

Uganda Girls Project



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

A message from St. Mary by the Sea. . . . Uganda Team. . . February 21, 2021

We send you news from St. Aloysius when we receive it. I have recently received from Sister Immaculate four WhatsApp texts over the course of five days on various topics which make up the "From the Principal's Office" As you can tell from reading it, there are a lot of issues in Uganda these days that are on sister's mind. She does her best to send information and pictures so we can keep everyone, who takes an interest in St. Aloysius, updated on their activities. Lately Seminarian John Paul has been helping with pictures this has enabled us to all stay better informed.

I have asked Sister Immaculate to send us more details of their needs and expenses to give us a better idea of how she is managing to meet their financial needs during these stressful times. When we are able to have our next Steering Committee meeting, I hope to have that information from Sr. Immaculate to share. **All are welcome to join this meeting.** We hope it will be in March, but no date has been set yet. Thanks to all of you for your support of St. Aloysius! Blessings, Catherine

Studying on the lawn of our campus



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE. . . .

Dear Friends!

So far the virus has not affected us much here at our school. We try our best to ensure we are all safe, clean, and get enough food to keep healthy. Our hand washing stations are very popular, but they do use a lot of extra water everyday.

In 2020 you have generously donated and we are indeed very grateful. Teachers are more appreciative than ever for your consistent help with scholarships which help pay their salaries. Whenever the staff gets their monthly pay, they send me a thank you message right away or come into the office to thank me for their paycheck! They know how fragile our school is and tell me, "Sister, please send our message of appreciation to our friends who are supporting our school and helping to pay us." Another said, "We are indeed blessed to have those donors caring for us." Teachers and all the staff know how much you have helped with our tuition needs every month and how you support our school. They know they would not have jobs without your help, so



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You might not have heard, but we are suffering here, because of election day unrest. Food supplies like rice, white flour, sugar, cooking oil and other essential commodities have become much more costly and the financial situation for the common family is terrible. We don't have peace in our country, and I fear it is becoming more unstable here.

Also these days we have no rain, and no piped water from the city so we have to keep pumping from the swamp. **Thank you for the great water pump from so many years now that you gave us. It has served us well.** Lately our pump has been getting mechanical problems and we have made several repairs. I pray it does not die on us.

We are in great need to add more water holding containers so that when it rains a lot, we can collect as much of that water to store as we can. Thank you for the recent extra money to help buy another water storage tank for us.

With deep gratitude

Sister Immaculate, Principal

Cabrina, a young student who helps with our growing chickens which we sell to raise money.



This is Dorothy who has been on a partial scholarship from you for four years. She has done well in her classes but did not return to school after Christmas vacation. I heard that she was not returning because her family could no longer afford their share of the tuition. I sent word to her to please come back. With the help and generosity of the tuition money you have been sending, we were able to give her extra scholarship money to allow her to prepare and take her government test to get her "O" level diploma (Ordinary Diploma). She returned and she thanks you for helping her to take her test and get her degree showing she has finished S4 (10th grade). This is a big achievement in her family!

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.