

## Irish Volunteers find water in South Africa

Phillippa Doran reports from Gorey

Myself and Deirdre Donohoe decided to volunteer with MSCs in South Africa and for this we fundraised €4,380 locally. We paid our own fares. On arrival we were met by Fr. Pat Galvin, msc who is so dedicated to helping the villagers of Bordeaux - a village untouched by foreign aid.

What a country of contrasts ... from the expensive cars and exclusive houses of Johannesburg to the shacks that some South Africans call houses. Carcasses of cows and donkeys lay on the roadside. The drought has a devastating effect on man and beast. We were shocked at the sights we encountered. We weren't able to shower during our time there ... instead we used a good old fashioned bucket and bit of soap!

villagers agreed that they would all give a small donation per family towards the water pump because if it was owned by them all, no one individual could claim it as their's.

We then bought 32 wheelbarrows for the villagers. These will be used by families to ferry 10 gallon drums of water from the well. The remainder of the money was used to buy bricks towards the new classroom so as to get the children into a better environment to learn than a galvanised shed in the blistering heat.

I will never forget our time there. It was a life-changing time for us. I appreciate things so much

more now. It's so hard to explain what we saw .. the poverty, the sickness, the corruption but above all the lack of basic things that we here take for granted.

We visited the Alergrane School in the village where 2 galvanised sheds were used as classrooms ... a hot place to be trying to educate yourself. The children were so welcoming and would keep touching our milk bottle skin to see if it was real as a white person was a rare sight to many of them. Some small kids would cry as we approached saying 'Malungu' meaning white person but soon they realised that we were there to help them.



Conveying water in plastic drums is part of normal life in South Africa. It is a common chore for children.

Fr. Galvin is a man I have so much admiration for. He has dedicated his life to Africa and when he walks into a crowd you can see the respect that he has earned from them. I will return there some day to try and improve Bordeaux a little further. It is important to know

that foreign aid is a great thing and can do fantastic things but when people learn to depend on it the purpose of aid can be stained.

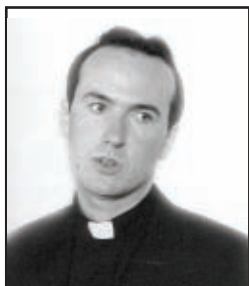
Toilets in Bordeaux were non existent with a population of 200 families. I found this very difficult to comprehend. We met with the village committee to discuss their needs. The water issue was critical so we decided to use the money towards providing a well to give them an independent water supply.

It's very hard to help someone who won't help themselves but a helping hand to guide someone who yearns to improve themselves is very effective. That's why we involved the villagers and asked for their help. That, I believe, is the way missionaries have worked for decades ... guiding and bringing people along for their betterment.

Fr. Galvin helped us greatly in organising the project. After many set-backs the well driller drilled for hours that seemed like an eternity. We prayed that God would look on us and see that we were trying to make a difference. When we hit water and lots of it the joy and relief was tremendous. The

We're just happy that these people have their own well. I couldn't have seen it coming soon had we not initiated it. Our friends in Annagh and Gorey who supported our fundraising can be proud of their contribution to the welfare of the people of Bordeaux.

## New MSC Vocations Director



Fr. Dave Nixon has been appointed MSC Vocations Director. Born in Coventry his father is a native of Clogher, Westport, and his late mother was a native of Ballyheigue, Co. Kerry.

He will be based in St. Albert's Presbytery, 31 Hollow Croft, Stockbridge Village, Liverpool L28 4EA where he will welcome enquiries from any young men interested in discussing vocations to the priesthood. His telephone number is 0044-151-2287126.

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### Vocation Prayer

Sacred Heart of Jesus  
Enkindle in the Hearts of young people  
the flame of a Vocation.  
Guide them as they choose  
their way through life.

Grant them courage in these times  
of uncertainty  
To be generous in their understanding  
and cheerful in their giving.

Teach them to be searchers for the truth  
and carriers of justice.  
May their lives bring others closer to you  
so that your Great Presence may be  
known throughout the World.

Grant that families may support young  
people in answering God's call.

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### 3 Brothers celebrate Jubilees



Among the 18 MSCs who recently celebrated jubilees of their ordinations were the 3 Fleming brothers from Kilcummin, Co. Kerry. Fr. Pdraig, aged 95, (middle) celebrated a remarkable 70 years of priesthood. Fr. Kevin (left) celebrated 60 years, and Fr. Bill (right) celebrated 57 years. They are seen here in hearty mood at the celebrations at Western Road, Cork. Between them, these 18 priests have a combined total of 835 years of priesthood ministering in Ireland, England, South Africa, Venezuela, and New Guinea.

