



LITTLE SISTERS EDUCATION FUND

Educating Children...Changing Lives

O come let us adore Emmanuel - God with us

Dear Friends and Sponsors,

The year 2019 is about to come to a close. We thank God for seeing us this far and blessing us in various ways within the year. Thank you for all the hard work and the sacrifices you have made to improve the quality of life of someone less advantaged especially those in our LSEF program and beyond. During this Holy Season it is good to take quality time and turn to Emmanuel, God with us, and allow ourselves to deeply experience His unconditional love and be able to share this love with all those around us.

ADVENT: The Season of Advent – a time of Hope, Love, Joy and Peace presented by the four Advent candles - begins on December 1, 2019. The Liturgy invites us to be always awake and prepared for we do not know the hour nor the time of the arrival of the Son of God since we are Pilgrims on this earth. A follower of Christ is expected to be ready to meet the Lord no matter when and how He comes (Mt 24: 42-44). So, let us stay awake, alert and vigilant, praying at all times, connected to Him who has called us to a life of intimacy with Him and to share in His Mission (Luke 4:18-19).

CHRISTMAS: As we prepare for the Nativity of the Lord, a celebration of the unconditional love of God for humanity and for the precious gift of Jesus – Emmanuel, God with us; God made Human like us except sin to encourage us on our journey of faith; let us be grateful and enjoy His Presence among us. Jesus remained faithful, committed to His Vocation of love and His Mission unto suffering and even death on the Cross and

was focused in His Father's Love and Will for Him. May His birth bring abundant and new life to us and make us strong in witnessing to this great Love of God in our Christian calling.

Mother Mary Kevin, Servant of God and our Foundress, encourages us by saying “*Do everything for the love of Our Lord. That is the whole secret of Sanctity*”. Hence, she is calling us back to that Gospel of Compassion in a world that is driven by selfishness, hatred and individualism and all other isms; knowing that we will give accountability of our Christian lives based on how we loved the poor and needy...(Mt 25: 31-46). St. Paul also tells us what to owe anyone... LOVE. (Rom 13: 8-10).

Your commitment and generosity to empower the poor and needy children under our care through education is highly appreciated. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers.



Wishing you all a Grace-filled Advent, a very Happy Christmas and a New Year 2020 full of God's abundant blessings.

Yours sincerely in Christ and
St. Francis,

Sister Mary Cecilia Njeri, LSOSF
Superior General, Little Sisters of St. Francis.

Learn more about the LSOSF [here](#).

Christmas Carols Festival at Stella Maris Boarding Primary School

Each year the children of Stella Maris Boarding Primary School enjoy planning for their annual Christmas Carols Festival. This year they were excited to have the help of a large number of alumni affectionally known as the “old girls”.



Working together under the leadership of Sr. Nantume, the students and the old girls chose the theme for the 2019 Christmas Carols Festival: *With Family Renewal, We Celebrate the Birth of Jesus.*

At the festival one of the old girls, Dr. Jackline Kyoslimire, recalled how strict the Head Mistress was when she attended Stella Maris. Dr. Kyoslimire then noted that she had carried such discipline into her advanced studies which allowed her to reach her dream of receiving a Doctorate in Philosophy.

The story of the Annunciation and the Visitation was portrayed well to the delight of the invited guests and parents.



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The girls sang and danced and everybody was oozing with confidence.

The District Education Officer, who has a child at Stella Maris, was doubly happy as he



had seen the quality of education Stella Maris imparts to the children; and also because he was confident that his daughter will follow in the footsteps of the old girls.

When it was time for Sr. Nantume to address the congregation she invited all the members of the staff to come and be acknowledged by the parents and invited guests. Despite the successes that the old girls have achieved, they remained humble and knelt down when Sr. Nantume came. She was presented with the donation of the old girls which they requested to be used for buying more chairs for the school.



As the show was winding down there was the ceremonial cake cutting with the old girls and young pupils. We were all filled with inspiration and gratitude to have witnessed such presentation of Christmas; but, for the children it was culminated by the appearance of Santa Claus who came with his bag of goodies!

May the spirit of Christmas remain in every heart!



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Greetings to all LSEF SPONSORS,

I am Vanessa Namagga, sponsored by Mr. Terry and Mrs. Vicki O'Neill. On behalf of all the sponsored children in Uganda, I take this moment to extend our sincere thanks to all of you for the support you render to us, especially in our education. This education we acquire from you has really made many of us fit somewhere in the Ugandan community.

To tell you, many of us learn from very good schools that our relatives could not afford to take us. That's why we thank God for the gift of you, the special people in our lives, and we ask Him to always keep you and grant you all the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

I, Vanessa, am very grateful to Mr. Terry and Mrs. Vicki O'Neill for the parental bond and care they show and are still giving to me. They are really special to me and I am also special to them as well. Their visits to Uganda and more so to my home have increased the love they have for me and my family.

Surely fourteen years down the road I made them proud by always helping my grandmother, by knowing how to speak in public, and by many other things. Today they are proud of me for the good performance in my Senior Six. I am going to join the University for a degree course in education so that I can become a teacher and inspire many youngsters.

Thank you so much Mr. Terry and Mrs. Vicki O'Neill for all your support towards me. May God reward you abundantly.

I thank all of the LSEF sponsors. May God bless and reward you all for the works of your hands.

Happy and fruitful blessings from us to you all.

Sending lots of love to you all, *Vanessa Namagga*



A New Logo

With this issue we are introducing our new logo. We feel that it reflects our ministry of educating children in Uganda. We thank God for our sponsors and pray for your continued wellbeing.

Thank you for responding to the call to ministry through child sponsorship in Uganda!



And A Revamped Website

We also wish you to know that we have revised our website to better serve our sponsors, our benefactors and our students. We are keeping the same name, just making it work better for all of us.

Check us out at www.littlesisterseducationfund.org.

Send us your comments at: LSAFsponsorship@gmail.com

How Do Ugandan Schools Operate?

Did you know that Ugandan schools start their year in early February and run through November? The school year consists of three terms with a break between each term.

Did you know that Ugandan elementary schools include 7 levels? This is known as Primary school and students attend Primary 1 through Primary 7 (P1 – P7).

Did you know that Uganda has two levels of Secondary School? Students attend Ordinary or “O” level for 4 years known as Secondary 1 through Secondary 4 (S1 – S4). If they qualify, students may move on to another two years of Secondary School known as Advanced or “A” level and referred to as Secondary 5 and Secondary 6 (S5 and S6).

Did you know that students in Uganda take National Exams to determine if they can advance to the next level of education? At the end of P7, S4 and S6 all students in Uganda must take a National Exam. The results determine the student’s progression to the next level.

- The Primary Leaving Exam, (PLE) is administered at the end of Primary 7.
- The Uganda Certificate of Education Exam (UCE) is administered at the end of S4.
- The Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education exam (UACE) is administered at the end of S6.

Did you know that you can learn more about the Ugandan school system at our new website?

Click here: <https://littlesisterseducationfund.org/locations/school-updates.html>

Your Milwaukee Team of the Little Sisters Education Fund strives mightily to keep our administrative costs to a minimum, thereby allowing us to send over 90% of sponsor dollars for the students’ education.

You can help to increase that percentage.

Please consider a tax deductible one time donation to the LSEF to help with our administrative expenses. Any amount is greatly appreciated.

We thank you! [DONATE NOW](#) The students thank you!

We wish you and yours a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year