

STILL TOGETHER IN SOLIDARITY

UPDATES FROM CHILD DISCOVERY CENTRE, NAKURU, KENYA



TWINNING
LASALLIANS OF NORTH AMERICA & AFRICA
Walking Together in Solidarity



STATUS

When the COVID-19 restrictions started in Kenya in the spring, Child Discovery Centre (CDC) had to send the young people who lived there to stay with local families. In January, CDC was able to reopen, and 47 of the 50 residents returned. CDC has 15 others in the outreach program, which offers support to students living nearby. Upon reopening, staff and students met to discuss COVID-19 safety protocols. In addition to their studies at local schools, students are learning life skills, such as cooking, caring for livestock, caring for the environment and completing community service. With a decrease in donations, CDC is looking for ways to cut its operating budget.



ABOUT THE STUDENTS



Students adjusted quickly upon returning to CDC and attending school, amazing the center staff with their responsibility and disciplined behavior. In recent assessment exam results, the top three students in forms one, two and three at Hillcrest Secondary School came from CDC. Two young women from CDC who are attending Mwangaza College received their exam scores from last year and passed. One of the young women received a scholarship to study at a local university. Two young women in their first years of secondary education became pregnant during the time away from CDC.



MESSAGE FROM BROTHER PAUL ANDERSON, FSC

We are very much aware that the United States has been seriously affected by COVID-19. We stand with the students, parents and faculty in solidarity, which we have always done even before the pandemic. It is my hope as things slowly go back to normal that we shall continue that mutual relationship we have held for so many years. May the good Lord continue to protect all of us—especially from contracting COVID—and bless all the people of good will, whose financial support has helped to make strides in the lives of many needy children.

—*Brother Paul Anderson, FSC*

Pictured: Students celebrated their Ash Wednesday Mass outdoors. Outdoor Mass is the new normal at CDC. The children previously went to a nearby parish for Mass, but it is now held outside as a health precaution because the chaplain is an elderly priest.

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