

*“If only one little unhappy child is made happy with the love of Jesus, will it not be worth giving all for that?”
—Words of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

1 November 2014, All Saints Day

Dearest Beloved,

Greetings of Peace and Love from your brother and family here in Nairobi, Kenya, East Africa. We pray for you every day and hope this letter finds you doing your best. Life continues to be difficult for us, yet in the midst of it all, we see God’s blessings. Killian Theodore was born on June 3rd this year to Joshua and Catherine. We baptized him on July 27th (see photo). Levi Ted was born on April 1st to Morey and Linet but due to lack of medical care (they were in the country), he died 12 days later. On March 31st, Emmanuel made his First Holy Communion. A few days later, his brother Fred joined our family. Their Mom died of AIDS and their father is not around. These brothers have been a great gift to our family. From March 19th to August 21st, our family underwent 13 surgeries—the costs of which were very difficult for us. The last surgery was for Joe who was shot in his shoulder and stomach. We thank God he is alive. But our good friend John who was with Joe was shot to death. Another terrible tragedy was the kidnapping of our 6 year old Kamau. He was kidnapped while his Mom was in the hospital. He was taken into the next country to be sold to a witch doctor who was to kill him and sell his private parts. We rescued Kamau at the last minute. Once home, we found that Kamau wasn’t ok. We discovered that he had been hit on the head causing a cracked skull and blood clot. After much medical attention, he seems better. Apparently, the kidnapper hit him on the head to ‘discipline’ him. We experienced 2 other kidnappings this past year. Peru walked 3 days to get home after escaping from his kidnappers. Joshua was kidnapped by drug dealers who threatened to kill him unless ransom was paid. They had already killed the person with Joshua, and they left his dead body in the small room where Joshua was held captive. They beat Joshua with a metal rod until he could hardly walk. In another case, Joshua was almost killed by “mob justice.” He was passing on the road when he saw someone push another man over a cliff. That man died and when the local people saw it, they rushed to stone the one who did it and also Joshua. The crowd did not discern who the killer was. They rushed at the guilty man and also Joshua since he was nearby. Fortunately the police came in time to stop the killing. This is just a part of our difficult life here in Kenya.



Early this year, the drought caused starvation for 1.7 million in our country. Many died of hunger. In some places, women get up at 2 a.m. to look for water. Children are neglected and poverty becomes worse. In the slums, where most of the children I care for come from, there is not enough water. Sewage comes right to their doorstep. Our high cost of living leaves most with only one meal per day. We continue to suffer from violence: gunmen killing those in church; 35 killed in our city in one week; 150 killed in ethnic strife; gunmen kill 48 in terror raid. And now we are concerned about the spread of Ebola. As I read in our paper: “Our country is steadily

becoming one of the most dangerous places to be in.” We do need your prayers and help so that we can survive. More than any other time, this is the most difficult crisis that we have ever experienced. We are operating on almost nothing. Whatever you can do to help us will be so much appreciated.

Twenty-four years ago when I was in Rome, I met Mother Teresa. She asked me to be a missionary and to assist her sisters. I have served them in Albania and the West Indies, especially Haiti, meeting Mother many times along the way. Now I have been in East Africa for 13½ years (11 years in Kenya and 2½ in Uganda before coming here). I am now teaching religion in our government school without pay. It is a joy to bring Jesus to them. I continue to work with the Missionaries of Charity (the Sisters of Mother Teresa). Besides offering Mass and Confessions for them every week, I also do the funerals and burials for their crippled children. The Sisters' house is next to the biggest slum in Africa: Kibera slum which is 1.5 million people in 630 acres with over 100,000 orphans. The Sisters and I work together to help those in the slum. I have a home not far from that slum where some of these youth can have a better life. Our family now has 52 members while remembering Dancan, Ted and Levi Ted who have died.

The gifts that you send are used to provide food, shelter, medical care, tuition and other needs. We exist solely on your donations. It costs roughly \$8,000 per month for everyone (or about \$155 per youth per month). Our youth are all deprived and have suffered much. I ask you to pray very seriously for us. Without your help, we cannot go on. We thank you for your kindness in supporting these youth. May God bless you more and more!

My Mom continues to reside in the Lutheran Nursing Home of Mendota, IL. She celebrated her 92nd birthday on September 13th but suffered a stroke this October. Please keep her in your prayers. I did get home in May/June and we had many good times together but never enough time to see everyone. I was able to preach about our African mission, and I am very grateful to all I met during this time and for the kind support that was offered, especially in Augusta, GA; Evans, GA; Metamora, IL; Macomb, IL; Bloomington, IL; Peru, IL; Rock Island, IL and San Antonio, TX. Thank you so much! We are praying for you!

My mailing address in Africa remains the same:

My email address remains the same:

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But for sending **financial contributions, USE:**

Fr. Ted Hochstatter
c/o John Visintainer
2329 Ruby Drive
Augusta, GA 30906 USA

John will deposit your gift in my US account and then he will wire it to me here in Kenya.

*****It is never safe to mail money directly to Africa.*****

My dear friends, Casey Ladowski and Sarah Royer, have set up a website for us: **frtedskids.org** I am really proud of their work. **You can send a tax-deductible donation to me at:**

Fr. Ted's Kids Mission in Kenya, Ltd.
1200 Gleneagles Ct.
Lake Geneva, WI 53147 USA

My Masses and sacrifices are offered every day for all of you. Please know that we need your prayers. In praying for each other, we are united in doing God's Work. Thank you again for all you are doing for us here. We greatly appreciate any help you offer us. As we prepare for the Birthday of Jesus, let us share His Love with all we meet through the Heart of His Mother Mary. We love you!!!! God bless you!!!!

*You all
are the best!
I love you!
Fr. Ted*

