

Healing & Development

2017 Edition

MEDICAL
MISSIONARIES
of MARY



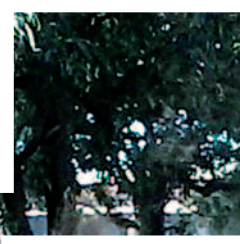
MMM

*Rooted and founded
in love*

GOING IN HASTE



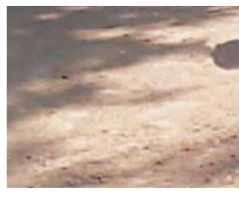
**MMMs and MMM Associates from
Uganda and Rwanda**



**Working with women's and youth
groups in Honduras**



**An eye clinic organized by Remote Area
Medical in the Appalachian Mountains, USA**



**Listening to the needs of women
in Nigeria**

TO A WORLD IN NEED OF HEALING

Volume 78 – 2017

Medical Missionaries of Mary:

Founded in Nigeria in 1937 by Dublin-born Mother Mary Martin, today MMMs number about four hundred Sisters, who come from twenty different countries.

A growing number of men and women around the world are Associates.

The three words in the Congregation's title carry the inspiration that gives us energy to become engaged in healing some of the world's pain.

Medical: "Be with those who suffer, the oppressed, and those on the margin of life. Heal the sick, excluding no one... Let your particular concern be the care of mother and child" (*MMM Constitutions*).

Missionaries: "You are missionaries... Work with all people of good will. Join resources with them especially in the field of health, so as to bring about a world of justice and peace, where true human development is fostered, and human dignity and rights are respected" (*MMM Constitutions*).

Mary: "Ponder in your hearts the mystery of the Visitation. Be inspired by Mary's selfless love, her simplicity and faith, as she goes in haste to answer a human need, bringing with her the light that is life" (*MMM Constitutions*).

Our Motto:

Rooted and Founded in Love (Eph.3,17)

PHOTO CREDITS

MMM Sisters and Associates,
Family of Dr. John Kelly

MMM Charity Reg. Numbers:

Ireland: CHY7150.

England: MMM Trust 293494

In the USA we are a

Tax Exempt 501 (c) (3) organization

Bank Details Euro:

Medical Missionaries of Mary

Bank of Ireland, Merrion Road, Dublin 4

Account No: 62835417 Sort Code: 90-12-12

IBAN: IE88 BOFI 9012 1262 8354 17

BIC: BOFIE2D

Bank Details Sterling:

Medical Missionaries of Mary

Bank of Ireland, Trevor Hill, Newry, Co Down

Account No: 12318032 Sort Code: 90-23-38

IBAN: GB10BOFI90233812318032

BIC (Swift): BOFIGB2B

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Healing & Development, the Yearbook of the Medical Missionaries of Mary,
is published by: **MMM Communications,**
Rosemount, Booterstown, Co. Dublin, Ireland
Tel: +353-1-288 7180 • Fax: +353-1-283 4626
E-mail: mmm@iol.ie
www.mmmworldwide.org

Editor: Sister Carol Breslin
Subscriptions: Sister Pauline Connolly
Designed by: Judi Lennon
Printed by: Pixelpress, Dublin
©MMM Communications
ISSN: 1393-8967

Leader's Letter



Dear Friends,

As we celebrate eighty years since our foundation as Medical Missionaries of Mary, we are happy to send you our 2017 Yearbook, *Healing and Development*.

The theme for this year is: 'Going in Haste: to a World in Need of Healing'. It recalls the story of Mary's visit to her cousin, Elizabeth, in the Gospel of Luke. Two women share their joy and faith, celebrate new life within them and offer each other support in time of need. Inspired by Mary's selfless love, simplicity and faith, MMMs and MMM Associates are sent to be a healing presence where human need is greatest.

Across our world today we experience so much violence and ongoing conflict within and across nations. We see famine due to climate change, and displaced people and refugees going hungry. This can be overwhelming at times. At the same time, we see daily miracles that inspire us.

The following pages contain stories from around the world, where our Sisters, Associates and co-workers live and work. A feature story describes two days during which staff working at our houses in Ireland discovered more about MMM spirituality.

We are encouraged by the many young women who continue to respond to God's call to become Medical Missionaries of Mary, and in 2017 we rejoice with the four Sisters marking fifty years and the two celebrating twenty-five years of commitment as MMMs. Their lives have brought wholeness and healing to so many.

You can also read interesting articles by and about our MMM Associates and co-workers.

At this time we remember Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. In 1949, Mother Mary met Mère Agnès (Thérèse's sister, Pauline). She wrote: 'Mère Agnès...promised that she would see to it that her sainted sister would answer my petitions for all the intentions of our benefactors and friends and for the great needs of our Congregation.... It gives us all renewed confidence to go forward with greater courage and zeal for the future.' We are blessed to have such a friend looking out for us.

Thank you for radiating the joy and beauty of the Gospel as together we bring the Good News to those in great need around the world. Thank you especially for your prayers and financial and material assistance. Each day we remember you when we gather for community prayer, asking God to bless you and your families.

Sister Siobhán

Sr. Siobhan Corkery, MMM
Congregational Leader

When Mother Mary visited Lisieux in 1949, she brought the relic she had received from Mère Agnès - a brick from the infirmary where Saint Thérèse died. It was to be the foundation stone of the new hospital in Drogheda. She wrote: 'We laid it on the Shrine of St. Thérèse and offered our young Congregation to her as our Jubilee Feastday gift to be an instrument at her disposal for the carrying out of her eternal vocation "to love and to make LOVE loved by every creature."'

In April 1952, after the disastrous fire in the novitiate in Drogheda, Mother Mary wrote: 'The foundation brick which I brought back with me from Lisieux was found unharmed. It had been placed with the Archives of the Congregation... As they speak to me of the past, so too does this brick speak of the future....So I shall end by assuring you that all help that you have given in the past will prove to have been given not in vain - and that all that you have contributed to with such good heart shall now come to being with surer foundations and with a more enduring structure because of what has been lost.'

MEDICAL
MISSIONARIES
of MARY



MMM

*Rooted and founded
in love*



St. Thérèse of Lisieux
Patroness of the Missions

'May you trust God that you are
exactly where you are meant to be.'

The Spirituality of the Medical Missionaries of Mary



Beginning our story in the Mother Mary Room

One aim of our MMM Congregational Plan is for MMMs to have a greater understanding of our gift (charism) of healing and to share that gift with others. To encourage new and relevant expressions of healing, we committed ourselves to encourage conversations on present-day realities.

One suggestion for achieving this in our European Area came from our nursing facility, *Aras Mhuire*. Sisters Mairead Butterly and Teresa Connolly asked, 'What are we doing for our staff?'

In May 2017, Sister Ekaete Ekop, Assistant Congregational Leader, facilitated sessions at our Motherhouse during which we shared our spirituality with the lay personnel of our houses in Ireland. Sixty-four staff members attended.

Beginning with a song illustrating the mystery of spirituality, Ekaete said that each staff member has the MMM spirituality, not only MMMs and Associates, and each person's spirituality is shaped by her or his background, culture, personality and understanding of life. We are bearers, not owners, of the healing charism.

Mother Mary chose the Benedictine spirit after much prayer and discernment. She was attracted by its 'human-ness', fluidity, emphasis on the sacredness of all of life, compassion for the dignity of each person, the rhythm of the liturgy, the centrality of prayer, and hospitality.

Other essential aspects

- Incarnation: In every situation we ask, 'How does God want to be born here?'
- Interior life: We are not about rules, but a way of life. Mother Mary was ahead of her time in liturgical life, with the religious habit, and with the service the Sisters would give.
- Life in communion: We cannot choose those with whom we live, but we can choose to be in communion with those with whom we live, work and share life.
- Diversity: We encourage and celebrate diversity. The value and dignity of each person, culture or situation is honoured and upheld.
- Intercultural: It is not about one group giving to another group. It is about all of us sharing Christ's love.
- Holistic healing: Treating, curing, or relieving symptoms do not of themselves constitute holistic healing. It does not happen without a sharing of one's self.
- See and seek God in all things: We handle the garden tools with the same reverence with which we handle the altar vessels.
- Mission: We are sent by God into the situations in which we find ourselves in our daily lives.

Sister Ekaete encouraged the participants to recognise these attributes in themselves. They have been expressing the MMM spirituality in their families, in their work and in social circles. No one embodies all of them all the time but we remain faithful to the journey, helping each other.

After Mass and lunch, Sisters JoAnne Kelly and Mary Teresa Reilly guided a tour of the Mother Mary Room and the Mission Room. This was the climax of the day, seeing in practice what was heard in the morning.

The staff members said that the day helped to open up the beauty, depth and originality of the MMM way of life. When one young man was asked what he had learned, he answered with pride, 'I have been learning about *my spirituality*'.



Sister Ekaete introduces MMM spirituality.



A 'buzz' session during the morning



Expressing the gift of healing: the Mission Room



A moment for reflection

Bearers of the Gift: MMM Associates in Rwanda

MMM involvement in Rwanda began in response to the genocide in 1994. With Trócaire, the development agency of the Irish Church, we put together a medical team and began relief work. In June 1995, we began a longer-term commitment. Two MMM communities were established. The first, in Butare, was handed over in 2009. The other, in rural Kirambi, was the site of our first house.

In May 1997 we took over Kirambi Health Centre. In November 1998 the Kirambi Community Health and Development Programme (KCHDP) began and was integrated with the health centre. As a result, many families improved their lives with capacity development, support in health and nutrition, and economic empowerment through agriculture. KCHDP introduced rain water harvesting technology and water recycling.

The programme was placed second in Nyanza District in 2016. Also by December 2016, malnutrition in children under five in the catchment area had been reduced from 39% to 1.4%. We collaborated with local government and committees elected by the community, so what we started would continue in a sustainable way.

As MMMs, we go to places of great need. Our aim is to begin a service, empower the local people to continue, and move on. After a time of evaluation and assessment we realized that we had achieved our targets in Kirambi. We began a hand over process and on 31 January 2017, we transferred the MMM ministry to the Diocese of Gikongoro. It has been a privilege to be part of the story of the Rwandese people.

Allowing the Spirit to reveal the gift

The healing charism entrusted to MMM continues to unfold in Rwanda. There are three MMM Associates in Kirambi, two of whom are KCHDP staff members. Xavier Bizimana is a social worker and Aloysie Mukamana is acting coordinator. Dominique Ndayisenga is a teacher at Kirambi Primary School. They told Sister Angela Katalyeba how they marked the feast of the Visitation in 2017.



