Dear Friend of the Sacred Hearts,

Fr. Peter, from our Nigerian Community in Owerri, recently called me to share that their new dispensary is doing so very well in helping the people in the villages surrounding our Formation House with medical assistance. This is the first time people in this area are finding care close to home for their families and loved ones.

Now, they are realizing the need to add a small diagnostic lab for bloodwork in the dispensary building. This service would allow health workers to quickly recognize and treat so many diseases. It is a part of medical care that is vital to successful treatment.

Having this care available for those who are in need and unable to travel to receive medical aid has deepened the relationship between our Missionaries and the people of the area.

It is a witness to the belief held in the heart of our Founder in his lifetime that helping to ease pain, whether spiritual or physical, allows those struggling to see the face of God and know of His merciful love.

Today and every day, our Missionaries here and around the world are listening to and counselling those who tell of their need for healing. The needs are many…
- those dealing with chronic illness or who must accept living with pain;
- those whose hearts ache painfully for the loss of a loved one;
- the healing of a broken marriage or family relationship;
- for the peaceful healing in parts of the world engaged in war and strife.

Our office works to help support our Missionaries as they deal with the suffering of those they serve in tangible ways. We rely on the compassion of our donors and benefactors to help through their prayers and gracious gifts.

Within the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Heart of his mother Mary, we know there is a love that seeks to comfort and ease pain. Mary, under her title of Our Lady of Lourdes, is known for her compassionate intercession that brings healing — physical, emotional and spiritual — through the grace of her beloved Son, Jesus.
Will you join us in honoring our Lady and in praying for all those seeking healing? For over 30 years here in our Villa Pieta Chapel, we have honored her in a special way on her Feast day of February 11 by beginning a Novena of Masses. The Masses are especially offered for healing for all those who suffer.

I want to include your private intentions, as well, as we ask Our Lady of Lourdes to pray with us and for us. Please take a moment now to write them on the back of the donation form enclosed and return it to me.

We rely on your generous Novena gift to continue the good works of our missionary priests and brothers. Their steps are steadily going forward to help bring a healing touch to those not only in distant parts of our world but here at home. Many suffer silently with pain that Jesus and Mary see and are eager to ease through prayer. We are so very grateful for what you may choose to send and hope you will be generous. It is ever in our prayers that God may bless your kindness.

Enclosed is a healing enrollment card for you to use now or keep for the future. Prayer is a powerful and beautiful gift that brings comfort. Enrolling a friend or loved one who is ill or struggling with emotional pain in our Novena of Masses assures them that they are not alone and that special prayer is being offered for them.

When you use the enrollment card, simply fill in the small white enrollment form enclosed and return it with your offering in the envelope provided. And, please, let us know if you would like additional cards and envelopes. We will be happy to send them to you.

Let us all never fail to ask Our Lady of Lourdes for her care and help in interceding for us when we face our own illness or difficulties in life. She is our loving mother and keeps us close to her heart always.

Sincerely in the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary,

Father John, M.SS.CC.

P.S. Please send me the names of your friends and loved ones, along with any offering you are able to make, for a special remembrance in our Novena of Healing Masses and prayers in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes beginning on February 11th. Those you enroll for healing will remain on our prayer list for one year.

P.P.S. Don’t forget to include your own personal intentions. We will also include them in our Masses and prayers.