



Living Waters International, Inc.

- Aid for African Catholic Missions -

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Spring Newsletter

May 2021

Living Waters' mission is the support of Roman Catholic missionary and international development projects in Africa.

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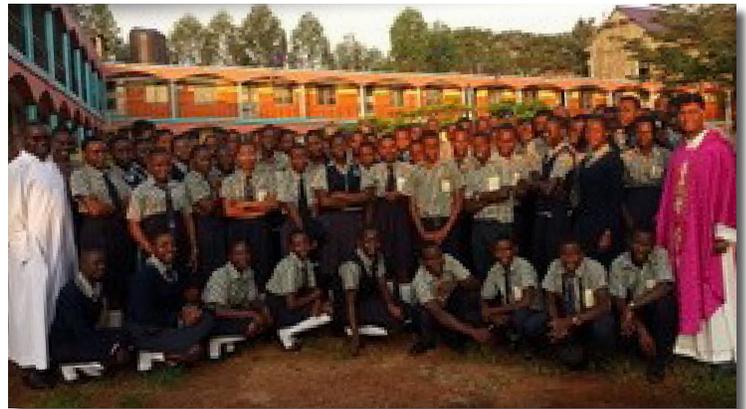
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Appeal for Shipping Costs of Books to SFS Secondary School in Uganda Déjà vu!

Yes, **déjà vu!** Many of our readers will recall that a similar appeal had been made back in the spring of 2016 by Father Sheejan Kallarkkal, MSFS, then, Rector of the SFS Junior Seminary in Kihonda, Tanzania. Because of your generous response, the seminary's library is now complete with up-to-date literature and resources, shelving, and software for cataloguing. Today dear friends, it is Father Robert Raj, MSFS, Rector of SFS Secondary School, making the same appeal. Here is a little background on the school:

St. Francis de Sales Secondary School in Iyolwa, Tororo, Uganda, is a school where young boys and girls pursue their secondary school education while receiving holistic formation. In the academic year 2021, enrollment is 782. The school was established in 2017 with a vision of helping poor children in the village and its surrounding areas. Prior to 2017, there were no secondary schools available in the entire sub-county. The Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales, with the help of friends, and agencies from Europe and the U.S., established this school for underprivileged youth. There are seven elementary schools in the sub-county with over 7,000 in attendance, and library resources in these schools is virtually non-existent.



Father Raj, staff and students

There is a compelling case to start a complete, up-to-date library at SFS Secondary. Literature resources are extremely scarce in Uganda, and the soaring cost of publications makes it impossible for the schools to enhance literacy. This project will help SFS Secondary and all the government elementary school students to excel in their education and in life.

Books for Africa, an NGO from the USA, has agreed to donate 22,000 books. This will include books for SFS Secondary and the seven primary schools. However, they need to raise the shipping costs of these books. The total shipping costs for a forty-foot container, carrying 22,000 books, is \$15,500. So far, only ten percent of that has been raised. We hope you can find it in your heart and in your wallet to donate to this most noble cause.

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A MSFS Seminarian in Need

I take this wonderful moment to introduce myself: **I am Brother Joseph Mwasa of Uganda**, and I thank the Almighty God for calling me to this way of life and granting me the unlimited grace to live a good religious and missionary life. The reason for my interest in priesthood is due to my late grandparents. From childhood, I witnessed them frequently attending daily Eucharistic celebrations and participating in the Eucharist celebrations at the parish. I grew up under the care of my grandparents who often said they wished to have a priest from our family. The Catechism classes that prepared me for my first holy communion and my interest in being an altar boy, gave me the desire to become a priest. I was elected the parish youth chairperson and I always received encouragement from the youth who said that I am a good person for priesthood. As chairperson, I used to represent the youths at different youth seminars and conferences, it was here that I encountered the congregation of the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales.



I am always grateful to the Almighty for enhancing and guiding me throughout the journey of my vocation. I have a great feeling that the mighty Hand of God has always been on me and will continue providing me with success in all matters of my formation. I am convinced I want to become not just a priest but a good priest of God. I have undergone many challenges and difficulties, but all these have strengthened me in my vocation.