## Prayer for Missionaries

St. Therese of the Child Jesus,  
Patroness of the Missions,  
remember your burning desire  
while on earth 'to plant the cross of Jesus  
in every land and to announce the Gospel  
till the end of the time'.

We ask you now to help all missionaries  
And inspire them with your love.  
Obtain for us an increase of missionary zeal  
and generosity.  
Protect all who preach the gospel,  
support them in their trials and  
teach them to love Jesus as you loved Him.  
Amen



Newly appointed parish priest at Sacred Heart Church, Western Road, Cork, Fr. John Fitzgerald, msc (right) with Fr. Michael O'Connell, msc (left) placing benefactors' petitions on the altar for the Novena to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. MSC Mission Friends from Ireland and Britain joined in the ceremonies at 10am and 8pm throughout the nine days of the Novena.

### My Joy!

Happiness – people search for it  
in vain: it's not on earthly ground:  
With me, it's quite the opposite –  
it's in my heart that joy is found.  
This joy – don't think it comes and  
goes:  
Coming to me, it came to stay.  
Delighting like a fresh spring rose  
it smiles upon me every day.

- St. Therese of Lisieux

### Reflection

The members of the church are impelled to carry on such missionary activity by reason of the love with which they love God and by which they desire to share with all men in the spiritual goods of both this life and the life to come.

- Second Vatican Council

# Direct from the MSC Mission Fields



Fr. Vinnie Screene, msc – a native of Skehanagh, Co. Galway – is seen here with volunteer helpers in one of our Soup Kitchens in Maracaibo, Venezuela. When Helen McCarthy from Milltown, Co. Kerry visited the mission earlier this year she was shocked at the level of poverty she witnessed in the shanty-towns. Whilst on holiday in Ireland recently Fr. Vinnie told us that one of his big tasks on his return to Maracaibo would be assisting poor families with the cost of school books. MSCs regard education as the foundation to enable poor people to better themselves. Distribution of food parcels to sustain poor families is a regular part of missionary work.

Fr. Adrian McHugh, msc – a native of Swinford, Co. Mayo – pictured with a group of orphans in very happy mood after they received warm blankets in Musina, South Africa. Whilst South Africa is known for its blistering heat, the temperature can drop well below zero during their winter. The cold added to poor diet and nutrition along with bad housing creates great hardship especially for children and old people. At St. Martin's School vegetables and maize are cooked in large pots in the yard to provide a nutritious meal for the children. Fr. Adrian is now planning a Drop-In Centre for AIDS sufferers and their families.



AIDS is a huge problem. Africa has 10% of the world's population but 90% of AIDS sufferers.

## Making Mission Alive ... is about Solidarity

The month of October is designated *Mission Alive* month each year. It is a special time when Catholics are asked to think and reflect on "mission" and what this means to them.

Being missionary is much more than just performing the act of giving material support, like money, to our missionary priests. It is about praying for them and their work. It is about having compassion for the poor people to whom they minister in the shantytowns. It is being passionate about practising the word of God in a very real way. It is solidarity with others.

Sharing doesn't just mean giving ... it equally means receiving. It is in giving that we receive. When our benefactors are compassionate and share in the vision and work of our priests ... when they are passionate about their participation in the work

of our missions, they are receiving. What they receive is not material; rather it is an inner feeling of goodness and fulfilment. It is the inner contentment of reaching out to others who have fewer gifts from God than they themselves enjoy.

### Benefactors are part of the work

Financial support for the missions is very important. But it is equally important that benefactors share in the inner contentment of being a pivotal part of the great work that missionary priests undertake in Third World countries. Scenes of food parcels being handed out to poor people, AIDS orphans being cared for in foster homes or care villages, clinics providing medical and dental care, drop-in centres for people seeking work, night shelters for the homeless, and schools in poor communities – each of you through your support is a part of that work. Our priests are doing it in your name. Each of you is sharing in the work. Mission is about solidarity or sharing and caring for each other irrespective of the location, or nationality, or religion.

## MSC Pilgrimages in 2007

We will organise 3 pilgrimages in 2007. These will be to Fatima, Shrines of France including Issoudun where MSCs were founded in 1854, and to Lourdes. There is a growing interest in our annual pilgrimages with many of them not able to accommodate the number of pilgrims interested in taking part. Pilgrimages are unique occasions where MSCs and pilgrims pray for all those who support our missionaries in so many ways. Further details will be circulated early in 2007, but enquiries to the Promotion Office are always welcome.

