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Deus Meus et Omnia
(My Lord and My All)

Christmas 2015



My Dearest Co-Missionaries,

It is difficult to imagine that another Thanksgiving and Christmas Seasons are upon us again. I am so grateful for each one of you and for your generosity to all my children in Liberia. You have always been in my prayers and will continue to be until God calls me home. You all have a special place in my heart.

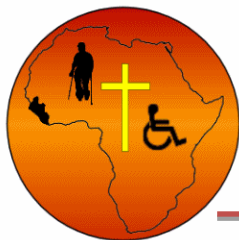
So many of my children who disappeared after I came back to the states are now being found and JCADF and staff are seeing to it that they are being cared for. I am elated that the Board continues to send a large van to pick them up for Sunday Mass every week and many are returning to the church and the sacraments. I know that God is hearing my prayers and yours as well. With the world in such horrible turmoil Mary is asking for more and more rosaries. At Fatima, she asked for us to say one rosary a day. Today, I am sure that she is begging for many more prayers, sacrifices and penances if we can ever hope to see Peace in our future.

As we eagerly anticipate the celebration of the birth of Our Savior once again please know that I am so grateful for each of you. God Bless you and thank you for helping to feed, clothe and educate His Least. Thank you, thank you, thank you for always caring and sharing and for continuing to help us help them through so many crises.

A Super grateful Sister Sponsa Beltran in the Trinity, Sweet Mother Mary, St. Joseph, and St. Francis and for all you continue to do for me as I travel along the road to heaven.

Sister Sponsa Beltran, OSF





Jerry Cebulski
African Disability Foundation Inc.
"Disability does not mean inability"



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Christmas 2015

Beloved Co-Missionaries,

The Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas season is one of the most joyous and grace-filled times of the year for many people around the world. However, In Liberia and many other war torn countries where many Christians are being persecuted, this time of the year is no different than any other season. We are living in difficult times when Christ must be very sad, looking down upon all of us from heaven.

This should be a peace-filled time in Liberia because of each one of you and your generosity to His Least, especially during a very difficult year. From the bottom of our hearts we thank you for your LOVE towards your neighbor and His Poor. Without you, we would never have accomplished anything and many more would have suffered terribly from poverty, starvation and dehydration. Only God will be able to tell you one day just how many lives you have saved and just how many souls you have brought back to him. Your prayers and donations kept us all busy and when we are busy, we know that we are serving Him to the fullest.



I would like to bring you up to date on some of those who you have helped in the past and introduce you to some new faces. Presently we have four people who need prosthetics. Omo, of course, you all know. He waited so long for his amputation. When he got out of the hospital, he decided to stay with his aunt as he was terribly afraid that his friends would call him "witched." All the talking and reasoning in the world would not convince him otherwise. A short time ago we received a phone call from Omo, announcing that he decided to return home to Mom and he hoped that we

could enroll him in his old school. WOW—see how your prayers worked. This was such a big step for this young man to make after voicing his very real fears. He is back to work in school and not one of his friends has said anything negative to him. A big thank you from this young man.



We seem to be finding more and more amputees lately. At left is Esther, who is 14 years old. Her amputation occurred a number of years ago and we do not know all of the details of how this occurred. Abenigo

(center) and Mohammad (right) were both struck by motorcycles in October 2013 in different parts of Monrovia and both needed emergency amputations. Hopefully, in 2016 we will be able to get them all prosthetics and finally get them up on their feet and walking again. It is a miracle that these three were not hurt during the recent Ebola crisis since there were absolutely no surgeries performed at that time.

Sister Sponsa took care of many disabled adults and children during her time in Liberia. After she returned to the States, many seemed to just disappear, losing touch, so we are very excited when



our off-campus disabled find and rescue many who are begging for assistance in the community. To the left is 25 year old Togar Bongar who Roosevelt Prowd found in his local marketplace. As you can see Togar came to Sister missing his right arm, just below his elbow. He is malnourished and is living under terrible conditions. The dirt alone on the piece of foam that he sleeps on in his little room is bad enough, and he does not have a basin, soap, cooking pots or essentials. His only possessions are the clothes he is wearing and that filthy piece of foam

where he sleeps. He is a work in progress and he also could use a prosthetic. Roosevelt is our best

rescuer. Along with Togar he recently found Daniel Nayou and James Woods. Daniel is in a broken wheelchair and James is a double amputee who also is in a wheelchair with nothing at all. Both are malnourished and have been missing since Sister returned to the States eight years ago. They have nothing to call their own and so we have to begin with the basics of how they are living and what they are eating.





