

P.O. Box 6339,
Kampala, Uganda.

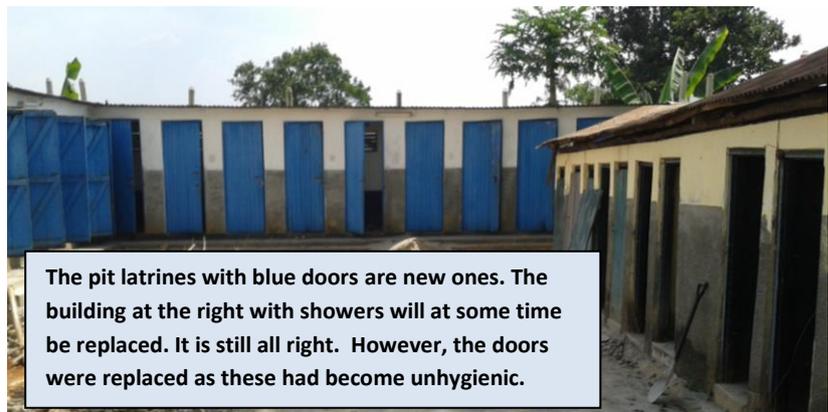
November 26th, 2014.

Dear friends, parishioners of St. Gerard's, Bowen Island.

Greetings to each one. The wonderful season of Advent is at our door. Advent is the time of longing and desire for the coming of God into our lives and yet, in many ways, God is already here. All we have to do is to look around and see. I see the presence of our God in the goodness of so many people. And here I would love to express my gratitude to you, parishioners of St. Gerard's, for your support of our mission in Uganda and Kenya.

Thanks to the generosity of members of St. Gerard's, who prefer to remain anonymous (if I understand correctly), we have been able to undertake a much needed renovation of the sanitation facilities on the campus of Kalungu Girls' Secondary School, Masaka, Uganda.

In first world countries, we can take for granted the excellent sanitation facilities we have but it is not this way for most of the world. Some of the pit latrines and showers in our school in Kalungu needed to be demolished and were; new ones were built.



On another note, I would like to share with you some stories and pictures of the work of our Sisters with children in Chekalini, Kenya, children who have disabilities. Amos is 19 years old and one of the first pupils in St. Madeleine Sophie Home and over the years he has learnt many vocational skills. He is so talented with his hands and now he makes things like rosaries, necklaces and bangles of different colors, shapes and types. I find him very active and positive in life. His family gives nothing to the school but his creativity and hard work has helped the school to get some income which we use for buying his requirements.

Kevin is 20 and hemiplegic. He hops and it is painful seeing him hop and hop as he does his daily activities. When Sr. Becky visited Ireland recently, she took some photos with her and a child, in a



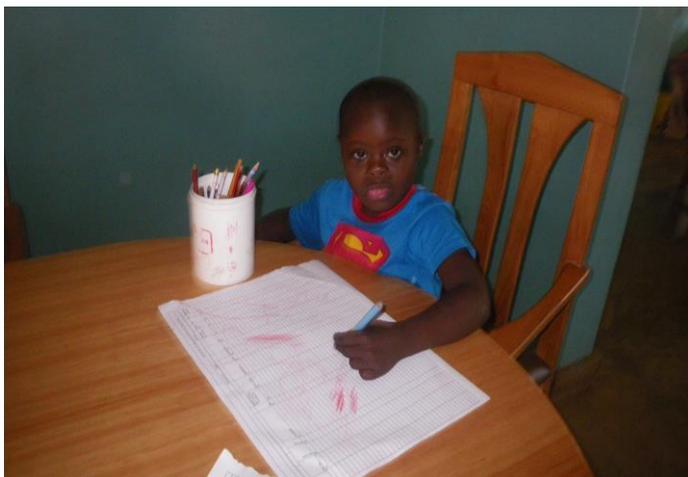
class she spoke with, asked why one child was seated on the floor while others were standing in the picture. So she explained. This became a blessing for Kevin because the children in that class plus the teachers all became interested in helping Kevin which they did. Today Kevin is happily moving around with his wheelchair which came as a donation.



Sharon is 12 and hears but can't speak. She makes a lot of noise and dances beautifully to different tunes as music is played either on TV or Radio. She laughs her heart out. On Sundays in church as the liturgical dancers go dancing she gets up and begins dancing too.

She comes from a very poor family and nobody at home bothers about her. As a result she is not well clothed and stays in one dress for weeks but at St. Madeleine Sophie Home we try to take care of her needs.

Sister Becky Loukae (in white striped blouse) with members of staff and children of St. Madeleine Sophie Home, Chekalini, Kenya.



Our foundress, St. Madeleine Sophie, said, "For the sake of one child, I would have founded the Society of the Sacred Heart".

With love and gratitude,

Sr. Jo, rscj

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