



Loreto Rumbek Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2017



Results Season — For our recent graduates at Loreto (29 from the class of 2016) it has been a long year : from testing in March, to finally receiving their results, 6 months later, in September. In previous years, the Loreto Rumbek girls have upheld an incredibly high pass rate of around 96% in the National Secondary School Certificate Examinations. This year, **100%** of the girls that took the examinations passed! All of the girls surpassed the national requirement of 50% with an **overall score** of at least **60%** for each girl. One student, Mary Akucieng, was the **number 1 female and one of the top 10 students in the state.**



Sr. Orla Treacy IBVM recognized for her humanitarian work in South Sudan —

Sr. Orla from Bray, Ireland, has been with the Loreto — Ireland Mission in South Sudan since its inception in 2006. One of three sisters originally sent to develop the school, Sr. Orla has remained a constant in the community for 12 years. In this time, the Loreto Girls Secondary School in Rumbek has grown from an initial class of 28 girls in 2008 to 240 girls. A primary school of around 900 students was started, and a primary health care unit targeting community women and children was recently opened.

The **Hugh O'Flaherty International Humanitarian Award** is awarded each year in the memory of Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty whose work protecting Jews during the Nazi occupation of Italy earned him the ire of some and the respect of many. We are honored and humbled by Sr. Orla's nomination for this award, and very grateful for her leadership here in Rumbek.

Celebrating Success — Angela Apopo Elisa started at Loreto in 2009 and graduated along with 9 other classmates in 2012—she was the first girl in her family to do this. After graduating from Loreto, Apopo—as she is known here, traveled to Uganda to study Business Administration with a focus in Accounting at Saint Lawrence University.

"With that degree I got: if I can get a job, I will. I like working with NGO's because they are the only ones with money! Right now, I am working here [Loreto—Rumbek] as the bursar in the finance office. "

Apopo supports the schools' finance officer by collecting and disbursing cash, monitoring cash flow, and issuing/collecting cash related supporting documents— a job of growing significance due to banking issues prevalent throughout South Sudan! While Apopo has already achieved much, she is still looking to the future.

" When I have finished working here, I want my Masters—a masters in business administration. If I can get my CPA I will get that too because it can be very useful for the work I will be doing. If I cannot find a job with an NGO, I can even open up my own business once I have capital!"



Loreto In the News — Sr. Orla's nomination for the Hugh O'Flaherty International Humanitarian Award has been covered by a number of news outlets! Check it out in more detail [here](#) and [here](#).

New Website: Loreto Ireland has a new [website](#) and has dedicated a section to the Loreto Mission in South Sudan.

A Special Thank You to all of the donors , advocates, and supporters of the Loreto Programs in Rumbek.

Without your hard work or support none of this would be possible.