# Training Volunteer Counsellors for AIDS Sufferers

AIDS is having a devastating impact on families in South Africa. The areas of Brakpan, Tsakane, Geluksdal, Vlakfontein, and Langaville are located in Gauteng Province. Housing there ranges from low cost estates to very large informal shack settlements. The population is approx 1.5 million. Un-employment is over 70% resulting in severe poverty that is multiplied by the devastating effects of HIV / AIDS plus alcohol / drug abuse, and domestic violence, especially rape against women and young girls.

The small local hospital and two clinics are totally inadequate for the numbers of people seeking counselling and help. **Fr. Joseph Wilson, msc** – a native of Birr - identified the need for a 'walk in' counselling centre for individuals and families afflicted with HIV / AIDS. Having conducted research locally and after consultation with other churches in the area, the Ekuphileni Counselling Centre was set up in 1999.

## Free service to poor people

The Centre provides services free of charge to approx. 4,000 people annually. Of these, 70% are women / young girls, and 30% are men. Services are now stretched to the limit in terms of the number of volunteer counsellors and home based carers. For those who cannot attend the Centre due to illness or lack of money for transport, a home based care service is provided.

There were no plans by the statutory agencies to expand the pre and post HIV / AIDS counselling services in the region, and there was no 'walk in' facility to meet the ever growing local needs of an impoverished community. These needs include:



These two teenage girls visit the grave of a family member who is identified only by a number as are all the other graves in this burial plot. Many AIDS sufferers are buried in this type of 'mass grave'. Poverty deprives them of dignity even in death. We thank the many benefactors who have supported our AIDS programmes.

- Awareness education and guidance for young people about the danger of HIV / AIDS
- Provision of counselling as a healing process to help victims re-discover their dignity, self-esteem, and confidence
- Help in restoring family stability, and reduction in the development of dependence on alcohol and consequential crimes
- Provision of knowledge on how to manage the infection, the status changes and behaviour that will reduce transmission
- Creation of a support structure for children that allows them to continue schooling, looks after their basic needs, and puts them in touch with relevant local resources and agencies.



Sr. Mary Tuck, op, with a group of volunteer counsellors in the Sithandz Care Centre in Tsakane, Gauteng Province. The Centre caters for over 40 AIDS orphans, and feeds 450 children per day with extremely limited kitchen facilities.

The easy access and the nature of the counselling provided delivers significant benefits – individual and social - to this very large and poor community. The Centre is run by 6 full-time staff, and 10 volunteer counsellors.

## Future Goals

The success and benefits of the service to-date gives confidence for capacity building and for extending the service to a wider geographical area to meet the needs of the poor. The key to achievement of these goals will be ongoing training of existing counsellors and the recruitment and training of 15 more counsellors, and the further training of 17 home based carers. The latter group are given basic training in the local clinics in primary health care. They need further training in counselling and referral skills that are critically important.

The non-availability of funds specifically to train new counsellors has delayed the recruitment and training programme to expand the services. The cost of a suitable training programme for 15 counsellors would be €13,125, and the cost of appropriate further training of 17 home based carers would be €8,500.

Every human being deserves respect and dignity irrespective of how poor they are. The specific ethos and objective of the Centre is to help the poorest of the poor in this population of 1.5 million people through the provision of a range of professional services FREE of charge.

## NEW from the MSC Promotion Office

### Devotion to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

We know that many of our benefactors have great devotion to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Over the years we've been asked could MSCs do more, in addition to the Novena in Aug / Sept, to provide opportunities to pray to her and ask for favours.

The MSC founder, Fr. Jules Chevalier, msc, created the title *Our Lady of the Sacred Heart* in 1857 to signify the importance of Mary. In 1863 he wrote that it is through Mary that we get to the Heart of Jesus. The Mayo-born Rosary Priest – Fr. Patrick Peyton – preached for decades about the importance of devotion to Mary.

Recently, we asked a number of benefactors if they would be interested in a book dedicated to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in which they could make perpetual enrolments. The response was an overwhelmingly YES.

Based on this intense interest, and to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of her title, we are now developing **Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Blue Book**. It will be available shortly. The privileges of enrolment will include remembrance in: the Masses offered by retired MSC priests, Daily Mass offered in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Issoudun in France where MSCs were founded, Novena Masses in honour of Our Lady offered at Sacred Heart Church, Cork, Daily community prayers offered by MSCs, and the Novena Prayer to Our Lady prayed at mid-day Mass each Saturday in Sacred Heart Church, Cork.

