

FR.VINCENT'S NEWSLETTER 2017

Dear Parishioners, once again I am very happy to be visiting your parish this summer. The parishioners of St. Gonzaga Gonza, Itanda Parish send their very best wishes to you.

It's not very easy to get a visa to the UK these days. I am extremely grateful to Fr. Michael who provided all the necessary documents that made it possible for me to get a visa and come over to the UK.

My parish and Africa in general, (as you have seen in the news), has been greatly affected by drought. For a long time people waited for the rain in vain. Crops dried up, animals died and in some places, people also starved to death.

However, with your help I managed to provide some food to those in extreme need; the elderly, expectant mothers and some children, but I eventually ran short of funds. The people who received the food are very grateful to you, for without your help, some of them could have died. They were saved because of your generosity. I am very grateful indeed.

And with your generosity, I also managed to plaster and put a roof on the out-station church of St. Mathia Mulumba – Nambaale. The parishioners from this out-station are very happy and very grateful to you. Their church now looks magnificent.

A week before coming over to the UK, I took the children back to their various schools. They send their love and gratitude to you for making it possible for them to get education.

Looking after twenty children during holidays was extremely difficult with the food being so very expensive. I am very grateful to you for making it possible for me to look after them, and for educating them. Some of these children have no sponsors. I would be very grateful to find some sponsors for some of these children. I am particularly looking for sponsorship for Cynthia aged eight, and Francis aged ten. They did have sponsors from here, but unfortunately the sponsors did not continue this year. I would be very grateful if Cynthia and Francis could be taken care of.

At the beginning of the year, it was a great joy to see Asumpta graduate. She has been very inspirational to the young ones. Asumpta has also now secured a job in Rwanda, and she is able to look after herself now. Doreen, Amon and Claudio are at various universities in the country. Fiona will be joining university this year. All this is possible because of your generosity. (Inset right, pic. of Asumpta's Graduation.

Many thanks to those who support our church students. Baganzi Emmanuel (who is sponsored from the parish), will be ordained as a Deacon this August, and with your prayers, become a priest next year. The parish has two students joining the major seminary this year. They will also need sponsorship with cost-sharing fees.

Other parish projects are doing well. The pigs have multiplied, and I have been able to give over twenty pigs to some needy parishioners with the aim of getting them out of poverty. My dream is to give out as many pigs as possible so that people can rear them and improve their lives.

The poultry project is doing very well and we are able to feed the children eggs from our farm.



The cows on the farm also look great. They are both expecting. In future I will be able to give the children some milk from the farm as well.

I also have two acres of sweet potatoes to feed the children, some will also be used to feed the pigs.

In addition to this, I have started a new coffee project with over four hundred coffee plants. This will hopefully generate some income for the parish in the future.



One of the major challenges in Itanda parish is clean and safe drinking water. I am very grateful to the parish for providing yet another source of clean and safe water at St. Jude Namabwe primary school. This bore hole provides clean drinking water to over five hundred pupils and neighbouring villages. Many thanks for your continued support with this project.

Lastly, I would like to thank you most sincerely for all your kindness and support you have given me over past the years. My life, my priesthood ministry revolves around your generosity. I am so very grateful.

May the almighty God bless you abundantly.

Fr. Vincent

