



*Republic of Cameroon*



*République Démocratique du Congo*



*Republic of South Sudan*

## *The Africa Appeal*

### *New Year 2017*

#### **Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,**

The political situation in Congo has deteriorated despite an accord between President Kabila and the moderate opposition to ensure the voting lists for the next election are fully revised and complete by the time an election must be held in April 2018. Unfortunately the radical opposition, several of whom have private militias, do not agree, and there is a severe risk of violent uprising. The Roman Catholic Bishops have intervened in order to broker an accord between all groups, an accord which appears to be holding. For those interested in knowing more about this situation, Bishop Steven has offered his insights – see the text box at the end of this Appeal.

However, violence has increased in Kinshasa the capital of the republic, with the result that banks and other financial businesses are closed in that city. This causes problems with banks in other parts of the country and makes money transfer difficult. Violence has now spread to other cities, although not

*The Africa Appeal is an outreach project of the Traditional Anglican Church of Canada (TACC) administered by the parishes of St. Columba of Iona and St. Bride of Kildare. Along with traditional Anglicans in the USA, Australia, and the UK, it supports churches in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Cameroon and South Sudan. These fast-growing churches, together with the parishes of the TACC, are members of the Anglican Catholic Church (ACC) - Original Province, 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), Bishop Wilson Garang (South Sudan) and Father Alphonse Ndutiye (Cameroon).*

into the province of Sud-Kivu and the city of Bukavu where Bishop Steven lives.

Despite the unrest, pastoral work continues and we are thankful for the kind generosity of our benefactors. The work to be done is colossal, but little by little, it does get done. In that regard, I had an interesting report from benefactors in the USA who have been raising funds for a new Health Clinic - in reality a small hospital - for the village of Mosho. This project, together with the



schools and the work of a women's cooperative farming project, will have a tremendous impact not only on the lives of the adults, but most significantly, on the lives of the children, who now have far greater opportunity to become leaders of the next generation.

We have not been able to fund the material necessary to build the roof of the church in Fizi (photo at left). Bishop Steven advises that the people of another community have also built their church. But once more the cost of the roof has proven too much for them. So please consider these efforts made by the local groups in your decision to make a donation.

### ***The crisis continues in South Sudan***

Thanks to your generosity, we have been able to supplement the money that Bishop Garang uses for his journey to the diocese of Aweil from his home in Nairobi. The funds are not simply for his travel, but allow him to purchase essential medications and supplies for the use of the villagers in the parishes. Often the supplies are very basic - items which we take for granted. Next time you have a headache, imagine that you are living in Aweil where there is no acetaminophen. We are very hopeful that we will be able to maintain this regular funding, modest though it is.

Since the Africa Appeal has a small donor base, we are not able to handle larger, more expensive projects. So when a major project is proposed, we enlist support from others with more capacity. In this regard, Father Peter Jardine (Pastor at St Matthew the Apostle parish in Ottawa and Chair of the Board of Directors of Voice of the Martyrs-Canada) has obtained the support of his colleagues at Voice of the Martyrs-Canada to fund the drilling of two water wells in South Sudan. This will enable us to provide people with clean water, avoiding the health risks of polluted surface water.

As mentioned in our last issue, South Sudan is under immense stress with very high internal migration where people leave to try and find a more peaceful place to settle. The civil war between the two dominant tribal groups is still causing death and destruction in other provinces and does not appear to be approaching resolution. What we need at this time is funds to provide basic medication, mosquito nets for the young, and provision of food aid in cooperation with UN Aid agencies. It will only be when these urgent needs are met that a community can be built around the cathedral so that the hope evident when the nation was born can once again empower and encourage the people.

### ***Despite earlier setbacks, Cameroon is making progress***

I have written elsewhere about the major storm which damaged Father Alphonse's home. When the wind removed the roof, water poured into all his belongings - books destroyed etc. Of course, we did not have enough money to replace all his belongings, although we have now sent enough to replace his roof. There is still a pressing need for money to help Father Alphonse replace his belongings.