*Bringing God's healing to others:
MMM Associates in Rwanda*

'The evening of 31 May was special for three AMMMs and seven prospective AMMMs. We began with Mass in Kirambi Parish Church. In the evening we visited a vulnerable family. Since his wife died in 1999, Jean has lived in extreme poverty with his daughter, Thérèse. We prayed with them and shared some maize flour, cloth for Thérèse to make a dress, and soap.

'We then went to the family of an AMMM where we prayed together and reflected on Saint Benedict and the healing charism. Congregational Leader Sister Siobhan Corkery wrote to all MMMs and AMMMs for the feast and said, "Guests are to be welcomed as Christ." We discovered the preciousness of welcoming people with an open heart, especially the vulnerable.

'We felt lonely with the departure of the MMMs but we met other Associates in Uganda when we renewed our covenants in 2015.

That helped us to feel part of the larger MMM family. The prospective AMMMs shared their desire to make their covenants and we promised to contact our mentor in Uganda and plan together. We ended the day by sharing a beautiful meal and singing "The Magnificat". We assure you that we remembered all MMMs and AMMMs everywhere, prayed for our country and for peace for the whole world!



Staff of the KCHDP Programme rejoice with the trophy in 2016.



MMMs from five countries met in Kirambi.



MMMs and staff at Kirambi Health Centre



AMMMs, prospective AMMMs and MMM Sisters at a time for reflection and celebration

Angola

A special gift of MMM to Angola is: working with people who are dejected to find a voice.



The clean-up exposes volunteers to health hazards.



Sr. Alice greets those attending a busy clinic day.



Staff at the clinic in Viana

Reflecting on Gifts Received

Sister Alice Ashitebe, from Nigeria, described some of the challenges and successes of working in the urban environment of Mulenvos, Viana.

'At the height of the economic crisis in Angola the government was unable to pay the sixteen rubbish collector companies. They were reduced to eight and also had to reduce their staff, meaning there were few trucks available. People started discarding their waste in any available open space, including the front of our clinic. There is an uncompleted building and a day school opposite us, which became the refuse ground. Within a week there was no access for cars because in front of the clinic is a busy road leading to the market. One month there was heavy rainfall and the smell from the decomposing refuse was intolerable. There were thousands of big flies and mosquitoes inside the clinic.'

'We paid a company but even after two days they were unable to remove it all; the more they removed the more it increased. We asked the people why they were doing this, as if they did not appreciate our services. They said it would make the government listen to us and do something about the situation!'

A self-help approach

'We felt we had no choice but to close the clinic. The staff went around the streets and market with flyers that described the diseases that could be contracted from refuse and ways of disposing of it.'

'The villagers cooperated. Some helped pay for rubbish removal. Some stayed with us for four days while we cleaned the whole area. We also went to the village commission to ask for help. They contacted the military, who came with three trucks and took away twenty-one loads.'

'Then there was an outbreak of yellow fever, lasting over six months. Many children and adults died, but none of those we treated in our clinic died. There was a cholera outbreak and we participated in the vaccination programme. There were no deaths among those we treated in our centre.'

'We give health talks each day and go to the market with a megaphone to raise awareness about health issues. Now people come to ask us questions. After the cholera outbreak we started house to house visitation. We extended awareness-raising to schools. This year we are covering ten schools, both primary and secondary.'

Investing in the future

'We have trained eighteen nurses and laboratory personnel, some of whom we recruited onto our staff. At the moment, two laboratory students and two general nurses are having practical experience. One nurse assistant was upgraded and is now in her first year in the university. Another nurse graduated this year in clinical psychology. Two nurses who did a four-year degree course will write their final projects this year. Two cleaners who completed fifth class in primary school are now in eleventh class in secondary school. One of them plans to do nursing.'

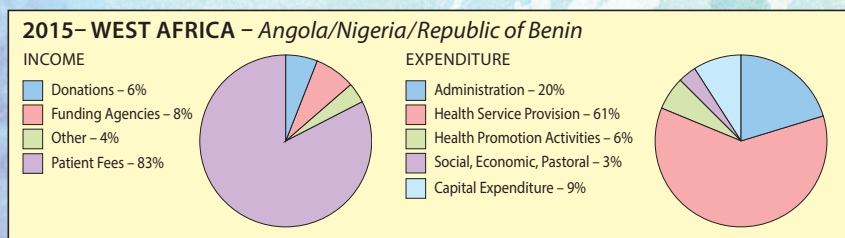
'We see our MMM charism and values in the relationships between the staff and the patients. We pray with our staff each morning and organize a retreat once a year. We go away from the clinic to reflect on all the blessings of the Lord.'



Sr. Alice with Teresa, a staff member, on graduation day



Preventive health: a vaccination day



Brazil



A special gift of MMM to Brazil is: being inserted in the lives of ordinary people, promoting integral healing through ministries that promote liberation, justice and peace.

A Daily Call to Change

Art, language and music can be a source of healing for people suffering from great trauma. Sister Gladys Dimaku, from Nigeria, is based in Salvador, Brazil, an area where violence is an everyday reality. She wrote about the MMM response through *Projeto Consolação* (Project Consolation).

'Every day our seven-person team, along with some volunteers, lives out the aim of *Projeto Consolação*: to support families who experience trauma caused by violent death in northeast Amaralina, with a population of about 120,000, 88% of whom are black.

'We work to promote human rights awareness and a culture of peace, and to reduce risk. In pastoral terms it means recognising Christ's presence in others - just being with them as they go through the mourning process, without advice-giving or judgement.

'We have witnessed the deaths of several young people, most of whom did not reach their 28th birthday. They were killed by the police or by their childhood friends, who became their enemies when taking commands from the leaders of opposing drug gangs, threatening the lives of the local people.

'According to the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) black males between the ages of 15 to 28 years are the greatest victims of violence. For 2015 the IBGE said that the unemployment rate was 8.3%, equivalent to 8.4 million people. Young people and adults who have not completed high school are most affected.

'In an evaluation we carried out in the community in November 2015, 57% of respondents said that young people are left out. There are no opportunities for youths - no jobs or recreational activities. This gave rise to our new activities in schools.'



Young people cope with stress through music.



Parents find expression in therapeutic art.



Women join hands and commit themselves to working for peace.



A teacher learns about trust during an active listening workshop.

A variety of programmes

'With the involvement of parents and staff, we work in three local schools, with groups of 4 to 10 year-olds, 10 to 17 year-olds, and 18 year-olds and above. By entering the world of children and youth we aim to identify those at risk and prevent involvement in drugs, substance abuse and child abuse. It helps children make healthy choices and develop confidence. Using a peer education model we use music, English language classes, therapeutic art, and talks on health and care for the earth to reach our audience. Each day we illustrate a message

with a piece of music and a text. Participants share in English or Portuguese or dance through the message to free emotions. There is a great demand for our involvement in more schools.

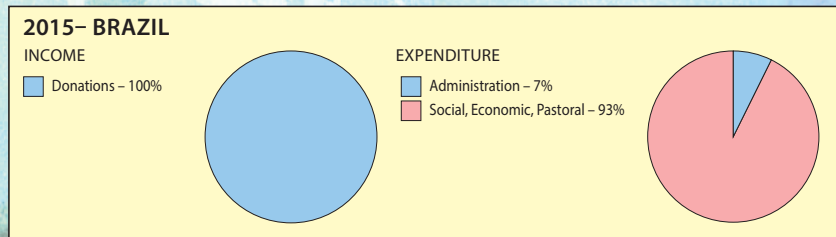
'We have extended therapeutic art work to the community one day per week for women and young people. Many say that using their hands to produce art work helps them think positively of themselves and to socialize. They plan to generate income through art work in the future.

'We gave a workshop on active listening to teachers in one school. This included communication skills, listening, body language, and some dynamics on trust and observation.

'This year we linked our reflection on peace-making and coping with violence with the theme for International Women's Day: "Women Making a Difference". In a quiet setting we reflected on what it means to be a woman and the daily call to make a difference in small ways. Using a behavioural change model each person made a commitment to the change she wanted to see in self, home, community and the world at large.'



Students improve their skills through English lessons.



Honduras

A special gift that MMM brings to Honduras is: being present to and accompanying the people in their daily lives, sharing their joys and pains.



MMMs in Siguatepeque: (L - R) Bernadette from Ireland, Margaret from Uganda and Cleide from Brazil.



Staff members at Meambar: Antonio, Telma and Vilma



Youth learn to help others using first aid skills.

Integrated Health and Development in Siguatepeque

Sister Cleide da Silva, from Brazil, carries out her MMM mission in Honduras, one of the poorest countries in Latin America. In spite of ongoing violence in many forms, the people remain vibrant and hopeful, lifted up by their faith. Cleide told us how her community 'shows forth the love and compassion of Christ, who came to heal and to liberate' (MMM Constitutions).

'Our MMM project is located in Méambar, forty kilometres northeast of the city of Siguatepeque, founded by the Spanish in 1689. It is a growing city in the central mountains of Honduras, 1,100 metres above sea level. Méambar is organized as a parish, comprising 41 communities, including villages and hamlets.

'When we arrived we did a needs assessment in 21 communities and selected 15 in which we would begin to form youth and women's groups in November and December 2015. In 2016 our focus was on further establishing the groups, getting to know the communities and people, and building relationships.

'The purpose of the project is awareness-raising and capacity-building of the team, and working with the women and youth on health, human development, human rights, violence, gender and care of the environment.



Children make positive choices by building self-esteem.

'Each meeting begins with a theme, on which we reflect together and share. The women who participate in the groups are for the most part poor housewives and single mothers. It is an opportunity for the women to talk about these issues and enjoy time together in a place where they feel comfortable and safe.'

Providing a safe space

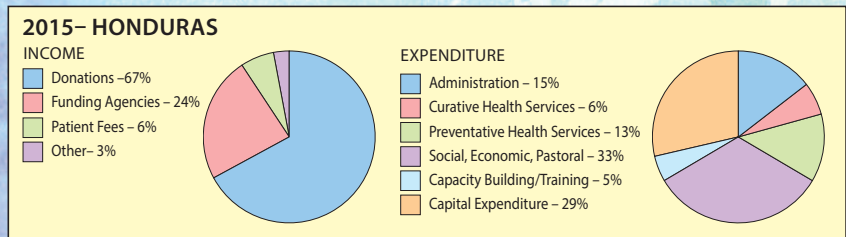
'The response to forming youth groups has been very positive. Many of the participants come from single-parent families, usually headed by the mother, because one parent has immigrated illegally to the United States. Most come from families affected by violence and drugs. They enjoy participating in the arts and crafts that we provide. More important, belonging to the group has helped them to learn how to treat others with respect and has given them time to share some of the difficulties they are experiencing.

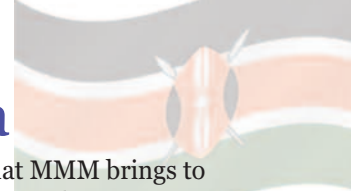


MMMs and Marcala MMM Associates continue a mission of healing.