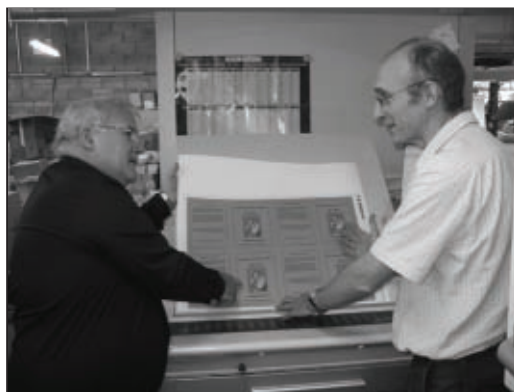
The enrolment certificate will be in the form of a C5 size card into which can be written the name of the person being enrolled. Benefactors will be able to make enrolments for deceased persons, or for a wide range of individual or family occasions. The suggested donation will be €12 or £9

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### Concern about Mass Cards

A number of Irish Bishops have expressed concern about pre-signed Mass cards that are on sale in shops. Some of these cards bear illegible names of priests in Africa and India so that their location and standing cannot be checked by Church authorities. We continue to receive queries from benefactors who are concerned that the Mass is being traded on a commercial basis with no details of the priests or the donations they receive being available. It is known that shops buy the cards for less than €1.50 each and sell them for up to €4. The Bishops advise Catholics not to buy these cards because there is doubt about the standing of some of the priests named. Some of them have withdrawn permission for the use of their names on cards, and others only received a donation as little as 20c per card.

Charity shops have also drawn attention to used clothes being collected by commercial enterprises that sell the clothes for profit in Eastern Europe and some African countries. Collections are done door-to-door but many are arranged at church porches by anonymous collectors. Beware!



Fr. O'Connell, msc with Liam Courtney (right) of City Print Ltd examining the first editions of the enrolment cards for *Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Blue Book*.

### Bereavement Acknowledgement Cards

Fr. O'Connell is asked regularly by families to offer Mass for the people who expressed sympathy with them following a bereavement. He is always very pleased to arrange this. He is also asked if we have any suitable acknowledgement cards for them to post to their sympathisers to thank them for their support and advise them that a Mass is being offered for their intentions. Such cards are only available from the companies that print memoriam cards.

In order to meet the needs of our benefactors, we now have available special MSC Acknowledgement Cards with envelopes. Interested benefactors will have the convenience of using these cards and having their sympathisers remembered in a Mass offered by MSC missionaries.

A sample and full details are available from the Promotion Office.

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### Pilgrimages to Paray - Le - Monial



A pilgrimage will take place from 11-19 June 2007 for 4 nights. Flight from Dublin to Paris. Details from Kathleen McDermott at 01-8372036 or Myra McMorrow at 01-8371656.

A further pilgrimage will take place from 20-27 July 2007. Flight from Dublin to Lyon. Details from Nell Kelleher at 026-41236 or Edward or Carmel Donaghy at 041-9819074

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### Reflection

"I expect to pass through life once.  
If therefore there is any kindness I can do  
to any fellow human being,  
let me do it now,  
as I shall not pass this way again"

- William Penn

# Drugs – “If only I hadn’t started on drugs”

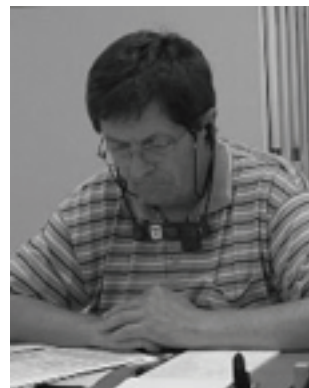
## Fr. Liam O’Brien, msc continues his series on drugs

We buried Wayne (not his real name) last month. He died after a long struggle with cancer. Wayne was known to me for over ten years since he first presented at the Presbytery in Killinarden, as a young man taking part in the All-Ireland kick-boxing finals. He came with three other young men and I blessed all four. Wayne was the only one who won.

I next met Wayne in 1995 when he presented with a heroin problem. His family had found out about it and kept him in his room 24/7. They even slept in the room with him. After 5 days he was off heroin but they stayed with him for fear he would go back on it.

