

Poor access to improved water and sanitation in **NIGERIA** remains a major contributing factor to high morbidity and mortality rates among children under five.



“Give me a drink.”

John 4:5

WATER is a transparent, odorless, tasteless liquid, a compound of hydrogen & oxygen, H_2O , freezing at 32°F or 0°C & boiling at 212°F or 100°C, that in a more or less impure state constitutes rain, oceans, lakes, rivers, etc... it contains 11.188 percent hydrogen & 88.812 percent oxygen, by weight.

Water is essential for all life.

The drinking water system in the

UNITED STATES

is broken in all kinds of ways.

Chronic underinvestment has left water infrastructure outdated and on the verge of collapse in many places across the country.

The balance between water demand & availability reached a critical level in many areas of the **UNITED KINGDOM** last summer, arising from the drought conditions but exacerbated by unsustainable over-abstraction.

H₂O

Groundwater quality is generally good throughout **GHANA**, but gold mining belts in the north & southwest are contaminated by heavy metals, & naturally high fluoride contaminates drinking water in northern Ghana, posing health risks.

CHAD has the third-lowest level of access to safe water & the lowest level of access to adequate sanitation in all of Africa.



WORLD WATER DAY
March 22

“...access to safe drinkable water is a basic & universal human right ... essential to human survival ... Our world has a grave social debt towards the poor who lack access to drinking water because they are denied the right to a life consistent with their inalienable dignity. This debt can be paid partly by an increase in funding to provide clean water & sanitary services among the poor.” Laudato Si’ 30

How might we help to “give living water”? John 4:10



In **KENYA**, a Maryknoll priest has set up irrigation projects to help farmers grow better crops. He has also assisted in digging boreholes and wells to bring clean water to the slum areas around Nairobi & provide water for local schools run by Kenyan Sisters.
Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns (MOGC)

The Maryknoll Sisters in **PANAMA**, are pressing for action on a growing threat, hidden from the local people, to drain an essential, large fresh water lake in order to expand the Panama Canal & facilitate mega-ship traffic.
MOGC

COMMUNITIES ALL OVER THE WORLD have been organizing themselves to resist water privatization – in **France, United States, Brazil, Honduras, Argentina, Israel, Palestine, Turkey, Sudan, South Sudan, Egypt and many other countries**. One of the most well-known struggles involving water happened in **Bolivia** in 2000 when dozens of people died while protesting against water privatization in the city of Cochabamba. That protest became known as the “Water War.” **MOGC**