



# TWINNING

LASALLIANS OF NORTH AMERICA & AFRICA

Walking Together in Solidarity

## ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA



### ABOUT THE SCHOOL AND STUDENTS

St. Joseph School in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia was established in 1959 at the request of Emperor Haile Silassie I, King of Ethiopia, to educate boys from grades one to 12. The first principal was a German-born Swiss Brother who also built the school. For the 2016-2017 academic year, the school serves 1,609 students in full-day classes with 63 teachers and 39 support staff members. St. Joseph School admits students to first grade at the age of six or seven, and many students graduate at the age of 18. The school also admits new students in grades seven and nine to give scholarship opportunities to students from government schools and financially poor families.



### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

St. Joseph School has a reputation for academic excellence and for its students having the best academic performances in the country. The school has maintained a 100 percent graduation rate and a 100 percent admission to national and international universities including Princeton, Cambridge, Yale and Harvard. This reputation places St. Joseph School in high demand. For the 2016-2017 academic year, the school admitted 107 students to first grade and 105 new students in other grades, including 11 students who were admitted to grade nine on four-year scholarships sponsored by alumni of St. Joseph School.



Students participate in Model African Union in January 2017.



The class of 2017 celebrates Cultural Day in December 2016.



The 2016-2017 soccer team gathers together.



New students learn about the Lasallian world.



## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As part of the celebration of its 55th anniversary, St. Joseph School unveiled its “Vision 2020” plan in December 2014, which seeks to improve the school by the time it celebrates 60 years of service. The school wants to complete major restoration work on the property, and upgrade technology and teaching methods. The school is reaching out to successful alumni and parents to financially support the construction of classrooms and implementation of other educational services. St. Joseph School hopes to build more classrooms to reduce the student-teacher ratio while simultaneously increasing enrollment.



New teachers attend a workshop in November 2016.



## CHALLENGES

Addis Ababa, where St. Joseph School is located, has become an attraction of investors and a site of international and regional offices. Many competitive private schools are being established all over the city, providing education using technology and information systems, which are expensive. The government of Ethiopia is insisting that schools like St. Joseph School must be competitive in providing technology-based education, improved science laboratories, and other related services in spite of low tuition. In response to this and with the intention to maintain its standard, St. Joseph School is working on improvements. Due to the rapid population growth in the city, transportation is one of the major challenges students face in getting an education as demand for transportation is on the rise. St. Joseph School hopes to alleviate this problem by getting a school bus.



## USE OF RECENT TWINNING DONATIONS AND NEEDS

St. Joseph School has used twinning donations from De La Salle High School in New Orleans to purchase balls and other sports equipment, provide scholarships for less fortunate students, and create a borehole to solve its water problem. Water obtained from the borehole is used for the school's toilets, gardening and sanitation. The school plans to use future donations to fund its campus ministry program and the school band. St. Joseph School hopes to organize a band event to honor Brother Michael Schain, FSC, of the Midwest District in the Lasallian Region of North America (RELAN), who passed away September 29, 2016. Brother Michael served at St. Joseph School from 1976-1983 and was a pioneer of the band. The school would like to bring back his former students who are professional musicians and honor his memory.



## CONTACT ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

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\*Check the Facebook pages for current pictures.

