



Charles Ewoka - Catechist

I was inspired to work as a catechist right from the time of my catechumenate class, moved to the level of church choir up to the level of standing at the altar of God to do the service of God.

My experience in the service of God, I really enjoy leading church service, visiting and praying for the sick, sharing with the youth about the love of God and the challenges of life as they grow for future challenges in their lives.

My challenges in doing God's work is the distances and sometimes the sick who need material support which I also sometimes don't have yet I feel like doing it.

I kindly ask you for your prayers for this hard task of serving the people of God in this challenging world of diseases, sickness and many diseases.

I look forward to hearing from you my dear friends whom I love so much.

Wishing you good wishes

Thanks

Bro Charles Ewoka

St. Patrick's Madera-Soroti Diocese-Uganda



Prayers Requested

The overall status of living for the basic needs of life continues to be a major challenge after suffering from Covid, drought, and schools being closed for two years. Continue to pray for our brothers and sisters and know that our prayers and actions provide them with hope which is not prevalent in their community.

Water Well - Parish Lenten Project

On behalf of St. Max and the Twinning Ministry, our heartfelt THANK YOU for your generosity and for helping our parish achieve the goal of funding 34 deep water wells. We made the 1st transfer Friday, April 29th with well-digging beginning Monday, May 9th. Hydrogeological surveys are occurring this week. It is expected to be completed in six weeks and the remaining work another few weeks since finish crews follow digging crews. Memorial recognition will be located both in the St. Patrick Conference Room and each well. These wells will not only make reaching clean water more convenient but also reduce the amount of sickness and child mortality prevalent in Uganda.

Early indications are we will have additional wells but will not be able to communicate the final tally until the end of May. It is overwhelming to witness the generosity at this level from St. Max parishioners. We know this is God's work!!!! Bishop Joseph, Pastor Father Henry Agit, and parish members are quite thrilled with our news. Watch for more...

A Thank You from Bishop Eciru

I have learnt with joy from Fr. Henry of the ongoing fundraising drive among the members of the Twinning Ministry and beyond; especially of the support coming from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati towards the well project at Patrick's and Holy Family parishes.

As the saying goes, "water is life"; you are therefore bringing life to these identified most needy communities. As their shepherd, I want to express in advance our heartfelt appreciation to



each of you for this precious gift. A formal letter of appreciation will be sent when all is done. As of now, I want you to know that we are very excited about this initiative and we are praying for its success. United in prayer and wishing you all a fruitful Lenten season,
+Bishop Joseph Eciru Oliach.

St. Gabriel Consolidated School joined our Water Well Lenten Project with an entire school competition and raised more than \$6000. The homeroom that raised the most received Chik-Fil-A. Thank you St. Gabriel students for your support!!

Pen Pals

As of this writing, St. Max pen pal letters have not arrived at St. Patrick's. We would like to encourage all pen pals to write even if you do not receive a letter. Also, we are always in need of NEW pen pals from St. Max so all St. Patrick catechists and their families receive letters.

Fr. Simon Peter Farewell

Father Simon Peter's five-year r-1 religious visa will conclude in June. He will celebrate all Masses on Saturday, June 18, and Sunday, June 19. The celebration will follow the 4:30 Mass on Saturday, June 18 with an open invitation to all parishioners and an opportunity to greet and thank Father. A formal event held later that evening will require an RSVP. All Sunday Masses will follow with donuts in the gym. More to come...



Visas

The visa requests from the U.S. Embassy in Uganda for Father Henry Agit, Pastor; David Okwii, Twinning catechist representative; and Stephen Kisembo, Diocesan Assistant Secretary of Education were denied. They had planned to visit us in May. While very disappointed, we will try again!

Twinning Ministry Bake Sale and Split the Pot

The bake sale raised \$610.50 for the Twinning Ministry. Two split-the-pots during the fish fry netted \$917 for the water wells. Thanks those who support our ministry in so many ways!!!



Holy Angels College Update

Father Henry and head teacher, Okello Emmanuel, reported with much gratitude and thank yous for our commitment to 49 students' tuition this year. The students' parents are relieved, as well as overjoyed, with this support. The cost of three semesters for all 49 is \$15,000. The 49 students were identified as the most-needy. More information about educational incentives are forthcoming.

Father Simon Peter Planned Departure

Providing everything goes as planned, Father will leave St. Max sometime around June 26. The son of Mike Vanderburgh, Leo, and friend, Andrew, will accompany Father home. They will be evaluating the possibility of converting old water wells to solar and removing hand pumps. Let's pray for them and thank them for taking the time to travel with Fr. Simon Peter. Both Leo and Andrew are college students about to graduate. Mike Vanderburgh and his mother are responsible for answering Fr. Simon Peter's email some years ago, allowing him to come to the U.S. for mission appeals.

St. Max Annual Golf Outing

The annual golf outing, benefitting the Twinning Ministry, will be Friday, June 3 at Walden Ponds. Register as soon as possible, spots fill up fast. More to come...

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!

We close this month with a huge Thank You for being partners in our ministry! We thank God for moving this ministry to support the physically and financially poor, yet joyfully spiritual people, on the other side of the world in Soroti, Uganda, specifically in the remote area of St. Patrick's Church, Madera. May God continue to bless each of you abundantly!

Warm Regards,

Dan Suer

Twinning Ministry Chair

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