

African Mission's 2016 projects:

Dr Ray Towey's work (Gulu, Uganda)



Dr Ray Towey's work in training medical and nurse students in the safe administration of anaesthetics and also raising the funds needed to buy much needed Intensive Care Unit equipment and medicines for St Mary's Hospital, Gulu, Uganda. In February we paid for a Helix Ventilator for the Intensive Care Unit. This machine supports the respiration of patients who cannot breathe. Sometimes even a few hours of resting the patient on a ventilator may be a lifesaving intervention.

Dr Towey writes *"In St. Mary's Hospital Lacor, Gulu we have six operating theatres which carry out over 5,000 operations a year. Two of our theatres are lacking modern anaesthetic machines such as the Glostavent Helix. Our hope is to provide a Glostavent Helix in each of the two remaining theatres"*. **A Glostavent Helix machine costs £14,145.**

Project for disabled children (Fatima Mission, Zimbabwe)

The project for disabled children is a residential project offering education and training to nineteen blind, deaf or mute children. This project offers hope to a group who otherwise would be faced with an extremely difficult future.

The 19 disabled children (some of whom are pictured overleaf with Fr Jeya and Sr Clara) live at the project during term time and attend a nearby school (with the exception of one who attends a different school). The school is the only school in the province offering a specific education for blind and mute children. In addition to their academic education they also learn skills to help them live and prosper with their disabilities. Before coming to Fatima many of these children led very isolated lives and were faced with a bleak future. Thanks to the educating they are receiving and the fact that they are living in community with others, their confidence and ability to relate with others is growing. **It costs £440 per year to cover the costs of all each child's school fees and living costs.**

Project to help 3 blind adults (Fatima Mission, Zimbabwe)

For the last 5 years African Mission has been funding the living costs and school fees of 2 blind adults. They lived at Fatima Mission for 2 years before going to Bulawayo to do a 3 year vocational course. This course has now finished and we have funded the renovation of 2 old cottages into workshops (within Fatima Mission). Fr Jeya is hopeful that he can find customers to buy the products that will be produced here. In the last two year we have also covered the living costs for a 3rd blind adult to come and live at Fatima Mission. His brother (who is one of the blind adults who has done the vocational course in Bulawayo) is teaching him to weave also. **It costs £2,100 per year to cover the living costs for all three blind adults.**



Thanks to the generosity of our supporters we have raised enough funds to build each of the 3 adults a simple house each. We hope that these houses will be built within the next 12 months.



In 2009 when African Mission began helping Fatima Mission the physical state of some of the 16 primary schools was very poor. Since then thanks to our supporters we have built a new double classroom (photo on left) and a teachers cottage at Dungu Primary School (246 pupils) and put a new roof on a double classroom and built a teachers cottage at St John's Primary School (153 boys + 159 girls = 312 pupils). We have also provided tables & chairs for 4 classrooms for both schools.

The pupils who attend the primary schools within Fatima Mission all come from very poor backgrounds. Many of the children are orphaned or semi orphaned as a result of AIDS. Some have been abandoned by their parents and are living with unemployed grandparents.

School needing help in 2016 - St Francis Primary School (Fatima Mission, Zimbabwe)

A third primary school, St Francis Jameja (in an area called Managloba) is also in a bad state of repair. At the moment there are three small huts which are used for classrooms and four very small huts (2meter X 2meter) where the teachers live. Although a borehole has been drilled, a water pump and tank are needed to extract and store the water.

The 125 children who attend St Francis' are very poor, coming from the Tonga People. This school is their only hope of an education as there are no other schools within walking distance from their homes. It is our hope that in 2016 we will be able to raise enough funds to provide 2 new double classrooms (**£17,006 per classroom**), 2 new teachers' cottages (**£10,203 per cottage**), a water pump and a water tank (**£4,372**) for St Francis' Primary School.

It is thanks to you that we have been able to improve the lives of some of the poor in Africa and with your help we hope to continue to do so.

