



**Second Sunday of Advent C**  
**December 9, 2018**

**Interested in going to Uganda  
next summer on a mission trip?  
June 23 to July 7, 2019**

For 14 years, Fr. Pat Sheedy, Pastor of Blessed Trinity Parish in Ocala (in our Diocese) has been taking about 20 of his parishioners and some non-parishioners on a mission trip to a sister parish in Nalweyo in central Uganda.

14 years of mission trips have resulted in the creation of 30 sub-parishes or 30 villages. With the help of the locals, they have built or renovated 30 churches. They have established grade schools, a high school, and a *boarding* school for almost 1,000 children. Parishioners in Ocala sponsor many of the children in the grade schools and high school. Below is how you can be involved in sponsoring a student. This certainly would be a lovely way to include the less fortunate in your Christmas budget. Blessed Trinity Parish has also built clinics, including a maternity facility where mothers can give birth to their babies.

The mission has created about 30 water wells and over 11,000 solar lamps and computers for the school labs. These are just some of the wonderful things Blessed Trinity has done for thousands of families and children in a faraway place.

**The Trinity Triangle**

After each mission to Uganda, the Parish publishes a beautiful magazine with many photos and reports of the trip. Following are some photos and excerpts of the reports. In the next column is a picture of the 2018 Team. More than half the group had been on a mission before.



**St. Mary's Maternity Ward Blessing**

This was truly a big, big occasion because the nearest hospital is 26 miles away for babies to be born in. Now 15 to 20 moms can have babies born locally in relative safety.



**A peek into student life**

Last summer, volunteer Jessica Baker writes:

After spending so much time with the students at the high school, I was very curious what their entire school day entailed. I noticed when waking up in the mornings around 7am for morning Mass that the students would already be at the school for their preps. Preps entail studying and reviewing all of their notes to prepare for upcoming tests. The students at the high school are so intelligent and love to talk about what they are learning. I love spending my days in the classrooms just observing how intrigued the students are when learning new material. At 4pm

on Wednesday, the students have a debate on a specific topic chosen by the teachers. On Thursdays at 7:15, the students attend Mass. On Fridays, the students enjoy sports and games on the soccer field. Saturdays and Sundays are not quite days off for these students! They attend Mass both days and still attend preps. One of my favorite things to do while in Uganda is to play sports with the children. They are all so athletic and are the best team players. The students' days are long, but never have I heard one complaint about how early they have to wake up to go to school!



**Each missionary pays his/her own way**

The cost of the mission is \$2,500 which covers the two-day flight and all expenses for the *two-week* mission trip. Those who cannot afford the travel expenses are helped by parishioners. Money is *not* a reason for not going.

**Are you interested in going next summer?**

I have sent Fr. Sheedy \$25,000 from our parish tithe for his work in Uganda and I plan to send him \$25,000 more in the next few months. All money donated to this mission work goes directly to various projects. Fr. Pat and his team do a great job of making sure that the money goes where it is supposed to go. Father plans on assigning Ascension one of the villages. I am praying about going this summer. I would love to have several other Ascension parishioners join me. If interested, please contact one of the Blessed Trinity parishioners (see names/email addresses below). They can answer any questions you may have. Let me know if you are interested. Also, I can share with you the Trinity

Triangle report on last summer's trip. Please pray about this mission opportunity.

**These are some of the missionaries who have gone to Uganda**

- Stephen Hoesterey, Group Organizer**
- Jenny Bullard, Young Missionary & Teacher**
- David Elliot, MD, Doctor at St. Mary's Clinic**
- Tom Hilton, Mission Church Volunteer**
- Erica Zeno, Young Missionary**
- Stacey Woods, Farmwork and Tractor Maintenance**
- Kevin McLean, Solar Lamps Donor and Supplier**
- Jane Joes, Nurse**

Have a blessed week,

*Fr. Pat*



**Joe Shannon gets assistance from a teacher during a photo session.**

**Ginny Shannon edits photos with lots of interested 'assistants'!**

