2014: Major Progress and Milestones

- In April, surpassed 100,000 children receiving treatment at Holy Innocents: now 19,000 inpatient children and 92,000 outpatients!
- In July, celebrated five years since opening our doors to the children of Mbarara.
- In October, installed Oxygen Generation equipment at the hospital.
- Received a grant in excess of $40,000 from Rotary International for the purchase of laboratory equipment.
- Obtained initial approval for a $37,500 Rotary grant for operating room equipment.
- Plans for construction of the new Surgery Center are near completion and will soon be sent out for bids.
- We have raised more than $450,000 in donations and pledges for the construction of a Surgery Center.

Surgical Center Moving Forward

We are making great progress on the Surgical Center. Although the Surgical Center comprises only one building, it is a far more complicated project than the first phase of the hospital. With the Surgical Center we have extensive plumbing, electrical and HVAC requirements. We also have to plum lines for delivery of oxygen and take into account the need to maintain a sterile environment within the surgical theaters.

We know that you, our wonderful supporters, want to see progress. We haven’t yet reached our goal of having 90% of funding in order to break ground. The architects and engineers we are working with have produced a great design and we will soon see it implemented. We thank you for your patience!

The next step is to obtain building approval from the Ugandan Ministry of Health. Then we place the project out to bid and construction can begin.

Of course, we still have some additional money to raise for construction and to equip the Surgical Center. We are confident that our generous supporters will supply the needed funds.
From the beginning of the Holy Innocents Children’s Hospital project, our Patroness has been St. Thérèse of Lisieux. St. Thérèse is a patron saint of missions, even though as a Carmelite nun she never traveled outside the convent. However, she had a special love for missions and supported missionaries with her prayers and letters.

St. Thérèse promised that “After my death, I will let fall a shower of roses. I will spend my heaven doing good on earth.”

The success we have achieved with Holy Innocents Children’s Hospital has, in many ways, been astounding. In March 2008 the Board committed to construction of the first phase of the hospital. At the time, we had only $40,000 in the bank. The projected cost of the first three buildings was $500,000, and that didn’t include the necessary equipment and supplies.

Only sixteen months later, the first three buildings were complete and the Hospital opened. Every time we were nearly out of funds, or some other roadblock appeared, something good would happen, often just in the nick of time. We almost came to expect these little miracles. We think it safe to say that a project like Holy Innocents Children’s Hospital can’t have succeeded without help from above.

As we prepare to commence construction of the Surgery Center, we remain confident that St. Thérèse will continue her intercession on our behalf.

We start every Board meeting in prayer, seeking the intercession of St. Thérèse. Thanks for all the help, St. Thérèse!

Thanks to Our Friends in Belfast

Many thanks to our friends in Northern Ireland, who constructed an African Hut used by families of patients as a place of shade and rest outside the clinical areas. The African Hut is also used by staff for monthly community health meetings and to celebrate Mass.

Knights of Columbus

We also wish to thank the Knights of Columbus for their help. Our Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser was a huge success this year, and the Knights also helped with annual Mission Pancake Breakfast. So many wonderful friends and organizations lend their support to Holy Innocents.

Immunization Clinic is held every Wednesday