



ST. PATRICK'S CENTRE FOR INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT (SPACID)

Kyangwali Refugee Settlement - UGANDA (EAST AFRICA)

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ISAAC'S CASE

Dear John,

I still have another pastoral problem about the young Congolese refugee Isaac in our junior seminary. I feel you are my closest person who can understand it and give me an appropriate advice. Sorry for disturbing you with such petty issues.

Now it's Isaac Ndagijimana, a 12 year old. He is the only son of one of our Congolese refugee couple. Isaac's only sister Salonge 10 yrs is perpetually paralytic on bed because the rebels in Congo while still only 2 years, stabbed her almost to death as her parents were running away for the safety of their lives in our part in Uganda.

I have been with the family in our settlement for the past seven years, and since then, their son Isaac is so close to me. I find him an exceptionally talented young man, wrapped with such a wonderful wisdom. He has always demonstrated his desire to become a priest one day and be one of my fruits in this work, may be relieve me of this huge pastoral load, God knows

Therefore, in January 2009 Isaac was admitted in our junior diocesan seminary in Hoima. His vulnerable parents sold all the little they have to buy a few items, necessities, as prescribed by the seminary.

I personally felt so guilty when I had nothing to offer as we have another huge influx of refugees of over 10,000 from Democratic Republic of Congo. My only contribution, shamefully, was to plead for Isaac to the rector who happens to be my friend, to tolerate him until his parents find the school Tuition.

Isaac has been in the seminary for only the last one and half months. Now as I move out to post this letter. I saw Isaac on my door. "I have been dismissed father to collect the school fees" he says. I look shamefully at Isaac and have no word to answer him except inviting him to my table for a cup of tea.

Meanwhile, my thoughts immediately land on the donation that you so kindly sent to or UK account. A contribution from a group of scouts of 168 pounds.

I am now writing to ask you whether I could use as matter of urgency, a part of this donation to push back Isaac to the seminary. At least to help him go through this first academic term, which lasts until the end of April 2009.

Should I do this?..... I feel comfortable with this alternative as Isaac is one of my scouts. Education in the seminaries here is quite expensive because the missionaries who used to support the church like in our times are no more here. Instead we the missionaries ^{are} as poor as our flocks themselves.

Finally, my ardent request is for you to help out ^{find} any Good Samaritan who can come in to rescue Isaac's vocation. The journey to priesthood as you know is quite long but the "thorns" are Tuition.

FEES DESCRIPTION

IT COSTS 150 POUNDS per academic term in the seminary.
There are three ~~terms~~ ^{months} in one academic term.
There are three academic terms in one full year.
For a full year therefore, it costs 450 pounds Sterl, but can be paid in parts
It takes four years in 'o' level standard two years in advanced level. After advanced level, one goes to a major seminar for philosophy and theology e.t.c

Canon John once again sorry for this long and scrappy description, for me it is a good therapy although the English is poor. But what else can be expected of MUZEE in Swahili meaning "old wise man".

Hope to hear from you soon. Happy Lent and a fruitful Easter.

Fraternity yours Fr. Josemarie Kizito

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