



Corpus Christi Africa Fund (CCAF)

Thanks to your continuing generosity and donations to our 2017 Lent Appeal, we have been able to continue to support both Our Lady of Nazareth Primary School (OLN) in Nairobi, Kenya, and Suubi Children's Home in Entebbe, Uganda.

Our Lady of Nazareth Primary School

£10,000 has again been sent to cover the cost of Uji porridge which will continue to be provided for all pupils for 2018, thus ensuring that this important food supplement is available to the 2,600 children now attending OLN.



Jeremy with the OLN pupils

As well as the 2017 Lent Appeal funds raised, we were able to raise over **£2,180** in December when the South Berkshire Singers performed their Christmas concert at Corpus Christi. Our thanks to them, and all who supported the concert, which we hope to repeat again in 2018.

OLN Update from Jeremy

Because of all the uncertainties in Kenya in 2017 due to the contested elections, Jeremy decided that it was probably right to delay his next visit until 2018. This has been planned for May when Jeremy, his wife Bronwen, fellow parishioners Paul Adams, Geraldine Durrant, and Gill and Graham Powell, will visit Nairobi.

We were very pleased that Brother Joseph Maricky and Martin Otanga one of the senior teachers at OLN were able to visit the UK in 2017. Our thanks to Fr David for hosting our visitors, and to Holme Grange for assisting with their travel arrangements. Both Brother Joseph and Martin had a wonderful time with us, and it was a great opportunity for so many parishioners to meet them face to face, especially at the Parish Family Day at Holme Grange.

Probably the biggest issue for the Marianists is the financing of the Uji porridge which we have assisted with over many years. In 2016 another of the Uji sponsors, PWC, concluded their three-year sponsorship, and the Marianist Order in East Africa had to cover the shortfall of around £6,000. For 2018 the overall cost is approximately £26,000.



Daily Uji sponsored by our Parish

They have one other sponsor from the USA but the shortfall will be about £10,000. Holme Grange School have donated £4,000 from their fund raising towards this but I appeal to you all to help us exceed our target of £10,000. **The cost per child for the 2,600 children is just £11 per year.**

Several Parishioners have made individual donations to the Special Needs Unit, which continues with its development in providing education and care to children with disabilities.



Uji Time!

A number of parishioners have very generously given funds to support some of the former OLN children go on to secondary education. We are very grateful for their support.

As ever, the now 2,600 pupils and their teachers at OLN, together with Brother Joseph and the Marianists are extremely grateful for your generosity. However much you give, little or large, it is all making a huge difference.

Suubi Update from Pat

The children of Suubi will be beginning their new school year this month and they all continue to benefit greatly from - and are incredibly grateful for - your contribution to the cost of their education. We have just sent a cheque for **£9,000** towards the costs for 2018.

Jeremy, who is profoundly deaf, is now a much happier boy since he started at the school for the deaf. The children are very patient with him and he is wonderful with Joel, our child who has possible cerebral palsy.

Jeremy



Some of the money you have donated pays for Rose, a sign language teacher for Jeremy, who also supports with homework and holiday studies.

The children have a variety of ambitions for future careers and are so dedicated to their studies, putting in extra time with tutors during the

holidays. They are all so grateful for the help that you give and appreciate the opportunities being able to go on to further studies at Secondary School or Vocational training. A particular thank you to those providing individual sponsorship for our children at secondary level.



Collins, Enoch, Simon and Christopher with their tutor

Please keep in your prayers one of our housemothers Zubeda who has been with us since the beginning and is currently in poor health.

Thank you for your generosity and we hope that you can continue to support us.

Secondary Education and Parish Support

We continue to receive individual donations from Parishioners and Friends to support children through their Secondary education. The cost is roughly **£2,000 before Gift Aid** for four years at both OLN and Suubi. This does not need to be donated in one amount, and can be paid at the start of each academic year which runs from January. Should you wish to consider this for an OLN or Suubi child, please contact either Jeremy (OLN) or Pat (Suubi). A good education is probably the best chance that young Africans have to escape from poverty.



Suubi's Hellen and Babyire

As you are no doubt aware the value of Sterling has fallen since the June 2016 Referendum. This continues to have a very significant impact on the amount that we need to raise just to keep pace with our previous support

We have been considering our fundraising in 2018, and we would like to continue to assist OLN with the provision of Uji in 2019. We feel that we should be looking at again providing at least **£10,000 but hopefully much more** to cover our contribution to the overall costs. **The actual cost per child to provide Uji for the whole of 2018 remains at just under £11! – a small amount for a huge benefit?**

For Suubi, we need to ensure that we can continue to support the education of the children at the Home. We believe that we should again provide at least **£9,000** to cover the education costs in 2019.

The Africa Fund is run by a small committee. Both Jeremy and Pat have very direct contact with OLN and Suubi, respectively, which means you can be assured that every penny donated is used as intended. We would truly welcome on to the Committee anyone who would like to ensure that this work is able to continue. Thanks to your generosity, in the 13 years that the Corpus Christi Africa Fund has existed, over **£300,000** has been raised. We hope that you will be able to support us this this year to ensure we can continue to make big a difference to these young lives.