

MALAWI - TWIN

Malawi Newsletter – January 2022

Malawi Website: www.malawi-twin.org

Newsletter No 85
January 2022

A Memorial for Fr. Denis – Our Linked priest at Karonga.

Dear Friends of Malawi,

Many of you will be aware that we received some very sad news from Malawi on 24th December 2021 that Fr. Denis had passed away in the late afternoon of Christmas Eve.

Sadly Fr. Denis died on the way to hospital of a heart attack, aged just 53 years.

Fr. Denis was one of our linked priests at Karonga and since 2003 our Malawi-Twin has assisted Fr. Denis with his work in Malawi. Firstly at St Anthony's Major Seminary at Kachebere, then as Parish priest of St Mary's, at that time St. Mary's was a parish in the Mzuzu diocese.

In July 2010 a new Diocese was formed at Karonga and a new Cathedral named St Joseph the Worker was built. Fr. Denis was appointed Vicar General as well as being the parish priest.

During that time, with the aid of Malawi-twin, Fr. Denis undertook many projects which improved many lives at Karonga, as well as helping to improve their schools, and education. He was also overseeing the seventeen students being sponsored from Corpus Christi via Malawi Twin.

Since 2003 Fr. Denis had visited Corpus Christi as our summer supply priest and many of us had, over the years, become really good friends. I know he will be sadly missed.

Fr. Denis' funeral took place on Monday 27th December 2021, (this can be viewed via the Malawi Website) at the same time Corpus Christi offered mass for Fr. Denis RIP.

There is a Memorial Mass for Fr. Denis planned for Saturday 29th January at 6pm at Corpus Christ.

After the memorial mass there will be tea / coffee, cake and biscuits in the Fisher Hall together with a film show as a celebration of the work of Fr. Denis in Malawi, and the interaction with Malawi-Twin and Corpus Christi parish.

Brian Wilkins – On behalf of Corpus Christi Malawi-Twin

Website: www.malawi-twin.org

A Tribute to Fr. Denis RIP

“I will set the life of Fr. Denis to be my guide (...). Fr. Denis loved school; he considered education as the only means that we can uplift a Malawian child. “

(Simeon Banda – Engineering student)

It was with great sadness that we heard about Fr. Denis’ death on Christmas Eve.

The sponsorship programme was very close to his heart and Fr. Denis worked effortlessly to provide as many children as possible with school education.

Inspired and motivated by Fr. Denis’ life example, we will continue to work hard to sponsor students in Malawi, giving them the skills for a brighter future.

Since the re-launch of the Malawi-Twin Sponsorship Programme in 2019 (our newsletters can be found on our website www.malawi-twin.org), we have been blessed with an overwhelming response from many families.

Thanks to their extraordinary generosity, we are currently sponsoring **40** students through secondary school in two parishes in Malawi, Karonga and Matumba. We are helping 15 boys and 25 girls. The boys commute daily to school, sometimes walking/cycling several miles, and the girls study as boarders, to minimise the risk of sexual harassment on their way to school or being forced into a premature marriage.

Our students are either in the first or second year of their secondary school journey and we expect to see the first graduations in 2024.

Would you be able to offer a Malawian student the opportunity of a better future?

It can be done in different ways:

- **Individual sponsorship of a student** - annual payment of £90 for a boy and £250 for a girl, for a period of 4 years. (Note that we had to slightly increase the annually amount asked to meet the increase of school fees since 2019.)
- **Scholarship Fund** – if you don’t feel that you can commit to a full sponsorship; you can contribute with a monthly amount (we suggest £10), by direct debit to the Corpus Christi church account. This will be used to jointly sponsor more students.
- **Donations** - Any other donations are gratefully received and will be added to our Fund. Cheques are payable to Corpus Christi Church. All donations can be gift aided.

Through the parish priests in Malawi, we try our best to keep the sponsors informed of their students’ school progress.

If you would like more information and wish to support our programme, please contact me via email or phone.

Warmest regards,

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