



World's Children

COVID Update from the Homes

August 2020



A sponsored child has come to St. Elizabeth's Home for Children with her grandmother to receive various food items.

What about school?

"We cannot run the school as before. Those who are studying 10th 11th 12th and college, they have regular online classes, the other graders are requested to watch TV Channels for education. Right now we don't know when the school will open because of this pandemic. The government leaders announced tentatively the schools will reopen when the impact of the virus subsides." —Sister Anjali Mary, Little Flower Home for Children, Tamil Nadu

"We are foreseeing for the school to start in the month of December and the colleges will begin in September through on line." —Sister Rosemary, Assuntha Asha Niliyam, Telangana

"Yes there is a lot of uncertainty with regards to opening of schools and colleges. However online classes are going on for the middle and high school level kids as well as college students." —Shobha Rani, Balavikasita Sadan, Telangana

As you may know, **India has had a very strict lockdown** due to coronavirus. The government mandated that any child living in an orphanage who had relatives must go stay with those relatives until the lockdown is lifted.

All the children you sponsor come from difficult circumstances, but some do have relatives. Children who have no relatives or whose home situation is abusive were permitted by the government to remain in the children's homes. So some of the 30 orphanages we support in India are virtually empty and others are quite full.

On August 6, 2020, we emailed the administrators and asked three questions: When will school begin, when can all the children return to the orphanage, and are the children safe, fed and healthy? So far we have heard back from 15 homes. Here's the latest news from India.

How are the children?

"None of our children or family is affected with corona all are safe." —Sister Lourdu Mary, Nithya Sahaya Matha, Andhra Pradesh

"Every week we are contacting our children through phone, they are safe and secure and we have provided the food provisions to our children's parents those who are nearby. All are enjoying good health and parents and guardians are happy to look after our children with love and care." —Sister Prakashama, Sneha Sadan, Telangana

"We have given ration kits to all the children and scholarship students.... All the children are safe and healthy. They have sufficient food to eat. Nobody is affected by COVID by the grace of god and your prayer." —Christina Paul, Lucile Colony, Karnataka

When can they come back?

"We are still unable to communicate the right information till the government gives us a green signal for reopening of school or to bring our children back to orphanages." —Sister Prakashama, Sneha Sadan, Telangana

Many of the children's homes are conducting feeding programs in their communities. To date, we have wired \$14,410. Since the need is still great, we will wire again soon. Thank you for your kind donations!





World's Children scholarship applicants need a sponsor

Right now, college in India will be held online. Each of these students is pursuing a career in the opportunity-rich medical field. They are all good students who have begun their education but need your help to finish.

Charles Robert — BSc Nursing, 2021



Charles is a true orphan.

He writes: "I have a dream of becoming a nurse and want to fulfill my father's desire. I am the only person to take care of my brothers in the future. So I have to complete this course. This course has more job opportunity and I like to serve the

people who need care."

Charles earns good grades and his teachers are his key source of encouragement. In his spare time he likes to play volleyball and chess.

"I am taking you as an inspiration to help the poor who are struggling like me."

Adlin Rebisha — BDS (Dental Medicine), 2023



Adlin was brought up in St. Anthony's Orphanage. Her father suffers from a severe disease and her mother, who also grew up at St. Anthony's, is a laborer in a hospital, earning \$43/month.

Adlin says, "With her small earning my mother is running the family but she can't give my sister and me higher education. She took us to St. Anthony's for giving us education."

Adlin wants to become a dentist. One of her goals is to care for future St. Anthony's orphans.

"My aim is taking care of the patient with love and affection and provide free treatment to the poor people."

Maheshwari — BSc Nursing, 2021



"Mahesh," has lived at Nirmala Matha Home for Children for seven years.

Her mother died before Mahesh knew her, and Mahesh's father drinks and neglects her and her brother. Mahesh says she loves her father but doesn't understand his actions.

Mahesh likes science classes—chemistry in particular—and working with computers.

"I believe my studies are my treasure and pleasure. If I complete my degree I can face any problem and be able to live gentle."

Sundareswari — BSc Nursing, 2021



Sundari is in her fourth year at Sacred Heart Nursing College.

Her mother died when Sundari was very young. Recently, her father was injured and lost his job as a manual laborer.

She writes, "My father believes me that I will become a nurse and look after him and my family, but he doesn't find ways to pay my fees. He is very desperate about that."

Sundari's goal is to become a surgical or pediatrics nurse. She also aspires to go into villages to bring medical care directly to the needy.

"I want to serve poor people because as a poor girl I know about their struggle."

Jeeva Sebastin — BSc Nursing, 2021



Jeeva is beginning her final year of a four-year program at Sacred Heart Nursing College. Her career is a tribute to her brother. He had leukemia that went undiagnosed and untreated until he died. She believes her brother would still be alive if her village had a clinic and this experience fueled Jeeva's desire to

become a nurse. Jeeva almost quit school to help her parents and two sisters. However, Sacred Heart administrators encouraged her to stay in college. They wrote, "Sometimes she struggles a lot thinking of her parents' economical inability, but Jeeva's strong work ethic will ensure her a good job."

"I will be the first nurse in my village."

Abisha Kulthai — BSc Nursing, 2021



Abisha is the eldest of three daughters. Her father was injured while working and can barely walk. Her mother sells vegetables door-to-door; and neighbors donate food to help the family survive.

Abisha writes, "I was knocking the door of every convent and home but they didn't care about me. Finally I came to St. Anthony's Home and got help."

The sisters at St. Anthony's encouraged Abisha to earn a scholarship, so she can lift up her entire family. Abisha earns solid A's and has chosen to study nursing.

"When I finish my study, then I will start to work and earn for me and my family and take care of my two sisters' study."