



# the Vineyard

Dear Friends in Christ,

We cannot thank you enough for being part of the Catholic World Mission family. With your continued generosity and support we expanded to more countries to help alleviate physical, material, and spiritual suffering. Because of tremendous needs from so many of our brothers and sisters in Christ we expanded one of our four pillars of work from Medical Missions to Dignified Living. We have responded to the call of the Catholic Church to perform corporal works of mercy which include not only medicines and medical care but also providing proper shelter to the homeless, clothing to the naked, food for the hungry, and safe, clean, and accessible drinking water to the thirsty. I invite you to read the many success stories you have made possible in our newly expanded [Dignified Living](#) pillar inside this newsletter.

As successful as the year has been so far I am sure you will agree we need to do more. One of our biggest concerns is the flight of our young people who are striving to belong, to find meaning and purpose in life – in short, to find God in the deepest sense of the word. We feel one of the best avenues to do this is to meet our young where they are – particularly when they are most influenced by forces that may not lead them to discover their full potential with God. To this regard I invite you to read about our initiative at FSU Campus Ministry, and our collaboration with Regnum Christi Mission Corps missionaries. With your support of our [Youth Work](#) we can expand to many college campuses and parishes, to meet and support our young people in their search for direction, which we hope leads them to a deeper relationship with God.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. Overcoming challenges, and celebrating accomplishments in this newsletter is only made possible by your continued trust and generosity.

On behalf of all the people you've help alleviate suffering, and have provided hope – **a giant THANK YOU!**  
We give thanks to God for you and all these blessings.

Yours in Christ,

*Deacon Rick*

DEACON RICK MEDINA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CATHOLIC WORLD MISSION

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Take a look at a few select highlights and accomplishments we've made around the world with your help.





# Providing Dignified Living conditions

Through our Dignified Living pillar we have responded to the call of the Catholic Church to perform Corporal Works of Mercy for our brothers and sisters in Christ all over the world through: feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless, and visiting the sick. Responding to Christ's call in Mt. 25:34-40.

## Water... not so basic for many

### Enchi, Ghana 2nd water well completed, 3rd one on its way

Four villages around Enchi in the western part of Ghana need accessible and clean drinking water. Most of the population of 8,000 people get their source of water from polluted rivers or underground wells not deep enough to provide clean water for drinking.

The second water supply system to be used by 1,000 students and staff of Nana Brentu Senior High School has been completed!

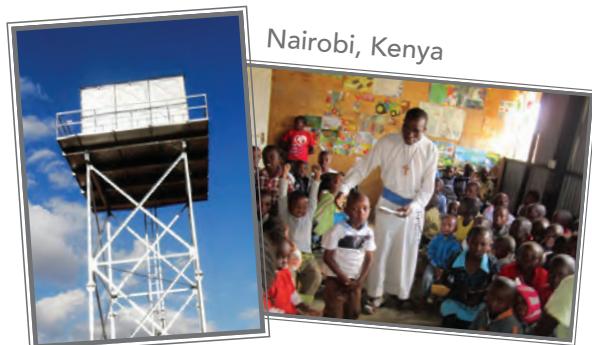
The water well will bring great relief to the community:

- People will have good drinking water.
- It will help mothers and their children who walk for miles in search of water.
- School children from the villages can come to school on time instead of spending hours in search of water.
- Water-borne diseases such as malaria, bilharzia, and river blindness are expected to be reduced dramatically.



Enchi, Ghana

**Construction of a 3rd water supply system is on its way!! Won't you help us provide a 4th water well for villages that serves 1,500 – 2,000 people each?**



Nairobi, Kenya

### Nairobi, Kenya Water tower up and running

With a new water tower the entire community that was once dying from lack of food and water to drink because of drought is now thriving. With clean water available, the village has also started raising crops and livestock. A soup kitchen for the poor, and a medical dispensary for the sick are now realities. Thanks to you school children no longer have to worry about clean drinking water.



# to people around the world..

## Ndekesha Orphanage, Congo Food and medicines for orphans

Food and medicines are now being provided monthly to malnourished orphans living in a war-damaged building.

Two babies found abandoned are now in the care of the Sisters of the Friends of Christ!

**We will be rebuilding the orphanage soon to provide a safe and decent place for children to live. We still need assistance to furnish the orphanage with basic things such as beds, cribs, kitchen tables, etc. There are currently only two beds with 5 children sleeping per bed – the rest sleep on the floor.**

Ndekesha Orphanage, Congo



A place to eat in India and Ghana



## India and Ghana Rain or shine – a place to eat

School children now have a covered dining facility to eat their meals. In Ghana and India, children eat outside in the fields amidst all the elements (rain, dust, hot sun). *Now they have a decent place to eat, and a solar-powered kitchen too!*

Veluganv, India



Medical Supplies

## India and Philippines Reliable Transportation

Thanks to your generosity Father Pravin and the children of Veluganv received a brand new jeep last year!