'Participants in both youth and women's groups have shown gradual changes in attitude. They are growing in confidence and developing leadership skills.

'This is our healing mission - to be present and to bring the hope and love in which we are rooted and founded. It is our call to be compassionate to all as our loving God is compassionate, especially to the marginalized people in Méambar. Compassion calls us to action, responding in a practical way to the suffering of others. Like Mary, we are invited to express love and care for those on the margins of life. It is about our relationships to the people that we encounter every day, inspiring us to answer a human need.'





A special gift that MMM brings to Kenya is: healing with our presence through a prophetic witness, caring for those in the margins of life with dignity.

A Time for Sowing

Sister Pauline Kongo, from Kenya, recently completed studies for a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree. She described how she balanced the variety of demands involved in student life. 'Your prayer, your service, your study, in fact your whole life, all are dedicated towards the fulfillment of Christ's healing mission' (MMM Constitutions).

'I am from Kitui Diocese in Kenya. I trained as a pharmaceutical technologist in Nairobi Technical Training Institute and worked with the MMMs in South B in Mukuru, Nairobi before I joined in September 2006. After my profession in 2009 I was missioned to Makiungu, Tanzania for two years. I returned to Kenya for further studies in September 2011.

'In 2012, I began my training in Kenya Methodist University in Meru. It is in eastern Kenya, about 227 kilometres from Nairobi. The course took five years and was just beginning in the university. I was the first student to be admitted.

'Being a pioneer had advantages and challenges. There were just fifteen pharmacy students and we bonded well and assisted each other on our journey. Nevertheless, the number decreased to ten by our fifth year. Because we were the first class, we had to set up so many aspects of it. Being a religious Sister in my class and in a Methodist school was a different experience for me. Even though the Methodist Church did not give Catholics the opportunity to worship in their compound, they respected Sisters, whom they took as role models for other students.



The lake on the university grounds



Sister Pauline at the university

'It was a challenge to be away from my community because I lived at the university full time. I was fortunate to have Sister Nancy Ong'era with me for the first half of my time. We formed a community of two in Meru! Our MMM house of studies in Nairobi was very supportive, as were the other Sisters in Kenya, but I missed participating in MMM activities. It was a time to trust the Lord even more.'



MMM students Sisters Pauline Kongo and Nancy Ong'era: Nancy has since made her final commitment in MMM.

A time for gratitude

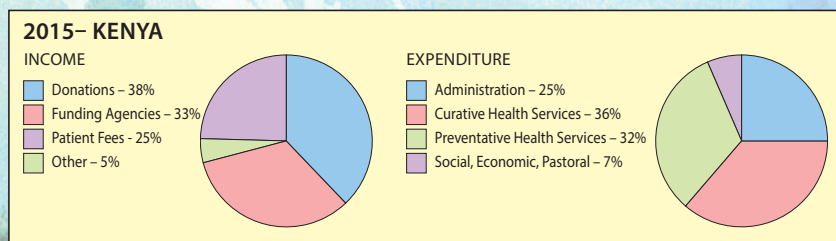
'I enjoyed the studies and all of my time in Meru. I found the environment in the university very conducive for learning. It is a quiet, beautiful, ever-green compound, including an artificial lake. With Mount Kenya Forest bordering the campus, we enjoyed visits from the elephants that came near the fence sometimes.

'I am now based in South B community in Nairobi. I am sharing in the community living and ministry in Mukuru as I prepare for the Pharmacy and Poisons Board exams in September this year. Depending on the results, I hope to begin one-year internship early in 2018.

'God has equipped me with knowledge and skills through my studies and life experiences. These have empowered me to deepen my understanding of healing. I have shared them and will continue to share them with His people. I have received Christ's mission (Mk.16:15) and like Mary, I responded, "Let it be to me according to your word."



Pauline hard at work at her pharmacy studies



Malawi

A special gift of MMM to Malawi is: in the face of issues such as recurrent hunger and HIV, being a reminder that humanity is not indifferent to their plight.



Saint Kizito's Integrated Health Center



An international group of MMMs in Malawi



Mothers and children at one of the immunization days

Working In Partnership

In November 2016, Saint Kizito's Integrated Health Center, formally known as Mtsiliza Integrated Health Center, came into being after accreditation by the Medical Council of Malawi. Sister Grace Akpan, from Nigeria, explained how the new facility was developed in response to the felt needs of the local people.

'When our MMM East/Central Africa Leadership Team wanted to know how best we in Lilongwe could contribute to Lilongwe Archdiocese, our Congregational Leadership Team (CLT) recommended that a comprehensive needs assessment be carried out.

'With the assistance of our Resource Team, in January 2014, parishioners from Saint Kizito's Parish in Chigoneka and MMM Sisters carried out the assessment. The strongest need expressed by the people was for a health center because the closest health facility was 10 kilometres away. They had to walk from two to four hours to access health care. They also said that having a health center in their community would help to reduce maternal and infant mortality because they cannot afford services in private hospitals.

'The CLT gave permission for the new ministry. The Sisters in Lilongwe discussed the way forward with the parish priest, the Catholic Health Commission, the District Health Officer, the Catholic Archbishop of Lilongwe, the Christian Health Association of Malawi, Lilongwe City Council, the Medical Council of Malawi and the community chiefs. They supported the idea of having a health center at Mtsiliza, a slum within the city of Lilongwe with an estimated population of over 55,000. Community members were happy, saying the Sisters had come to their help. They promised to support the initiative on condition that maternity work would be part of our activities so women would not have to go so far for their deliveries.



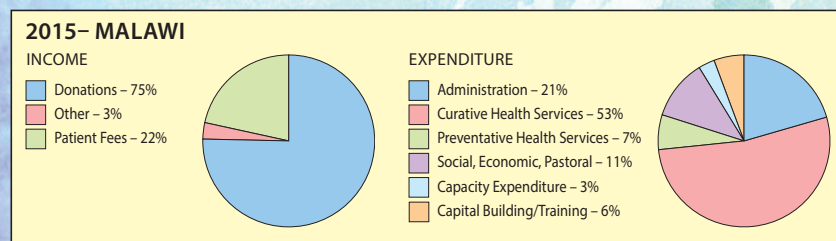
Sr. Ngozi gives nutritional counseling to a mother.

'The City Council identified a building constructed by World Vision ten years previously and located within a primary school compound, as suitable for the proposed health facility. The parish priest set up a Health Centre Task Force with parishioners as members. Much construction work and many renovations were necessary and the local people were involved through community mobilization. The initial staff members were from the community and the parishioners built and presented an administrative block to mark the end of the Year of Mercy.

'On 21 November, the center was blessed and dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus by Father Frank Taylor, SPS, parish priest of Saint Kizito's, Chigoneka. A total of 25 patients attended and were treated that day.

'Our aim is to provide the people with a quality, affordable, accessible and acceptable health care service. In June 2017, during a vaccination campaign against measles and rubella, 44,036 people were immunized. While the people appreciated the value of the campaign, they said that they often do not otherwise have access to health care; they only receive attention when specific diseases are targeted.

'Our ministry at Mtsiliza is a gift of healing. As wounded healers, we touch the suffering Jesus as we minister to these people who are in pain - physically, socially, psychologically and spiritually. In turn we are healed, as we share daily in their joys and sorrows.'



Nigeria

A special gift of MMM to Nigeria is: being the site of our MMM birthplace and a present source of discernment for MMMs for the future.

Unfolding a Gift of Healing

Sister Eunice Okobia, from Nigeria, trained as a nurse and is based at our mission in Abuja, in the north of Nigeria. She participated in the Heritage experience in Ireland in 2016. She was deeply influenced by that experience in describing how in her present ministry MMMs have been making basic health services accessible in an area of great need.



MMMs with a healthy mother, healthy baby – healthy family

'Since 2003, MMM Abuja has been involved in an outreach programme to fourteen villages. There are no government clinics or hospitals in these remote areas to provide immunizations, give health education, and treat common illnesses. The Sisters and staff emphasize the importance of seeking trained health care providers instead of using self-medication at home.

'One of our outreach centres is Kutasa, with a catchment area of about 400,000 people. It takes us two hours over an unpaved road to

reach Kutasa village and we need to go early to meet the people at home. Sometimes when we get to the village, we park our car and walk from house to house to call them to come out for vaccinations and to bring those who need treatment. We have pictured the condition of the local roads. These tracks are also lonely and the people travel in pairs for security.

'We show Kutasa women returning from farming, carrying heavy loads of firewood to sell. They earn less than two Euros a day as a result. From an early age girls spend long hours looking after the needs of their families.

'We also show you some scenes from Kutasa village, including the maternal and child health clinic. We, the MMMs in Abuja, take joy in this service, especially when mother and child are involved.'

Our particular concern

'In 2013, after yet another incident in which we saw the life of a mother and child put at risk, we requested approval to start a comprehensive maternity service in our local clinic. As we awaited the reply from our Congregational Leadership Team, we continued



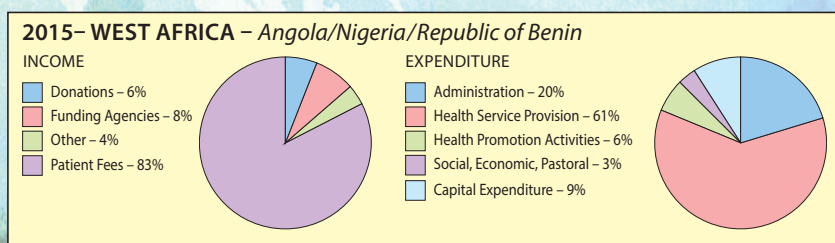
A mother and child health clinic

to attend to other complications from home deliveries, such as vesico-vaginal fistula. When we went from village to village to educate people on the importance of delivering at the hospital, they told us that they could not afford the hospital bills. We wanted one of our policies to be making the maternity services accessible and affordable for the poor and the vulnerable.

'In 2016, Guidelines for the Provision of Maternity Services in MMM Apostolates were issued. Our plans were in keeping with the guidelines. In February

2017 we had the official opening. We in Abuja community are happy to be the first to implement the MMM comprehensive maternity policies in the West Africa Area.

'We go in haste to heal and to be healed. Do you like our work? Would you like to join us?'



Poor roads are among the challenges to health care access.



The vehicle does double duty as a dispensary.



Women care for children, do farming and carry firewood to sell.

Republic of Benin

A special gift that MMM brings to the people of the Republic of Benin is: hope for a bright future for physically challenged persons and for youth.



A meeting with the village youth



Involving the community in decision-making



Women generate income by making groundnut oil and groundnut cakes.

