

JUST NEWS

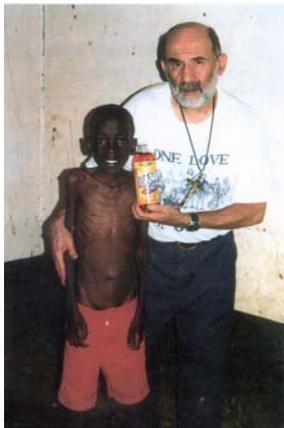
***Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church
Service and Social Justice Committee
May 2009 Newsletter***

KRYSTOS VOSKRES!

The Charity Trust Fund was established primarily through the efforts of one of our parishioners in 1982. The proceeds from this interest bearing fund were to be used to assist with the poorest and the hungry of the world especially in areas of greatest need. We have highlighted a few of the charities we have made donations to. Each and every organization does amazing work and makes a huge difference in the lives of many. However, there are many more people who need our help. You will find an envelope marked for donations for the Charity Trust Fund in May. We encourage you to contribute to this fund and continue the legacy to help those in great need. We thank you in advance for your generosity – may God bless you!

Canadian Food For Children

Canadian Food for Children (CCFC) was founded by Dr. Andrew A. Simone and Joan Simone. They established CCFC in 1985 after almost 10 years of divesting themselves of most of their assets and donating heavily to charitable ventures. CCFC is a non-denominational, registered charity and operates under the Society's Act and under the guidelines of Revenue Canada. They issue tax receipts for cash donations and "gifts in kind" tax receipts for donated materials. Their mandate is to raise funds, purchase food, and gather goods for the hungry in developing countries. The charity has thousands of volunteers across Canada, **but no paid staff** and 100% of an individual's donation is used to buy food and to pay for shipping costs.



Dr. Simone with Jimmy Mahoney, 13 years old dying of AIDS. Both of his parents died of AIDs in Africa.

"My name is Angelica Nicole Amor. My mother left me when I was born. A poor family with eight children adopted me but they did not have enough food for me so I became very malnourished. We use cardboard for my bed, the floor and the wall. I do not know what a billion dollars is, but I hope someone helps me with one dollar. I want to eat, wash, have warm clothes and go to school."

For more info please go to -
<http://www.canadianfoodforchildren.org>



Medical Mercy

Medical Mercy Canada (MMC) is a non-religious, registered Canadian volunteer organization which provides unconditional help to impoverished persons in Ukraine and on the Burmese borders. Since 1991 Dr. Myron and Elaine Semkuley have led volunteers on annual trips to Ukraine each summer and to the borders of Burma each winter, providing medical assistance, instruction, and donated supplies, as well as funds and follow-up for small-scale building and hygiene projects.

From the time of their engagement, the Semkuleys' vowed to help less fortunate persons in impoverished areas. Once their five adopted children were out on their own, Elaine and Myron set out to find truly needy people who could benefit from even the little help they had to offer at first. Diligently collecting, sorting, and repacking medications and medical supplies in the basement of their home, they started making annual trip to the Thai-Burma border and to villages of Ukraine. In 1997 a group of friends and supporters gathered in the Semkuleys' living room and established **Medical Mercy Canada (MMC)**, which was soon to become a registered Canadian charity (BN 86989 0541 RR 0001). Over the years, Elaine and Myron and now **MMC** have systematically gathered, processed, and packed thousands of pounds of donated medications and medical instruments and supplies. One of the strengths of **MMC** is the direct personal contact with the people in need, year after year.

For more info, please go to - <http://www.medicalmercycanada.org>

Christian Childcare International

Chalice became an independent Canadian, Catholic sponsorship organization in 1996. Their mission is to motivate people in increasing numbers to give hope to the destitute children of God around the world. They have 41 sponsor sites in the following 15 countries: Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cameroon, Chile, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Kenya, Paraguay, Peru, Phillipines, Tanzania, Ukraine and Zambia. These sponsor sites respond to the needs of people struggling with the effects of poverty – particularly the lack of basic education, food, clothing, housing and health.

Currently, our church is sponsoring 3 children who live in Ukraine: Viktor, Liudmyla, and Ihor. These children are now provided with food, clothing, medical and psychological assistance. We receive regular correspondence from the children and have seen the difference we have made in their lives!

For more info, please go to - <http://www.ccare.ca/>

Did you know...

- Every 3 1/2 seconds, someone dies of hunger in the world.
- Every day 29,000 people die directly from hunger or hunger related diseases.
- Nearly 1 in 4 people live on less than \$1.00 a day.
- Canadians spend \$48.00 per second on video games (*Global News 2008*)
- The amount spent on perfume each year in the U.S. and European Union would satisfy the worlds' food and sanitation needs. [World Hunger Facts](#)

Missionaries of Charity

Missionaries of Charity is a Roman Catholic religious order, which was established in 1950 by Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Their mission in Mother Teresa's words is to care for "the hungry, the naked, the homeless, the crippled, the blind, the lepers, all those people who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared for throughout society, people that have become a burden to the society and are shunned by everyone". Today it consists of over 4,500 sister running orphanages, AIDS hospices, and charity centres worldwide. They care for refugees, blind, disabled, aged, alcoholics, poor and homeless as well as victims of war, floods, epidemics and famine. It is active in 133 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, North America and Australia.

THANK YOU

Our committee would like to sincerely thank all of those who donated food for our Easter hampers as well as clothing items for our JUST or JUDGMENT clothing drive. Again, we are overwhelmed by your generosity and support of our various activities.

Thank you to those parishioners who took the time to attend the presentation by the **STR8-UP** organization on March 25. Fr. Andre Poilievre shared with us the teaching of the medicine wheel - that as human beings we need to nurture the four aspects of our nature: Physical, Mental, Emotional and Spiritual. These must be developed equally in a healthy, well balanced person. When these aspects are absent, people suffer and negative situations arise, such as violence, abuse, racism, addictions and gangs. Many young people join gangs because of dysfunctional childhoods - not because they are bad people.

Listening to the young men and woman who willingly shared their stories was both heart-wrenching and eye-opening. We were given a glimpse of the pain these young people endured and the courage necessary to succeed in their journey of healing.

It was also a bringing together of a diverse group of people - First Nations former gang members and white, middle class Catholics. The reality is that often people of these two demographics rarely interact in a positive way. It was wonderful to witness understanding among each other as opposed to racism.

Fr. Poilievre and members of the John Howard Society are expanding their reach to the prisons - powerful recruiting grounds for the gangs. For more information or to financially support the Str8-Up organization please contact: Stan Tu'inukuafe
John Howard Society of Saskatoon
#202 - 220 3rd Ave South, Saskatoon, SK
Tel: 244-8347

**THANK YOU GOD FOR YOUR GUIDANCE AS WE
CONTINUE ON OUR JOURNEY TO CREATE
AWARENESS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES
IN OUR CITY AND WORLD!**



Victor Yevhenovych - one of our sponsored children