

Isaiah 44 Project Newsletter



Fall 2023

I will pour water on the
thirsty land and streams
on the dry ground...and
people will come to say
'I belong to the LORD!'

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Send checks directly to:
Greater Horizons
Attn. Donor Services

St. Nicholas Charity Legacy Fund:
Account SN-00
1055 Broadway Blvd., Suite 130
Kansas City, MO 64105
Check Notation : **Is. 44 Project - Wells**

Greater Horizons Help-Information
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To Donate ONLINE
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Facebook Page:
www.tinyurl.com/bdfdm587
or on Facebook search -'Isaiah 44 Project'

Website:
www.Orthodoxsteward.com/

*Interested in a parish presentation?
Contact Fr. Robert (info above)!*

Update on Emergency Funds - Food Distribution in Malawi

In response to the devastating the flooding and civic destruction in Southern Malawi due to Cyclone Freddie, a total of \$3500US in funds was sent to the Orthodox Church of Malawi under Archbishop Fotios. Scores of bags of maize (corn) were acquired on the markets where available and personally delivered by Fr. Nicodemos Chilembwe, the Vicar General.



Mission at Katete in Chiranga Village

and Cyril parish in the Kalimbuka area of Zomba district, under the administration of Fr. Basil, served as the primary center for coordination. Zomba district was among the hardest hit areas. This included the outreach to the villages of Swali, Katete and Kalimbuka.



Mission at Swali Village

Father drove from village to village, down washed out roads, to visit people whose impoverished homes where further destruction by the Cyclone made some uninhabitable. Upon his arrival at the local parish church, he would be greeted by the local parish priest, and the people would gather as the parish would become the distribution center for the maize, a staple of Malawian life. Ss Athanasios



Sadly, poverty is made all the more desperate by emergencies like Cyclone Freddy. Poverty often leads to crime, and churches in the region have been, tragically, vandalized.

The Church in Malawi continues its missionary work. In early October, one of the parishes had a baptismal liturgy where fifty baptisms were completed!

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Emergency Food Mission, cont. from p.1

It is amazing to see how the zeal of the people and the Church, centered in Christ, has enabled the people of Malawi to be resilient through this tragedy, by helping one another and sharing of their resources. We are thankful to our donors who have also shared in this recovery in the stricken villages, through their love and prayers.



The People of God



and
His Holy
Dwelling Place
Namitumbo -
Swali village-

*The sign says,
"Greek Orthodox
Church"*

Future Boreholes in the Works

As this newsletter goes to press, we are again in communication with the clergy of Malawi to determine the possibility of future boreholes in the region to bring fresh water to the people. We hope the next borehole will be completed successfully later in October, as God permits!

Abundance of Riches, cont. from col. 2

We have seen first-hand and have been humbled by the faithfulness of those far from us. We've marveled at their gratitude for things we have always taken for granted. I hope that I will remain watchful, and never forget that sense of awe that came from this first year. May God grant many blessed and fruitful years to come!

Alleluia, Amen!

An Abundance of Riches

- the Blessings of Faith and Patience

by Pani Matka Christine Holet

The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.

You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it.

You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften it with showers and bless its crops.

Psalm 65:8-10

It is hard to believe that we have been working on the **Isaiah 44 Project** for an entire year! What started as a chat about where God was leading our family has resulted in new relationships, new possibilities for service, and much education about patience and faithfulness –

PATIENCE – The challenges of working outside my “comfort zone” of those things I can control has led to a new-found appreciation of this virtue – and the certain knowledge that I have much work to do in this area.

FAITHFULNESS – God is faithful. While I have always known this, my responsibility in remaining faithful to Him and trusting His timing will be a life-long effort.

One of the many things I have learned during this year is the need for watchfulness. During this year, there have been times when I have had to consciously stop to appreciate “*the journey to water.*” Just when I think I have everything figured out, something happens to force a recalculation, a readjustment – all an opportunity to watch and wait (there’s that patience thing again!). The blessings of this have been many; I have learned the benefits of watchfulness in revealing the small miracles required for our dream of water to be realized. Logistics, inventory, weather, funding, transportation, and people – all process points, any one of which can derail the best plans.

How patient and faithful is our God!

The **Isaiah 44 Project** is the realization of our responsibility to listen for God’s voice and remain focused on His work in the world.

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