



Mission Circle Advocate

100% of the money we raise goes directly to Mission Parishes:
www.saintagnesmissioncircle.org
June 2011 - Please Support your Mission Circle
Next Breakfast Buffet – Sunday June 26, 2011, After 8 am Mass

From Sr. Nalini in Botswana
Dear Mission Circle:

Thanks for the donations you have been sending to Kentucky and from there we have been receiving it. As you know that it is a year since we have opened the Pabelong hospice (translated: Place of Love and Care) for the care of the very seriously ill patients. Almost all the patients are HIV/AIDS patients and a few of them are with cancer. It is a ten bedded hospice with admitting facility and it is the first one in the country. All our patients are destitutes, when they are discharged we usually give them food items to sustain them for a while otherwise they will die very fast, because when they reach home they will have no food.

The past one year has been a year of challenge (to start the hospice, to create all the policies from nowhere) By the grace of God we have got the license to practice for 5 years. Since there is no hospice or nursing homes in the country the Government had a hard time to figure out what a hospice is and finally they approved it as a private hospital, so we had to submit all the polices for a hospital and all the facilities also they expected us to have like a hospital.



Sister Pat, SCN, prays with the homebound in Kanye village

By the grace of God I am keeping fine. I am a bit cautious working with the patients in the hospice because most of the patients have TB and if I get I cannot take medication due to my liver. I got a needle prick with an infected needle and I had to take anti retroviral medications for a month and it was terrible. By the end of May I will know if I contracted the disease or not. So keep me in your prayers.

Besides the hospice we do work with the 40 orphans and vulnerable children in Mmopane village. We run a pre-school for them, with the special emphasis on medication and nutrition. many of the children are HIV positive and are on medication.

In another village called Gakuto we have KIDS club for school going children, 185 children participate in this programme. Gakuto is a remote and a very poor village, which has two standpipes for water, and has no electricity. This village has a primary school with 350 children. I really like this village and want to plant trees in every yard, the children are ready for it, but this year we got only 5 rains as a result we could not plant trees. May be if we get rains then the next year we will plant trees.

My dear friends, I remember each of you so much and miss you a lot. I thank you for your love and support which has kept our work going. May the Good Lord bless each one of you and all the mission circle members. Please give a big hug to all the mission circle members.

love, Nalini

For more information and photos from Sister Nalini's Botswana Mission & Hospice:
www.scnfamily.org (click Botswana)
SCN - Sisters of Charity of Nazareth

Upcoming Buffet Breakfasts July 10, August 14

Dear Parishioners and Supporters:

Thanks for reading this edition of "The Advocate"...the voice of St. Agnes Mission Circle. The first Circle of parishioners met in 1978 to aid missionary friends of the then pastor, Fr. Fox. When Fr. Mel Collier came to St. Agnes he recommended his missionary friends with whom he worked in Botswana and South America.

Fr. Mel's brother, Conall Collier served in Rusape, Zimbabwe. Father Owen Kudumba, O. Carm., is the current missionary there.

From Zimbabwe

In my last correspondence I mentioned to you that we were hoping to have a new church blessed at one of our out-parishes. Well this was finally done by our local bishop on the 28 of May. The following day we had 175 Confirmations at the Mission. Both occasions went very well. I took some photographs but I am failing to transfer them onto the Laptop. For some reason the computer is failing to read what is on the digital camera. I will try to get some assistance and send the photographs to you.

Please pass my regards to all the members of the Circle.

God bless,
Fr. O. N. Kudumba O. Carm

Mission Circle Members

Charles & Alnora Bishop
Chuck & Joyce Ellison
Paul & Kathy Grimes
Mary Ellen Seaver & David Wade
Virginia Paul, Anita Simmons
Mary Toomey, Ginny Biewer
Mary Aldous, Lee Collins
Dottie Dring, Izzie Skidmore
Conrad/Cheryl/Hannah/David Olson

Saint Agnes Mission Circle

African Missions

St. Christopher's Catholic Church - Kakata, Liberia
 Rev. Father Peter Paase - Missionaries of St. Paul
 Type of Mission: Parish & School - Year Support Began: 2010
 Mary Ellen Seaver (Mission Circle) served in Liberia with the Peace Corps in 2009/10 and attended this church. Rev. Paase's mission serves parish of 500+.

Kriste Mambo Mission - Rusape, Zimbabwe
 Rev. Owen Kudumba - Order of the Carmelites
 Type of Mission: Parish & School - Year Support Began: 1979
 Our first mission. Fr. Conall Collier, Fr. Mel Collier's brother served in Zimbabwe from 1958 to 2007. Mission boarding school for 500 students.

HIV/AIDS Mission and Hospice - Game City, and Gaborone, Botswana
 Sister Nalini Meachariyil - Sisters of Charity
 Type of Mission: HIV/AIDS Mission/Hospice - Year Support Began: 1979
 In Botswana, Fr. Brendan Butler was adopted by St. Agnes until his death in 2005. Sr. Nalini, who visited St. Agnes in 2008. Fr. Butler referred us to her.
 See: www.scnfamily.org.



South American Missions



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish - Jamundí, Colombia
 Fr. Luis Alfonso Segura - Missionaries of the Sacred Heart
 Type of Mission: Seminary, Parish work and school
 Year Support Began: 1979
 See: www.colombiamsc.org (in Spanish)

Asuncion, Paraguay
 Rev. James Feehan
 Made a mission appeal here while Fr. Mel Collier was pastor (they served together in Paraguay from 1967-1971).
 Type of Mission: Parish

Philippines and Asian Missions

Loaoc, Pangasinan, Philippines,
 Fr. Alvin Platon, O.P. Order of Dominicans
 Type of Mission: Holy Cross Parish & School - Year Support Began: 2009
 Fr. Alvin assisted Fr. Mel Collier here at St. Agnes in 2007 and made an appeal for his new parish in rural Luzon Island. Fr. Alvin is a young priest who hosted the Archdiocese of Lingayan-Dagupan youth day 2009. See: www.lingayan-dagupan.org about the Catholic church on Luzon, Philippines.



South Dakota, U. S. A. Mission



St. Agnes Mission Parish, Manderson, S. Dakota
 Father Phil Cooke - Jesuit Fathers and Brothers
 Type of Mission: Parish and School - Year Support Began 1978
 Ruth Cummings and Roberta Spencer spoke at all masses here October 2009 grateful for our years of support for the poor on their Lakota Sioux Indian Reservation. Both women are helping the young people in their isolated lands find a spiritual base. Fr. Cooke says mass at 3 small mission churches on the reservation.