

BROKEN, YET UNBROKEN

The good God has constantly been good even at this point in time, when COVID-19 has limited us from having our life chapter and school system running smoothly, things are no longer the same. Though COVID-19 might be a heavy burden on the world, we should remember that, it is not the weight of a burden that breaks us but how we carry it. I will say that the best way to carry it is by listening to all government instructions, especially from the heads, the leaders, so that we all can be protected. Least I forget, the sisters (religious), should be protected also, because they have got strength of thousand armies and magnifies thousand smile. So, let us protect ourselves so that we can protect others.

More so, there is no denial that we are out of track, Nigeria is out of track, but let's keep remembering that our God is good and we should keep praying for our nation and the leaders. Always have it in mind, from today that our leaders are our mini-gods, because they have been assigned with the task of guiding us and we in return are to protect them by praying to the good master to keep them safe.

To all leaders out there, I have always defined a leader as a visionary with poor sense of fear and no concept of odd against them. A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way. In case you don't know, every one of you, is also a leader. And I strongly believe that as a leader of your own self, you would not want to derail from the track. Though many of us are off the track, many of us are broken but remaining broken is not the right spirit but been '***broken yet unbroken***'. The act of being calm despites how strong the wind might be and been like the sun flower that is surrounded by so many weeds and going through a lot of dirt, yet it thrives and stands tall facing the sun for life.

I once told Sr Jane Francis of Liverpool, that all will be well if we become the change we wish to see in others and in making that change, we need to practice the three Rs, which are:

*“Respect for yourself
Respect for others
Responsibility for your action”*

In addition, I urge us all to look to God as the sunflower looks at the sun for life. Be bright, be sunny and be positive. Spread seeds of happiness, rise, shine and hold your head high with each new day. Like mother Julie keep saying, God is our friend and our friend is God, so your friend is your sunflower and a friend is one who understands your past, believes in your future and accepts you just the way you are. Also a good friend is one who builds your broken fence and admires the flower in your beautiful garden. We don't need to think but to accept the fact that what we need right now in the world at large is been a good friend just like mother Julie was to Françoise, and a good friend is the best thing you can be. This is to say, a true friendship is the only cement that can ever hold the world together, not only during this period of the COVID-19 pandemic but in life at large.

Lastly, I will love to say that here is my home and I am proud Ss. Julie Billart and Françoise made it all possible, though it seems impossible until it is done at last and it is done at last.

Our good God is so very good

- **Anih, Chioma Veronica** (Head Girl, Notre Dame Girls' Academy, Amoyo)

WE ARE THE SUNFLOWER FOR THE WORLD

One little strong flower,
Nodding in the delicate breeze,
A flower which stems cries of beauty to the
universe.

We exist beautifully within the sunshine,
With the lightest rays of touch,
Within the rainfall,
Though we went through a lot of dirt but
At last we face the sun.

We are the sunflowers,
We drink the beauty from God's face,
And like Him we have now became.
Like Him, We are now strong, true and good,
Our seed gives life and food.

We are the original settlers
And it is our commonwealth,
We shall claim
Both the name
And the fame.

Despite all the weeds that surround us

We raise our head to the bright sun
We possess strength of thousand armies
And magnifies a thousand smile

We are strong, vibrant and bold,
We are wonders to behold,
We are stories to be told,
Histories waiting to unfold.

From the deity of divinity,
Enclosed with unending charity,
We are sky scrapers of peace,
Tray blazers of unity.

We are corrections of your past mistakes,
Activation of your future estate,
We are product of grace,
We have got length of days.

We help the weak and poor
We give hope and light to the world
In tears and pain we are taught to love,
We are proud Sisters of Notre Dame de
Namur.

- **Anih, Chioma Veronica** (Head Girl, Notre Dame Girls' Academy, Amoyo)