

# St Francis'



# Parish

**OLYMPIC GOLD!**

**SUMMER HOLIDAYS**

**FLOODS IN NAILSEA**

Perhaps some of your headlines from last Saturday (4th August)? But a small number of parishioners were gathered in the parish hall to share some of Fr Sam's African cooking and to hear about Fr Augustine's experiences in Nigeria and his current role as both parish priest and manager of a Secondary School - and the challenges he has to face every day.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?



Fr Augustine pictured with Bishop Declan and Fr Sam

- Inside -

Sponsor a child

The daily problems of water  
and power

School pictures



Water (for washing, cooking and drinking) from a pond, originally dug by the first Irish Parish Priest who came back with money from his home visit to pay for a bulldozer.



Inside the Church, but dark - little light from small generator (no mains here!)



There is a bore hole, but takes 30 minutes of pumping to get a small amount of water



Secondary school (originally most schools started by missionaries, but then taken over by the government and allowed to wither). New schools again being set up by the local Parishes.

# SPONSOR A CHILD

Average family income - £30 per month

Average teachers salary - £42 a month

School Fees - £80 a term (boarding) x3 = £240 per year

For many families it is very difficult to afford the school fees for their children. Sometimes it is the children themselves who are trying to earn enough money to pay their own fees.

Many times Fr Augustine is told by the family that their child will not return next term as they do not have the money. Where possible he tries to 'balance the books' and find a way to help everyone, but really has nowhere to turn.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

★ Contribute any amount to a general fund ★

★ Sponsor a child for a term, a year or upto the full 5 years ★

Fr Augustine will provide us with regular reports and updates on the School and the children you have been able to help..

This is an opportunity for you to directly and specifically help an individual - with direct contact and feedback where possible.

It allows you to have that personal contact, not through intermediaries such as a parish project, a charity organisation or a collection basket. They all have their place, but this will make a difference - and you will see it yourself.

# How will this work?

The Parish contact for this is Paul Wildsmith (contact details below). Initially he will establish the best way of transferring monies to Fr Augustine and the process for sending any letters, reports etc.. to and fro.

In the first instance, let Paul know that you are interested in contributing. If more information is required he will get this. As soon as possible it will be good to let Fr Augustine know what help may be coming - he already has to plan the new school year!

In the meantime, once a safe and reliable process has been checked out for transfer of money, you will be told how it will all work. It may be that to minimise any bank charges money transfers are done in bulk rather than individually, but the essence of your personal and direct contribution will remain.

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