Responding with Compassion

Sister Brigid Egbuna, from Nigeria, is based at our mission in Zaffé. She related the story of a physically challenged young man who, with the help of friends, family and support organisations, is now well on his way to realising his dream of becoming an accountant.

'Paul de Dieu (not his real name) is 18 years old. He first met MMMs in 2012, after his primary education. He could not continue to secondary school because his parents were poor farmers who cultivated just enough food to eat. With the encouragement of the Sisters his father agreed that his son would go to secondary school, so he rented more land for farming.

'Paul's weak and painful limbs made it difficult for him to walk to school every day. He could not even hold a stick for support but he had good friends in the village. They sometimes gave him lifts with their bicycles. He is very intelligent and he paid them back by helping them with their homework. We recommended Paul de Dieu to the Liliane Foundation, an organization based in the Netherlands that supports young people with disabilities. The foundation paid his school fees for three years and for his treatment when he was sick. We visited him at school and at home, encouraging him to focus on his studies and encouraging his parents to take care of his basic needs as they do for their other children. His father was advised to save money towards Paul's education from the sale of his farm produce.

'Paul de Dieu did his share of the housework and kept his room tidy. During harvest time he helped on the farm.

'As he got older, walking became more difficult. He stayed at home when there was nobody to give him a free ride to school. In 2015 we requested a tricycle from the Liliane Foundation and Social Welfare in Glazoué. The foundation approved the sum of 300,000 CFA francs (about 460 Euro) to buy the tricycle. By the time we located one, the officer in charge of physically challenged persons at Social Welfare said he had a tricycle for Paul. He got his address from us and personally delivered the vehicle.

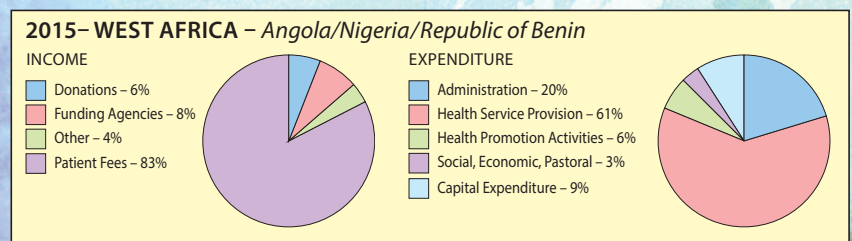
'Initially the father kept the tricycle in his room and only brought it out for Paul de Dieu to practice. If he went to the farm it stayed locked up in his room. It took some time to convince him that the boy needed the tricycle all the time. After two months Jean was able to take the tricycle to school.

'In 2016 the father decided to move Paul from the village to Dassa, where he would have a better opportunity to study, and where teachers were available for all the school subjects. He rented a room for him near the school with a relative to support him. He began paying school fees for his son, of whom he is now proud because he has done so well. Paul de Dieu passed his junior secondary exam on his first attempt. His father is ready to pay his school fees up to university so he can become an accountant.

'MMM is encouraging parents never to lose hope in their children. The sky is the limit for the physically challenged if they are given the opportunity to realise their dreams.'



Paul with his wheelchair



A special gift of MMM to South Sudan is: being in solidarity with the people and a sign of hope in a time of conflict and great suffering.

A Note of Gratitude

Sister Irene Balzan, from Malta, is Programme Coordinator of MMM's community-based health care programme in Wau. In May 2017, she wrote to thank the programme's generous supporters for what they have made possible.

'As you might be aware, South Sudan has been hitting the headlines with the protracted conflict in the country, hunger and famine, mass displacement of people, the death of our bishop, and the plane crash in Wau two months ago. The last was a tragedy and a miracle because there were no reported deaths in the crash. Despite all the challenges and setbacks we are still the "apple of God's eye" here.

'Our ministry is unique and challenging, especially in dealing with a great sense of apathy and hopelessness among the people. This greatly impacts the work ethos and the running of the ministry.

'We have a community-based health care programme covering ten outreach centres, and health education is an integral component. We have an on-going immunisation service that we carry out under the mango trees, in the company of stinging insects and flies. Immunisation is a very cost-effective public health intervention. Assunta, mother of six children, said that before MMM arrived, two of her children contracted polio and are now living with disabilities. Her children born since we began the immunisations are healthy. Other mothers say their children are sick less frequently after they are vaccinated. We are happy to see the positive impact on individuals and families after four years.'



Sr. Irene holds an infant: fed, vaccinated and happy.



Sr. Josephine Nabisere with Moses Ukel, newly-trained EPI vaccinator



Giving tetanus vaccine to a pregnant mother



The healing centre is U-shaped.



A mother with our driver, holding twins

Meeting basic needs

'Our initial needs assessment showed that inaccessibility to clean water was a major problem. Since the programme began in 2013, seven boreholes have been drilled, giving access to clean water to over 3,000 people. A water management committee was set up with the installation of each borehole. The committee ensures that the community maintains the borehole and has a sense of ownership, thereby reducing dependency. The programme trained eleven water hand pump mechanics so the boreholes can be repaired as necessary. This ensures sustainability.

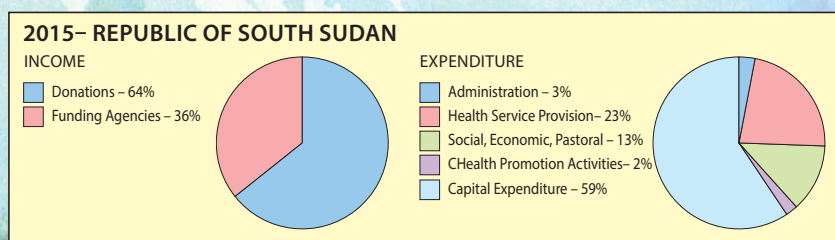
'An MMM healing centre is also close to completion. It consists of a health facility and a social department to incorporate holistic healing – physical, psychological, emotional and social. We plan to incorporate working with youth and empowering women through literacy classes.



In 'slumberland' before the needle!

'Your donations are of immense help in the running costs of the programme. They pay the allowances for the vaccinators, for transport costs and creating health awareness. It is unfortunate that most people in Wau, including our staff, are now displaced and living in very dire conditions. The allowance is a life-saver, enabling them to buy necessities for their families. We will need to employ more staff when the healing centre opens, hopefully by November 2017.

'Many preparations are being made in the meantime. Prices have increased greatly since the South Sudanese pound lost value against the dollar and famine is looming. Nevertheless, we continue to live in hope for a brighter future for South Sudan and its people. Currently we are "the fire in the ashes" for those entrusted to us. People like you keep us going. May God reward you abundantly.'



GOLDEN Jubilee

LIVES OF LOVE AND SERVICE



Sister Margaret Hogan was born in 1946 in Kilrush, Co. Clare. After joining MMM she initially trained in social sciences/social work. In 1975 she was assigned to Tanzania, where she worked for 2 years in the outreach programme at Kabanga Hospital. She then taught psychology in Dar es Salaam for 3 years.

In 1982 she completed a Master's in Clinical Psychology in Chicago and later a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology. From 1982 to 2016 she worked at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), Dar es Salaam as a teacher and clinician. On retirement in 2016 she was asked to help with a new training programme for psychiatric practitioners (clinical officers and assistant medical officers), under the Lutheran Church at SEKOMU University in Lushoto.

Margaret also helped with mission promotion work in the USA.



Sr. Renée with Sr. Mary McKearney (RIP) and lay missionary Mary Egan in Honduras



A gathering of MMMs during Sr. Margaret's early days in Tanzania; she is in back row, 4th from R.



Sister Renée Duignan was born in Carrick-on-Shannon in 1943 and worked in a bank before joining MMM. After profession she trained as a nurse-midwife. She cared for Mother Mary and guided women in their early years in MMM before assignment to Malawi in 1976. She spent 9 years in nursing, primary health care and in local MMM leadership. From 1985 to 1997 Renée served in MMM Congregational leadership.

In 1998 she was assigned to Mexico, where MMM planned to start a new mission, and began language studies. When Hurricane Mitch devastated Honduras, Renée was part of an MMM team that responded in 1999 and then stayed in the country when we decided to establish a more permanent presence. Since then she has been involved in holistic health care and pastoral work in Marcala and Choloma.



Sister Catherine O'Grady was born in Sligo in 1946 and trained as a nurse-midwife after joining MMM. She later obtained qualifications in counselling. In 1975 she was assigned to Tanzania. Over 9 years there she worked as a nurse and hospital matron, in MMM leadership, and in guiding Tanzanian women in their early years in MMM. She also spent 3 years in vocation and mission awareness work in the USA. In 1989 she was assigned to Sudan, where she did pastoral work for 2 years.

In 1992 Catherine returned to Tanzania. For 13 years she coordinated community-based health care (CBHC) services in Makiungu, and nutrition and HIV services for the diocese. In 2005 she initiated a HIV services-related programme, Faraja Centre, in Singida. Sister Catherine served for several more years in MMM leadership and is currently the director of Faraja CBHC.



Sr. Catherine at the opening of Faraja CBHC in Singida, Tanzania



Sister Mairead Butterly was born in Dublin in 1946. After joining MMM she trained as a social worker. She helped to found Community Services in Drogheda and worked there for 2 years. In 1972 Mairead was assigned to Kenya and for 3 years she was co-ordinator of women's development in Eldoret Diocese. This was followed by 2 years in social work in the IMTH in Drogheda and in mission awareness.

After obtaining a Master's in Community Health in 1978, Mairead did primary health care work in Nigeria. She then completed a degree in Communication Arts and was directress of the MMM Social Communications Department from 1981 to 1988. She also spent 4 years in the CMRS Communications Office in Ireland. In 1993 she was assigned to Malawi, where she served as Executive Secretary for the Association of Women Religious. From 1996 to 2001 she worked for the Diocese of Brentwood in England in refugee development.

Mairead returned to Ireland in 2001 and was involved in administration in St. Francis' Hospice in Dublin for 6 years. Health issues necessitated ongoing nursing care and Sister Mairead is currently based in *Aras Mhuire*. Despite her illness Mairead maintains a positive attitude and an interest in the activities of her family and the staff - part of her deep trust in God.



Renewal of vows at the Golden Jubilee Mass



Srs. Catherine, Margaret and Renee cut the cake!

SILVER Jubilee



Sister Angela Anigbogu was born in 1962, in Adazi-Nnukwu, Nigeria. She trained as a nurse-midwife before joining MMM. After first profession she served for 2 ½ years in nursing in Urua Akpan. She then spent over 6 years in Chiulo, Angola as tutor and later principal in the school of nursing. Angela also served in local MMM financial administration. She then obtained a Bachelor of Nursing Studies and a BSc in Nursing Management in Ireland.

