

# Uganda Girls Project



**St. Mary by the Sea Parish, Rockaway Beach, Oregon**

## **An urgent message from St. Mary by the Sea . . . Uganda Team. . . June 10, 2021**

As many of you probably already know, because of a recent uptick of Covid cases in Uganda, the president of Uganda has ordered all schools to be closed for 42 days! This includes all boarding schools! This morning Catherine spoke with Sr. Immaculate by phone. She has been focused on getting her girls safely home these past few days. Buses have been crowded and travel expenses have tripled due to supply and demand.

One student paid the driver what was the usual amount, but when she was part way home the driver told her she had used up all her paid money and made her get off the bus. The girl's parents called the school wondering why she did not show up at the expected time. Much later she arrived home as another bus driver took pity on her and let her stand on the edge of his bus. She still had a long way to go but safely made it home!

When Sister realized how much it would cost for a group of her girls who live in another area of Uganda to travel home, she had the school driver take the school van, pile in all those girls with their luggage and drive them to their village as that was so much cheaper. ( Thank you to those who enabled sister to buy new van tires last fall! )

Many other students who needed help with travel money were helped. Fortunately Sister Immaculate had our tuition scholarship money she had been saving for the next term and needed to use some of that money to get the girls home. I told Sr. Immaculate we were happy to help and there was more scholarship money coming from our quilt raffles and from some recent generous donations. **Wow, does God ever provide!**

Sister also mentioned that she sent dried beans home with students who she knew would need it or if someone asked for a little to take.

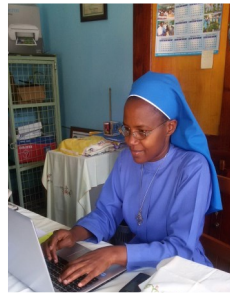
This current lock down is for 42 days, but we remember that last year, schools were closed for six months! As the economy is already struggling, Sister said that as it was the last time, many girls will come back hungry and skinny. She said she lectured them all on wearing masks and staying safe, and they prayed to God for help.

## **FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE. . . .**

**Dear Friends!**

I wish I could keep all my girls here but the Government officials have closed down all schools again in Uganda because of Covid! We were told to send students back to their home this week! It is very disturbing to all of us but must follow the directives. I am remaining with few girls here who consider this as their home plus my orphan daughters. We pray that God keeps all of my girls safe.

You have asked about Covid vaccines in Uganda. I have not heard of them being available anywhere here!



**Thanks to you all for your support!!!**

**Sister Immaculate, Principal**

## **Preparing to leave school**





**One of the dorms with the mosquito netting we helped to purchase for the girls.**



**More from the team . . . We will keep you updated about the situation in Uganda and St. Aloysius as we know more. Please keep the entire country of Uganda in your prayers.**

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**Last week, before the news of the shut-down, Sr. Immaculate had written that she too had been sick for about 5 days with a recurrence of malaria. She has occasionally struggled with it since she was a child. She said she recuperated quickly by taking the traditional medicine which is pounding aloe vera leaves into a juice and drinking it frequently.**

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**Thank you friends! WeeBale!!**



**Teachers preparing to leave campus**

**Thank you for your very generous donations! Sister appreciates all you have done for her girls. Future donation checks should be made out to St. Mary by the Sea Church and mailed to:**

**St. Mary by the Sea  
ATTN: Catherine Imbrie  
P.O Box 390  
Rockaway Beach, OR 97136**

**On the 15th of each month, checks will be deposited into the account for Sr Immaculate, then wired to Uganda. She will use the money to buy food for the girls, pay teachers and continue building projects. Forty dollars sent each month can keep a girl in school ! It costs \$450 a year for tuition, room, board and uniform.**