*P.S. It was blessed by Archbishop Ferrão during his visit.*

**Help us provide reliable transportation to Fr. Fernandez and the children in Khanwel, India which will take them to the nearest hospital when needed, and purchase food and medicines to be delivered with this brand new jeep.**

The process to procure a van for the Sisters and the children at the Queen of Peace Orphanage in the Philippines is underway. The van will greatly improve the quality of life of the children at the day care and orphanage. It will secure their ability to get food daily, and go to the hospital when there is an emergency instead of relying on public transportation.

## Medical supplies where needed most

Much needed medicines, hospital beds, and other supplies sent to hospitals in **Nigeria, Philippines, Ghana, Guatemala, and Honduras.** \$14 million dollars of supplies distributed so far to help poor people affected by disasters such as typhoons and the Ebola crisis.



# Recent Successes



Mano Amiga

## More Scholarships, More Schools around the world

In the past 6 months we gave out an additional 170 teacher and student scholarships, and provided funding for additional classroom constructions to two more schools (Mexico and Philippines) within our Mano Amiga school system.

*Recipients of scholarships included Mano Amiga schools in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and the Philippines.*

Additionally, we helped rebuild schools and provided desks, chairs, and school supplies to non-Mano Amiga schools in the Philippines, Nigeria, Ghana, and Costa Rica.



Yonkers, New York

## Yonkers, NY Food pantry completed!

Fr. José Félix, LC runs St. Peter's Catholic Parish located in a very low-income area bordering the Bronx in Yonkers, NY. As part of their way to help the community they operate a food pantry which distributes bags of food to 300 needy families every week.

## Southern India Little Way Messengers Seminary has opened its doors for first group of seminarians.

## Costa Rica Church, School and Gymnasium nearly complete

Courtesy of a very generous donor this expansive program is nearly complete. The parish of "Nuestra Señora de los Angeles" (Our Lady of The Angels) serves about 7,500 people under the pastoral care of Father Ricardo Libero.

## Tarecuato, Mexico Beds for Evangelization Program

The Gospel of Peace is in full swing. 100 participants attended year-long training to spread the message of Christ and combat the message of drug cartels in this small parish in the diocese of Zamora. These participants have passed on what they learned to 1,200 other people in 8 neighboring parishes.

More sessions planned but flea-infested beds needed to be replaced. *Thanks to the generosity of the Vander Poel's 50 beds, a refrigerator, and a washing machine were purchased.*

*Check out the videos of the grateful pastor and local people on our website.*

Costa Rica



Beds for Evangelization Program



# Evangelization – the foundation of all that we are and do

[Changing minds and hearts through Eucharistic Adoration](#) – the 10th monstrance has been distributed in Ghana. [See pictures of monstrance’s given to the dioceses in Ghana on our website.](#)

[Training 93 lay leaders in Goa, India](#) – going strong! Support provided for this two-year program to train the laity to spread teachings of the Catholic Church in 169 parishes in Goa, India.

[Small-Group Faith Formation](#) right here in our backyard! – At St. Peter’s Church in Yonkers, NY small groups as many as 70 are meeting every week to learn more about the faith. Videos and materials, both in English and Spanish, were made available to all participants thanks to the generosity of CWM donors. [Check out the videos on our website.](#)



India



## **Bastora, India** What does a power tiller have to do with Evangelization?

26 seminarians and 5 priests in a seminary in Bastora, India provided with a power tiller to help with farming. These seminarians grow their own crops. Seminarians who become priests from the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales order (MSFS) are sent around the world to serve the people of God.



**Poland** Fr. Matthew Devereux, LC fearlessly leads the way for evangelization efforts in Krakow, Poland. They have been working with the poor and disadvantaged to stir the hearts of so many Catholics who have left the Catholic Church, and inspire a new generation of young people to take charge.



**Fiji** Legion of Christ priests and Regnum Christi members teach Theology of the Body and Natural Family Planning to 33 parishes in the Archdiocese of Suva.



**Regnum Christi Mission Corps** Working through parishes, schools and service organizations, young missionaries touch up to 4,000 people in their time of service.



**Update: ETC (Evangelizadores de Tiempo Completo)**

**They need your support. With shortage of priests we need more and more ETCs to assist priests in areas desperate to hear the word of God. Won't you help us sponsor more ETCs?**



# Launch Into the Deep

**70% of young Catholics will leave the Church after high school and never return.**



We are partnering with the Catholic Student Union (CSU) at Florida State University in forming future leaders in our Catholic faith. CSU has been meeting college students where they are at and inviting them into a relationship with Jesus Christ since 1947. CSU is run by the Brotherhood of Hope, a community of religious brothers, and staff.

CSU hosts and facilitates various events throughout the semester, incorporating St. John Paul II's vision for the "New Evangelization", relational evangelization and discipleship formation and preparing them for the next steps after graduation.



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**Will you help us expand to more college campuses to provide students the opportunity to become immersed in their faith and influence others?**

## Brother Clinton Reed, Brotherhood of Hope

During my 16 years in campus ministry, I can't tell you how many people I've spoken to who seemed to think that after a brief stint away from the Church during college their son, granddaughter, nephew, or goddaughter would return to the practice of their Catholic faith. With great sadness, I can say that this is rarely the case. It might have been true in a different generation, but **the spiritual poverty of most college campuses is so great that the Church is currently hemorrhaging young people** between high school and life as young adults.

