

# **St Brigid's Third World Group**



[www.stbrigids3wg.com](http://www.stbrigids3wg.com)

Charity Commission for NI Registration Number NIC102818

## **Annual Report 2020-21**

### **Our Group**

St Brigid's Third World Group was established in 1989-1990 in St Brigid's Parish Belfast. It was accepted as a charity for tax purposes by the Inland Revenue on the basis of its Constitution which provides that its object is to advance any legally charitable purpose and in particular the relief of poverty in the Third World. The Group is registered with the Charity Commission for NI. Its financial year runs from April to March each year.

In 2020-21 the Trustees of the Group were

Rosalie Flanagan – Chair

Michael McGrath – Secretary

Kevin Flanagan – Treasurer

Hugh Doherty – Assistant Treasurer.

### **This Report**

This report covers the financial year April 2020 to March 2021. It has been considered and approved by the trustees. During this year the trustees have had regard to the Commission's public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

The Financial Statements and Report of our Independent Examiner are attached to this report. In the financial year ending 31 March 2021 the Group raised £110,115.56 and made grants of £115,790 to our beneficiaries.

### **Our purpose**

As a registered charity, we are obliged to be able to demonstrate that we have complied with the purpose set out in our constitution which is “*the relief of poverty in developing countries*” and that our funding is providing the following public benefits

- *to prevent starvation and malnutrition and to assist in the physical development of children and their concentration and learning (feeding programmes)*
- *to alleviate and prevent suffering and disease and provide dignity for the dying (health and hospice care)*
- *to help people grow food and to prevent disease (wells and sanitation)*
- *to enable people to gain employment or make a living and support their families (education, books, equipment and training)*
- *to prevent homelessness and provide shelter and security (housing).*

## **Our beneficiaries**

Attached to this report is a summary of the work done by our beneficiaries.

We have received reports from each of our beneficiaries over the last year telling us how they have used the funding provided by St Brigid's Third World Group to provide the public benefits listed above. Often our beneficiaries are working in areas where the internet availability is sporadic. They all work in difficult situations and often in dangerous conditions.

***But the main thing that stands out from all the reports is the love and care shown to some of the most deprived and disadvantaged people in the world and that donations made through St Brigid's Third World Group have helped to relieve poverty through feeding programmes, education and training, health and hospice care, provision of clean water and sanitation and housing and shelter.***

## **Our donors**

The money we send to each of our beneficiaries who work to alleviate the many serious problems of very impoverished people in developing countries comes entirely from voluntary donations mainly from Saint Brigid's parishioners. During 2020-21, we have raised these funds through

- Standing Orders
- donations including from appeals in lieu of the usual annual collection and Lent and Advent activities
- legacies from wills.

Unfortunately, because of covid, we were unable to hold the following fundraising events

- annual church door collection in September
- bread and soup lunches in Lent and Advent
- practice interviews in November each year for potential medical students
- quiz nights in our parish hall in October and January each year.

Finally it is important to note that all of the donations raised go directly to the beneficiaries we support. None of the money is used for administrative expenses. Any small expenses such as postage and printing costs are met by members of our parish group.

***As we came to the end of our 2020-21 year, Covid 19 had been spreading across the world for more than 12 months. We know that it has had a devastating impact on the poor people we are trying to help. We are grateful for the continued support provided for these projects through your generous donations and your prayers.***

**Rosalie Flanagan**

**Chair**

**St Brigid's Third World Group**

**April 2021**

## **Summary of St Brigid's Third World Group Beneficiaries in 2020-21**

**Father Raymond McQuarrie** is a member of the Missionaries of Africa also known as the White Fathers. He is working in South Africa using funding from the Group to help alleviate poverty through the provision of food and food supplements, medicine and healthcare and other basic necessities of life to people living in extreme poverty.

**Sister Anne Patricia Flynn** is a Missionary Sister of the Assumption who works in South Africa. She uses our funding to help people battling against the “relentless onslaught of poverty” with a focus on helping with education as the way to escape the grinding reality of poverty.

**Sister Vivian Aduni** is a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny working in Sierra Leone. Our funding is used for a feeding programme (rice and sauce) and some medical help for 25 mainly elderly people and their grandchildren.

**Father Andrew Lappia** works in the Diocese of Bo, Sierra Leone, West Africa. He uses funds from St Brigid's Third World Group to provide food and other essentials for the extremely impoverished, to assist young people with education and training and to provide medical care.

**Sister Agatha Ezeokye** is a member of the Medical Missionaries of Mary working in Fuka, Nigeria. Our funding supports the work of their health clinic providing preventative/vaccination and healthcare programmes, the provision of boreholes for clean water, couples workshops to improve attitudes and reduce violence to women and income generating activities for women.

**Sister Gladys Dimaku** is a member of the Medical Missionaries of Mary working in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil. They run the Consolation Project which supports families whose members have been assassinated as victims of urban violence to deal with their grief, overcome isolation and the stigmatization experienced. Funding from St Brigid's Third World Group supports their therapy work, handicraft projects to help women develop an income, youth and peace-making projects.

**Father Ignatius Malwa** is a member of the Society of African Missions working in Zambia. This year the Group provided funding for teachers' salaries to enable the SMA Education Centre to continue to operate. Parents of pupils were unable to contribute as normal since they lost their work as domestic servants because of Covid.

**Rev Jim Campbell** is a Presbyterian Minister who formerly worked in Malawi and following his retirement the Group has continued to provide funding for the shallow well building programme to provide clean water for communities thus improving both health and ability to grow food.

**Sister Patricia Speight** is a member of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa. She runs the Love and Hope Centre in Nakuru, Kenya. The Centre uses our funding to provide food, shelter and healthcare to poor and vulnerable people suffering from HIV/Aids, cancer and other illnesses, education support to orphaned children and assistance to help people begin to support themselves.

**Sister Elsa Joseph** is a member of the Congregation of Missionary Sisters of Mary Help of Christians and is a doctor at Hope House, Manzini, Swaziland. Hope House provides hospice care

for terminally ill patients and their vision is to provide a sanctuary of peace of mind for people in their need. Funding from St Brigid's Third World Group is used for food and medicine for the patients.

**Sister Mary O'Malley** is a member of the Medical Missionaries of Mary working in Nairobi, Kenya. Our funding supports her work on the prevention of human trafficking in its many forms and on helping the recovery of victims of trafficking through therapy and education/training for the future.

**Sisters Celestina Nnadi and Ruth Chetambe** are nurses/midwives with the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary working in the Blessed Mother Teresa Friendship Centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Our funding is used for a food supplement programme for those suffering from HIV/Aids and Leprosy, the elderly poor and the destitute and to train people in new skills so that they can go on to support themselves.

**Stephen and Melita Gordon** are doctors working in Malawi. Our funding is used for education and vocational training, food and fertiliser aid for families affected by famine and prevention of child pneumonia and other conditions.

**Sister Geraldine Henry** is a Daughter of Charity based in Dublin and supporting the work of their Sisters in a number of African countries. Funding from the Summerhill Foundation is providing education scholarships for 3 young women in Nigeria, Kenya and Ethiopia. The Group also provided funding for food and a small income for poor families in Kenya.

In addition to these beneficiaries whom we have been supporting on an on-going basis, in 2020-21 we also provided a grant to **Fr Rajat** in Cambodia for a project helping children to study and have a meal after school and supported a special appeal in conjunction with the Catholic Chaplaincy at Queen's University, Belfast for the work of **Fr Fouad** and the Jesuit Refugee Service in Syria.