In 2005 she was assigned to Eleta, Nigeria, where she was matron and CEO of St. Mary's Hospital for 4 years. During this time she also served in local MMM leadership and obtained an MSc in Leadership. In 2009 she was elected to Congregational leadership. In 2016 Angela was assigned to Angola, where she is now administrator of our medical centre in Viana.



Sister Beatrice Okoh was born in Afikpo, Nigeria in 1959. She trained as a nurse-midwife and worked as a nurse for 3 years before joining MMM. After first profession she was assigned to Tanzania, which she served in several missions as a staff nurse and midwife for 8 years. After helping in Makondo, Uganda for several months, in 2000 she went to Kirambi, Rwanda where she worked for 2 years in the health centre.

After community health training in Nairobi, in 2002 Beatrice was assigned to Nigeria. She was involved in primary health care in St. Mary's Hospital in Ibadan for 9 years. She was a nurse in Itam, where MMM provides holistic services for women affected by obstetrical fistula.

Since 2013 Beatrice has been based in Fuka, Nigeria, where we have an extensive primary health care outreach.

Tanzania

A special gift of MMM to Tanzania is: showing God's presence among people affected by chronic pain and illness.



Volunteers bring compassionate care to others.



Faraja Centre provides a wide range of services.



Local fundraising: Friends of Faraja with Sr. Dr. Marian Scena (R)

Moved with Compassion

Sister Doctor Marian Scena, from the USA, is Coordinator of the Faraja Centre Hospice and Palliative Care Programme in Singida. Started in August 2012, the programme provides treatment, especially pain control, for people with terminal illnesses in Singida Municipality. It is part of Faraja Centre Community-Based Health Care, which provides HIV/AIDS-related services. For Marian and her team, compassion and healing are the priorities.

Njiku's story

'In February 2016, San, a palliative care (PC) volunteer, arrived with a man whom he thought needed PC. San had gone to his farm in another district, where he met Njiku (not his real name), a married man with five children. He complained of severe pain in his left chest and shoulder and had a mass and large wound on his chest. He was not able to sleep or work on his farm due to the pain. He said that in 2011 he had an amputation of the end of his index finger. No pathology was checked. In February 2015 he noticed a mass in his left armpit. At another hospital the swelling was biopsied and showed metastatic malignant melanoma, a cancer resulting from the problem in 2011.

'It was not possible for him to go to the cancer hospital in Dar es Salaam. He needed treatment for his pain and his wound. The team gave him oral morphine and he experienced great relief after fifteen minutes.

'Faraja PC patients usually come from Singida Municipality but sometimes, if a patient or a relative can come for the medications, they are accepted, especially if they have severe pain and need morphine, as Njiku did. His relief was so complete that he was able to work on his farm for a short time each day.

'He collected his morphine from Faraja Centre and the volunteer visited him at home. San accompanied him on the bus to Singida when he needed more medications. Njiku's condition was assessed by phone through a neighbour. On 21 May 2016 the PC team heard that Njiku had died. They were very happy that, although it wasn't easy to treat him from a distance, his quality of life had greatly improved and he felt cared for by the team.'

Remembering the deceased of Faraja

'On 17 November 2016 the third Remembrance Service for patients was held in Faraja Centre. From November 2015 to 2016, 47 people died - 38 from the Hospice and Palliative Care Programme and 9 from the *Tunajali* (We Care) Home-Based Care Programme.

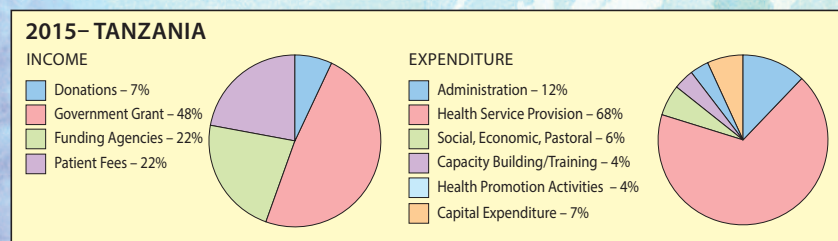
'Those invited were Faraja Centre staff, Faraja Hospice and Palliative Care volunteers, *Tunajali* HBC volunteers, two members from each family, a Muslim religious leader, and a Catholic priest. They prayed that by gathering to remember the deceased they would encourage healing of the personal loss they experienced.

'In a "Reflective Naming of Each Deceased", the volunteers named each person they had accompanied. Families and volunteers made short prayers or related something from the person's life. Father Ngalya offered a final prayer.

'More sharing took place over refreshments. The PC Team felt that during the service they had praised God, asked for mercy for the deceased, built bridges between religious groups, and provided a safe environment where healing could take place.'



Cherishing loved ones at the remembrance service



A special gift of MMM to Uganda is: bringing healing to those affected by birth injuries and disabilities and restoring them once again to society.

To Heal the Broken-hearted

Sister Juliet Ezekwere, from Nigeria, is involved in palliative care in Makondo, providing much-needed services for people with life-limiting illnesses and their families.



Assessing needs during a home visit

'Our 2015 MMM Congregational Chapter called us to express our healing charism in prophetic ways. I am grateful for the opportunity to study palliative care so I can assist individuals and families faced with life-limiting illnesses, the elderly and the ageing.

'I completed the Diploma in Clinical Palliative Care (DCPC) with Hospice Africa Uganda (HAU) in 2016. I returned to our health centre in Makondo as a palliative care nurse and morphine prescriber. Palliative care is much needed for the 85% of Ugandans who live in rural settings. Most families with members suffering from life-limiting illnesses are challenged with caring for them at home. They lack knowledge to seek medical advice at an early stage, which usually leads to late diagnosis and a poor prognosis.

'Communities need education about the role of palliative care to help them understand that suffering from chronic illness does not indicate one is bewitched or should be abandoned by loved ones. Instead, holistic care and management, which relieve a patient's physical, psychological, social, and spiritual pain, should be encouraged.

'During our home visits the team assess and manage symptoms and administer medication. The family are offered advice and counselling, leading to a more positive and holistic experience.

'We have also developed strategies to address the challenges affecting palliative care delivery. Services are still minimal, so patients and families must often travel long distances to the service-providing centres. Patients on morphine have been seen reducing their morphine doses to make them last longer, so their pain recurs.

'We have helped patients to get their supplies, especially morphine, by working with other palliative care providers. We have strengthened our ties with Kitovu Mobile Home Care to continue to provide quality and comprehensive care and to ask for advice. While collaboration is key, palliative care needs to be integrated into health care systems to bring services closer to the people.'

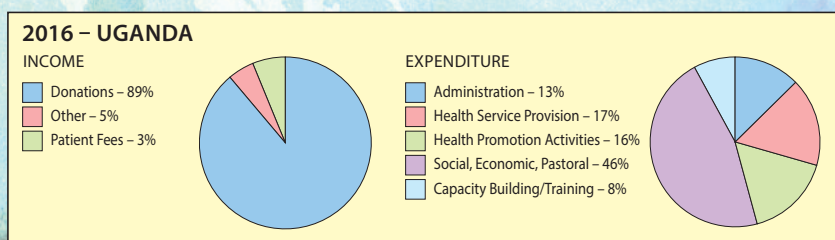
Reaching the most vulnerable

'Many of our patients and their families are poor. They cannot afford transport to the Uganda Cancer Institute. They can hardly afford to buy food, which affects both patients and families. This leaves them dependent on people of good will for necessities. Some patients have been supported through other groups.

'We realized that awareness about palliative care was minimal and that people have misconceptions about it. We started sensitization sessions during outreach programmes. Some village health teams and community health workers got involved. Trainees are able to identify and refer patients with palliative care needs for support. Families are encouraged to seek out services at an early stage.

'It is essential to offer the best holistic care to our brothers and sisters, enabling them to die with dignity. As Dame Cecily Saunders, the founder of modern hospice and palliative care said, "You matter because you are you. You matter to the last moment of your life, and we will do all that we can, not only to let you die peacefully, but to live until you die."

Finances for 2016 include Rwanda till end of January 2017.



Sr. Juliet and staff listen to the concerns of the elderly.



Sr. Juliet (C) with Dennis and Jill Garrou, AMMM, in Makondo



Makondo Health Centre staff, including two from palliative care



Sister and staff provide holistic care in the community.



Doctor Kelly's memorial card: The quote was: 'We were not born for ourselves.'

John V. Kelly, MD 1926-2017: A Tribute

We were sorry to hear the news of the passing of Dr. John Vincent Kelly, obstetrician and gynaecologist, on 4 July 2017, in Phoenix, Arizona.

Born in Canada and raised in Michigan, USA, he completed his obstetrics and gynaecology (ob-gyn) training in New York City in 1955. As a research fellow in Boston, John Kelly worked in the field of human reproduction and was awarded a Fulbright scholarship. He was an instructor and assistant professor in ob-gyn at UCLA School of Medicine.

He married France Marie le Grand de Mercey, a French oil painter. With his wife and son, Dr. Kelly went to Anua, Nigeria in 1964 and worked at St. Luke's Hospital. In 1967, with the outbreak of the Biafran War, the Kellys returned to the USA, where Dr. Kelly became Director of Medical Education and Professor of Ob-Gyn at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He and France had three more children. In 1975, Dr. Kelly became Chairman of the Department of Ob-Gyn at Maricopa Medical Center in Phoenix, Arizona and a professor at the University of Arizona Medical School.

When he 'retired', he again contacted MMM. In 2004, Sr. Dr. Marian Scena, Medical Officer-in-Charge at Makiungu Hospital, Tanzania said, 'Since 1996, Dr. Kelly has spent between four and eight months every year with us, passing on his skills, experience and wisdom to the other medical staff. [He] ... developed a large practice dealing with problems of infertility. He has also helped to train our younger Sister-doctors in obstetrics.' The hospital ward that he funded was named 'The JVK Ward' in his honour.

We are grateful for our long association with this great humanitarian and send our sympathies to his family.

A Gift of Light and Healing

In February 2017, thirteen women of four nationalities arrived in Ngaramtoni, Tanzania from their countries of mission - Honduras, Kenya, Uganda, Ireland, Brazil and Nigeria. They were to participate in the School of the Lord's Service (SOLS), a time of renewal and exploration as part of their preparation for final commitment in MMM.

The theme of the programme was the Gospel story of Jesus and the Samaritan woman. Like this woman, the participants engaged in a time of self-discovery. This involved listening to their individual stories with acceptance and reverence. They explored our MMM foundations in Benedictine spirituality, which linked with eco-spirituality and our connections with the whole of creation. There were visits to the Arusha Cultural Heritage Centre and Manyara National Park to see the uniqueness and beauty of Tanzania. Visits to non-government organizations working with vulnerable people gave

opportunities to be in solidarity with the marginalized and to expand their ideas on expressing our healing charism in ways relevant to today's realities.

