

# Father Robert sends blessings of the Risen Lord and news that the children are doing well, **THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF OLGC!**

Being so remote, Iyolwa did not suffer the violence brought on by the election. However, shut down of or restrictions on the internet and social media continue.

CORONA restrictions have been adhered to very strictly so that now it is possible for lockdown to ease. Starting in January, classes were allowed to return to school in phases to prevent mass infections. By May, all (approximately 820 students) will have returned.



Most of the girls are in Primary Ed, but 3 are in St. Francis de Sales College in Iyolwa and 1 is in her 1st year of vocational school.

Student promotions will be held this August. The current S4 (senior) class, of 100 students, completed their national exams in March. They are confident that they did well, but they won't get the results until July. **Ten of the girls in this class have been supported by OLGC.** If they pass their exams, it is possible that they will go for Advance education (secondary). This is a wonderful accomplishment, especially because of the pandemic and particularly so for the girls who had to deal with the demands being made on them by their families.

The families of the girls were reluctant to allow them to return after the break because they became accustomed to having the girls take over the work at home. It was easy to revert to the old way of life when the girls were forced to marry very young and were impregnated at a very early age. The school staff took on the extra burden to try to convince the families to allow the girls to return to school. In some heartbreaking cases, that wasn't effective.





*The girls and women work very hard at planting, but they are always ready to smile!*

Father Robert also shared some information about life in the village. In addition to the usual preparation for Easter, the village practices "the way of the cross in all-basic Christian communities". The villagers gather at one home where a women from that home carries the cross to the next home. A prayer or a station of the cross is said along the way as the cross is carried to all of the Christian homes. On Good Friday, around 1,000 people participated, starting at 11 am and ending at 3 pm, followed by a service. Also, in total, they had 462 infant baptisms.



January to March is summer in this part of Uganda. These months are very hot and dry. Rain starts at the end of March during which the women and children are very busy planting maize, millet and sorghum. So far, "nature and God's grace have favored" the planting.



Father Robert again thanked OLCG:  
**"Thank you very much for your sacrifice in making our girls' life. May God Bless You!"**

