

Making all things new



J. Caliseo/CJI

Anu Chettri and Bishna Rai from Bhutan at a refugee camp in Nepal, awaiting resettlement and the start of their new lives.

“Your pain will turn to joy”

Jn 16:20

You can help make things new. Join CJI in its mission to support one of circa 40 initiatives in some 15 developing countries worldwide. Our partners work together with poor and marginalised communities to create opportunities for a new beginning, so that pain may be transformed into joy.

Thank you for your gift

Please send a cheque payable to **Canadian Jesuits International**. Or just log on to www.canadianjesuitsinternational.ca and click the Canada Helps icon and follow the easy instructions.

If you wish to make a **monthly donation**, the amount you donate could be charged directly to your Visa or Mastercard or withdrawn from your bank account. If you wish to leave a lasting legacy, you could consider planned giving. To learn more, call or write to us at CJI.



K. Anderson

Young women at the Makanzubo Kalinda Institute about to perform a traditional Tonga dance in Zambia

The CJI vision and mission

The vision of CJI is of a world of justice, peace and integrity of creation, transformed through our commitment to the poor and our faith in a living God in our midst.

As a response to God’s love in the world, the mission of CJI is to support poor and marginalised people in developing countries through the work of Jesuit and other partners, and to carry out educational advocacy in Canada, linked with our overseas work.

We work with Jesuit and other partners rooted in the Jesuit tradition in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and Eastern Europe.

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J. Lee

“See, I am making all things new” (Rev. 21:5). The Scriptures are full of the promise of new joyful beginnings, brought to fulfilment in the resurrection of Jesus. This promise is not a utopian fantasy ignorant of the forceful reality of pain and death. Rather it is a truth we believe in, that new life can arise even from the ashes. This Easter, Canadian Jesuits International (CJI) invites you to appreciate how God’s promise is realised in the lives of those we serve.



CANADIAN JESUITS INTERNATIONAL

Holy Thursday – 1 April 2010

“So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.”

Jn 13:14



Jesu Ashram

Thomas Moktan, a source of inspiration at Jesu Ashram

Thomas Moktan lived at Jesu Ashram for nearly 33 years until his death in December 2009. He contracted leprosy early in life, his wife and son died young. Alone, labelled an outcast by society, eventually wheelchair-bound, Thomas was wonderful in the way he related to others. As the one responsible for food, cleanliness and prayer in the leprosy ward, he welcomed and served others warmly and cheerfully. He encouraged distressed patients not by word but by deed: he was content, ever ready to love, and clearly trusted God in his daily life. He was an inspiration for hundreds of people.

Like Thomas, countless patients at Jesu Ashram serve others wholeheartedly, caring, cooking, cleaning and gardening. Their service is invaluable for the hospice, which offers free medical and social care to hundreds of destitute people each year. As we recall the Last Supper and the call of Jesus to serve, let's reflect on the service offered to so many by Jesu Ashram and by Thomas himself.

Good Friday – 2 April 2010

“I am thirsty”

Jn 19:28



D.Doll SJ

Upendo students washing up

“I thank God for all the blessings and love at Upendo, for this opportunity he has given me. I live with my granny and extended family. My mum is very sick and I practically grew up without her. When I see how she lives, I'm filled with pain; she is unemployed, has to pay rent, take care of my little brother. I'm at secondary school now. I try hard to make those who sponsor my school fees proud of me. Sometimes I'm afraid of the future because I see my dreams fading. I don't want to live in despair; I want to depend on myself, to be appreciated, to find happiness and peace.”

As we mark Good Friday, let us remember Upendo, a parish programme in Kangemi slum outside Nairobi, which tries to give vulnerable children a new start through quality education and care. Like many other slums, Kangemi is crucified by poverty and the consequent social ills: unemployment, steep prevalence rates of HIV, alcoholism and drug abuse, and children who are orphaned, ill-treated or homeless.

Easter Sunday – 4 April 2010



“He is risen”

Lk 24:5

Marco Dormino/UN

Building a makeshift shelter at Port-au-Prince's golf course

The massive earthquake that struck Haiti on 12 January 2010 killed 230,000 people and left more than one million homeless. At first, aid trickled in to destitute survivors. Mario Serrano SJ of the Jesuit Refugee Service recalls: “When we arrived at the Jesuit novitiate in Port-au-Prince, we did not unload the trucks of food because it was dark. The next morning, people began asking for the food to be distributed. I asked them to disperse and promised to meet them later in their slum. That afternoon we had an excellent assembly of residents. They understood we needed time to organize the distribution. They offered to take care of security in the area and helped unload the trucks. You cannot imagine what joy this gave me, a joy linked to a new relationship with the people, a new understanding of how to manage aid.”

When all seems lost, a ray of hope: a solution from the people themselves. As we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, let us pray that Haiti may be truly reborn, that from the ashes of the tragic earthquake, peace, justice and equality will emerge.