Little Andy, I am so happy to say, is really thriving after his brain surgery for hydrocephalus. This was another miracle. This baby who is now 14 months old could never have been helped without your prayers and financial assistance. As you can see he has really grown and although his head will always be very large, he is now moving about freely on the bed and holding his own bottle and grasping for anything around him. Reena, his mom is so grateful to all of you for saving her baby's life. If a visiting doctor who had experience performing the shunt procedure had not been there, Andy would never have had a chance. So you can see how God is using each of you to help save lives every day. In this upcoming year of Mercy, each of you who have reached out to JCADF can say

that you are most assuredly helping to serve God.

Joseph (right), age 6, is unable to use his left arm. When he was 9 months old he fell and broke his little arm and there was no one available to set the break.



Esau (left), who is 14, fell off a chair and broke his leg when he was 2 years old. Like Joseph, his family did not have the funds for medical care and aside from that, there was no doctor nearby who knew how to set a broken leg. Today, his only means of getting around is to crawl on his hands and knees. He is extremely malnourished and if we only had an orthopedic surgeon, we could improve the quality of life for both of these boys and so many others who have bone deformities.

Our blind community sent out a terrible crisis SOS. The rainy season typically ends about now and yet it has not. About a month ago, they survived a small tornado and the tin roofs on their houses blew away. The tin is rusty and if you get cut, there is no access to getting a tetanus shot. We managed to get a new roof on their old house but the walls are so leaky and they were knee deep in water. It is horrible and we hate having to say "We can't manage to build you a whole new home." However, we helped them make the best repairs they could. This is a country that is so poor and we could potentially have thousands of disabled in our little program. Our senior citizens

are doing alright and their strength and courage is amazing. Then again, they have been through so much and they have learned how to manage.

We have not sent out the sea container yet. We want to have enough supplies to put onto a 40-foot container as there will not be another one sent too soon. We also want to put at least \$10,000 worth of food on the canister and then pay to send it out. We continue to accept items listed on the web site. Please keep this in your prayers that we finish gathering all the necessary supplies and funds (we have \$6000 set aside that was donated toward the sending of the container but will still need more to cover the rest of these costs). We want to get this shipped out very soon. It is a huge project and our family has worked hard to pack all items properly and be put into storage until we are ready to go.



In December, we have three people graduating from college and technical programs. Roosevelt will receive his BA degree from the University of Liberia, and Sam Karto and Irene Douglas will receive certificates from a computer technical program. Our list of those wanting to go to college continues to grow but we need to take a breather as we still have three more in



programs. Everything costs money and we are trying to balance between saving funds for our long term goals (e.g. higher education and the sea container) and paying for immediate day to day medical emergencies, surgeries, and essentials such as food and clothing. Your donations are what these people depend on and every day we see the difference you make in people's lives, even if it is a small change for the better.

Lately we have been getting many requests for religious items (e.g. rosaries, brown scapulars, Miraculous Medals and anything to do with Divine Mercy). There are many things these young people could ask for but when I hear them requesting religious items, I cannot help but wonder how bad things are and how much they depend on their faith to help them survive. Our dear rosary lady, Barbara, has provided us with a plethora of very colorful rosaries. We have managed to fulfill many of their requests, although the cost of sending these items is expensive. Many have returned to church and quite a few who were never been married in the Church are undergoing instruction to do so. In December, a number of their children will be baptized.

We always want Christmas in Liberia to be special. Usually we provide all with clothes which come in bales. Last year at this time, we paid \$150 for one bale of used clothes. This year, the price has gone up to \$350 a bale and we need 3 bales just for the village children alone. Everyone

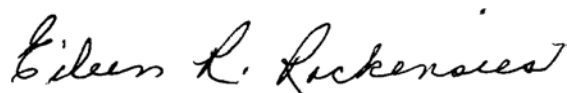
needs new shoes. These will cost us \$300 per box for used shoes of all sizes. Something that is really bothering us and creating a challenge is the increase in the price of everything. The costs are shocking at times. Schools have greatly increased their tuitions. Treatment for malaria, which is like the common cold over there, takes an I.V. treatment per day for 5 consecutive days, which means that we have to pay tremendous transportation costs to shuttle them back and forth to the hospital each day. We are definitely facing financial challenges. So once again, we ask you all to pass our newsletters around and refer people to our web page – www.africandisabilityfoundation.org. They need your help desperately.

We pray that this Thanksgiving and Christmas brings to each of you abundant blessings and graces for you and your families. May you be blessed by the Holy Family for your continued caring and sharing. We love you and thank you for your generosity!

In His Holy Name,



Angie Cebulski
Co-President



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