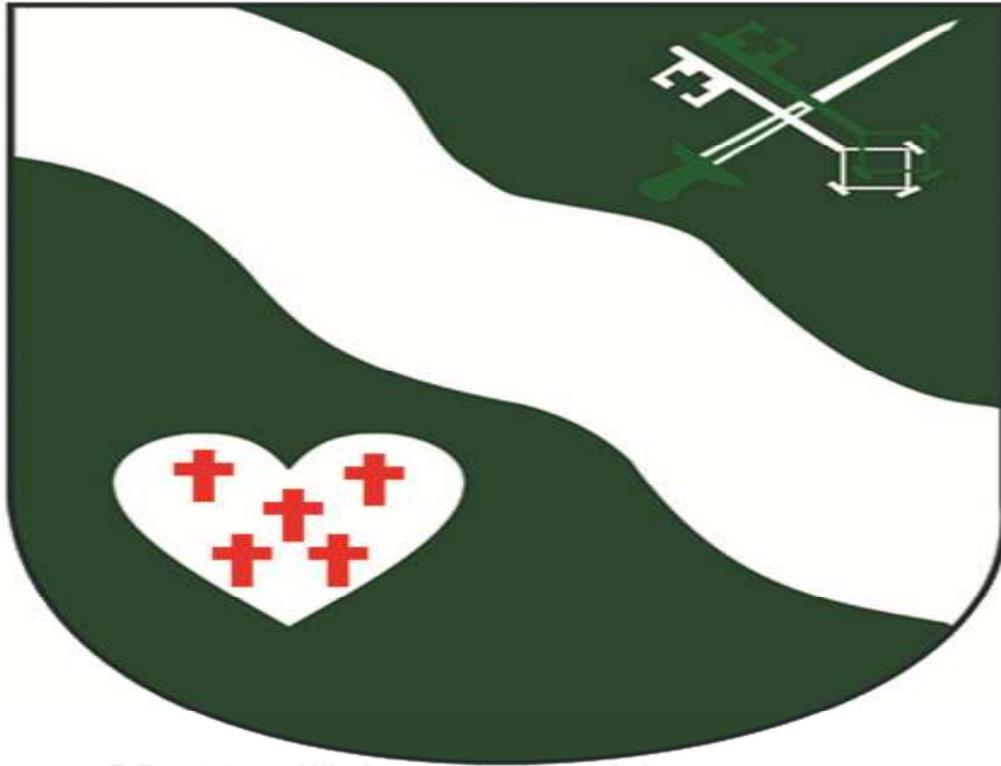


KNIGHTS OF SAINTS PETER & PAUL



MOTTO: Aliis Servire Est Deum Colere
(To serve others is to serve God)

Diocese of Banjul, The Gambia

2016 LENTEN APPEAL
ACTIVITY REPORT

KNIGHTS OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL



Sitting from left to right: Solomon Jatta Jnr, Gabriel Mendy, Gabriel Gomez, Albert Gomez, Michael Sock, Rodine Renner, Pierre Mendy, Latjor Ndow & Richardson Gomez (9)

First row standing from left to right: Philip Saine, James Gomez, Augustus Prom, George Gomez, Lionel Loum (RIP), Solomon Jatta Snr, Maurel Jarleh, Pa Louis Gomez & PA John Williams (9)

Second row standing from left to right: Paul Bahoum, Samuel Ndure, Louis Sarkis, Charles Thomas, Lawrence Bruce, Eustace Cassell, Bernard Baldeh Anthony Carvalho, & Pierre Shyngle (9)

Third row standing from left to right: Joseph Jallow, Geoffrey Renner, Thomas Ogoh, & Francis Sarr, (4)

Fourth row standing from left to right: Thomas Mendy, Pierre Sarr & Felix Ceesay (3)

Others not captured: Claude Jensen, John Sylva, Simon Cole, Matthew Ndure, Paul Odimmegwa, Findin Njie, William Kujabie, Thomas G.G. Senghore & Lucien Panchaud (10)

