rest their souls and comfort you.

So, if you thought that I didn't know exactly what I was walking into when I joined the Air Force, then, you are right. I didn't get the entire memo! However, I am working through the opportunities and challenges as the details drop. I still have courses to complete. Truly I have felt your prayers and support through these months of what seems to be endless trainings and orders. It would interest you to know that I am learning how to do two things. First, how to say, yes sir/ma'am and second, how to breath appropriately, the Air Force way! Indeed, it has been like drinking from the fire hose! Nevertheless, it has been a humbling and learning experience. Overall, I count myself lucky to be graced by God with these experiences. I am embracing the seriousness, confusion, oddity, complexity, laughter and growing pains in the spirit of service. The good news is that I am passed the culture shock! So far, I love what I am learning and enjoy what I am doing.

Currently, I am at the 17th Training Wing Air Force Base in San Angelo. Texas. I work as the Catholic Chaplain alongside three Protestant chaplains. Also, there are four senior enlisted and enlisted Airmen and a civilian staff. Additionally, I am supported by two coordinators for Catholic ministry, two contract staff and several volunteers. My job/ministry consists of meetings, unit visits, counseling, celebration of Mass and listening to confession, offering spiritual guidance, participating and conducting spiritual Resiliency events, giving briefings, giving invocations at events, administrative duties, advising commanders on Religious Accommodation, supervision of the Catholic RE program and being available for whatever the chapel team needs me to do as part of the mission. One thing is clear, though, it's a much needed and appreciated ministry. Love it most days, if I can get passed the endless hours of computer based trainings for newbies! After awhile It's not really that bad!

After several months I found a house off base and my household goods just arrived a few days ago. During these months, I lived in a dorm room, my car and hotel. So, it's time to unpack again and the pilgrimage and adventure continues. I fondly think of you always and only hope that my experience in the Air Force will be as special and memorable as it is with you and your communities. Please, keep the prayers coming as I hold you dearly in my heart and offer prayers regularly for your spiritual growth and well-being. Give thanks to God in everything, be patient in tribulations, keep loving and stay close to Jesus. I wish you all a safe and joyful holiday season. I can be reached at the following address: Fr. Kizito Okhuoya 1726 S Park Street San Angelo TX 76901. God bless you all.

//Signed//

Kizito Okhuoya, Ch, Capt, USAF