



JMJ Children's Fund of Canada

NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the U. N.

NEWSLETTER Summer 2022

Dear Friends, While JMJ is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year, our founder, Dr Jeanne Ferrari, is celebrating her 100th birthday; and our Treasurer for the last 50 years, Leo Modderman, is celebrating his 90th. Leo has decided to retire from his position as Treasurer, and we are pleased to announce that Dominic Ferrari will be taking over the role. We express our heartfelt thanks to Leo for his many years of devoted service; your tireless work has enabled so many children to benefit from the generosity of our supporters.

Celebrating Dr Ferrari's 100th birthday

On July 14th Dr Jeanne Ferrari celebrated her 100th birthday with over 80 friends, family and colleagues at a reception held at the Hilton Gardens in Ottawa. Many thanks to Anna Lisa for organizing this remarkable event, which included a video with the highlights of Jeanne's life. Guests were asked that in lieu of gifts donations be made. Some of the Doc's near and dear charities are:

1- JMJ Children's Fund of Canada Inc.

2- CHEO in Ottawa

3-The Catholic Church

Dr Ferrari has touched the lives of many people, but one of her activities needs pointing out.

Back on December 13, 1972, Charles King, editor for the Ottawa Citizen, wrote an article *A shepherd seeks help for his flocks* detailing the needs of an orphanage in Korea. This was just the kind of project that Dr Ferrari was looking to support, and she organized the receipt of cash and material donations from the people of Ottawa with the assistance of the Citizen. She took it a step further and accompanied the 11 boxes of goods to Korea at her own expense. What awaited her there was another story, detailed in the Ottawa

Citizen on January 3, 1973; but it is too involved to repeat here.

The net result was the creation of JMJ Children's Fund of Canada, which Dr Ferrari has led for the last 50 years and is still actively involved in. Over the years JMJ has provided food, shelter and education for orphans and disadvantaged children all over the world, and currently with projects in Haiti, Zambia, Ghana and India.

History of our school in Zambia

The M.I.C Sisters arrived in Zambia specifically in the diocese of Chipata in 1954. The Sisters have worked in different fields such as education, health, parishes and offered some social services in the faces of HIV and AIDS, worked with HIV/AIDS orphans, widows, and widowers, among others.

Mary Immaculate Kindergarten was opened in 2009 with the aim of assisting the orphans, poor and vulnerable children who could not afford to access their

education due to the escalating school fees payments in government as well as in private schools. Thus, the school started with 25 children of the families that were able to pay for the required school fees for the upkeep of the school and the payments of the teachers and general workers who kept the classrooms and school surrounding clean. By 2013, we had 50 learners of whom 20 were orphans, poor and vulnerable. The MIC Sisters opted to assist those orphans, poor and vulnerable



Celebration of Dr Jeanne Ferrari's 100th birthday.
Leo and Terry Modderman with Dr Ferrari.

children from the surrounding shanty compounds through the sponsorship and generosity of JMJ in Canada. Through the financial assistance of JMJ, orphans and vulnerable children have a bright future since they often acquire a solid education and Christian background among the MIC Sisters.

Three years ago, there was a cry from the society especially from the parents and guardians whose children are learning at Mary Immaculate Kindergarten, to continue from the kindergarten to primary school level. After a period of prayer and discernment, with the permission of the Superior General, Sr. Delia Regidor, the MIC Sisters enrolled the first class of grade 1 learners from the kindergarten section, reception class after the 8th graduation in 2018. Thus, in January 2019, the first class of grade 1 pupils had started with 20 learners. With this development, Mary Immaculate Kindergarten was changed to Mary Immaculate Academy in 2019.

Mary Immaculate Academy is offering various lessons from the kindergarten levels to primary school levels.

At the same time, additional classrooms will help to accommodate all the enrolled pupils and create more space, especially in this time of Covid-19 where there is a great need for space distancing of persons as one of the health measures for Covid-19 prevention.

God bless you for your continuous support of the orphans, poor and vulnerable children.

Sr. Emelda Emma Katongo, MIC

Update from Ghana

It is with hearts filled with appreciation and the sense of accomplishment that we inform you that Mary D and Daniel A have completed senior high school, and both have already enrolled in the teacher training college here in Wa. That means they no longer qualify for the 2021/22 sponsorship program. In the place of Mary and Daniel, we

would like to present to you a set of quadruplet twins – four boys. They twins are not yet baptized and have no Christian names yet. Their local names are Payin, Kakra, Ata and Obiwon.

The academic year here has changed from September to January, meaning we have been in school. All our children were promoted to their next classes, and their needs provided with your support. As a result, they have no interruptions in education, they stay healthy and are happy.

On behalf of all the beneficiary children, their parents and on my own behalf, we would like to thank all our generous sponsors and all at JMJ for what you do for our children, families and the Congregation of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus. Without your assistance, these children will remain as their parents – deprived, poor, illiterates and ignorant. They now can attend good schools and are competing very well with the haves. We are in our own little ways helping to bridge the gap between the have and the have not. They need you even more now as they grow, and their needs grow with them. With you there and us here, the future keeps looking bright for these otherwise condemned to perpetual poverty, deprivation, illiteracy, and ignorance.

Our prayer is that God blesses you for your kind generosity. May he give you more than you give us.

Sr Monica E. Otoo

Please support the work of JMJ Children's Fund by a cheque sent to PO Box 20051, 322 Rideau St East, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 9N5

OR INTERAC e-Transfer of funds. Please use the following email:

JMJdonate72@gmail.com

Or visit our page at Canada Helps: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/jmj-childrens-fund-of-canada/>

