



## Supporting orphans and vulnerable children

Dear Friends,

We just returned from our six-week stay in South Africa where we met with every child who is being supported by Bakhita Charities. There are fifty-three of them, plus so many others that we meet along the way. Bakhita Charities, through generous donors, is supporting:

Four primary-school girls and their siblings living with guardians in area villages

Twenty-four secondary-school girls at St. Brendan's Boarding School

Fifteen older girls attending universities or vocational schools

Each St. Brendan's girl wrote a heartfelt note thanking us and all the donors who make it possible for them to have a future that they could not imagine some years ago. In the words of grade-ten Bongi, "Thank you for giving us an opportunity that everyone needs. We promise that we will work hard so that we can be independent and take care of ourselves and our families."

*Maggie & John Williams*

### You're Invited!

Our annual Bakhita Charities Appreciation and Awareness Gathering will be held at 7:00 pm on March 28, 2022 in the Bethany Room at:

Christ the Redeemer Church  
2700 Waldon Road  
Lake Orion

We'll share information on our recent visit to South Africa, show photos, tell stories and discuss your questions and comments.

Light snacks will be served.  
All are welcome.

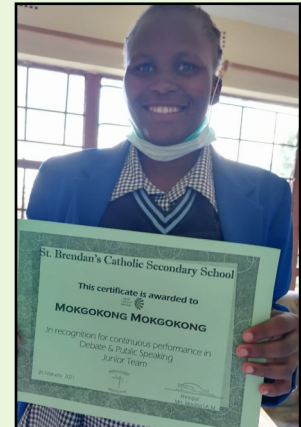
### She's a Blessing

Blessing came to Bakhita Village as a young girl. She has always been ready to smile and be happy in whatever she's doing. When Bakhita Village closed, she went back home to live with her granny who is her guardian.

Granny is blind, so Blessing had a lot of responsibility in the household. But she was always able to smile, and she managed to do well in primary school, even while living in extreme poverty. Our Bakhita Outreach Team brought food each month and helped her get ready to attend St. Brendan's.

St. Brendan's has been good for Blessing. She's in grade 9 and earns good marks. She received an award for her work on the Junior Debate and Public Speaking Team. We're so proud of her.

On our last night, Sr. Rotee gathered all the girls to have a sendoff for us. After much singing, dancing and cake eating, we stood outside, and each girl came to say good-bye. There were lots of tears and hugs. Later, we realized that Blessing had come through the line twice, and had tears in her eyes both times. She is so grateful for the opportunity that's been given to her.





## Look at All These Faces!

Every face you see here is someone who has been helped by your wonderful prayers and support.



## Thanks for Your Donations

We sincerely appreciate all your kind and generous donations. Your gifts make it possible for us to continue this work for these kids who have so little. We personally pay all expenses so 100% of your donations go directly to the children. We make our request through this one-page newsletter, twice per year.

After food, clothing and shelter, we focus on education. We help many girls and nowadays we often struggle to keep up with school fees. We are grateful for each and every donation.

Bakhita Charities is a 501c3 charitable organization and all donations are fully tax-deductible. You can donate by check, credit card, or PayPal through the mail or on the website.



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