The stormy weather brought him another challenge - a malaria attack with a fever high enough to cause seizures. Fortunately, he came under the care of a doctor who knows him so he is now on the road to recovery. But for him to recover and function well, it is important that he maintain a good diet with healthy food. He has not always been able to afford this in the past.

In previous mailings, we have spoken about the support from Australia's Anglican Aid Abroad (AAA) for Edéa College - Ste. Trinité. (The town of Edéa is 170 km west of Yaoundé.) This has been a major project for AAA as the building was in poor repair when the community invited the Anglican Catholic Church to become involved. Now the college is open and Father Alphonse has sent photos. The photo on the right shows



Mr Balthémy (left) "our faithful member - he is a local Administrative Officer". Next to him is Father Alphonse, then some students and finally Mr Dieudonné, a founder of the college. Father

Alphonse writes, “We offer spiritual education in the college and we have other official responsibilities with the Government”.



The photograph on the left was taken at All Souls Day in Edéa, where Father Alphonse is lighting candles in commemoration of the lives of those who have departed this earthly life. In this culture, it is normal for parents and grandparents to be buried with all honours in a grave situated in the family compound - in effect, in the front garden. This practice is to preserve and enhance continuity. It is this same impulse which

caused Nelson Mandela to be buried in the front yard of the family home, in his native village, instead of in a great cathedral. The church expectant is ever present to the church militant!

### ***Review of 2016***

In 2016, the Appeal has continued to respond to urgent requests as best we can. The funds you donated were used for clergy support and housing in Congo and Cameroon, for new construction in Congo (school) and Cameroon (Cathedral, the chapel in Edéa, repairs to Father Alphonse’s home) and for medications and food for clergy and laity in South Sudan.

Your generosity this Christmas has left us able to send a small extra amount to each country without having to be asked. The same generous spirit has enabled us to start 2017 able to send the usual \$300 support to Congo and Cameroon. We are also hoping to be able to send \$200 on a regular basis to South Sudan, as this permits Bishop Garang to accumulate medical supplies in Nairobi, Kenya, which he then takes to Aweil on his regular visits. With many thanks for your prayers and support.

**In Christ,**

**David+**  
**(Father David R. Marriott, SSC)**

***Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge has sent the following political summary of events in Congo where unrest is spreading***

These are the things which have accumulated over the past months:

The federal government has failed to arrange elections because of constitutional delays.

For the past year, the President of the Republic has demanded that politicians and the civil society enter into discussions about holding elections, because the Federal Government has failed to organize them due to a lack of funds.

Thus, the opposing parties had requested dialogue - as foreseen in resolution 1324 of the United Nations, which required the federal government to arrange dialogue under mediation by an outside party.

The president proposed three mediators, one of whom, Koffi Anane, was the former secretary general of the United Nations, the other two being former African presidents. The African Union named the former secretary general of the African Union, and former president of Togo, Eden Kudju, to be the facilitator of dialogue in Congo. This choice was supported by the United Nations, the presidential majority, civil society and a section of the moderate opposition. Dialogue took place under moderation by the African Union.

But the radical opposition refused to participate in the dialogue, and instead threatened to go to war. The majority of the leaders of this opposition are themselves former rebels as well as including former collaborators with president Mobutu. They threaten to start protest marches as well as violent rioting as has happened in the past month. These people do not accept the resolutions from the dialogue which recommend a delay of 18 months to organize presidential, parliamentary and provincial elections which must be held by April 2018. This proposal is not understood by the radical opposition.

The president has named a new prime minister from the moderate opposition with the mandate to organize the elections.

The provincial minister of the interior, security and traditional affairs is the Reverend Mboko Eciba Lutto who is the legal representative of the Assembly of God church. He was attacked last week because of the current unrest.

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

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

### **In Canada**

The Parish of St. Bride

By  see <http://parishofstbride.webs.com/>

or

c/o 20895 Camwood Ave., Maple Ridge, BC V2X 2N9

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, Congo or S. Sudan” as appropriate and sent to: Diocesan Treasurer, ACC Diocesan Office, St Nicholas House, 42-48 High Street, Lydd, Kent TN29 9AN