Distant Members: Fred-Lloyd Evans, Anthony Njie, Valderma Jensen, Joseph H. Joof, William Joof, Francis Prom and Richard Mendy (7)

Chaplain: Rev. Fr. Anthony Gabisi

Justification:

The reason for our 2016 Lenten appeal has been re-echoed by the declaration of the extra-ordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy by His Holiness Pope Francis. Reference to the 'Bull of Indiction' of the extraordinary Jubilee of mercy – "Misericordiae Vultus", Pope Francis appealed to all the faithful. I quote "In this Holy Year, we look forward to the experience of opening our hearts to those living on the outermost fringes of society. It is my burning desire that, during the jubilee, the Christian People may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. It will be a way to reawaken our conscience, too often grown dull in the face of poverty. And let us enter more deeply into the heart of the Gospel where the poor have a special experience of God's mercy. May we reach out to them and support them so they can feel the warmth of our presence, our friendship, and our fraternity. We cannot escape the Lord's words to us, and they will serve as the criteria upon which we will be judged. Let us not forget the words of Saint John of the Cross: as we prepare to leave this life, we will be judged on the basis of love". (unquote)

Finally, our corporal works of mercy nicely compliment Pope Francis's Year of Mercy; A period of understanding God's mercy to us and likewise our mercy to others. It is therefore the Christians' primary responsibility to love and assist the poor.

The Knights of Saints Peter and Paul of the Diocese of The Gambia made it a point of duty to embark on this noble gesture without reservation. Our visits were all characterized by visiting in depth, chatting, praying and finally giving out our donation.

Purpose

The purpose of this special Fund of the Order is to encourage our membership, our extended families, friends, Organizations, Institutions, Foundations to give donations in cash or kind towards providing support to the under privileged in our Diocese of Banjul, The Gambia and other communities throughout The Gambia as part of our charitable efforts to support the poor during the season of Lent.

Equal Opportunity

This Fund wholeheartedly supports the principle of equal opportunities to all beneficiaries and opposes all forms of unlawful or unfair discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, religion, nationality, ethnicity or sex, marital status or disability.

Reporting

The report provided is to give a clear insight of the activities proper for your consumption and retention. The Report also includes pictures of the different places visited. However, two of the Institutions prohibited the taking of photos/pictures namely: Missionaries of Charity Sisters and the Juvenile Wing of the Prison/Correction Center.

Task Force Committee

This Fund was administered by a special task force comprising of the following members:

- Mr. Anthony Carvalho - Past Supreme Knight
- Mr. James Gomez - Past Supreme Knight
- Mr. Joseph Jallow - Past Supreme Knight
- Mr. Eustace Cassell – Member and past Deputy Supreme Knight
- Mr. Albert Walcott Gomez - Member
- Mr. Philip Saine – Supreme Secretary
- Mr. Simon V.P. Cole – Current Supreme Knight

Programme of Distribution

1. Presentation of Mary Sisters:

On Tuesday 5th April, 2016 we visited the Shalom Retreat Centre and were met by Rev. Sister Mary Potin, the formation mistress. Sister Potin informed us that two novices namely, Ms. Harriett Mendy and Ms. Ellen Mendy who are in their final year of formation are currently doing their community experience. Both of whom by the grace of God will perform their final vows in November 2016.

A cheque of D15, 000.00 equivalent to **\$375** addressed to **Presentation Novitiate for the up keep of the novices was handed over by Counselor Pierre Shyngle**. This was followed with words of appreciation from Rev. Sisters Mary Potin, and concluded with a prayer.