The turning point was a workshop on the Transformation Process, in which the participants' gifts, vulnerabilities, struggles and realities were vividly revealed. Engaging with these discoveries gave the Sisters courage, renewed energy and willingness to give fully of themselves on mission. This was an experiential journey, intended to have a fundamental impact on their lives.

Writing for the group, Sisters Chibuzo Joy Aloka and Miranilza Nascimento dos Santos said the process uncovered who they are as MMMs: 'women, who like the Samaritan, allow ourselves to be loved passionately by God and, experiencing this transforming love, become channels of Christ's healing love in the world.'



Welcoming participants to a time of reflection



Participants and facilitators in the School of the Lord's Service

Working Together for Health and Healing

We thank our many generous friends who made it possible for us to continue our work in the past year. We are grateful to all those who worked in cooperation with us, especially the governments of the countries in which we work. We could not maintain our services without them. Their contributions are included under donations.

Unspecified large donations received by Congregational Business Administration or the MMM Communications Department are allocated, after discussion, to places in most need.

Pie charts

The first set of charts shows the total income and expenditure for MMM for the works of the Congregation during 2015; the second set shows that for 2016. The proportion of income provided by funding agencies and our other donors amounted to almost half of our overall income for 2016.

We greatly value our partnership with donor agencies and the generosity of our other friends who have supported us so constantly over the years. We are deeply thankful for their interest and encouragement, which is bringing God's love and healing to countless thousands in need.

We also wish to express our thanks to the dioceses that supported us last year through Mission Awareness. For this report, these are the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin in Ireland, several deaneries and dioceses in Scotland and England, and the dioceses in the United States that welcomed us through the Mission Cooperative Plan.

Please note the wording for some of the categories in the pie charts. Under Health Services Provision we have included all expenditures involved in Curative Health Services. Health Promotion Activities include those activities involved in Preventative Health Services. Some countries may have a number of houses and ministries but one may take the bulk of funding, e.g. Makiungu Hospital in Tanzania. This is a large institution needing well qualified staff, up-to-date equipment, and large quantities of drugs.

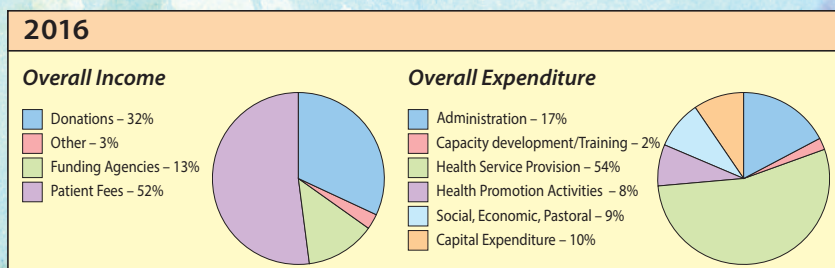
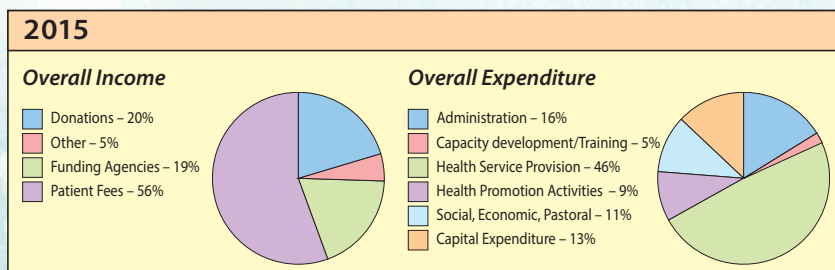
Passing on skills

Upgrading and capacity development for our staff and clients has a high priority in our work. While charts for some countries lack a specific category for capacity development or training, many staff members avail of training and updating provided by our donors or government. Staff are given time off to attend courses and continue to receive their salaries. MMM, through our Resource Team, also runs workshops that are funded by our donors, so these costs do not appear in our own expenses.

Under individual country reports, please note that West Africa includes Nigeria, the Republic of Benin and Angola. We handed over our programmes in Rwanda in January 2017.

Funding for MMM students in Nairobi, Kenya and those in first formation in Ibadan, Nigeria is accounted for under the MMM Congregational Centre.

MMM has appropriate policies and procedures in place to ensure transparency and accountability in our financial reporting.



OUR PROMISE TO OUR DONORS

When a donor specifies a country, project or special need (e.g. women's development, AIDS), 100% of that donation is transferred to the specified country or project. We allocate non-specified donations to the most urgent needs overseas or add them to our General Mission Fund, which pays for airfares, professional training of Sisters, and emergency needs overseas.



A father and daughter in Brazil: A special concern for Medical Missionaries of Mary is the fostering of family life.

How you can work with us ...

- ❖ Pray with us. We remember you each day.
- ❖ Join us as members of MMM.
- ❖ Share our charism as MMM Associates.
- ❖ Make a donation by mail or online at www.mmmworldwide.org
- ❖ Leave an enduring gift of health and healing in your will.

Remembering us in your will or giving a donation in memory of a loved one helps us to plan for our work. You can specify how and where your gift will be used.

Please include: "the Congregational Leader, for the time being, of the Medical Missionaries of Mary".

Data protection information is available in our Privacy Statement on our MMM website at www.mmmworldwide.org

Ireland

A special gift of MMM to Ireland is: providing an opportunity to return to our MMM sources and witnessing to the value of the elderly in society.



Sr. Mary Ann MacRae speaks during the Mass.



MMMs and members of the Martin family at the Mass



Srs. Helen Spragg and Gabriel Ashe chat with Norman Martin at the celebrations.



(L-R) Sr. Jude Walsh, Andrea Martin, Christy Martin and Sr. Isabelle Smyth

Memories and Miracles

On 4 April 1937, Marie Martin professed her vows in a hospital in Nigeria, establishing a new congregation dedicated to bringing God's love and healing to people in great need. Our Motherhouse in Drogheda provided a venue for one of our MMM 80th birthday celebrations.

Sisters from our communities in Ireland, MMM Associates, and eleven members of the Martin family gathered for the Mass, concelebrated by Father John McAlinden and Father Pat Kelly, SPS.

During the liturgy, Sister Mary Ann MacRae, of our Congregational Leadership Team, reflected on Marie's wholehearted fiat, giving up marriage and someone she loved deeply, to be free for what God asked of her. Her experience during World War I showed her what could be accomplished through nursing. The suffering she witnessed and the death of her young brother, Charlie, left her a changed woman. Each of us in our own way has followed her example in good as well as challenging times.

The guests joined the Motherhouse community for a meal, followed by remarks from the Martin family and by MMMs who worked closely with Mother Mary.

Andrea Martin, daughter of Larry Martin (a first cousin of Mother Mary), remembered birthday parties in Drogheda and spoke of the MMM story as a 'journey marked by miracles'. Andrea presented Sister Isabelle Smyth with copies of a recently-discovered set of letters from Charlie to his mother and his Uncle Charlie. The originals have gone to the National Library of Ireland for special conservation.

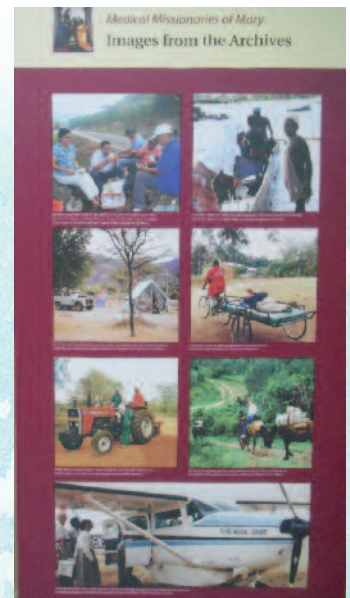
Larry Martin also remembered parties at the Martin family home in *Greenbank*, where Mrs. Martin offered a home to Marie's first companions after they left Glenstal in 1936. Marie's sister Ethel used to tell the children, 'Keep quiet. There are nuns in the basement!'

Larry spoke of impressions of Mother Mary in Drogheda: of great hospitality and links with Saint Benedict; of Mother always bustling about helping someone, and the faith she had that God would guide her and provide her with the means to do what was needed.

Sister Jude Walsh spoke of arriving in Drogheda for interview before joining MMM. 'Mother Mary was a woman so genuine, so alive, so aware of what was happening in the world.' Though there wasn't enough room to house the many women who were joining and she was very busy with building, Mother still took time to give conferences to the Sisters.

Sister Monica Prendergast recalled that when the hospital was built, the chapel was placed opposite the telephone room. There were complaints that the noise from the telephone room could be heard in the chapel, disrupting prayer. Mother Mary commented, 'I've been thinking about that – that God is in noise as well as in quiet. When I hear about an accident, I think of the staff going out and the patient coming in. I pray for them. The chapel should be in a public area.'

Perhaps this last recollection illustrates most clearly how Marie Martin was a woman deeply aware of the world's realities, who felt a call to contribute to its healing. With gratitude we celebrated her response to that call and the example she gave to others, encouraging them to share in the gift that she received.



A poster illustrating the work of MMM around the world

England

A special gift of MMM to England is: sharing our MMM story and being in solidarity with others on justice issues.

When People Feel They Belong

Sister Ruth Percival, from England, is based at our MMM house in London. She described just some of the ways in which our Sisters there are integrated into the local community. They especially live out our core value of Hospitality.

'Nowadays we MMMs are few in the UK. At a time of diminishment we are more than ever aware of our gift of healing, "that they all may have life and have it abundantly" (Jn 10:10). This is especially true with so many tragic events here recently.

'We live our spirituality in Ealing, London, in a variety of ways. We are involved in the everyday life of our Benedictine Abbey parish as Eucharistic ministers and readers and cleaners.

'We belong to the Abbey Justice and Peace Group, working independently as well as with CAFOD on big issues. Addressing a concern that has gone off the headlines, we are presently organising a Hunger Banquet to help with the hunger crisis in East Africa. We also made the bunting on which the parishioners wrote their messages to send to the Paris Summit on Climate Change.

'We know our local MP, Rupa Huq, a very dedicated woman. We use every opportunity to communicate with her on current national and international issues.



Sr. Mary Molloy (Back-R) with the plainsong choir and Fr. Thomas, OSB, at the nursing home



The MMM community in Ealing

'Teams of Our Lady, for married couples, invited one of us to join them. Our MMM foundress was inspired to form the Congregation to respond to the great need she witnessed for the care of mothers and children, especially at childbirth. This is another way to live out our charism, which treasures family life. One of us belongs to a group for the elderly, whose members pray for a troubled teenager. They meet for Mass and tea monthly.'

