



Missionary Sisters of Mary Immaculate

"TEACHING, HEALING AND SERVING THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA SINCE 1918."

URGENT!

December 14, 2009

Dear Mr. Doe,

Children are starving, cattle are dropping dead, crops are withered, lakes are empty, and still the rains haven't come. Kenya is on the verge of a catastrophe of Biblical proportions! The official estimate is that more than 10,000,000 men, women and children in Kenya are without enough food to eat.

In addition, because of the drought, millions of people are without water. Each day, they must stand in line for hours waiting to get water from a water truck that will give them just enough to help them stay alive for another day.

In some areas, 20 percent of the children are malnourished. As a result, they are weak and getting sick. The lack of food and water is also claiming livestock. More than 150,000 cattle have died. The corn/maize crop has fallen off by 40 percent and 70 percent of the country's wells are going dry! People have begun fighting for food. Recently more than 30 people were killed over a livestock dispute. The situation is critical!

In the midst of all this, our Sisters are doing as

(Over, please)

much as they possibly can to reach out to those most in need. But I have to admit, the crisis is affecting the Sisters as well. We simply do not have the funds necessary to purchase additional food and water to care for the children in our orphanages and feeding centers. Nor do we have the funds needed to provide extra meals to those orphans and elderly who are coming to us in desperation.

That is why I am writing this urgent letter to you - because the situation is critical!

My friend, I am hoping we can send \$60,000 to help provide emergency food and water to those missions being hit hardest by the drought and famine in Kenya and in other areas of East Africa.

Please! Will you at least send something?

Even if you have sent a donation previously, can you possibly send another donation now - so that we can reach out to some of those who are on the verge of starvation? Those suffering most are children, such as those in our orphanages, schools and those coming to our feeding centers. They desperately need our help! Any gift you can send will be a blessing.

Sr. Mary Bernadette, SMI

* God bless you and your loved ones during this holiday season. You remain in our prayers!