Counselor Pierre Shyngle handing over the Cheque



Left to Right: Brother Joe Jallow, Rev. Sr. Potin, Br. Simon and Counselor Pierre Shyngle

2. Gambia Organisation of The Visually Impaired (GOVI):

On the same day Tuesday 5th April, 2016, we visited Gambia Organisation of The Visually Impaired (GOVI) headquarters in Kanifing. We were once again highly welcomed by the management of GOVI, headed by the Executive Director (ED) Mr. Mamout Mboom Touray, Messrs Foday Wadda Former Treasurer, Mamud Touray (Board member), Lamin Colley (Youth Advocate Officer) and Kaira Lamin (Treasurer). The ED expressed delight that the Almighty God had made it possible for them to witness again another donation from the Order.

Mr. Colley (Youth Advocate Officer) reminded us of GOVI's activities in The Gambia which include a GOVI Resource Centre for the blind which is the only specialized school for the blind and visually impaired in The Gambia, and a pre-school for visually impaired. As well as preparing children for integration into mainstream educational institutions, the school also teaches orientation and mobility skills. Children are taught reading, writing and math in Braille. Currently they have 46 children using the Braille machine. These among other activities and services, enable children to play an active part in society and family life.

Their supreme aim is to prevent blindness, rehabilitation of the visually impaired and the active promotion of the right to equal opportunities and full participation in all spheres of national development at all levels. Other programmes mentioned were:

- GOVI Community Based Rehabilitation Program
- GOVI Women's Wing
- GOVI Youth Wing

- Integrated Education Project
- GOVI Sensitization Programme
- Other various relief supports for blind and visually impaired members as donations come their way.

According to the Youth Advocate Officer, they have ten branches countrywide with a slight increase of total membership of 2, 011 to date.

We once again thank the management for giving us such an in-depth knowledge of GOVI's programme of interventions. Rev. Father Anthony the Order's Chaplain presented a cheque of D12, 000, equivalent to \$300.

They once again expressed joy for such a timely gesture and appealed for us to communicate their needs to all and sundry. They finally offered prayers for the success of the Order and to all who contributed.



Rev. Fr. Anthony Gabisi
Presenting the cheque



Br. Solomon Jatta sitting besides
Mr. Matmout Touray witnessing
The handing over ceremony.



Bro. Joe Jallow, Chaplain Rev. A
Gabisi and Counselor P.S.W. Shyngle
enjoying the expressions of gratitude



Fr. Gabisi handing over the Cheque to the Treasurer (Mr. Kaira Lamin)
Key witnessed by the Mamout M. Touray - Executive Director

3. Missionaries of Charity Sisters:

Sisters of Charity (Mother Teresa's Sisters) – Convent – Bakoteh Estate Layout

Here a warmth welcome was accorded to us by Sister Superior Rinald (220. 7373059) who is living with 3 other Sisters of Charity. After the welcoming ceremony the Supreme Secretary Mr. Philip Saine presented a cheque of D20, 0000, equivalent to \$500.

Our donation was very much appreciated by Rev. Sister Superior who gave us in-depth explanation of areas of intervention to the poorest of the poor and the prostitutes as follows.

- 12 Beds for the destitute – one man and eleven women are currently being accommodated

- Orphanages – 27 children and caretakers/mothers. Apart from feeding and housing them, they teach mothers how to take care of their children.
- In House Clinic Day – Wednesdays attending on an average 550 patients per day
- Mobile Clinics – Mondays – Mariama Kunda and surroundings
- Monthly Reach-Out Activities – Fulla Bafu, Katiola (near Sanyang), in-depth/outskirt villages of Tujenreng and every fifteen days to Jalokoto (URD)
- Spiritual and Catechetical Programs with over 150 Children
- Saturday – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament @ 3.20 pm
- Sunday School – for over 200 children within St. Kizito's Parish

It was surprising and amazing to know that they do follow on prostitutes and receive very bad or terminal cases from Medical Research Center/Council. On both cases they offer tender love just as their founder Mother Teresa, through counseling and prayer in the mighty name of Jesus.

It was joy to note that their founder Mother Teresa will be canonized on Sunday 4th September 2016 at a mass at St. Peter's Rome before her 19th anniversary of her death on 5th September 1997.

