



Ahotokurom, also referred to as Padre Pio Rehabilitation Centre, was set up 1983 near Cape Coast in Ghana as a centre of Christian hospitality for the disabled and disadvantaged. Friends of Ahotokurom support their work to provide health care, social care and education, encouraging personal growth and independence.

January 2019

## Greetings for 2019!

As we move into our new year, we want to express our thanks to YOU for all that you have helped to achieve in 2018!



**It was an exceptional year!**

In **June** we had **Holy Cross parish, Catford** undertaking their annual sponsored walk to raise funds for the children who attend the Special Needs centre at Ahotokurom.

In **August** young people from **Rainham Youth Group** visited Ahotokurom for 3 weeks and as part of their trip delivered a 'holiday programme' for local children, as well as finding out first-hand how the Rainham Scholarship scheme enabled young people to gain skills and get into work.





In **September - Friends of Ahotokurom** celebrated 21 years of support with a mass and afternoon tea hosted in Catford parish. It was wonderful to see friends, young and old, come together and celebrate the power of working together across continents to enable true development to take place.

*(Left to Right: Fr Peter, Trudy, Fr Douglas, Sr Pat, Dr Mark and Fr Giles)*

In **October** Friends in **Co Antrim, Northern Ireland** hosted a concert led by the Folk Choir and completed their fundraising to enable the Solar Project to go ahead (£10k match funding was required to match a grant from the Irish Electricity Board).

And in **December**, to top it all we heard that our Friends in **Middlesbrough St Marys Cathedral parish** had reached their target of £50k towards the new Bus, which is essential in order to enable people with disabilities to get to and from Ahotokurom for support.

*Laurie Haley raised £1600 – finishing 1697th out of 2282 runners as part of the Cathedral fundraising.*



## News from Ahotokurom

The team at **Ahotokurom** (Padre Pio Rehabilitation Centre) have also had a busy year. They have worked hard to become more self-sustaining and less dependent on our donations for core running costs. We attach their newsletter to keep you updated on all the hard work that they have undertaken to ensure that people affected by leprosy and disability can receive the help and support that they need:



[PPRC News 2018](#)

We apologise for our lack of Christmas newsletter. As you know, all that we do is undertaken on a voluntary basis and there have been a number of unforeseen changes for members of the Friends of Ahotokurom committee this year.

That said, we want to **thank you all very much** for your ongoing support – EVERY penny you donate is transferred directly to support the work of Ahotokurom. Without you the work of Ahotokurom would simply not be possible! We wish you all good health and blessings for the coming year. May God bless you!



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