

NEWSLETTER
Matamba Catholic Parish
P. O. Box 144
Chimala-Mbeya; Tanzania.
E-Mail: fraugustmbiche@yahoo.com

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Dear Friends and Family,

The King will answer: **“I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me”.** (Matt: 25:40).

Again, I want to THANK my friends in America for helping me in supporting the orphan children in the Matamba Parish. We believe that there are over 3,500 orphans in the Matamba Parish. Up to today over 2,500 orphans have been helped in various small ways with much yet to be done.



The above 5 orphans are now attending St. Monica's Primary School. No one is paying for their school fees or uniforms. When students don't have uniforms they are not recognized in the community, therefore, the community would not know that they should be in school. In order for them to get fed, they must come to school.

This firewood will be used for fuel to cook food at the school. This amount of fuel cost approximately \$100 and will last about two months.



Corn storage at St. Monica's



Bean storage at St. Monica's

The corn & beans are the food for the children at both the Kindergarten and Primary Schools.

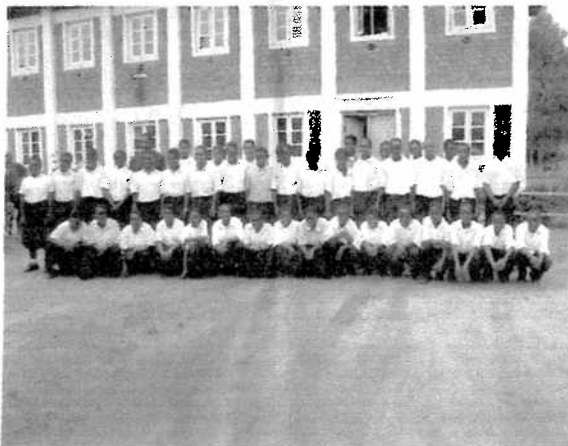


The school administration has decided that 15 Kindergarten orphan children will be allowed to attend school which means that they will get fed every day that they are at school. On the left is Martin Haule, head teacher. Lydia Sanga, shown on the right, is the head cook at the school.



Here are the 5 Primary School orphan children who are allowed to attend and get fed at St. Monica's with head teacher, Martin Haule.

The school administration would like to be able to support 45 orphan children at school; however, more money will be needed to support this plan.



These are Itamba Secondary School students (in Matamba Parish) who are being sponsored by people from the United States. These orphan students are very, very happy to have this opportunity. Thanks to the people in the U.S. they have received, not only their student tuition fees, but uniforms have been made for them as well.



Benedict Mwageni, The Division Secretary of the Matamba Division (a government official) is talking to many of the orphans, government leaders from other villages, orphan guardians, and school teachers. He is telling them how the church is helping them by raising funds from all over the world. Yes, the government is supposed to be helping with orphans in their respective villages, however, there is very little money in these impoverished villages, therefore, the church has come to their aid.

After Mr. Mwageni spoke to these people, food was distributed to these poor people.



The poor people have just received bags of corn from the food distribution. The people who received this food were carefully selected by the village leaders as poor.



Many of these people are poor because they were kind and agreed to take extra children (orphans) into their homes..



The above picture shows more generosity from the people of the U.S. These are orphans from six different villages who have just received shoes.



Parents & guardians were invited this day to visit the new school and see the academic progress of their students. It was a very happy day for them to see that their village has a modern, up-to-date school and that their children or "foster" children are getting a quality education.

After seeing the construction work that has and is being done, a few of them were able to help with some small contributions.



Thanks to many people for their donations to be able to purchase construction materials. Here you can see iron roof sheets, cement, iron reinforcement bars and limestone (used in paint).



The new building that will house 3 classrooms, including a small office. This picture shows the progress of that building. The classrooms will be for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students.



Progress continues on the 3 classrooms.



Here is the new administration office building. These offices will house these officers of the school: Director, Principal, Secretary, Treasurer, 2nd Principal and Academic Master.



The foundation has now been set for the social hall. Most of the time this hall will be used as the dining hall for the students of St. Monica's. This hall will also be an income generator for the Matamba Parish. It is hoped that villagers will rent this hall for weddings, meetings, etc.



The foundation has been set for the girls' dormitory.

A special message from Fr. Augustine Mbiche,
I know that all the progress which you have seen in this newsletter has been possible due to your generosity. I know that you have many responsibilities in your families. Even so, you have decided to sacrifice some of your income for the poor and helpless children in our parish. Really, you have touched my innermost heart. Whatever you do for the poor is always seen by God. God bless you now and always.

Fr. A. Mbiche

Rev. Fr. Augustine Mbiche,
Father in charge for the Orphans and the
Director of St. Monica's Primary School.