**That's the bad news... But I'm here to share a word of hope with you.** My life was deeply and forever changed by a vibrant campus ministry during my college years, and as a Brother now evangelizing college students, I continue to see God's amazing work in winning the hearts of young people to Himself and forming them as leaders for His Church!

Currently, I am the director of the Catholic Student Union at Florida State University, and **it's impossible for me to tell you of the countless lives changed by God's grace here...** but it's happening! College students are entering into a vibrant, life-giving relationship with the Lord and His Church.

Our ministry serves over 450 active students through: dorm evangelization, on-campus Bible studies, Eucharistic adoration, men's and women's groups, praise and worship, and discipleship training - and much more! **We're forming a generation of leaders for the Church who are rooted in an encounter with God's love, just like Pope Francis said.**

**But the need is still so great – there are so many more students we could be reaching.** Please, keep us in your prayers for the continued growth and success of our ministry to bring more young people into an encounter with God's love and to form them as leaders for the Church!



# Mission to Magadan, Russia

In 2000, the Archdiocese of Anchorage, Alaska took a leap of faith and founded a Pro-Life program in Magadan, Russia. Fr. Michael Shields runs the program and often has missionaries come to support and minister to the mothers.

The “Mission to Magadan,” has helped over 46 women give birth to 52 children and helped them from the pregnancy throughout the lives of the moms, and the children.

Not only does this work help save innocent lives, it helps those who come to assist with this work. 4 of the 8 upcoming missionaries are considering a vocation to the priesthood.

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We have 5 more mothers in need of assistance -  
**Won't you help us provide care for more expectant mothers?**

**Will you provide funding to educate and distribute educational materials to promote the sanctity of life?**



## “Praise to Jesus Christ now and forever”

My passion for pro-life ministry was carried with me to Russia. I, Father Michael Shields, have been a priest for 36 years. I am currently the Pastor of The Nativity of Jesus parish in Far East Siberia, Russia in a former prison camp city called Magadan.

We have for over 10 years ministered and encouraged a pro-life work here in Far East Siberia to save babies from abortion. We have a group of young mothers who rejected abortion and now struggle to raise their child. This group of moms receives material and spiritual help from our parish workers and volunteers at monthly meetings. We have healing retreats now as well that are for those women who have had abortions. In Russia it is estimated for every 10 births there are 13 abortions. Many women have had multiple abortions. **This ministry is so precious to us as we see the children year after year grow and realize they are the fruit of the pro-life work. One child saved at a time.**

It is hard to count how many moms and babies we have helped. **But officially in our program we have 46 moms now that have given birth to 52 children.** We have expanded the program in the last few years to help poor families that have a number of children. We expanded our pro-life work to include two other

small centers that are connected to two parish missions one in the village of Ola (46 kilometers from Magadan) and the other in the village of Sokol (56 kilometers from Magadan).



**Our philosophy is we save one child at a time and it is enough. One life and one more mom saved from pain of abortion. We are pro-life, pro-child and pro-mom.**

Here the dignity of each person is respected and honored no matter what their past life has been or present life is. Here in the parish they will find compassion, help, and the truth of a God who loves and forgives and heals. Your support is like one leg of a three legged stool. We would not stand without you. Please keep our Mission to Magadan in your prayers.

**“Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.” John 12:24**

# The Harvest is rich but the laborers are few. *Won't you help us finish the following projects?*

- Assist Bishop Mtumbuka and Father Joseph in **training 15 priests and 30 lay leaders** to help spread the message of Christ in this newly created diocese of Karonga, Malawi, Central Africa.
- **Finish Community Centers** 7 & 8 in tribal villages in the Mission of Daman, India with Father Seby and the Pilar Fathers.
- Answer Bishop George and Father Eugen's plea to **build a school and medical facility** for this small village in Nkar, Cameroon.
- **Fix school's floors and electrical wiring** in Sindoni, India to help 600 high school students achieve their dream of higher education.
- Answer Father Fernandez' plea for a **reliable transportation** for this Christian community of about 2,500 in Khanwel, India.
- Provide **more scholarships to children** in our Mano Amiga schools, particularly in Venezuela and Chile.
- Increase the number of Evangelizers to help **spread the message of Christ** around the world.
- Build a 4th water well in the village of Jensuu, Enchi, Ghana to **help 2,000 children and families have safe drinking water.**
- Expand our Youth Work in the country to **reach out to more future leaders of our faith.**
- Help us alleviate more physical, material, and spiritual sufferings around the world wherever the need is greatest.

🌿 Thank you! 🌿

**Thanks to your generosity** we are now in the process of rebuilding the Ndekesha Orphanage in Luebo, Democratic Republic of Congo.

Thank you for being part of the Catholic World Mission family and for your continued support of our collective mission to alleviate material and spiritual poverty around the world. I wish you continued blessings. As always, we welcome your prayer intentions. The opportunity to unite in prayer with our Catholic World Mission extended family is a grace that we do not take for granted. Please submit your prayer intentions online or give us a call!



God Bless,  
Deacon Rick Medina