On Wednesday 13th April, 2016, we again presented two big boxes of Used Clothing from the Christian Community of Connecticut, USA. This additional donation was highly appreciated because they will go a long way in the clothing of the poor in need that the Sisters cared for.

Please note that taking pictures/photos are strictly prohibited.



Sisters of Charity convent - a prayerful atmosphere

4. Prison - Juvenile Wing:

On the same day on Tuesday 5th April, 2016, we visited The Juvenile Wing of the Prison. Here we were highly welcomed by the commissioner of Prisons.



We thanked the Commissioner of the Prison, Kalilu Jatta and his team, including a Social Worker under the name of Mr. Lamin Secka, for sharing with us such an in-depth knowledge of the activities of the Juvenile wing.

We were informed that a total of 13 inmates (all male) are currently in the rehabilitation/correction center undergoing counseling and managing stress and skill training etc. The crimes committed ranged from rape, man-slaughter, arms-robbery, theft, etc.

Although there were no female inmates, we were informed that they are normally separately housed under a center for children in a complex situated outside Bakoteh Village.

The Supreme Knight – Br. Simon Cole presented the following items:

- 48 Toothpastes,
- 120 Tooth-brush,
- 48 bottles of Dettol liquid and
- 3 bags of sugar, worth the sum of D8,250,00 equivalent to \$206

They expressed joy to such a timely gesture and further appealed for more assistance in the following skills related items namely: Library Books, gardening (seeds and watering cans), carpentry, sewing machines and other accessories such as tie & dye making products etc.

5. St. Joseph of Cluny Sisters:

On Thursday 7th April, 2016 the members reported at the St. Joseph of Cluny convent in Banjul. Here we were welcomed by Rev. Sr. Superior Maria Murphy and Rev. Sr. Jeanne Therese. After a brief discussion about our mission, Brother Lucien Panchaud presented a cheque of D5, 500, equivalent to \$138. The Rev. Sisters expressed appreciation and thanked us for such a gesture.



The Kindergarten School



Br. Lucien Panchaud presenting

6. National Council of St. Vincent De Paul:

On Friday 8th April 2016 we reported at Saint Vincent De Paul National Council's Headquarters at Lamin Village. Here we met the key members of the National Executive of Vincentians. Amongst them were the National President Mr. David Gomez, National Secretary and the National Treasurer, Mrs. Maria Boissy. They were presented with 30 bags of rice at a cost of D27, 750, equivalent to **\$694**.



St. Vincent de Paul National Office sign board at the Lamin Village



30 bags of rice handed over to Executive of the National Council Of St. Vincent de Paul



Council expressing sign of appreciation



The National Executive 30 bags of Rice for distribution

The National President, who gave the vote of thanks, promised that the bags of rice will be distributed proportionately to conferences within the diocese.

7. St. Peter's Junior Seminary:

Immediately after the Saint Vincent de Paul's presentation, we went over to St. Peter's Junior Seminary. Here we were welcomed by the Rector Rev. Fr. Moses Drammeh and some Seminarians.

Brother James Gomez presented a cheque of D20, 000, equivalent to \$500 addressed to St. Peter's Junior Seminary, which was gratefully appreciated by the Rector and the seminarians. This as explained by Brother James, is our small contribution towards the upkeep of our 13 dear junior seminarians.

The vote of thanks was given by one of the seminarians. The presentation ended with a prayer and final blessing from Rev. Fr. Moses Drammeh.



We were once again most welcomed



Br. James Gomez presenting the cheque to the Rector of the Junior Seminary
Rev. Fr. Moses Drammeh

8. The Gambia Psychiatric Hospital:

On Sunday 10th April, 2016 – 3rd Sunday of Easter, the members of the Order visited The Gambia Psychiatric Hospital called “Tanka, Tanka”.



Mr. Momodou Ceesay, a Snr. Nurse on duty at the time welcomed the brothers. Mr. Ceesay informed us that 65 inmates (consisting of 17 women and 48 men) with mental disorder are currently hospitalized in the facility.

