



Saint Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Church



Our ministry is more alive than ever and more importantly, our relationship continues to develop and grow as we reach further into the St. Patrick community. Father Henry Agit has continued what Father Simon Peter started and we have become good friends since we visited in March, 2020. Anytime we have discussed means or ideas of growing together he has initiated action immediately. For instance, the emergency food relief was bid, purchased, and distributed quickly to help those starving.

Water Wells

Our ministry members work diligently to strengthen the St. Max/St. Patrick relationship thru prayer and often, because we know of their needs through prayer, conversations such as water come to the forefront. Recently, we learned that of the eighty outstations/chapels 50 of them have a need for water, and 31 are critically needed. Many of our brothers and sisters walk several miles daily or drink water that may not be clean. Committee member, Mike Gardner, accepted the role to evaluate the water needs and presented more details to the committee. Out of this, a new sub-committee, Physical Needs, has been formed that includes Mike, Paul Groh and Lana Elliott. Since it was first discussed in August, lots of activity has occurred and the Outreach Commission designated the Water Wells project for the 2022 parish Lenten project. More details to follow...



Father Simon Peter

Father's five years at St. Max, and his visa, will conclude at the end of June, 2022. Two of his brothers will visit during his last month here, Fr. Francis Nnaku and Joseph Kajaye. Fr. Francis visited us in 2018 and teaches at the seminary and Joseph is the principal of St. Regina School, which we visited in March, 2020 during our immersion trip. More to come on their visit and his departure.

Drought, Covid, Sickness, Hunger

Your generous donations to the emergency food relief totaled \$37,077 and fed 750 families with an average size of four to eight. Thank you so much for assisting our brothers and sisters in their hopelessness and hunger! We received many pictures and videos of them expressing their joy!



The fall harvest will go into January and early signs indicate spotty rain will allow some harvesting. They very much needed our help thru now and we have received so many positive responses. Your donations saved lives!

St. Patrick's Holy Angels School (Grades 7-11)

We have been actively supporting this school for those without the ability to pay for education. Founded by Fr. Simon Peter, he desired to help children that were less fortunate. St. Max has improved the children's opportunities by funding the construction of both a girls' dorm and a boys' dorm since the children often walk several miles to school. These dorms were named after Fr. Simon Peter Wankya and St. Maximilian Kolbe. We also answered the call and need for a science building since the school space did not meet Ugandan requirements. This structure, as well as the dorms, enhanced the school, including enrollment. Fees are \$300 per year and less expensive than other nearby Catholic schools. Many of the children are Catechists' children and it is common that children stop attending due to the lack of financial ability. Fr. Henry has asked to consider supporting 50 of these children. A sub-committee has been formed to evaluate this request. Bruce Murphy, Jen Klenke, and Nancy Prince are serving on this sub-committee.





From Holy Angels Head Teacher - Emmanuel:

"It is not unusual for intelligent children to drop out of school due to financial constraints and I wish there were more I could do to help better their lives. But through this sponsorship, I believe it will help bridge the knowledge gap which is the major cause of continuous poverty. This will also be an opportunity to create ambassadors who will help share the message of our Christian faith across all the parishes and villages because we will have created a bond and a foundation for those who will come back and sustain the institution we have built together."



Pen Pal Update

Connie Spotts presented a wonderful witness at all Masses and 23 new families signed up to be a pen pal. Thank you, Connie!! We have learned that managing the pen pals is particularly important in order to continue the relationships and to replace those who have moved out of town or are unable to keep their commitment. If you can recommend a family or anyone who may be interested in becoming a pen pal, contact Connie at Connie.Spotts@fuse.net.

Our letters sent in October were received and Father Henry reports their return letters should arrive before Christmas.



St. Max Immersion Trip

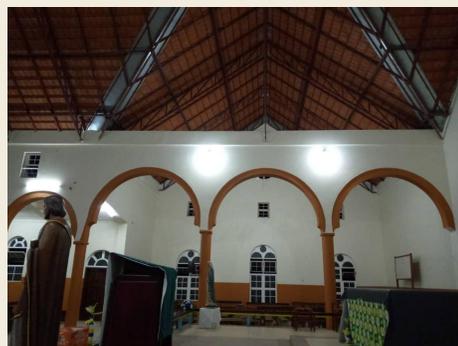
We have good news! St. Patrick's Pastor, Fr. Henry Agit, and Twinning members David Okwii and Stephen Kisembo, will be visiting us in May 2022. Details are not worked out at this time, and we ask that you pray we are able to make this happen. St. Max will plan a parish trip in 2023.

Golf Outing

Our third annual St. Max golf outing was the most successful to date with an early sell-out and profits of \$3625 deposited to the Twinning Ministry account of which 100% of the proceeds benefit St. Patrick's Church, Soroti, Uganda.

St. Patrick's Church

One of the requests by Fr. Henry was to help him complete several important items in their church which has been developing for many years. Getting to the point of needing electricity, lighting, and a sound system is quite exciting. The Twinning Ministry voted unanimously to approve funding the installation of the electricity and lighting and the project is now completed. When we visited in March 2020 these and the sound system were lacking. Its progress has made the church like a cathedral which Bishop Eciru has begun using for important gatherings due to its size.



Donate

Our ministry operates without any funding from the St. Max budget and solely relies on donations. Several parishioners have committed to a reoccurring weekly or monthly donation to Twinning Ministry via Faith Direct. Just visit www.saint-max.org/Twinning and click the red donate now button to get started. It's simple and only takes minutes. You can also make a one-time donation there! All donations and checks made to St. Max Twinning Ministry are 100% for St. Patrick's Church Madera Soroti, Uganda.

Twinning Ministry Leadership

(including representatives from Finance Council, Staff & Parochial Vicar)

Mission Ministry – Fr. Simon Peter, Fr. Henry Agit & Deacon John Back
Mission Trip Ministry – Kyle Schafer, Deacon John Back & Lakmé Kodros
Family Connections/Pen Pal Ministry – Connie Spotts, Carol Klinker & Maureen Normoyle
Prayer Ministry – Deacon John Back
Events Planning Ministry Paul Groh & Mike Gardner
Communication Ministry – Dan & Mary Jo Suer
Appreciation Ministry – Lana Elliott
Education Ministry – Bruce Murphy, Jen Klenke & Nancy Prince
Connecting Catechist Families – All
Charity/Resources Ministry – Kyle Schafer
Physical Needs Ministry – Mike Gardner

Thank You!

Words will not express how thankful we are for your kindness and generosity to the Twinning Ministry and, more importantly, to St. Patrick's Church Madera Soroti, Uganda. Our prayers are essential in the growing relationship with our brothers and sisters at St. Patrick's!

May God bless each of you mightily,
Dan Suer
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