



Hearts for Zambia

your opportunity to make a difference
for vulnerable children and families

May 2012



"It is sad, but there is always life from the ashes!"
- Sister Baptista

A very special Thank You to Father Seamus and the Knights of Columbus at St. Patrick Catholic Church.

A heartening response from those attending the March Fish Dinner resulted in over \$4,000 in contributions. We and the Sisters of the Child Jesus are so grateful to the Knights of Columbus who donated the labor and the food for the event.

So far in 2012 as a result of the generosity of HFZ donors, \$13,000 has been wired to the account of the Sisters of the Child Jesus for their work in Tetekela, the day care center for AIDS orphans and vulnerable children.

New board member Patrick Keely represented HFZ at the Annual Catholic African Connection meeting held April 21st at St. Bridget's in Seattle. HFZ holds a unique position in this annual conference, being the only organization that is not sponsored by a parish. The day included mass led by Fr. Charles Kanai from Kenya (now Associate Pastor at St. John Bosco in Lakewood), with music by the Swahili Choir from Kent. The keynote address was given by Dean Mbuzi, "From Zambia to Seattle" and good contacts were made with others who are interested in forming their own non-profit organizations. HFZ is always open to collaboration with new partners and of great interest to Patrick was a workshop about Gonzaga's Library book program in Zambia.

Report from Sister Baptista

Misfortune on Palm Sunday

The morning of Palm Sunday began without electricity. According to Sister Baptista, "When it came on around 4 pm, it came with high force and blew out the lines in one of the rooms at the convent near to the cathedral. A fire started from there and spread to other rooms in the old house, so all seven rooms got burnt to ashes. Everything in the household was lost and three sisters lost all of their belongings. Fire fighters came, but it was too late."

Sister Sabina adds "We continue to thank God for having saved the lives of the Sisters. They were all out of the house after the long Palm Sunday procession, and nobody felt like going inside the house not even for a short siesta - it was a miracle. We will live to Praise the Lord for His mercy and love for us. Easter joys and peace keep flowing in my life, indeed just as He promised."

Misfortunes Multiply

In addition to the losses from the fire, the vehicle that HFZ helped to purchase finally wore out due to driving conditions and high mileage. Quoting Sister Baptista, "Traveling is hard for me. Also my laptop is useless due to damage from the frequent electricity surges and makes communication hard. Without a computer and car I feel lost. But God loves me still and will provide."

Blessings Continue

"Our children are thriving. We have been busy with farm work, we planted plenty of corn and soybeans, and the rains are over."



HFZ board member
Patrick Keely
attends
conference



Artist Gavin MacHutchin presents his work to Board President Bruce Foreman

Artist Donates Work to HFZ

St. Patrick parishioner Gavin MacHutchin created a series of six mother and child presentations from different African traditions. These are displayed on 4" x 5.5" ivory note cards that Gavin has donated to Hearts for Zambia. The note cards are blank inside and available for a donation of \$10.

They are available by emailing hfzvp@wamail.net or calling 253.759.9904.



Thonga Mother and Child

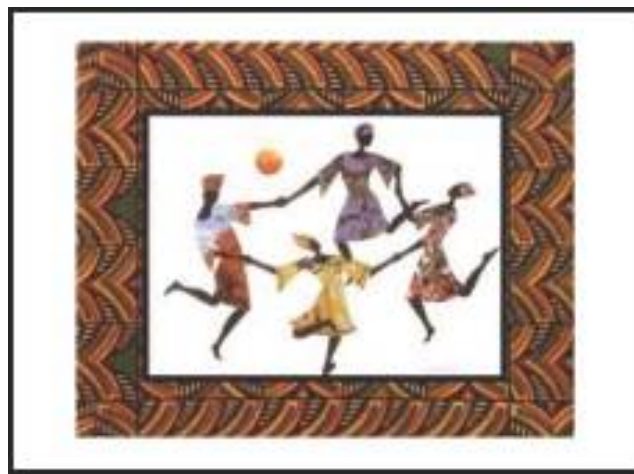
Want to Go to Zambia?

The HFZ board is in the beginning stages of exploring the feasibility for a small group of supporters to travel to Zambia sometime in the May to July season of 2013. The Northern Province is not a tourist destination and we would need to work out with the Sisters how our presence would be beneficial to their work. So, if you have ever thought about following your money with your presence, please let us know.



St. Leo's Focus on Africa

St. Leo Parish in Tacoma has a wealth of diversity in its membership, including a number of families from Africa who now live in Tacoma: Zambia, Uganda, Kenya, The Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, and Nigeria. Because of this the parish is planning a celebration of African cultures sometime this summer. Watch for announcements and come to share with Hearts for Zambia and our brothers and sisters.



Please find enclosed my gift to help the Sisters of the Child Jesus care for the children who come to them for help every day.

My gift is \$ _____ (Your donation is 100% tax-deductible.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____



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P.O. Box 11161
Tacoma, WA 98411
253o-759-9904

www.heartsforzambia.org

6mail us at hfzvp@w2amail.net

Our mission is to support and promote the work of the Sisters of the Child Jesus in meeting the critical and long-term needs of orphans, vulnerable children, and families in the Northern Province of Zambia, Africa **Go green!** If you have received a paper copy of this newsletter, consider receiving it by email. To do so, email your request to hfzvp@wamail.net

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