



Christ is born in our "Bethlehem".

Dear M. Angela, and all Sisters,

This scene from the Christmas performance at our Morogoro Orphanage yesterday was a strong reminder to me that Jesus came to a hopeful, yet suffering people. The orphan children strongly articulated the rejecting voices of the innkeepers--- NOT WELCOME---a message many of them know from personal

experience. Yet, Mary and Joseph persevered and found a place and there, in the simple stable; the Savior was born.



Sr. Fromunda in her 88 years was full of joy and, along with her helpers, made a wonderful Christmas celebration. Thanks to countless benefactors, the children received small gifts, mostly clothing, but each package held an extra little surprise. I was with Christina (photo below) when she saw this little doll at the bottom of her package. Her cry of joy was a celebration for everyone present.

The day before the children gathered in quite a different setting. They buried one of their family members, Upendo. (Upendo means "love".) Upendo was born HIV-Positive. For whatever reason, her body did not respond to the medical treatment. She was sickly and after 12 years of suffering, her fragile body could not fight the tuberculosis. She and

countless other children are among the "holy innocents" who are denied a healthy and happy life in this world because of AIDS.

We will send you our "Mission Partners' Newsletter" which tells of our plans to build a pre-primary school and orphanage in Mjimwema, both of which will eventually replace these facilities in Morogoro. We ask for your prayers.

May Christ be your light and your peace. May you have a wonderful and blessed Christmas.

United in our Savior,
Sr. Rosann, OSB
& Community St. Scholastica, Peramiho



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