



EDUCATE. EMPOWER. ENRICH

## PROGRESS, MILESTONES & GRATITUDE

Rev. Robert Seraph Aliunzi



As we come to the close of the year, I cannot stop being grateful to God and all of you for your amazing generosity through which our organization E3 Africa, attained significant milestones in the year. Allow me to mention just a few of these:

- We have just completed the construction of a library and ICT Center thanks to a donation from Mary Ann Alexander, one of our most generous benefactors. This facility was one of the requirements for our school's national certification as an examination center. This certification was a tremendous achievement for a school barely three years in existence. Computers and books are, however, still needed to fully furnish the center.
- This year, 36 of our sponsored students have graduated from different colleges with a variety of degrees and skill sets awaiting to join the job markets.
- So far, we have 40 new students sponsored this year who will be able to go to school beginning in January of 2024. However, we still have 20 students waiting for sponsorships to have a similar chance.
- We have also expanded our school farm from 26 cultivatable acres to 80 acres thanks to the Weller and Ellebracht families. This expansion will allow us to fully supply our students with food from our farm and also provide an opportunity for our students to have a practical learning experience of agriculture on the farm.
- We have also just acquired a state-of-the-art planter through a very generous anonymous donation from a beloved E3 Africa supporter. This new piece of farm equipment will allow us to facilitate the planting of seeds on our expanded farmland. This was desperately needed as the size of land to be cultivated has more than doubled.
- Finally, through a timely donation from our E3 Africa Board Chair, Micki Schroeder, and her family, we have also been able to hire armed security guards to protect our students following the recent terrorist attacks on nearby schools in the volatile region within which our school lies.

Despite all these achievements, the security of our students continues to remain our top priority as we come to the close of the calendar year. Whereas we have already hired armed security guards, another critical element of security for our students is the presence of resident teachers on campus. Currently, we have only six teachers residing among a student population of 525. The number of students will be rising to 725 during the 2024 academic year. A student population of this size will require at least six more resident teachers on campus. We, therefore, urgently need to construct, additional housing for the teachers. To achieve this, we need \$75,000 and have so far raised \$46k. Our goal is to raise the remaining \$29k by the end of the 2023 calendar year and begin construction for the additional teachers. Please begin praying and discerning how you can make a sacrificial gift to support this project. In the spirit of Advent, your end-of-year donation towards this goal would be highly appreciated.

I would like to conclude by, once again, thanking you all for your tremendous generosity that made so much progress and these many milestones possible.

**Read Fr. Robert's Advent Appeal Here and make a gift!**

NOVEMBER 2023

## Newsletter Highlights

**A Message from E3 Africa Founder, Rev. Robert S. Aliunzi: Progress, Milestones & Gratitude**

**Parish Communities within the Diocese of Phoenix Partner with E3 Africa: Educating, Empowering, and Enriching Lives in Northern Uganda**

**E3 Africa's new Board Chair, Micki Schroeder**

**E3 Africa's Executive Director, Kristin Smith discusses Grow & Harvest Gala & invites YOU to join us in mission**

**E3 Africa's upcoming Advent Appeal and Golf-for-a-Cause Event**

**[Read Fr. Robert's Advent Appeal and make a gift to support the appeal by clicking here or by scanning the QR code.](#)**



SCAN HERE

## Parish Communities within the Diocese of Phoenix Partner with E3 Africa: Educating, Empowering and Enriching Lives in Northern Uganda



**SAINT BERNADETTE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

In the heart of Africa lies Northern Uganda, a region that has long been plagued by poverty and the repercussions of a devastating civil war. However, hope has found its way into this war-torn land through the tireless efforts of our local parish communities within the Diocese of Phoenix who have partnered with E3 Africa. Together, they are working toward a common goal - to educate, empower, and enrich the lives of orphaned and impoverished children. Through their collaboration, they are not only transforming individual lives but also making a profound impact on the entire community.

Education is the cornerstone of any community's progress, and in Northern Uganda this is certainly no exception. The partnership between Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Bernadette parishes (both in Scottsdale, AZ) with E3 Africa has brought accessible education to children who previously had limited or no access to schooling. With the help of the parishioners of these parish communities E3 Africa was able to offer educational sponsorships to 31 students at a St. Thomas Aquinas College in Erepi, Uganda. The secondary education level boarding school, established as a beacon of hope for these often-forgotten children was established in 2019 by Fr. Robert Seraph Aliunzi, Pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish and School in Tempe, Arizona and E3 Africa's Founder.

Educational initiatives are not limited to literacy and numeracy skills but expand to empower these children with knowledge and critical thinking abilities and skills. By investing in education, E3 Africa with the help of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Bernadette parishes are breaking the cycle of poverty and giving these children a chance for a brighter future.

Empowerment is a catalyst for change, and the partnership seeks to empower the youth of Northern Uganda in various ways. Vocational training programs in agriculture are being established to equip graduates with practical skills that enable them to pursue sustainable livelihoods. By acquiring skills in trades such as agriculture, these young individuals are empowered to become self-sufficient and contribute to the development of their communities.