The power of presence

'Another beautiful way of celebrating prayer is through plainchant, a variety of which is known as Gregorian chant. A member of our community belongs to the music group at the Abbey. Some members of the group join others in London and further afield to share this musical worship. Once a month they visit a care home for Mass with one of the monks. The residents often join in the singing, obviously remembering something very precious from times past.

'Many people at church and in the local community ask us to pray for them and about issues that concern them. As in all our MMM houses, we pray daily for these intentions and for those who support us.

'We receive donations and send them to our Congregational Business Administration to support the many projects in which we are involved around the world. The generosity of our donors, including those we meet at churches on Mission Awareness around the country, is humbling and heartening.

'We very much enjoy offering hospitality to MMMs, AMMMs, and family and friends, old and new. They are sources of refreshment, pleasure and news. Helping our Sisters to get their visas and other official documents is an important part of being in London.

'We also take the opportunity to respond to local incidents. We went to Grenfell Tower after the dreadful fire, making it a pilgrimage to put a message on the wall and read what other anguished people had written. We visited their church and met the priest. There is our charism, being with those who suffer.

'Do we make a difference here? Yes, I think we do.'



Sisters Mary Shephard and Maureen Clarke are Eucharistic ministers.



Sr. Ruth Percival reading the many messages left at Grenfell Tower

The USA

A special gift that MMM brings to the USA is: by a gentle presence bringing the healing love of Christ to all we meet.



At RAM: AMMMs Kathy, Pat and Ann with Sr. Bernie and Ursuline helpers



The medical clinic registration and holding areas



Volunteers line up for food!

Living with Creative Fidelity

MMM Associate Patricia Adam, who lives in Peabody, MA, described how she was led to know and share our MMM gift of healing after a literally life-changing experience.

'In 2014, after 11 mission trips to the Dominican Republic, I contracted dengue fever and nearly died. A year later, fully recovered and heeding my doctor's recommendation to avoid travel where dengue was present, I began searching for trips in the USA. My computer connected me to a photo of a Medical Missionary of Mary, Sister Bernie Kenny, standing in front of the first Health Wagon, which brought medical attention to people in the mountains of Appalachia in Virginia. I had never heard of MMM, but a couple of emails later, feeling I was being "repurposed", I boarded a plane for Clinchco!



Pat (L in light blue hat) with the youth group from Heartland, WI

'As a respiratory therapist, I was looking forward to volunteering in any capacity for the three-day medical clinic on the Wise County Fairgrounds, organized by Remote Area Medical (RAM). I met MMM Associates Ann Hook and Kathy Velakkakan at Tri-Cities Airport and we drove to Sister Bernie's house for a relaxing evening before orientation. I was amazed at the range of the RAM clinic. Full dental, vision, and medical services were provided at no cost to more than 3,000 persons!

'The days were long and exhausting, but extraordinarily energizing. I toiled alongside 1,100 volunteer doctors, nurses, medical students, and non-medical personnel. I was primarily an escort, walking patients from triage to clinic areas. Most were intrigued by my accent. They could not believe that someone from Boston would come to help! I gained an understanding of the burdens of life in the mountains, as I heard countless stories of being unemployed, uninsured, of ill health, mental illness, substance abuse, housing issues, and the inability to provide necessities for families. As I recognized each person as a brother or sister in Christ, my heart ached as I realized my love for them. I experienced amazing Benedictine hospitality through Sister Bernie, Ann and Kathy as we got to know each other. They are the reason I decided to become an AMMM in October 2016.'



Health Wagon workers at RAM

Catching the Spirit

'I returned in 2016 for RAM and the new Family Preservation Program, developed by Sister Bernie. It is an AMMM service opportunity, to befriend those in need. I spent five days repairing a home in Clintwood with a youth group from Wisconsin. I also established friendships with a man who spent years in the Virginia prison system for a crime he did not commit, the elderly woman living alone in the home we repaired, and the family caring for an ill elderly member and a son with Down syndrome.

'In January 2016, I began a Friday lunch at my parish for those who are marginalized or vulnerable. As our volunteer numbers increased and friendships developed, we heard stories of being homeless, mentally ill, suffering from addictions, loneliness, and hunger. Now our assistance includes clothing, toiletries, rides to court and detoxification and medical appointments, help with housing, résumé writing and employment, Bible discussion groups, holiday gatherings, and burial assistance.

'Reflecting on this ministry, I am reminded Mother Mary's words: "We must love together as the Holy Family, loving one another, taking on each other's burdens."

‘Go out into the dark; put your hand in the hand of God.’

(Minnie Louise Haskins).

The ways in which MMM Associates live out the gift, or charism, of healing continue to evolve. Associate Jill Garrou, from Colorado, USA, is mother of three, grandmother of six, and a registered nurse working in hospice care. In February 2017, with her husband, Dennis, and friends, she visited Makondo to work with our Sisters and the community. She wrote about her encounter with an extraordinary woman.

‘We met Natotonga one sunny day outside the MMM clinic. Wearing a simple cotton dress and seated on a colourful straw mat, she greeted us with a wide smile. She introduced us to two small boys who smiled and shook our hands.

“Good morning. How are you?” they said in English. They attended primary school nearby and the MMMs helped with school fees. “The Sisters helped us build a water collection tank because there is no well. We had to carry water very far to our house.”



The road to the clinic in Makondo

‘Natotonga took them in after their parents died. The older boy (8 years old) and his brother (6 years old) were staying on the village streets. I saw a battered, muddy wheelchair nearby and asked if it was theirs.

“No, it’s Natotonga’s. We bring her here every clinic day to sell chapattis or fruit. The Sisters gave us the chair.” I then saw that Natotonga’s legs were withered. She was only able to crawl. The road they travelled was at least three miles long, dirt-packed, narrow, with deep potholes. A creek overflowed onto it during the rains.

“You push her in that wheelchair, just the two of you?” I asked.

“Yes! We are very strong!” Flexing their small muscled arms!

‘That evening Sister Juliet Ezekwere said that Natotonga had invited us to her home the next day. Natotonga also cared for her 96-year-old mother and a young man with disabilities who “just needs someone to look after him”. Natotonga’s brother and his wife also lived with her and “help in the garden”.

‘The home was a small two-roomed mud and thatch structure. The roof leaked badly during the rains. A small shed housed the tools and wheelchair and there was a large water collection tank. We were amazed to see beautiful and well-maintained gardens. Coffee, mangos, avocados, bananas and a few tomato plants were all producing fruit.

‘The family said, “Without the water from the tank, everything would die. We carry water to every plant. We are so happy the Sisters help us! They plan a new house for us when the council gives permission.”’

Jill wrote, ‘My heart soared even as tears flooded my eyes. Natotonga taught me much about our core values as AMMMs: her willingness to invite us to her home, sharing her strengths and weaknesses, her joyful nature, giving me a part of herself! I’ve come to understand that living in relationship with those around us gives vital meaning to “love your neighbor”. As MMM Sisters and Associates we are to seek opportunities to intentionally live with creative fidelity, to give a bit of ourselves to those we meet, wherever we go.’



Dennis participates in a house blessing.



Jill (C) enjoys a moment of relaxation with the Sisters.



Natotonga’s wheelchair next to the water tank



Jill visits a local women’s group.



Because of You

The priceless gift of a smile

Several donors covered the cost of a set of instruments for performing cleft lip and palate surgery for **Sister Doctor Martine Makanga**. She was overjoyed when we told her that it was on its way to her in Nairobi. She wrote, 'When I get the instruments, I will travel with them. It will be more reliable and easier to perform surgery. Sometimes it is difficult to find good instruments in the hospitals. I am really grateful to the benefactors. Please, if you could say thanks to them.'

'I came back from Pointe-Noire, Congo on 1 June 2017.

From 15 to 25 May, we had a free cleft lip and palate surgery camp at the Adolphe Sicé in Pointe- Noire. There was a local ENT surgeon whom I have taught to do cleft lip repairs. He knows how to do cleft palate repairs. Another surgeon also learned. We had 28 patients, including 24 children aged from 2 weeks to 1 year, and 4 adults from 18 to 67 years old. All went well. We thank God and the local very efficient team of anaesthetists and nurses.'



Fundraising in Tanzania: Friends of Faraja Centre, Singida

Sister Catherine O'Grady was very excited to tell us about the outcome of a meeting of the Faraja Centre Health Unit Management Committee in February 2017. 'A main topic for discussion was sustainability of the centre and the need for local funding. MMM Associate Grace Shao, a local businessman, and our street chairperson formed a team to plan a fundraiser.'

The date was set for 28 May and invitations were sent to all business people in the town, friends, and government officials of all religions. Those who attended, including the staff, were very enthusiastic. They heard a sobering story from one of the orphans supported by Faraja Centre and started fundraising for her. When they heard that families, especially of clients on treatment, didn't have enough to eat, they decided to form a group, Friends of Faraja Centre, to support MMM ministries.

Later the group chose a chairperson and all pledged to bring more friends. They plan to have at least one hundred in the group. By June, funds had been given to assist three students who are orphans and one of the palliative care clients through the administration of Faraja Centre.



You are in our hearts.

Several years ago, **Mary Bradley**, an MMM Associate in Falmouth, Cornwall, UK, asked if she could develop an association with a particular MMM mission in prayer and friendship. She was especially interested in South Sudan because it was our newest mission. Sister Joanne Bierl, the AMMM contact person at the time, readily agreed. The relationship that developed has been a source of mutual encouragement and joy.

Mary wrote, 'On 1 July 2017, my parish, Saint Mary Immaculate, had a very lovely social evening and people commented on the good atmosphere. Everyone brought food to share and we had a raffle to swell the funds. Altogether we raised £318, which has gone to the MMM mission in Wau, South Sudan. I read the report that Sister Irene sent and the news of the Sisters.'

She told the Sisters in Wau: 'Those who attended were very moved when they heard of the work that you are doing and of the dire situation. It is good that money was raised but just as important for you to know that we were thinking of you and of those to whom you minister and holding you in our hearts.'



'WE ARE SEEN AS DYING, AND YET - WE ARE ALIVE'

(2 COR 6:9).

Sister Mary McKearney, MMM



Sister Mary was born in Emyvale, Co. Monaghan in 1942. She trained as a secretary and worked for the Land Commission before joining the Medical Missionaries of Mary in 1962. After profession she qualified as a nurse-midwife. Her first assignment was to Leon, Spain, where she spent 2 ½ years. She then worked in Nigeria for 9 years, followed by 2 years on mission awareness work in Ireland, England and the USA.

After a further 8 years in Nigeria, she was part of the Trocaire emergency response team that assisted in providing relief in the aftermath of the genocide in Rwanda in 1994.

