



*Republic of Cameroon*



*République Démocratique du Congo*

## *The Africa Appeal*

*December, 2013*

*The Africa Appeal is an outreach project under the care of the parishes of St. Columba of Iona and St. Bride of Kildare who are part of the Traditional Anglican Church of Canada (TACC). With the help of traditional Anglicans in Australia, the USA and the UK, we send money to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Cameroon. These two fast-growing churches are members of the Anglo-Catholic Church - Original Province which is a worldwide communion of traditional Anglican Churches. Funds collected are used for clergy support and various projects developed and run by Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge (Congo) and Father Alphonse Nduziye (Cameroon) such as building schools, a farming collective for widows, and sewing classes for victims of rape.*

As we approach Advent, and start our preparations for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, it is good to review the work that is being done around the world, and especially in Central Africa. In October, I attended Provincial Synod in California where I had the pleasure of meeting my friend, Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge of the Missionary Diocese of the Congo (DRC). Bp Steven was able to give me some recent photographs of the work he and his flock are undertaking. I think you will agree with me that these pictures tell us so much more about life and faith in the Congo than mere words could do. Here is Bp Steven with the children of the parish of St. Pierre, Mitemba.



At Synod, I also met new friends, Bishop Wilson Garang, of the Diocese of Aweil, South Sudan; Fr. Bien-Aimé from Port au Prince, Haiti; and Bishop Solomzi Mentjies from the Diocese of the Eastern Cape, South Africa. We look forward to someday establishing a funding agreement with each of these countries, so that we can participate, as far as our funds will permit, in the facilitation of their growth and vigour.

***Huge demand for schools in the Congo***

The school at Mosho is just one of the schools being built by Traditional Anglicans in the DRC. As money - from you and me - becomes available, the federal government provides teachers and basic (very basic) equipment.



Someone asked me why we didn't send surplus text books from Quebec to Bp Steven. The reason is the very high cost of shipping and also the very high risk of the theft and loss of the books shipped.



***Widows' Agriculture Project is making a difference***

This photo shows the women from the Widows' Agriculture Project with the produce they have raised through hard work on land paid for by the church. The good effect of

access to this land is quite remarkable, and we are especially fortunate that we are able

to rely on our local agent and partner, Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge, to make sure that the project is well managed.

Once harvested, the produce must be taken to market. The three women in this photo are on the road that runs alongside Lake Kivu from Mosho to the city of Bukavu.



***Travel difficulties impede development, both of the economy and the church***

Bishop Steven has a diocese that is the same size as Western Europe - France Germany, Spain & Portugal all together. But there are no roads or railways, just tracks and trails through the jungle. If you want to meet someone, you set out and walk, as these priests have

done for two days. They have run the very real risk of attack by armed bandits.

In order for Bishop Steven to visit parishes in the province of Kasai Oriental, he has to try to arrange flights at the best cost possible. At the moment, the cost of one ticket from Bukavu to Mbujimayi in Kasai Oriental is US\$1,500 return. Although air travel is the best way to get around in the DRC due to long distances, dense forests, poor roads and uncertain security, the safety record of Congolese and private air carriers is dismal.

Last month I wrote about the unfinished church at Sebele. The parish of St. Matthieu, Sebele (on the road to Fizi) has completed the walls of their church, but still lacks the money to buy 170 roofing sheets at a cost of about \$15 each. Even a small donation would mean so much to this parish.

### ***Fr Alphonse recovering well in Cameroon***

Father Alphonse, Vicar-General of the Missionary District of Cameroon, had a frightening experience on November 1st, when he was accosted by some knife-wielding thieves as he returned home after Mass in the evening. He needed hospital care for his injuries (cuts to his face), but is now well and working hard.

The Missionary Diocese of Cameroon is building a new church at Monatele, a town some 70kms to the north of Yaoundé, where already there are 150 parishioners. It now has one door, funded by the sewing school. The remaining doors and windows required to finish the structure are expected to cost around \$700.

### ***Mass held at school in Yaoundé***

Fr Alphonse has sent photos of a Mass held at a school in Yaoundé. The xylophones are in separate keys, so there is an element of harmony, the beat being kept by the drum. All of these instruments are portable, which allows for their use at the school, and, indeed, at Fr. Alphonse's home, as on the day that I arrived in Yaoundé on my visit in 2010.



***The Anglican Catholic Church continues to fund church-building in Congo and Cameroon***

The churches in Congo and Cameroon have received a substantial grant from the ACC to be used for capital construction. The intention is to purchase land for new churches in Bukavu (Congo) and Yaoundé (Cameroon). I have been impressed by the quality of the proposals which have been prepared by each church for the use of the grant moneys.

The Africa Appeal in Canada (and other similar organizations in the USA, Australia and the UK) aims to support Bp Steven and Fr Alphonse as they develop traditional Anglican churches in the DRC and Cameroon. Money donated goes to the support and upkeep of these priests and to specific projects such as the Widow's Agriculture Project (Congo) and the Sewing School (Cameroon). You can designate which project you would like to support or leave it to us to decide where the need is greatest. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Our Lord, I ask that you pray for our fellow Christians in Africa and perhaps be moved to make a donation (however small) towards the support of the Church there.

*With my thanks for all of your support in building the Kingdom of Jesus Christ both at home and around the world, in Cameroon and Congo.*

*David+*

## **How to give support to these churches:**

There are no deductions from moneys received by the Appeal; the full dollar amount is sent to either Cameroon or Congo. Any overheads are paid from gifts received for this purpose.

### **In Canada**

Donations are tax deductible and can be sent to:

The Parish of St. Bride, c/o 20895 Camwood Ave., Maple Ridge, BC, V2X 2N9

Or

The Parish of St. Columba, c/o Box 894, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A0

*Please make a note that the funds are for the Africa Appeal on the front of the cheque. Tax receipts will be issued by the parishes.*

### **In the USA**

The ACC Mission Fund, The Anglican Catholic Church, PO Box 5223, Athens, GA 30604

### **In Australia**

Anglican Aid Abroad, PO Box 256, GRANGE, QLD 4051

Or

A safe and inexpensive way of sending your gift is to make a deposit at any WESTPAC BRANCH to our Account at Morningside: MISSIONARIES OF ST ANDREW – ANGLICAN AID ABROAD 034 058 58 0656 -- Or use the INTERNET.

*If you need a receipt for tax purposes or acknowledgement in the newsletter, please write to tell us your name, details of the deposit and enclose a self-addressed envelope. If you intend the donation for a special project, please let us know, so we can designate it accordingly.*

### **In the UK**

Cheques should be made payable to “Anglican Catholic Church - Diocese of the United Kingdom” and marked on the back: “Missions - Cameroon or Congo” as appropriate and sent to:  
Diocesan Treasurer ACC Diocesan Office, St Nicholas House, 42-48 High Street, Lydd, Kent  
TN29 9AN