

STILL TOGETHER IN SOLIDARITY

UPDATE FROM ST. PAUL SECONDARY SCHOOL, MARSABIT, KENYA



STATUS

St. Paul's Secondary School has been open since the beginning of October 2020 with a mix of partial and full classes. The school operates on trimesters, which have each been shortened by three weeks. Seniors returned for their second term October 6 – December 21, 2020. On January 5, 2021, they returned to school for their third term, with freshmen, sophomores and juniors attending for their second term. The school is not able to hold sports or social activities or join the local parish for Sunday Mass due to restrictions. Mass is held at school on Tuesdays and Sundays.



PRECAUTIONS



St. Paul's has set up various washing points with water and soap. The school cannot provide sanitizers because they don't have access to adequate sanitizer and because it is flammable, so they do not want students to have sanitizer following cases of fires being started at other schools. Both students and staff are wearing masks, especially in crowded spaces. The school is struggling to make sure students and staff comply with COVID-19 restrictions. This is mostly because there has not been a COVID-19 case in the area, so it does not feel like a danger to them.



IMPACT

The school has 146 students, including 47 freshmen, 30 sophomores, 35 juniors and 34 seniors. When only the seniors returned to school, the staff had to take a pay cut for that trimester. Finances continue to be struggle for the school. Many students have not paid their school fees yet continue to attend. A few students have left school since they cannot pay the fees. The school plans to use recent twinning donations to help cover fees for students, especially to help three seniors who have large overdue amounts. The school does not want to send the students home, especially because they are so close to taking their final exams. St. Paul's is also having a difficult time keeping an adequate supply of masks and soap.



LOCAL REALITIES



The region where St. Paul's is located has experienced tribal animosity over the past couple of years. A few of the students have lost relatives. In August 2020, during one such incident, a St. Paul's student, who was riding a motorbike with two other young men, was shot and killed, along with one of the other young men.

STILL TOGETHER IN SOLIDARITY

UPDATE FROM ST. PAUL SECONDARY SCHOOL, MARSABIT, KENYA



TWINNING
LASALLIANS OF NORTH AMERICA & AFRICA
Walking Together in Solidarity



MESSAGE FROM BROTHER FRANCIS NJOROGE, FSC

Our brothers and sisters,

First, we thank God that we are able to communicate at this stage and time. Second, I take this opportunity to wish you all the best in your academics and social life. We get a lot of information as to what is happening in your country as far as COVID-19 and politics are concerned.

If there is a time that we need to stand by each other it is now and not tomorrow. We continue to pray for you and the rest of the world that we shall be able to overcome COVID-19 with all its variations. It our hope that when things normalize we may revisit the idea of you visiting us to give you a firsthand experience of life at St. Paul's.



This is likely that this is my last official communication with you as the principal of St. Paul's. After about nine years here, in the next few months, I will be relocating to St. Mary's Secondary School in Nyeri, Kenya, another twinned ministry, as principal.

Thank you very much for the collaboration we have had, and may God bless all of your endeavors.

Brother Francis Njoroge, FSC
Principal

Brother Francis is able to connect through Skype or Zoom, depending on the reliability of his internet connection. He can be reached at frasinjo@gmail.com.

