

March 30, 2014

Dear IHM,

It has been some months since we last wrote a letter. We are doing fairly well, and are happy to be healthy. Our kids love homeschooling, and live a free and semi-wild life. Out of all the toys we brought, their favorite to play with is still the tree in front of our house they discovered our first day here.

If you didn't know, Logan is teaching now. She took over teaching Form I English at the start of this term. Since we're both teaching, we can share our perspectives on events and experiences, and discuss them together. We are finishing up with the 2nd term of school, so things are a little hectic. There will be a two week break and then we'll have a short, third term, which is mostly for exam purposes. It will be nice to have taught and observed one full year of school. I am certainly looking forward to going into next year armed with more knowledge of how things work and what is expected of me, as well as what I should expect from the students.

We have been in Cameroon now for nine months, and I'd say that in many ways we're starting to "get the hang of it." We know better where we stand at work and in the community. The cultural differences we notice now are not merely surface, tip of the iceberg differences, but deeper and more important cultural differences. We are now seeing and experiencing, but not always understanding, differences in cultural perceptions of things like time, friendship, duty and obligation, family, community, even crime.

When we came over here we had no idea how our gifts might be used, or for what exactly we should be prepared in terms of ministry. The last year we were in Los Alamos we became involved in IHM's excellent icon ministry. At IHM, Shelley teaches in such a way that the student comes away independent and armed with theory and technique both. She gifted us some materials to take with us, and I had been hoping we would find a way for God to use this gift here. Wonderfully enough our friend Father Paul, who is in charge of the youth ministry in the diocese, was telling me about how some of his art students are trying to learn icons. I told him about the wonderful program we were part of in Los Alamos and he was so excited that he insisted we try to form an icon club here. We haven't had time yet to start this project, but please pray that over the summer this might be able to come to fruition. We would love to share this ministry with Kumbo!

Over Christmas and New Year's we had a visit by IHM parishioner Sara Tuzel. We were

happy to see a familiar face! Please let us know if you are interested in visiting, and we can begin to plan together...

We keep IHM and Los Alamos in our prayers. We love to hear from people back home, and we are grateful for the letters and emails and packages you have sent. Thank you so much for your generosity, especially your generosity in prayer.

In Christ,

Eric and Logan Horne, with Helena, James, Max, Isabelle, and Sally.