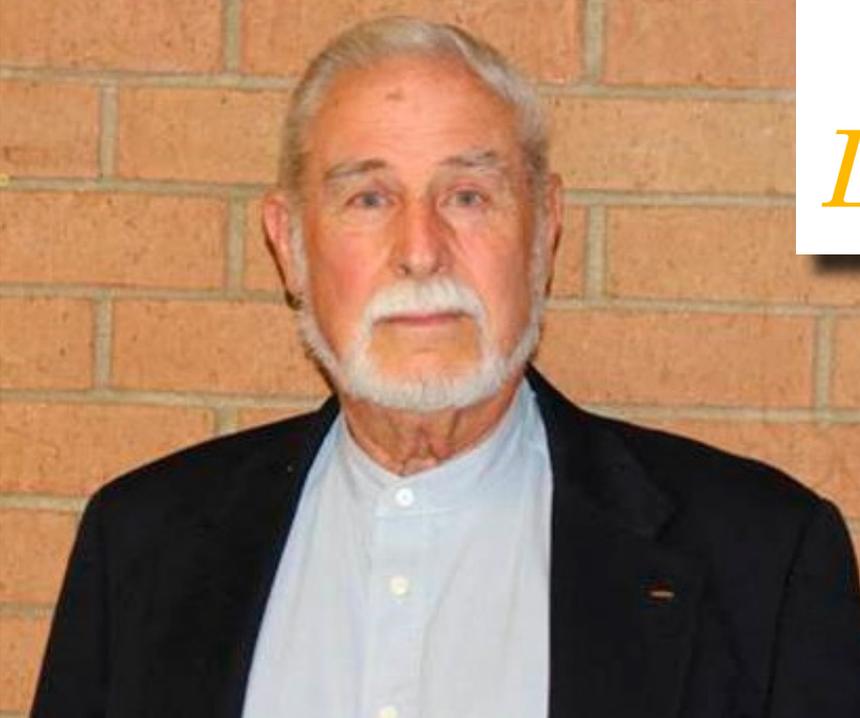




# Lights OF THE World



**Celebrating the good works & dedication of faithful people everywhere**

## Mr. Norbert Roessner

**Philanthropist and friend of Catholic World Mission**

We are proud to count Mr. Norbert Roessner as one of our most loyal donors, serving the needs of our sick and impoverished brothers and sisters in Christ around the world. Thanks to Mr. Roessner, we are in the final stages of construction of a medical clinic in Ywabra, Ghana, where too many people die each year due to lack of basic medical care. His faith and compassion is demonstrated in his support for projects in India and beyond, designed to lift-up communities and lead to self-sufficiency.

We recently caught up with Mr. Roessner or "Rossi", as he likes to be called, to ask him about the driving inspiration for his acts of kindness and charity. His words say it all.

### **Give it to Grace**

**by Norbert Roessner**

Who am I? I am a U.S. citizen who turns on a faucet in Texas and expects a clean, clear, safe glass of water and never thinks twice about it. I drink without worry that there may be parasites in the water that will make me blind, or cause certain death. But such is not the case for so many in the world, most especially kids who trust that big people won't let them be hurt.

Who am I? A father of four children, all of who survived birth and the growing-up years. When there was a cut or injury, antiseptic was only a few steps away to the medicine cabinet. A sterile, white dressing, after all, was only a dollar or two to keep handy. And if that failed, there was always the clinic, fully staffed--just a few minutes'

visit at my convenience. But such is not the case for so many Moms or Dads crouched over their child on a dirt floor, for whom all of the above is just an anguished wish.

Want to change it? I can. You can. We don't have to get a passport and a plane ticket-- hire a Land-Rover and a tour guide; and only then look for the supplies to fill the need. Catholic World Mission has offered to be our stand-ins. Through their partnerships, they're already at the side of the sick beds, ministering in our place to bring comfort and sometimes, life, to those for whom Hope is just an English word.

Caring has the stupendous power to heal; the dollar we send is the vehicle of miracles. Sent from here, it loses little on the way, just enough for the necessities of the caregivers who bring your kindness to the side of the abandoned. In the words of St. Teresa: "We are the hands that God uses to show His love and compassion for the suffering and in the process increases in us the fullness of the Christ so that we will radiate His fragrance to those in need."

There is a miracle in each one of us, waiting to be set loose. All it takes is to let go of a small part of ourselves and give it to Grace, that it will fall on parched ground and bring relief to His own.

**You are the light of the world ... your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.**

**Mt. 5: 14-16**

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**Catholic World Mission honors Mr. Roessner and all those who use their gifts to be a Light of the World.**