

MOST HOLY REDEEMER  
AIDS ORPHANS IN AFRICA MINISTRY  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2007

“Truly, I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Matthew 25: 37-40

### 1. The Project

We have just completed the third year of our ministry, which raises money to pay for the education of children in Bukoba, Tanzania who have been orphaned by the AIDS epidemic which continues to claim a generation of a parents. We work in conjunction with the Sisters of St. Therese in Bukoba who have an extensive program that seeks to provide for the material and spiritual needs of the children of that diocese while maintaining sibling groups intact, usually in the care of grandparents. Our liaison has been Sister Godbertha Muganda, who has just received her doctoral degree in Education from USF. We have been blessed to know and to work with Sister Godbertha. We also maintain a partnership relation with Mary Albach at St. Ignatius High School; Mary and her students have raised tens of thousands of dollars toward the construction of a community center in Bukoba for use by the sisters and the children. Her tireless devotion to the children of Bukoba has been an inspiration to all of us.

### 2. Our Children

This year, we received the names of 15 young people who needed our help. Their names are Gloria Adolph, Gaudin Mwombkei, Maxcencia Amos, Jacklina Amos, Lovania Bwatiti, Candida Ignas, Rogers Philip Gabagambi, Benjamin Vicent, Prosper Guarbert, Jackson Celestine Tibenda, Donata Deocres, Ilidelta Dominick, Yulitha Bichintanwa and Davita Joseph. As with our previous children, they were born between 1987 and 1990; one or both of their parents is dead and the surviving parent is ill; they are in the equivalent of high school; and their tuition needs range from \$200 to \$300 a year for one to four years. We also received a report about our last class of children. Most of them continue in their education. One of them, Emmanuel Augustine, has graduated and is working and thanks us for supporting him.

### 3. This Year

This year, thanks for the incredible generosity of MHR and non-parishioner friends of the ministry we raised \$15, 400, enough to fund the education of all of our children for all of the years they require our support.

We wish to acknowledge particularly the generosity of Jim Lonergan, Pete Toms, and the work of Nick Andrade and Charles Chow among many others who put on the garage sale that brought in \$4,000. We thank the parishioners who responded to our Mother's Day appeal with checks and those who brought

in pennies and nickels and dimes for our Widow's Mite campaign in October. Every cent you contributed went directly to benefit our children and every cent was precious to us. We thank you also for your prayers. We know the unfolding devastation in AIDS in Africa does not compare with the dramatic impact of Katrina, but must be addressed year after year. We thank you for your willingness to remember the children of Bukoba because if not for you, the world would have forgotten them.

#### 4. Looking to 2008

So, once again we will ask the sisters to send us the names of children to take under our care and we will once again be asking for your support, material and spiritual. We are certain you will respond with the same open-heartedness with which you have responded in the past. This year, there will be a new coordinator for the project. Michael Nava will step down and Ted De Saulnier will step up. We ask for your prayers for Ted as he begins his stewardship of the ministry. We are always grateful for fresh ideas and new blood so, if you want to join us, please call Ted at 415-621-6612 or e-mail us at [aidsin africa@mhr.org](mailto:aidsin africa@mhr.org). Any level of participation is welcome. Finally, we ask you to remember in prayers the children of Africa, their parents and families, and all those who work toward the relief of their suffering. God bless you.

The AIDS ORPHANS IN AFRICA MINISTRY