Twenty one days later they dropped their guard and he slipped out and had a smoke of heroin. He was back on it. They then brought him to me. We brought him to a doctor who gave him a quick detox from the heroin. However, it didn’t work, and by that time we had opened our clinic in Killinarden and he came to join it. He was with us for a number of years and during that time he was diagnosed with cancer. He eventually did a successful detox and was able to live a normal life while in remission.

While in remission he stumbled into cocaine and started trying it. Within a very short time he was hooked. He started to take heroin to calm himself down after the cocaine and was hooked on that as well. He gave up the cocaine and came back to us to be treated again. We brought him to the clinic every Thursday and brought him home again.



He was in good form and would tell us of his hospital visits while waiting to see the doctor. Then in June we were told he wouldn’t be let out of hospital. I paid him a visit only to find that he had slipped into a coma and within two days he passed away peacefully.

We buried Wayne on the Monday. It was tragic to see a young life over so quickly. One of the last things he said to us was ‘If only I hadn’t started on drugs’.

## Death of Bro. Donal O’Sullivan, msc



With sadness we record the death of Bro. Donal O’Sullivan, msc. Bro. Donal was born in Inchigeela, Co. Cork in 1923. Having travelled extensively he emigrated from Jersey Island to Australia in 1967. A late vocation to religious life, he joined Missionaries of

the Sacred Heart there and took his Final Vows in 1977.

He did great work with St. Vincent de Paul society and with Alcoholics Anonymous, and was admired for his kindness and desire to help others. Like many emigrants, he never lost his longing for his native Cork and home. In 2001 he returned to Cork to reside with the MSC Community at Western Road.

One of nature’s gentlemen, Bro. Donal was a man of few words but when he engaged in conversation he had many stories to tell of his various travels and his life in Australia. His gentle presence will be missed. May he rest in peace with the Sacred Heart.

## Ask for Prayers

Fr. O’Connell and MSC priests are always very happy to pray for specific intentions of MSC Mission Friends and their families. Please feel welcome to write and ask.

## “My faith is important to me”

- Sean Og O hAilpin, Cork Hurling Team

“My faith is hugely important to me. I believe there is a God and I believe He has given me a talent for sport, so I don’t want to let this talent go to waste. Harnessing and using it is my pay-back to God for what He has given me. I don’t have any doubts about God’s existence whatsoever.

“Before every game I always say a Hail Mary to guide me through the match. At night, I always say it again before going to bed to thank Him for getting me through the day: tomorrow is a whole new day, whatever He has out there for me, I’ll take it on board.

“Having faith helps you to live a good honest life. It gives you a goal and purpose in your life and direction as to what is good and not good for you”.

(Extract from recent interview in *The Word* magazine)



We thank the many benefactors who have requested Mission Boxes for their homes, or for shops or schools in their areas.

Having a Mission Box in a home or a school encourages children in the art of giving and supporting missions

# Training Catechists in South Africa

With the declining number of Irish missionaries in South Africa there is a growing need to train lay catechists. These volunteers are ordinary adult parishioners with a working knowledge of English. The majority come from 'non income' or 'very low income' homes.

The aim is to give an opportunity to parishes to utilise and develop their greatest resource – their parishioners, to give the same training opportunity to 'non income' and 'very low income' parishioners as those who can afford to pay for training, and to give the same training opportunity to women who have no say in family finances.

## Training

The Lumko Institute of Pastoral Education – founded by MSCs – is the National Catechetical Training Centre for the Southern African Bishops Conference. Lumko is mandated to provide suitable methodology, content and application for the training of catechists and pastoral workers in the local African Church.

To meet the needs of the local church, Lumko offers an 'outreach' programme that takes place in various pastoral centres around the country. This programme is titled **Call to Serve**. Training is held at the Ave Maria Pastoral Centre in Mooketsi. Content includes catechism for children, youth, and adults as well as training for funeral leaders (very important in the AIDS crisis), Sunday service leaders, and local committee work. The latter is critically important due to the high level of illiteracy and the consequent lack of local leadership skills within the community. The aim is training for leadership in community activity with a strong Catholic ethos.

Over the past 5 years, the programme has seen over 200 people from 13 parishes successfully complete their training, being awarded their 'Pastoral Diploma' and engage in their local church community. Both the direct and indirect benefits to the church community have been immense.

## Success to Date

The trained volunteers are taking up leadership roles and developing ministries in their local church. In addition, the local church has become more active in their evangelisation and more visible in their community because of these trained volunteers who have been empowered by the social vision of the Church to be engaged in areas such as local school boards, and local community project activities.

