December 2022



A Publication of International Children's Care P.O. Box 820610 Vancouver, WA 98682-0013 (360) 573-0429 (800) 422-7729 VISIT OUR WEBSITE ForHisKids.org

Double YOUR gift today with the special Christmas Matching Challenge!

"And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." Matthew 24:40 ESV

December 1, 2022

Dear Friend of the Children,

This Christmas season I'm filled with gratitude and concern.

First, I'm grateful for the tremendous support that ICC family members like you have provided to the children throughout this year. These are tough economic times. Yet, you continually help to provide the care the children need so much. And what a blessing is promised when you take care of the orphan child one of the "least of these" that Jesus refers to in the text above.

I'm also grateful and excited that some of our dedicated ICC family members have offered a special matching challenge. From now until December 31, your gift can be doubled up to \$120,000:

\$100 becomes \$200! • \$500 becomes \$1,000! • \$2,500 becomes \$5,000!

This is an excellent opportunity to **double the impact** of your support to the children. And when I share my concerns, I believe you'll see why your support is so important, "now, more than ever!" Four-year-old "Grace" is one of the newest family members at the ICC Patmos Children's Village in the D.R. Congo. Her mother died of malaria and her father was murdered by a Mai-Mai militia group. Grace arrived in very poor health. However, thanks to you, Grace has been given hope for a brighter future. This will be her first Christmas being a part of the ICC family. Your "extra" gift to the Christmas Matching Challenge will help to ensure Grace and other orphan children have the care they need this Christmas and into the New Year. Double the impact of your support today! Thank you!

And one more thing. This challenge is also to give a little extra — a bit more than you would otherwise give. Please mark this extra gift as "Christmas Matching Challenge" or use the included QR

code to donate online just now! This is a wonderful time for sharing a gift to Jesus by supporting the children. Thank you so much!

Now, my concern.

Desire's recent message was urgent:

M23 rebels supported by Rwanda had taken control of several key cities in Eastern D.R. Congo. Their conquest of more territory was continuing.

Certain border stations were now in enemy hands.

The D.R. Congo government had evicted the Rwandan ambassador and recalled their own from Rwanda.

D.R. Congo's president called on the citizen's support for a war with Rwanda.

There is an expectation of increased massacres.

If war is declared and borders closed, the movement of goods and vital food supplies would be difficult.

Desire asked for emergency funds to be sent as quickly as possible so extra provisions could be purchased before the conflict intensified.

This is such a tragedy in the making and already underway! While the conflict is nearby, the children are in a protected location. However, the fallout will surely impact the children, many of whom are orphans because of similar conflicts.

We quickly sent what we could. I'm sure that's what you'd do in this situation. The children depend upon their ICC family to provide the care they need. Yet, I remain concerned. There are unanswered questions:

Will the Patmos village continue to remain a safe haven for the children?

Will there be enough funds? War will likely increase food prices even more than what high inflation has done.

And, what about the children who will be orphaned because of the war?

Will we be called upon to bring in even more children to homes that are already filled to capacity?

I bring these concerns to you because I know you care. And because you care, I want to encourage you to give an extra gift to the *Christmas Matching Challenge* that will enable the ICC family to not only take care of the current children, but also mobilize should there be war

orphans who need us.

Before I close, I want to extend to you warm Christmas greetings from ICC children around the world. From the heart of Africa to the Caribbean from India to Europe and places in between, ICC children continue to thrive and reach milestones: graduations, weddings, and decisions made for Christ. These are all thrilling and important life events that you've made possible.

And as we all face an uncertain future with social unrest, wars and rumors of war, and economic chaos, it is certain that — Now, more than ever the children need YOU!

Across the global span of this work on behalf orphan and vulnerable children, YOU remain the vital link that keeps this ministry moving forward. Your connectedness with the children through prayer and financial support helps to sustain them. None of this is possible without you!

Thank you, and Merry Christmas!

Rick Fleck

ICC President

Rich Fleek

P.S. Please remember that your support stretches twice as far when you give an **extra** gift to the *Christmas Matching Challenge*. Please, use this QR code, donate online at our website, or send in your gift today! Thank you!

