St. Stephen Protomartyr Ukrainian Church

VIEWS FROM THE PEWS | February 28/21



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Charity Edition

By Charity Director - Mary Chudyk

Each year I get the privaledge of sending funds to International Charities that work tirelessly helping those in greatest need. Along with this I also get to read wonderful stories of how our funds are used and many fill my heart with God's love. St Stephen's Parish support The Canadian Food for Children (CCFC).



CCFC was able to fill containers full of food and send to Jamaica:

In Honduras you see volunteers filling care packages of pasta, beans and other food:



What I would like to share with you is a condensed version of two stories that happened right here in Canada benefitting third world countries.

- 1. Tisha was a high school student in Mississauga who wanted to volunteer at the CCFC warehouse and in 2020 took up the challenge to "Volunteer from Home". With her Mother's permission, she emailed family and friends explaining she was having a 'social distance' soap collection for CCFC. The poor children that CCFC supports live in countries that have been terribly impacted by Covid-19 and soap is esesential in the fight against disease. Trisha set up a colorful display on her driveway and provided a container for people to drop off their soap donations. At the end of the 'soap drive' each soap package was cleaned with a disinfectant wipe. Over 120 bars of soap were collected!
- 2. Mikayla was a Grade 12 student in Brampton who was deeply touched by a story of a young girl named Fides in Africa, who lived in rags. Fides was not well and the Catholic nuns in her village, that CCFC supported, would provide a good meal each day to keep her alive. On a visit to Africa, CCFC wanted to meet Fides, now a healthy teenager. It was her birthday and CCFC asked the nuns to take her on a small shopping trip. Fides bought a small bottle of hand cream and nail polish, she wanted the same things teenage girls in Canada would want. Mikayla wanted to get involved, so while working at Shopers Drug Mart she solicited the store owner to donate items. Along with the donation Mikayla bought several items with her own money. In July 2020 Mikalya showed up at the CCFC warehouse with \$13,000 worth of nail polish, shampoos, hand creams and soap! Mikayla said; "Everyone deserves to feel special because we all are created special by God".