Sister Mary spent a further year on mission awareness and then went to Mexico City in 1998 for a language course. MMM planned to begin another mission there. After a few months, Hurricane Mitch devastated much of Central America, especially Honduras, and Mary was asked to help in another emergency situation. She was to spend 2 ½ years in Honduras in pastoral and primary health care work.

After working in the Motherhouse clinic for 7 years, in 2009 she was again assigned to mission awareness work. This was tragically interrupted by a road traffic accident in 2011. She later worked as a chaplain in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital for several years.

On 16 April 2017 (Easter Sunday), Sister Mary was taken ill suddenly. She died peacefully later that day in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital.

Sister Julie Urban, MMM



Sister Julie was born Anita Urban in Medford, MA, USA in 1927. After high school she worked as a clerk and secretary at the John Hancock Insurance Company in Boston for 6 years. Through a co-worker she heard about the Medical Missionaries of Mary, who had come to Boston in 1950. She joined MMM in 1951 and was in the first group of novices in the USA. After profession in 1954

she was assigned to Ireland and worked in the outpatients department in the IMTH as a medical secretary. In 1959 she went to Anua, Nigeria where she was secretary in St. Luke's Hospital.

Returning to Ireland in 1962, Sister Julie was MMM Secretary General until 1970 and then Assistant to the Secretary General for 4 years. She worked very closely with Mother Mary during that time. After spending 9 years in fundraising in Winchester, USA, she worked for 10 years in Chicago in fundraising and as office manager. From 1994 to 1999 she was business administrator in our nursing facility, *Aras Mhuire*, in Drogheda.

Julie returned to the USA in 1999 and was local business administrator in Somerville, MA, for 11 years and served in local MMM leadership. When she retired in 2011, she served as a Eucharistic minister and reader in her parish.

Ill health necessitated nursing care and she moved to Sancta Maria Nursing Facility in Cambridge, MA in 2015. She died peacefully on 1 August 2017.

Sister Constantia Faul, MMM



Sister Constantia was born Brigid Faul in Mullacrew, Louth, Ireland in 1933 and joined MMM in 1952. After profession she worked in the laundry in Drogheda for 5 years while attending bookkeeping and typing classes at night in the Drogheda Technical School. She then trained as a radiographer, qualifying in 1963. After working in the radiology department in the IMTH for 2 years, she was assigned to Tanzania. She spent 18 months in Kabanga as a radiographer and did the accounts before assignment to Malawi in 1967.

Constantia served in St. John's Hospital in Mzuzu for over 22 years as a radiographer, administrator and local and area bursar. Keen to pass on skills, she trained radiography technicians. She also served in MMM local and Area leadership for almost 10 years. After a break, she attended a language course and worked in Chipini for 3 years. She later spent time in Lilongwe as bursar. These were sometimes difficult times in Malawi and she was sustained by her deep spirituality and trust in God. 'Connie' was noted for her lovely singing voice and great sense of humour.

Sister Constantia returned to Ireland in 2002. She helped with general duties in the Motherhouse and again served in local MMM leadership. Ill health necessitated regular nursing care and she moved to *Aras Mhuire* in 2015. She died there peacefully on 21 August 2017.

Sister Andrew Phillips, MMM



Sister Andrew was born Helen Joyce Phillips in Conway, Michigan in 1929. She trained as a bookkeeper in Detroit Business School and worked in a number of offices for 9 years before joining MMM in 1957. After profession she helped to guide young women in their early years in MMM before assignment to Ireland in 1963. She worked in the office in the IMTH and then spent several months in Leon, Spain in secretarial and promotion work.

In 1964, Andrew returned to the USA and spent 4 years at Pope John XXIII Seminary, Weston, MA. She was involved in management and secretarial work and served in MMM leadership. She then did office work in Winchester, MA for several years before moving to Alameda, CA. Here she worked tirelessly for over 7 years in Mission Awareness and vocation work in the western USA.

In 1981, Sister Andrew was assigned to Kenya, where she provided material for Mission Awareness work for 2 years. She returned to the USA in 1982 and spent 26 years assigned to the Chicago community, organizing Mission Awareness for the West and Midwest of the USA. A fall in January 2008, followed by further ill health necessitated her retirement. She was admitted to Resurrection Life Center in Chicago in 2009. Despite multiple disabilities, Andrew maintained her interest in MMM and family activities and had an active Facebook page. She died peacefully on 12 July 2017.

NEWS & EVENTS



The prayer space in Saint Patrick's Church, Monkstown

Honouring Marie Martin and Edel Quinn

The first event of **MMM's 80th birthday celebration** was held at Saint Patrick's Church in Monkstown, County Dublin. To mark the church's 150th anniversary, the former mortuary chapel was refurbished. At Mass on 11 February 2017, the chapel was re-dedicated as a prayer space to the legacy of two former parishioners: Mother Mary Martin and her contemporary, Venerable Edel Quinn, Envoy of the Legion of Mary to East Africa. As young women, they sought guidance in their parish church as they discerned what God was asking of them. We are most grateful to Parish Priest, Very Reverend Michael Coady, who welcomed us so warmly; to the Legion of Mary, for providing refreshments; and to the parish community.



Mother Mary's grave in St. Peter's Cemetery in Drogheda

Wreath-laying ceremony

On 27 May 2017, local Drogheda Councillor and former **Lord Mayor Frank Godfrey** laid a wreath at Mother Mary Martin's grave in the local cemetery, in recognition of the 80th anniversary of the foundation of MMM. He spoke of Mother Mary's contribution to the town of Drogheda by establishing the hospital and becoming the town's biggest employer. Several MMMs attended the ceremony.



Sr. Geneviève van Waesberghe with the Capacitar team in Rwanda

Rwanda and Capacitar

Jennifer McDonald is marketing coordinator of the *National Catholic Reporter* and *Global Sisters Report*. She told us of an article published in July 2017 about Sisters and their work in Rwanda since the genocide. It mentions the Medical Missionaries of Mary and the healing brought about by Capacitar. **Sister Geneviève van Waesberghe** was part of the original medical team that MMM sent to Rwanda and was instrumental in introducing Capacitar there. The link is: <http://globalsistersreport.org/news/tutsis-and-hutus-practice-multiplication-love-and-fishes-47696>

Award for fistula work

In April, **Sister Doctor Maura Lynch** received the Rotary Club Masaka 2017 Award for her fistula work and ministry to the sick. Present at the ceremony were Nurse Winnie, who has been with Sister Maura since her arrival in 1987 and is still the main helper in the fistula unit, and Sister Helen Delaney. We are grateful to Maura's friend, Doreen, who took photos.



Sr. Dr. Maura Lynch (L), Nurse Winnie and Sr. Helen Delaney

Congratulations and prayers

Seven novices made **first profession of vows** on 8 September 2017 in Ibadan, Nigeria. We congratulate Sisters Oliver Tarimo, Liana de Jesus, Nneka Nwaze, Elizabeth Idem, Keresifan Ekanem, Stellia Sosola, and Flora Phwandaphwanda.

Since our last yearbook, five Sisters made **perpetual commitment** in MMM: Josephine Nabisere in Uganda; Nancy Ong'era, Prisca Ovat and Evelyn Akhalumenyo in Kenya; and Susana Akpan in Nigeria.

Invitation to the Irish Parliament

At a meeting organised by the Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa in June 2017, **Sister Helen Aherne** shared her long experience of working with people with disabilities in Masaka, Uganda. With several young men with disabilities Helen established the Masaka Association of People with Disability.



At Leinster House: (L-R) Sylvia Gavigan, TD; Maureen O'Sullivan, MP; Sr. Maureen Carroll, FMSA; Sr. Helen Aherne

NEWS & EVENTS

Heritage groups

Because most of our newer MMMs have completed their training in Africa or Latin America, they have not had the opportunity to see the many sites associated with our foundress and her first companions in Ireland, and the development of MMM in this part of the world. Most of our older Sisters from Europe now live in our Motherhouse. They hold precious memories of MMM history but have few opportunities to speak with younger members.

Our Congregational Leadership Team suggested that for a few years, small groups of Sisters who were unlikely to come to Ireland might be brought for a brief 'heritage tour'. (See January 2017 e-newsletter.) Participants would have a deeper understanding of our history and share this with others.

Since last October, four groups of Sisters have participated in an MMM Heritage Experience. Sister Franca Ogbunuju commented, 'I haven't stopped talking about my experience since I came back [to Nigeria] – to the Sisters, the staff and others ... But my greatest way of sharing this time is by being a more authentic, joyful and committed MMM, spreading our charism with my life.'



Visiting the Mother Mary Room with Sister Jo Anne Kelly

Part of history

An exhibition at the National Museum in Nairobi, Kenya in December 2016 documented the 100-year history of the Irish in Kenya. It is being shown in Ireland in 2017 and includes stories of religious and lay missionaries.

Bróna ní Mhuiri, of the Kenya Irish Society, reported in *The Irish Times*: 'One journey took us to Turkana in northwest Kenya. In the 1960s, it had played host to perhaps the world's first flying nuns. The Medical Missionaries of Mary Sisters used to pilot flimsy two-seater aircraft over a desert of 51,000 sq km. These brave women brought the only available medical assistance to famine-stricken areas, flying in an aircraft with a fuselage wrapped in Irish linen.'



Sr. Nina Underwood, from the USA, as a pilot in Turkana, with some friends

Good-bye to City Island, New York, USA

Our house in City Island has been a home to MMMs for 43 years. Established as a Regional House for administration and a base for Mission Awareness, it welcomed many visitors, relatives and friends of our Sisters. We and our neighbours have come to know and love each other through happy and difficult times. The MMM community held an open house on 9 July 2017 to say farewell and thank you.

Congregational Formation Meeting

From 24 June to 3 July 2017, 38 MMMs from 10 nationalities, perpetually and temporarily professed, and missioned in 11 countries, gathered to reflect on our MMM formation. Held at Dalgan Park, Ireland, the meeting was a response to a mandate from our 2015 Chapter to review our formation programmes.

Delegates asked: 'What is God asking MMM to be in the 21st century?' We aim to form 'committed women who are prophetic, compassionate, close to the poor, free, flexible, radical, responsible and relevant today' (Acts of 10th Cong. Chapter).

There is a sense of urgency in this mandate, responding to a hunger for meaning and spirituality in the midst of all the glitter of our world. This is our reality, our Incarnation, today. We are very grateful to those who made it possible.



Participants at the Formation Meeting

WITH OUR WONDERFUL FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

Republic of Benin



MMMs meet with a youth group.

Rwanda



Sustainable agriculture using sack gardens

Uganda



A healthy mother and child

WE GO WHERE HUMAN NEED IS GREATEST

Brazil



Women with relatives and friends at a peace-making workshop

Tanzania



MMM Associates renew their covenants.

Celebrating internationality



MMMs gathered for a last Christmas in Rwanda.

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