



HOME TO ENHANCE AFRICAN LIFE

"Called to self-emptying service"

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Fr. George Clements to Speak on Behalf of Rural Village Children in Nigeria

Priest Legend Featured at 4th Annual HEAL Benefit in Kenwood – October 4th

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CHICAGO, September 4, 2017 – On **October 4th**, 2017 **Home to Enhance African Life (HEAL)** will host its **4th Annual Benefit** at the Franciscans of the Holy Family Custody in Kenwood from 6-9pm. In view of the spirituality and mission of HEAL, the event will highlight the educational challenges facing poor and marginalized orphans and rural village children in southeast Nigeria.

Such challenges affecting youth development are not unique to Nigeria, but have also defined the ministry of a legendary priest in Chicago, **Fr. George Clements**. At his residence in Evergreen Park, Fr. Clements recently met with HEAL Founder, **Deacon Leonard Okonkwo**. The clerics shared their life stories of service to the least of God's people (Mt. 25: 40) and discovered a spiritual bond.

Fr. Clements agreed to speak on October 4th on behalf of the 300 children HEAL educates in three rural village K-12 schools. The main challenge to rural education in Nigeria is the inability of parents to pay school fees. As subsistence farmers, they do not have the income necessary to sustain a school in their villages. But, HEAL is committed to people in these very areas, where education is the only hope for children who are otherwise extremely at risk.

This commitment to rural education reflects the **self-emptying spirituality** which motivates all HEAL's missionary efforts. Jesus emptied Himself and left behind His Divine glory and majesty to become human and save us (Phil 2:6-11). Because Fr. Clements demonstrated this spiritual quality in his life, Rev. Leo will honor him with the "Kenosis Award" for self-emptying service.

We hope and pray for a large attendance ready to empty themselves and uplift the lowly. Please RSVP by calling Nick at 312-952-4855 or reserve tickets at <https://heal-2017.eventbrite.com>.

About Home to Enhance African Life (HEAL):

HEAL's mission is to form servant leaders among West Africans through education, entrepreneurship, and poverty relief in the Self-Emptying Spirit of Christ (cf. Phil 2:6-11). HEAL was founded in 2013 and received tax exempt status in 2014. Visit us at www.HEALnigeria.org.

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