Dear Donors,

It is with a quiet smile in my heart that I greet you today. Your generous and faithful support has brought life to so many men, women, and children around the world.

Through your donations to Ministry With the Poor, you have provided food, medical assistance, educational opportunities, and even saved lives by protecting those trafficked in areas where our sisters minister. You have also provided our sisters in retirement with a new bus that allows them to laugh, enjoying an ice cream treat and a sing-a-long on their outdoor voyages. And you have allowed a door to open more easily. None of this would be possible without your prayerful, generous, and loving support.

As you view and ponder our impact report, you will see for yourselves the wonderful work you are doing to make God’s love known to all. Be assured of my daily prayers and gratitude.

Sister Rose, OCS

Ministry With the Poor

Look at what you’ve done!

Your gifts to Ministry With the Poor touched thousands of people and brought them health, education and nourishment of the mind, body and spirit.

In 2023, more than 11,000 students received a Holy Cross education from sponsored and congregation-owned schools.

◊ In Uganda, top photo, your gifts provided scholarships for more than 80 students to attend Moreau Nursery and Primary School. Approximately 60% of students struggle to pay school fees.

◊ In Bangladesh, your gifts enabled 14 students of tea plantation workers to attend Holy Cross School in Kulaura.

◊ School supplies were provided to schools across the world of Sisters of the Holy Cross as well as support for critical needs like teacher salaries.

Nursery students at Our Lady of Holy Cross School in Barakathal, India
Ministry With the Poor

Look at what you’ve done!

Your gifts are providing health care, nourishing food, and are empowering the poor through training.

In the past year, there have been more than 14,000 visits to congregation-owned health clinics in Uganda and Bangladesh.

Your gifts supplied critical drugs including vaccines and treatments for HIV/AIDS.

Pre- and post-natal care is a large part of our sisters’ health care ministries. Newborn babies at our clinic in Uganda, where Sister Jacinta Mueni Munyao, CSC, ministers, now have access to vital medical equipment, such as the infant incubator, right.

Between 2006 and 2023, more than 200 women have been trained at the Protasha (Hope) Sewing Sheba Kunjo in Kulaura, Bangladesh, left. Approximately 30 women per year are trained to sew and mend clothing, giving them a marketable skill to help support their families. Training has recently expanded to offer other vocational skills such as computer software programs and other computer-based technology platforms.

Holy Cross Ministries, based in Salt Lake City, Utah, received Ministry With the Poor support for their Healthy Eating Initiative, right. With home visits for evaluation and instruction on nutrition, cooking and healthy activities, the program is helping families give their children the nutrition they need to thrive.
Retirement Needs

Look at what you’ve done!

Your gifts for the Sisters’ Retirement Needs and your unrestricted donations provided important upgrades at Saint Mary’s.

A large screen television adds some interesting viewing for those enjoying physical therapy. And a new door for Augusta Hall makes it so much easier for sisters to enter the building, especially when their hands are full, as Sisters Patricia Riley and Patricia Gantz, CSC, can attest.

The new 12-passenger bus, purchased entirely with donations you made during our spring appeal, is amazing! Your loving financial support, and kind and often amusing comments, far exceeded our expectations! We are humbled, amazed, and deeply grateful.

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Fall colors, ice cream treats (above), movies at the theater— the bus has truly enriched the sisters’ lives and enhanced relationships. It has been especially rewarding to see novices and sisters singing together and forging friendships.

Pictured above from left to right: Sister Yvonne Arcand, Sister Judy Murphy, Sister M. Veronica (Kerwin), care partner Aretha Wright, and Sister M. Maris (Bonnett), CSC.
School expansion and Hostel construction

Look at what you’ve done!
Your gifts are creating safe spaces for students, sisters and vocations around the world.

In Kulaura, Bangladesh, many families earn less than $2.00 per day. Thanks to your support, a building expansion is currently in progress there at Holy Cross School where Sister Shiuli Gomes, CSC, is headmistress, right. Soon, the additional classroom space will mean that more students from such families will be able to get life-changing education.

A new hostel (dormitory) in Shillong, India, will provide affordable housing for girls pursuing higher-secondary and university level courses.

Real progress has been made since the May 2023 photo, left. Now nearing completion, the hostel will house 100 students, four Holy Cross sisters, as well as five staff members.

The new hostel will also generate revenue to support other ministries with the poor in India.

Stay tuned

Our Spring appeal will be reaching you soon with exciting opportunities to help keep students safe and comfortable while they attend school.

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