



## PPRC News Volume 13 – Summer 2018

*Dear Friends*

It's been a while since our last update. Due to our busy schedule as you all know, we were not able to bring you the news for the first quarter of the year of the year. This a compilation of all that has happened this first half of the year and we hope you will be well updated in this edition.

### PPRC Annex Project

The ground floor of the “hostel” as it is known is completed. The boreholes are ready, the electricity is now connected, and the furnishing is done. The Board of Directors have decided not to call it a hostel anymore but PPRC Annex since it is an extension of the PPRC Centre and it will be managed by the Centre’s management. A policy has been drawn to serve as a guide for taking care of the place. In June the Board of Directors had their meeting at the Annex and the contactor handed over the keys. People have already shown interest in moving in.



Figure 1 Exterior of the Hostel



Figure 2 The Furnishing has been complete

### Memorial Grove

In honour of some of our late friends and benefactors who have contributed to the growth and development of the Centre and as part of our continuous plan of protecting the environment and “taking care of our common home”, a memorial grove has been planted in their memory. Some of the trees planted are Mahogany and Red wood. It was good Fr. Pat was around to bless some of the trees. 5



Figure 3 Memorial Plaques

### Local Donations

Some local church societies, youth groups, social clubs and individuals have really kept us in mind and been so good to us in terms of donations, mostly food items. As the saying goes; “nothing is small”, we would like to commend them for their generosity and kind gestures. Our big





prayer always is that God may bless all those who when they get, make us have.

### Farm

The rainy season is almost over. The compound is looking clean and green! Crops like corn, ground nuts and tomatoes are being harvested. Our plantain and bananas are also doing very well, and we have begun harvesting some.



Figure 4 Tomatoes, Ground nuts and Corn



Figure 5 Our first batch of watermelon

This year we have even harvested some watermelon for the first time! The health benefits of watermelon include prevention of kidney disorders, high blood pressure, cancer, diabetes, heart diseases, heat stroke, macular degeneration, and

impotence. They are a very welcome addition to the farm!

The free-range chickens are doing well with some new chicks hatching in the past few months. Our pig family is growing too. Four new piglets, two boys and two girls were born just this August. This makes a total of 17 pigs. Luckily, Muhammad a special need student from the training centre in St. Elizabeth's happily comes to the centre on the weekends to feed and take care of the pigs.



Figure 6 Muhammad and the pigs



Figure 7 Four new born Piglets and their mother are all doing well!

We were able to sell some of the corn that we harvested. We pray that God continues to water our crops with enough rain.





## UL- Ghana Link

In January, we had a delegation from the University of Limerick's medical department who came to do some work with the University of Cape Coast. We hosted them here in Ahotokrom and we enjoyed their presence. We are also grateful for the wound dressing supplies they brought. We were able to share with some health centers around.



Figure 8 Una, Katie and Claire

Hi, we're Katie, Claire and Una and we are the new volunteers at Padre Pio Rehabilitation Centre. We are all from Ireland and are volunteering as part of our degree from the University of Limerick.

We are here for a total of six months but it's crazy to think we've already been here for two months. The time is going by way too quickly! We are all loving Ghana so far and the team at the center are amazing in the work that they do and have made us all feel very at home here in Ahotokrom.

We've seen all the things the compound has to offer and every small detail that goes into the very important work done by everyone. It's great to see the services

provided and the help the center gives to those in need. Katie and Claire are working in St. Elizabeth's special needs day care center and Una is working in the office helping Mark and Monica.

- Katie Phelan



Figure 9 Trang and some of the local children

My name is Trang. I'm from Vietnam and I am doing my Masters degree in Project Management - University of Limerick. I was selected to work on a partnership program towards sustainability between University of Limerick and several Ghanaian institutions. My task was to assess the needs of the related stakeholders of the project in Ghana and recommend a comprehensive project management framework for this partnership program.

I had such a wonderful time in Padre Pio Rehabilitation Center. I got to experience a lot of interesting aspects of Ghana such as the culture, festivals, food and the language. I have also made a lot of friends who I really miss when I am back in Ireland and would love to stay in touch with for life. All of their kind support has enabled me to do my tasks effectively as well as have unforgettable moments in Ghana.

From Ireland with lots of love, Trang.





## World Cup Final Day

On the 18th of July we celebrated the world cup final! St. Josephs and St. Elizabeth's played against each other. In preparation we made flags, wristbands and headbands. Sky Valley Rovers FC in Ireland kindly donated blue and yellow jerseys. The game went down to penalties before St Joseph's won!



Figure 10 St Joseph's team photo



Figure 11 St. Elizabeth's team photo



Figure 12 Celebrations after Gideon scored the winning goal

A week later it was time for a rematch and this time the game was just as close. Everyone celebrated when Gideon scored the final penalty to make St. Elizabeth's the new champions!

## Rainham Parish Group

Rainham group is a group of people from Rainham Parish in England. This group of people from England form a scholarship scheme to help Padre Pio Rehabilitation Centre. The Rainham group came to Ghana on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018. They came to interview the people who were part of the scholarship scheme and see how they are doing and the benefit they have gained through the scholarship scheme.

Secondly, Auntie Sarah came with the youth because some of the older people in England who are part of the donation have left the Parish and some too has passed away. As the youth are the future, the parish want to let the youth know what their grandfathers and grandmothers were doing in order to motivate them also to support and donate to the work of Padre Pio Rehabilitation Centre.





Figure 13 Cultural Talk with Fr.Philip

Thirdly, they also came to do summer program with the children of St. Josephs and Enyinndakurom. The summer program was a fun-filled week of competitive games and team building activities. All the children said they enjoyed themselves a lot and if it wasn't for the summer programme, they would be bored at home with nothing to do while school isn't on.

The Rainham group have also benefited in a way that, they are able to test Ghanaian dishes, learn about the culture and language from father Phillip and visit many important places like Cape Coast Castle, Assin Manso and Brenu Beach, all this has really made them very happy and comfortable like they are home. They even got dresses and trousers made. This means they will be taking a part of the culture home with them, which they can use to share stories with family and friends and hopefully help encourage more to come back and visit in the coming years.

Auntie Sarah said, they haven't regretted coming to Ghana and they will continue to visit.

- Written by Monica Tetteh



Figure 14 Rainham Group at Morning Prayer in the Sisters house

### Sr. Juliette's Graduation

On the 25th of August Sr. Juilette graduated from the African Sisters Education Collaborative- Sisters Leadership Development Initiative programme. The workshops aimed to provide participants with competencies needed to administer projects and programmes that address contemporary issues. Sr. Juilette was able to acquire skills in managerial concepts, project cycle management, financial management, organisational behavior, leadership and human resource management, strategic planning and grant writing. During the workshops the Sisters even came to visit us here at Ahotokurom. Congratulations Sr. Juilette and all involved!



Figure 14: Sr. Juilette receiving her Certificate

