

Uganda Girls Project



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

A message from St. Mary by the Sea. . . .

Uganda Team. . . January 20, 2022

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/01/10/world/africa/uganda-schools-reopen.html>

We hope everyone was able to read the above article as it contains information that Sister Immaculate had been worried about during the prolonged lockdowns in Uganda. The main points are:

****Up to one-third of all students may not return to school!** One non-profit exec said, "We may have lost a generation." Remember, high school education in Uganda is NOT compulsory and tuition is charged in all schools beyond 6th grade. Many parents will struggle to pay tuition in this weak economy.

**** Many teachers will not return to the profession and have moved to other jobs because they were not paid during lockdown** (remote learning in Uganda was basically non-existent).

**** Over 3500 grade schools and over 800 high schools will likely close permanently,** according to the government.

Because of your support, St. Aloysius is one of the schools that has reopened on time! Thank you! During lockdown, teachers were paid some of their salary and the buildings at St. Aloysius were improved upon. Thank you! St. Aloysius is still able to offer scholarships to students in need. Thank you!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE. . . .

Monday, January 17, 2022

Hello friends . . . greetings from St Aloysius Bwanda,

It's a new week and the girls are reporting back to school! We have organized a tent outside the school gate that the teachers will use to welcome and register our learners. Tomorrow (Tuesday) we hope to have a teacher and student talk from which each side will be sharing their experience during the lock down.



Wednesday, the teachers will have their retreat and students will receive a motivational talk.

Thursday, the teachers will be attending a workshop concerning the new curriculum for lower secondary as the students start their retreat which will end on Saturday at 1pm.

The girls are happy to be back to school after a long period of lock down. The teachers too are happy to meet their learners after that long forced holiday.

These activities are intended to prepare our girls and teachers for their academic task as they begin classes next week. At the same time we are still receiving children back as most parents are still struggling to look for the requirements of their children to come back to school. Many have returned and currently the enrollment is 477!

I take this opportunity to thank you all for your generous contribution towards the academic success of our children.

May God bless you.

Sister Maria Theresa

Finally!

We will welcome about 477 girls back to school by the end of next week!

Thank you! Weebale!





An update on Sr. Immaculate

Sister has arrived in Boston where she will be getting an MBA at Endicott College after receiving a fully paid scholarship from the school! Part of the agreement for this scholarship is that she also teaches biology part time at Austin Prep High School. It was Austin Prep that even paid for sister's airfare to Boston from Uganda as the Daughters of Mary did not have the money to pay for her flight. She says she misses her girls and is very cold but must do what her superiors command her to do. She thanks us all for so many years of support and knows that Sr Maria Theresa will continue with the school's scholarships and careful use of money as has been setup. She prays that we will still continue to support the scholarships for her needy daughters at St. Aloysius.



Teacher Joseph



A letter from Teacher Joseph

Dear esteemed friends of St. Aloysius Sec. Sch. Bwanda,

I humbly request that you kindly receive our warm greetings of love from the community of St Aloysius. We thank God who has kept you alive, and we continue to pray for your good health and success in all you do.

We write to you with heart felt joy to say a big thank you for the endless loving help you have given to our school and our entire community as a whole. Thank you very much and may God bless you.

Our school is now one of the most beautiful and modern schools in our region because you continued to help through the pandemic. Most of all we, the teachers and staff, thank you for funding our livelihood. Sister told us that she was able to help us with some pay only because of your good help so we must thank you so much once again.

We conclude by promising you our recommitment, prayers and love to serving the students of St. Aloysius.

God bless you so much our dear friends,

On behalf of all the staff members.. . . .

Teacher Joseph

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 Maria Theresa, 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.