
*CPNZ IN THE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE
REPORT*



ST THERESA KAMATIVI PRIMARY SCHOOL

November 2019

BACKGROUND

St Theresa Kamativi Primary school is located in the Matabeleland North Province of Zimbabwe under Hwange diocese. Kamativi was a tin mine during and after colonial era. The school was the pride of the mine as it is in the heart of the mine. The once bustling settlement now only carries memories of a once glorious past, when tin prices were high and the mine was an oasis in the province. It was once a big operation cited with pride in Zimbabwean textbooks. But in 1985, the world tin market collapsed. The International Tin Council, the global tin cartel, folded and tin stocks fell through the floor. Tin mines began to shut down, from Indonesia, Thailand, to here in the arid corner of Mat North. The last mine trucks rolled out of Kamativi over 25 years ago. By 1994 tin prices had collapsed, and the mine was forced to shut down. Due to the economic turmoil experienced in Zimbabwe at the macro level since early 2000 the school has not been spared. Its coping and resilience capacities in terms of procurement of learner's material, relevant capital expenditure and related knowledge and education investment have been adversely affected. Report shows that the school has 387 pupils and 229 pupils had not yet paid a cent for the whole year of 2019, with each pupil owing the school at least \$90ZW.

In this regard, through consultation with the bishop of Hwange His Lordship Albert Serrano and the education Secretary Fr Jim Muleya in the Diocese, St Theresa Kamativi was identified as the ideal school for the CPNZ Community initiative. The, CPNZ, therefore mobilised resources for the school and pledged a token to the choir which overcame most difficulties in attending St Cecilia day in Hwange. It is noble to note that the diocese of Hwange was best for the initiative as the engagement was to coincide with St Cecilia day which was to be hosted in Hwange and also CPNZ Spiritual Director Fr Moyo is from Hwange diocese.

Preparation meetings

The idea to have the community engagement in Hwange emerged in Masvingo where the CPNZ annual general meeting was held on the 21st September 2019 at Gokomere. The idea was further retained on agenda for the Handover meeting that was held at Africa Synod House on the 10th of October 2019. The house agreed and made it an action point for the month of November 2019 and the initiative to coincide with St Cecilia choral competitions. The first planning meeting was held on the 10th of November 2019 by the

National Executive Committee at Africa Synod House. They agreed to call for donations to the larger group.

The second planning meeting was held on the 17th of November 2019 at Africa Synod House. The meeting comprised the Action Committee and NEC. On that day, the house erudite of Kamativi, the school was identified; transport and accommodation, budget and all issue were exhausted.

The final planning meeting was held at Africa Synod House on the 20th of November 2019. On this day, all donations were consolidated, programme was established and all pertinent issues were exhausted.

TRAVELLING

Members travelled in three teams. The first team was the advance team that of our CPNZ intern Josephine Tunha and Vimbai Masoso from Social Communications for coverage of the initiative. The advance team departed Harare by bus at 6 AM. They dropped off at Cross Dete in Hwange and were ferried by Br Jacob, the headmaster of Marist Brothers Dete high school to the Minor Seminary as planned.

The next team comprising of Albert Dhafana and Innocent Kubvaruno drove to Hwange, t with all donations from Harare and collected more from the Bulawayo Chapter, which were sourced by Richard Savo. The Bulawayo chapter also facilitated procurement of fuel and largely purchasing of refreshments for school children at the event. The team arrived at mid night at the Minor seminary

One last member Chemwi, followed on the evening bus, on the 21st November 2019 and arrived the following morning to meet with other team members and they proceeded to St Theresa Kamativi for the initiative.



Pic 1 from left Albert Dhafana, Richard Savo, Innocent Kubvaruno and Bakers Inn employee Chiedza in a Bulawayo Supermarket where they bought refreshments for use during the community initiative

ACTIVITIES ON THE DAY

.Seven activities took place on the day of the CPNZ community initiative, which was held on the 22nd of November, 2019. These were:

- Mass
- Entertainment
- Career guidance
- Motivational talk
- Presentation of gifts
- Touring

Mass

The event was ignited with a mass which was attended by students, government stakeholders, SDC, community members and CPNZ. The mass was led by Fr Jim Muleya and the local parish priest Fr Nkatazo



Pic 2 Missionary Childhood in procession during holly mass

Entertainment

The event was colourful as the children were much involved in the event showcasing their talents. Each grade at school provided entertainment. People who attended the event could not hide their joy and laughter as children took to the stage, reciting poems, singing and dancing the popular gumboot dance.



Pic 3 3, Gumboot dancers entertaining the crowd

Career guidance

Career guidance was done by professionals in the following fields:

- I. Banking and finance/ accounting
- II. Human resource management
- III. Law
- IV. Social work
- V. Non academic achievements

The career guidance touched on academic and non-academic achievements, and the importance of careers were likened to their local living hero Marvellous Nakamba who plays soccer internationally for Aston Villa.

Motivational talk

Motivational talk session was done by Chemwi Mutiwanyuka who is specialised and experienced in the field. This was specifically for the school children..



Pic 4, students paying attention to the motivational talk by Chemwi

Presentation of gifts

The National Spiritual Director Fr Mgcini Moyo and CPNZ Chairperson Mr Albert Dhafana handed school fees vouchers, stationery, reading material and clothes to the school. Before noon, fees donation were amounting to ZW\$10 150. Members of CPNZ continued to pledge. The pledges were to assist in covering 112 student's tuition fees for the year 2019 that were in arrears.



Pic 5: The school showcased some of their products/ wares

Touring

After the event, CPNZ toured the great pride of Hwange, Hwange Safari Lodge in particular. They ended their day seeing wild animals and had dinner there..

The following day, members toured some catholic training centres in Hwange imparting skills to Hwange people. They visited St Don Bosco Vocational Training Centre and Chimuniko Pastoral Centre.

St Cecilia Day

Catholic choirs from all dioceses converged in Hwange to commemorate the day of their patron St Cecilia. The event is held annually. All catholic dioceses have choirs which compete in these competitions every year. Twenty-six choirs from all the eight Catholic dioceses and one from Johannesburg took to the stage at Hwange Colliery Stadium as they battled for supremacy at the occasion. CPNZ members witnessed the choral competitions. and pledged ZW\$1000 towards prize of a choir which overcome most difficulties in attending choir completions. The prize was awarded to Johannesburg-Gauteng choir which come fourth position out of twenty-seven. |



Pic 6 Johannesburg – Gauteng choir which come forth on stage and won CPNZ prize

Achievements

The event was well organised as CPNZ witnessed the presence of government stakeholders from the district and high profile people, for instance, the Commander National Youth Service responsible for Hwange province Commander Mleya, community members and CPNZ Hwange chapter represented by Locardia Nyoni. CPNZ reached the needy area. It is noble to note that the school enrolment is over 387 pupils, 229 had not paid any tuition fee for the whole year that is ZW\$90 per child before CPNZ intervention. CPNZ managed to pay fees for 112 students who had arrears for 2019 and that was a notable impact.

Lessons learnt

- Career guidance requires all professionals represented.
- Communities must be engaged in community initiative
- There are needy areas out there,
- Bishops must be consulted in future initiatives to identify needy areas because they know their dioceses well
- Catholic church has training centres in Zimbabwe which are under utilised

- CPNZ to open up chapters in all diocese

Conclusion

The community initiative which was held at St Theresa Kamativi was a huge success. Local people highlighted the need for the continuous intervention of CPNZ to the school.

Report prepared by **Innocent Kubvaruno, CPNZ National Secretary**