It is important to me that people should not misuse the creation of God by killing fellow human beings or destroying nature. I wish that God will fulfill His mission on earth and God's name will be glorified through me by becoming an exemplary missionary religious priest.

May Almighty God bless you and I thank you for your consideration in sponsoring me in my priestly formation.



Sugarcane Update

Dear Friends of Living Waters,

May I take this precious opportunity to greet you in the name of our Lord. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for the enormous support and generous contributions you have dedicated to our sugarcane initiative. We also note with great thanks the various efforts of individual contributors, the Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Green Bay, WI, as well as your 2020 Advent appeal. Thanks to Living Waters' board members for good correspondence and timely interventions when we needed their support.

Phase one of our project has reached 18 of 25 acres. As funds become available, we expect to complete phase one in 2021. This will give us the opportunity to begin the second phase of cultivating twenty-five more acres in 2022.

*- Father Agnelo Kaizerege,
Imbumbida Mission, Tanzania*

(Please see the enclosed donation form if you would like to support their sugarcane project.)



A hand hoe is used by most laborers.

Christmas Relief

Children from over 30 mission sites were recipients of food relief along with support for their schools this past Christmas. One of the site coordinators, Father John Bosco Nambasi, MCCJ stated, "You, the benefactors of LWI, are true heroes and heroines. Most of you have stood with us in the past years, but especially in this year 2020, CoVID 19 Pandemic, notwithstanding. You have remained committed to putting a smile on the faces of our needy students. May God bless you abundantly!"



Christmas Joy!



SPOTLIGHT

By Eileen Hartl

Today we are shining the light on Ellie Payant, Living Waters' newest board member and daughter of Paul & Shelly Payant, of Antigo, WI. After graduating from high school, she went to the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and graduated with a Bachelor's in Family Social Science. This upcoming fall, Ellie will be attending graduate school at Colorado State University to pursue her Master's in Social Work. Some of you may recall learning about Ellie from our 2020 spring newsletter.

Upon completing her undergraduate degree, she wanted to spend time traveling and volunteering. In the summer of 2019, she set out for a pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago, known in English as the Way of St. James. "I started in St. Jean Pied du Port, France, and ended at Santiago, which was a total of 800 miles. I had a great time on my walk, though I was a little sad that I didn't have any huge revelations while walking." ... we will revisit this in a moment.

Her next pilgrimage would take her to Arusha, Tanzania. LWI treasurer, Brian Prunty explains, "I was made aware of her desire to experience working as a foreign missionary, so I reached out to her to see if we could connect her with some of the congregations we work with in East Africa. She was successful in arranging a six month stay living and working with missionaries in Tanzania." Ellie lived and worked in Arusha, helping in a clinic and a primary school while living with a group of Carmelite Sisters. Brian and his wife Karen had regular contact with Ellie throughout her stay in Arusha. "It was clear to us Ellie was doing very well; her dedication to prayer and enthusiasm for serving the poor was evident."



Two saints in which Ellie looks to for inspiration are Saint Teresa of Calcutta and St. John Paul the Great; they understood human nature and the dignity of every person, especially the poor. They understood the existence of evil in our world for what it is. John Paul II, and Mother Teresa blazed a path with their self-sacrificial giving. The only way to achieve what is the "... will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.", (Rom 12:2b), is to serve one another while

looking at the Cross of Christ. While Ellie felt that she did not receive any great revelations on the Way of St. James, an eventual realization has come, and that is a greater understanding of suffering. "While on the Camino, I felt the Lord wanted to teach me about the importance of suffering and how to use our suffering in prayer. This became very evident when I was in Tanzania and saw so much suffering around me, as well as the difficulties I personally encountered while there. Learning how to offer up our struggles as a prayer to help others showed me how powerful prayer can be."

Perhaps in the way of Christ, there is no greater revelation!