## The Future

The **Call to Serve** programme has proved highly successful in developing local activists and leaders for the Church. Based on the current trend in vocations, the number of ordained missionaries in the region will decrease in the years ahead. This highlights the importance of the need to train lay volunteers who will be able to take up leadership roles in their communities, particularly in the poorer areas. Hence, we want to increase urgently the number of volunteers being trained. A reality is that very poor volunteers cannot afford to contribute to the cost of training fees, food, accommodation, and transport. The Diocese and mission areas have to subsidise these costs. However, the level of resources available for this specific work is very limited.

## Burses help to educate MSC students

Donations received for Burses are invested for the education and training of students for the priesthood. We have several burses from which people can choose – list available on request. The most popular ones in recent years have been the Sacred Heart, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart and Padre Pio.



PLEASE CUT HERE

Enclosed is my donation of ..... towards ..... Burse.  
MR / MRS / MISS (Please use block capitals)

Please subscribe to the Burse of your choice for the training of missionaries.

Name: .....

Address: .....

**SEND TO:-  
FR. MICHAEL O'CONNELL msc  
MSC PROMOTION OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 23,  
WESTERN ROAD,  
CORK.**

..... Tel No: .....

## MSC Christmas Cards with Mass Remembrance

We now have a range of Christmas Cards with Mass Remembrance available in the Promotion Office. The cards come in Packs of 5 with envelopes. Each card has an image of the nativity scene reminding us of the true meaning of Christmas.

MSC Mission Friends wishing to order cards are advised to avoid the Christmas postal rush. As you know postal deliveries get slower as we move into December. It is advisable to post your request by 30<sup>th</sup> November or earlier, but not later than 8<sup>th</sup> December except in emergencies. Early receipt of requests will help us greatly during this very busy period.

We provide a sheet for listing the names for forwarding to Fr. O'Connell for inclusion in the Mass remembrance of our missionaries.

### Donate Used Mobile Phones to the Missions

We thank the many MSC Mission Friends who posted in used mobile phones for our recycling programme. A special word of thanks to the individuals who organised collections through their local church and prayer meetings. Apostolic Work groups in many areas have promised support for this unique fundraising initiative that also helps the environment.

The best brands for recycling are Nokia, Motorola, Ericsson, Panasonic, Siemens, and Sony provided they have a battery. These can be posted to Mobile Phone Recycling, P.O. Box 23, Western Road, Cork. But we ask you not to include chargers or anything else in the package.

We can also take HP, Dell, and Lexmark empty inkjet cartridges for recycling, i.e. the types used in home or small office printers.

Every €30 we receive for phones or cartridges will care for an AIDS orphan for one month in South Africa, or every €8 will provide a basic food parcel for a poor family.



St. Angela's College, Cork is supporting the MSC phone recycling scheme. College Principal, Rosalie Moloney on the left of picture has set up a collection point in the college where students can deposit used mobile phones. First to donate phones were students Leah Kearney on the left and Katie Teahan with Fr. Michael O'Connell on the right. We greatly appreciate the initiative of the college in supporting our missionary work whilst helping the environment.

## Christmas Opening

The MSC Promotion Office will be closed from Friday evening 22<sup>nd</sup> December until Tuesday morning 2<sup>nd</sup> January. Opening hours are Mon-Fri 9am-5pm. Reception closes at 4.50pm.

The Office will be closed on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December – the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

We ask benefactors to request Golden Book enrolments and Mass Remembrance Cards as early as possible to avoid delays in the post during December.

### Cheque Donations

Donations by crossed cheque, bank draft, or postal money order are very secure. If one gets lost, it cannot be cashed by anyone else. Banks have got very strict about the accuracy of all entries on a cheque, and will return a cheque for even minor omissions. This costs us extra time and money, and it is embarrassing returning a cheque to a benefactor.

There is no need to cancel a cheque until you have confirmation that it has not been received here. Cheques cancelled un-necessarily create a lot of extra work as well as bank charges.

Banks and building societies will sell drafts free of commission when being sent to a registered charity like Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

### Mission Alive Prayer

Blessed are you,  
Lord God of all creation.  
Blessed are you Jesus Christ,  
the Way, the Truth, and the Life.  
Blessed are you, O Holy Spirit,  
the source of all inspiration.

May your Kingdom of Justice,  
Peace, Love, and Forgiveness  
be established in every land.

May your healing hand touch the sick,  
comfort the lonely, and give new life  
to all.

Help us to make your mission alive  
in our community, in our parish, and  
throughout the world.

We make this prayer through Christ  
Our Lord. Amen.