Despite Government of the Gambia's (GOTG) immense contribution, the demand for basic food commodities, bed sheets etc. was of a big challenge he concluded. The Order donated the items listed below.

- 5 bags of rice
- 3 bag of sugar
- 3 cartoons of milk

These commodities amounted to a total value of D10, 000, equivalent to **\$250**. Mr. Ceesay on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and the Hospital Board, expressed his gratitude for such a kind gesture. We then prayed for the inmates, chatted with them and finally visited the entire complex before taking leave of them. It was once again a very emotional moment.



Deputy Supreme Knight Br. Michael O. Sock presenting the foodstuffs to Mr. Ceesay



Br. Rodine Renner expressing the Order's delight to visit and share

		SUMMARY TABLE			US DOLLAR EQUIVALENT
TOTAL RECEIPT				D119,500	2,988.00.
EXPENDITURE					
#	Name of Institution	Contribution or Donation – GMD	US Dollar Equivalent	Running Balance GMD	Running Balance equivalent in US Dollars
1	Tanka, Tanka – Psychiatric Hospital	Five bags of rice, 3 bags of Sugar and two cartons of Milk worth the sum of D10,000.00	250	109,500	2,738
2	Presentation of Mary Sisters	D15,000.00	375	94,500	2,363
3	St. Vincent De Paul	30 bags of rice worth the sum of D27,750	694	66,750	1,669
4	Junior Seminary	D20,000.00	500	46,750	1,169
5	Sisters of Charity – Convent – Bakoteh Estate Layout	D20,000.00	500	26,750	669
6	St. Joseph of Cluny Sisters	D5,500.00	138	21,250	531
7		D8,250.00	206	13,000.00	325
8	Gambia Organisation of virtually impaired. (GOVI)	D12,000.00	300	1,000.00	25
	Novena -Nine days Special Intention & Thanksgiving Mass for Donors & Benefactors	D1,000.00	25	0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		D119,5000	\$2,988	119,500	\$2,988
Admin, Transportation and Labour costs contributed by KOSSPP					

Average exchange rate: \$1.00 = D40.00

SPECIAL INTENTION AND THANKSGIVING MASS OFFERED

A Novena (i.e. Nine days) of Special Intention and thanksgiving Mass has been offered as of Sunday 17th April, 2016, 4th Sunday of Easter through Monday 25th April, 2016 at St. Therese's Church for all our dear donors, beneficiaries, as well as the Order so as to solemnly close the 2016 Lenten appeal activity.

Prayer and Conclusion:

Love grows through love. Love is 'divine' because it comes from God and unites us to God; through this unifying process it makes us a 'we' which transcends our divisions and makes us one, until in the end God is 'all in all' (I Cor. 15:28)

Mary our Mother of the Crucified and Risen Christ has entered the sanctuary of divine mercy because she participated intimately in the mystery of His love. May the sweetness of her countenance continue to watch over us in this Holy Year, so that all of us may rediscover the joy of God's tenderness.

May Mary, Queen of Heaven, guide our steps as a caring and loving mother, that we might bear fruit for the good of all mankind, and especially for the poor and the needy.

Conclusion:

Together with my brother *Knights of Saints Peter and Paul (KOSSPP)*, I wish to express once again our sincere thanks & gratitude for your contributions towards our 2016 Lenten Appeal, and further extend my fraternal greetings and seek God's blessings on your family and work.

Thank you again for your compassionate support. We hope that you will continue to partner with us in our annual commitment and obligation to help the needy and the poor. May the words of the apostle accompany us: he who does acts of mercy, let him do them with cheerfulness (cf. Rom 12:8).

During the extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, may the message of mercy reach everyone, and may no one be indifferent to the call to experience Mercy.

Thank you!



Supreme Knight
Brother Simon V.P. Cole

Reviewed by:

Members of the 2016 Lenten Appeal Task Force Committee