After she returned to the states from Tanzania, Ellie gave a presentation on her experiences serving the poor at a LWI Board of Directors meeting. Brian was impressed, "I felt we needed to ask Ellie about joining Living Waters International as a board member." All of us agreed and Ellie accepted the invitation. "I am passionate about helping and supporting people in need. I love and respect the culture of the African people and want to support them in a way that upholds their dignity as people. I am eager to be of assistance to LWI and the people of Africa in any way I can." Thank you, Ellie, we are delighted to have you on our board; you serve the Lord so faithfully!

2021 Summer Fund-Raisers

Brat Fry at Gilbert's Sentry Food Store

(Workers needed for one or two-hour shifts, Call 715 610-9567)

Where: 115 South Superior Street Antigo, WI

When: Friday, June 25
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Brat Fry & Pie Sale Sponsored by Wrightstown Area Friends of Living Waters

Where: Dick's Family Foods 400 High Street, Wrightstown, WI

When: Saturday, June 26
10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Music in the Park

Pie & Ice Cream Social

(Pie donations & workers needed – Call 715 610-9567)

Where: Antigo City Park 200 Aurora Street, Antigo, WI

When: Monday, July 12
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Students In Need



Lewandre Jacobs

Gender: Male **Birthdate:** July 22, 2015
Country: South Africa **Chores:** Too young for chores
Favorite Subject: ABC's & 123's
Favorite Pastimes: Playing with friends
Other Remarks: Lewandre currently lives with his mother in a 1-room brick house with a cement floor and asbestos roof. There is running water and electricity. The local municipality gave them the house. His father does not care for the child in any way and the mother has financial difficulties.



Ibrahimu Hasan Lwangisa

Gender: Male **Birthdate:** March 24, 2015
Country: Tanzania **Chores:** Too young currently
Favorite Subject: ABC's & 123's
Favorite Pastimes: Singing
Other remarks: This child is in dire need. He is an orphan; his uncle took him in after his parents threw him out and the uncle is utterly poor. Sr. Lucy Maliekal and Father Toppo have become Ibrahimu's mother and father, and they take care of him in all ways. Ibrahimu is now school age and needs school funding among his many other needs.



Hortencia Cesarito Mouzinho

Gender: Female **Birthdate:** August 23, 2010
Country: Mozambique **Favorite Pastimes:** Playing with other children and listening to music.
Favorite Subjects: Portuguese
Other Remarks: Hortencia's mother supports her two girls, and the family of her bedridden sister on the little income she receives as salary from the workplace. Hortencia is highly intelligent and keeps up with her studies despite the added help that is needed from her extended family. Her father abandoned the family completely.



Omondo Paschal

Gender: Male **Birthdate:** May 7, 2007
Country: Uganda **Favorite Pastimes:** Gardening
Favorite Subjects: Science
Other Remarks: Despite being fatherless, Omondo was fortunate to have student sponsor, Carol Tropple, until last December when she passed away. He has reached Standard V level at Holy Cross Junior School in Osia. It would give him and his mother great peace of mind and joy if you could step in as a sponsor.

To learn more about these children and other children waiting to be sponsored, visit our website at: www.livingwatersinternational.org



Student Sponsorship

\$30 a month provides help for:

- Tuition
- Books
- School Supplies
- School Uniforms
- Shelter
- Food
- Health Care

Payments can be made:

- Monthly..... \$30
- Quarterly \$90
- Semi-annually. \$180
- Annually \$360

100% of your tax-deductible donation goes directly to your child's sponsorship.



Rest in Peace 

Last December LWI learned that Carol Tropple, Antigo, WI, had fallen ill and passed away in her home. Hers' was a life of service beginning as a medic nurse in the US Army for three years, and then as a nurse here in our community for 33 years.

She was a long-time student sponsor and perennial volunteer for our summer fundraisers; she always came early and stayed late. So much good came about for her student Omondo in Uganda, as well as other poor children from East Africa. She will be sadly missed by all. Together with Jesus we can say, **"Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord."** (MT 25:21).

Eternal rest grant unto her O' Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace, Amen.

