



SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO HONOR MOTHERS

READ ON FOR MORE DETAILS

Dear Friend,

Your faithful support helps to provide all the things that an orphan child needs. This includes food, shelter, education and the nurturing care of loving parents.

Around the world and in most cultures, May is the month for celebrating and honoring mothers. I want to especially recognize and thank all the mothers within our ICC family. I also want to give you a tangible way to honor a special mother in your life. I'll tell you more about that near the end of this letter.

I have fond memories of my own mother, Alcyon. Not only was she a loving mother within our own family, Alcyon was also a true "Mother in Israel" for helping to start the ministry of ICC and for tirelessly working for the benefit of orphan children. Her legacy continues to thrive in the lives of hundreds of ICC children who affectionately called her "Mommy Fleck."

It is inconceivable to think about caring for orphan children without the steady, determined contribution of mothers. The children of ICC are blessed to have mothers who generously and sacrificially send funds to support the children as well as those mothers who daily provide for the nurturing care of children within ICC homes.



"Mommy Fleck" knew that a mother's love has a powerful impact on the life of an orphan child.

Thank you very much for all the life enhancing and life changing things you do!

Because the role of the house mother is so important to our children, I wanted to

introduce you to a couple of mothers from the Patmos Island children's village in the DR Congo. In recent interviews, these ICC mothers shared their personal stories.

Francine Wamahoro is the mother in Home One at the Patmos Island Children's Village. She is taking care of 12 children. In addition, two other children who are in school away from the campus are also a part of her family.

In the following paragraphs, Francine shares with you what it's like being a mother to orphans and how her life has been richly blessed.

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I have been serving as mother at Patmos since my husband's death. He was an Adventist pastor and died from lightning. After my husband's death life became very complicated without hope. I did all I could to get in touch with my friends and relatives. They told me that there was an organization in South-Kivu which takes care of children. I immediately went to the field president to ask for a recommendation letter in order to get a job as mother.

I was hired for this service in February 22, 2004 and came here with my little girl.

When I arrived here, I was first of all happy because I had food to eat and a good place to live. I found the place very spiritual, and the church was near. It was after some time that children became open to me. They could tell me everything and how they came to Patmos. I felt sad in my heart and wept.

My daughter was 4 years old. Given that my daughter was also an orphan, I did my best, and I still do all I can, to treat all the children in the same way and just balance my love toward them all. Though my daughter would like to be treated differently, I can't do this.

It is too difficult to specify the working hours at Patmos village because we wake up at 4:00 or 5:00 am. We have a lot of tasks to fulfill every morning such as preparing the porridge, attending the morning worship, clothing the children for school, sweeping and mopping the houses,



YOUR generosity makes it possible for ICC children to have a mother who loves and cares for them.

tidying the beds, washing the dishes, etc.

It's really by the will of God that I have come here. I see God's miracles through the children. I believe that both mothers and children have come out of a critical situation in all walks of life. Children were seriously underfed, unclothed and without an education, but at Patmos everything is provided for them, even though human needs are never taken care of at one hundred percent.

I would like for people to understand that this work requires a lot of patience, and faith in God. If one misses both of these paramount elements, he/she can resign from the job at the very beginning.

I rejoice to say that even the Holy Bible witnesses that people who help orphans and widows will enter the kingdom of Heaven.

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Francine understands that she is doing a Heaven-appointed work for orphan children. You stand alongside of her by your generous gifts and prayers.

Neema Rosine is the house mother of 12 children in Home Four at the Patmos Island Children's Village. She also has three other children who are a part of her family. They are currently in school away from the campus. During vacations, they return to the children's village and stay with her and the other children.

Neema also shares with you some of her experiences with the children in her care.

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I have been serving at Patmos Village as a mother since July 14, 2007. I have served for ten years, and I still feel blessed to forge ahead with my work in serving orphan children.

I myself was an orphan, as I lost one of my parents. I knew how being an orphan is very upsetting and painful.

As I was interested in taking care of children in homes, I discovered that this was a Heaven-sent task that I could not reject. Orphan children needed a mother and



Mothers are on the front lines of nurturing "His Kids." They need you to stand alongside of them as they serve the children. Thank you for the ongoing support you provide!

father. They were unhealthy and underfed. They were parentless and given up. God rescued them through ICC which provided them with everything crucial for their wellbeing. I was enrolled as a mother to look after them in a home and to bless them with motherly love.

One thing motivated me to serve the children. Firstly, I know that the Bible itself recommends us to help and serve orphans and widows. It is a great ministry that God Himself has established. When I remembered this truth, I could not resist helping the children.

The first day I started working as mother to the orphan children, I faced some challenges as I had to take care of little children who were quite ill. So many of them were sick, in poor health, and hopeless. After two weeks, they began to call me “mother”. They were now happy, I also I felt relieved.

I don't have any of my own children since I got married. But I love the children that I am taking care of. They call me their good mother, and I also call them my beloved children.

The work of a mother in the house has no beginning time and ending time. It requires us full availability. I work every day and I don't have a rest.

We are Adventist Christians in my home. We have evening and morning worships through which we pray for the sponsors and ICC leaders or authorities all over the world. I get strength to do the work from God because without his grace and blessings I cannot do anything.

I would strongly advise all the mothers working for ICC to take care of orphan children to carry on, because our reward is in Heaven. I was called to do this work; it was my own choice, but God's influence. I am convinced that I am sowing and will reap in due time.

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As you can see, your support is a blessing. You are helping orphans and the mothers who care for them. You enable them to have a consistent supply of food, a safe and comfortable place to live and you have given them the opportunity to serve Jesus by loving and caring for orphans. **Your ministry to mothers enables them to do ministry to others.**

Francine and Neema are two of dozens who serve on the front lines as house mothers at ICC Children's projects around the world. We pay tribute to the sacrificial love and

care that they provide to the children every day. They are the unsung and often unnoticed heroes of this ministry, and together we acknowledge their dedicated and life-changing service.

As we honor mothers, I want to also give YOU a unique opportunity to recognize a special mother in your life. This month, if you give a donation to support the work of our dedicated house mothers, we will acknowledge that gift in a special memorial and honorarium section of the Que Pasa.

Use the enclosed response coupon to designate the amount of your gift and the mother you wish to recognize. You can give a gift in honor of your own mother. Perhaps you'd like to honor your sister or daughter. Husbands, this is a wonderful opportunity to also recognize and honor your wife. You can even give multiple gifts recognizing several mothers who have impacted your life.

By supporting the children in this unique way, You will also give support to mothers like Francine and Neema as they sow the seeds of love and kindness and reap the wonderful fruit of children who are happy, healthy and growing in their relationship with Jesus.

On behalf of the children, thank you very much for your support!

God bless you,



President

P.S. I encourage YOU to support the work of ICC house mothers like Francine and Neema and pay tribute to a special mother or mothers in your life. Send in your gift today. Thank you!