Additionally, mentorship programs and assistance with planning for higher education are being established to provide guidance and support to the youth post-graduation. Students are encouraged to dream big and aspire to achieve their goals, despite the challenges they may face. By nurturing their talents and instilling confidence, E3 Africa strives to unlock the potential within each young person while fostering a sense of hope for the future.

The collaboration between local parish communities and E3 Africa in Northern Uganda is a testament to the power of collective action. Through these efforts, these partnerships not only provide immediate relief but also empower the future generation with the tools they need to break the cycle of poverty and build a better tomorrow. Together, the narrative for Northern Uganda is being rewritten and love, hope and support is being shown to the children who need it most.



## **E3 AFRICA'S NEW BOARD CHAIR, MEET MICKI SCHROEDER**

Micki Schroeder was voted in as the board chair of E3 Africa in June. Under her guidance, E3 Africa will continue to expand its efforts to educate, empower, and enrich the lives of the orphaned, impoverished, and often forgotten children in Uganda.

Micki is the founder and CEO of Trilinear HR and has a profound interest in technology, business processes, and the legal aspects of human resources. With over 20 years of experience in the HR sector, Micki and her company, Trilinear HR, understand the evolving market and tailors its services and expertise to meet the needs of today's businesses. The dedicated team at Trilinear HR focuses on providing solutions and enhancing the user experience, ensuring a seamless and uncomplicated process for their clients. Their comprehensive range of HR services is built on top-notch resources, up-to-date industry knowledge, compliance, and technology, all backed by a strong commitment to integrity.

Micki has been happily married to her husband Mike for 34 years, and both share a deep devotion to serving Christ. Mike actively serves as a Minister of Care and Sacristan at St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church. Micki and Mike are blessed with four children: Amber, Gabe, and Simon and Rebekah (twins). While Micki has spent most of her life in Arizona, she has also resided in Sunnyvale, CA, LaGrange, IL, and Beaverton, OR, where she worked with Native American middle school and high school teenagers.

E3 Africa is grateful to Micki for her acceptance of this important leadership role and for her commitment to serve for the benefit of E3 Africa and our mission to educate, empower and enrich to orphaned and impoverished children in Uganda.



## **Board Members in Action**



*Board members & Sponsorship Committee Members Colleen Ryan and Monica Van der Werf with Fr. Robert Aliunzi and Pastor of St. Bernadette, Fr. Don Kline*



*Past Board Chair BethAnn Bader and Board Member Colleen Ryan attend Dribble for Cancer Event*



## **E3 Africa's Executive Director, Kristin Smith, provides update on Grow & Harvest Gala while extending invitation to join us in our Mission**

E3 Africa, a non-profit organization and registered 501© (3) held its annual Grow and Harvest Gala on Sept. 16, 2023 at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Phoenix. This highly anticipated event not only brings the community together for a common cause while raising funds for the organization's impactful projects, it provides the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the organization and to rally support for its initiatives. Every dollar raised funds E3 Africa's mission to educate, empower and enrich the orphaned and impoverished children of Uganda. This year's event was a resounding success and set the stage for successful completion of E3 Africa's ambitious five-year plan.

Attendees were a diverse group of supporters, philanthropists and clergy. The Bishop of Phoenix, the Very Reverend John P. Dolan led the opening prayer and expressed his support for the goals of E3 Africa.

One of the highlights of the evening was the Paddle Raise where a staggering 46K was raised (of the 75k needed), a testament to the generosity and commitment of the attendees. This amount has been earmarked for the funding of a teachers' quarters building on the St. Thomas Aquinas campus in Epepi, Uganda. Currently, there are 525 students residing on that campus and the addition of the teacher's quarters will provide crucial onsite support for these students 24/7. Additionally, this money will provide much-needed professional resources and educational materials for the dedicated teachers working tirelessly to educate these children. By ensuring that the teachers have convenient living quarters and resources, E3 Africa aims to enhance their ability to provide quality education and support to the students. Seventy-five thousand dollars is needed to complete the project and E3 Africa has already reached an impressive sixty-one percent of the fundraising goal.

As E3 Africa launches its year-end annual appeal, everyone is asked to consider making a gift towards the building of the teachers' quarters. With just \$29k remaining to reach its goal, every contribution matters and will make a significant difference in the lives of these children and directly impact the quality of education and support provided to the students. The resounding success of the Grow and Harvest Gala has propelled E3 Africa closer to its goals and the successful completion of its five-year plan. With the dedication and unwavering support of its partners and donors, the orphaned and impoverished children in Uganda are ensured a brighter future than they could ever have imagined.

**Thank You Massaquoi Thames Photography!**

**[MTHAMESPHOTOGRAPHY.COM](http://MTHAMESPHOTOGRAPHY.COM)**



**[Grow & Harvest Gala Photo Gallery](#)**

NOVEMBER 2023

# PRAY

Please begin praying about how you can support the orphaned & impoverished children of Uganda this Advent Season

Keep your eyes open for a special Advent Message of hope & charity from E3 Africa's Founder, Fr. Robert Aliunzi!



## SAVE THE DATE!

April 27, 2023

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