





République Démocratique du Congo



Republic of

South Sudan





of Kenya



Rwanda

## The Africa Appeal

## **Eastertide**

## Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,

## Rwandan Church moving to next step in government registration process

Fr Chadrack Niyibizi in Rwanda and his wife are celebrating the birth of a baby boy! We were pleased to be able to help with medical costs associated with the blessed event. He sends this photo of his wife and new son.



The process of registering the Anglican Catholic Church in Rwanda continues. You may recall that in previous Appeals I described how the Rwandan government had introduced

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, South Sudan, Kenya and Rwanda. These fast-growing churches 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), Bishop Alphonse Ndutiye (Cameroon), Bishop John Kamande Ndegwa (Kenya) and Fr Chadrack Niyibizi (Rwanda). Previous issues of this Appeal can be found at

https://www.traditionalanglican.ca/news/africaappeal/newslett

new requirements for church registration and that Father Chadrack had submitted the registration form and supporting documents. The process has moved on to the next step. Father Chadrack writes:

" ... after a long wait we have received a call from the government officials that they will come to visit us for final registration approval. ... Once the district lock down is over they will visit three of our parishes. I will be visiting these parishes beforehand to prepare them for this wonderful visit to see that we score the maximum. I will check the building, the clergy and the congregation. I am requesting for support \$250 to make this visit."

We have been able to send him the funds but he earnestly requests your prayers.

## Bishop Alphonse working hard on construction of cathedral complex

Bishop Alphonse Ndutiye is working hard on his cathedral complex. In addition to the cathedral, he plans for a school and a health clinic. Also under construction is a water tank to provide running water. The complex must be surrounded by a security wall which is complete except for the gate. Progress is slow and he lacks funds to buy building materials. The photo he has sent shows part of the complex under construction. He is using cement blocks which will not dissolve in the heavy rain common in Cameroon.



# Political instability continues in DRC while armed groups roam unchecked by government

The difficult political and security situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo continues. Here is Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge's take on recent events in Kinshasa, the capital (translated by Google translate).

"Kinshasa's difficulties are a plan for the Balkanization of the DRC by westerners. The President of the Republic is in the process of violating the country's Constitution in the view of the

international community without any reproach from either the United Nations or the European Union. The Congolese had hoped that the new president could change the social life of Congo, [getting rid of] corruption and [promoting] good governance. The opposite we see on the ground. Parliamentarians have been bribed USD \$15,000 each to leave their political camp in order to join the new majority that the president is organizing to have a majority in parliament. ... we had a hope that our people would be able to live in peace, but domestic and foreign armed groups kill a lot without the government taking action to protect its people."

This has brought home to me the truth that there are many places where the pandemic is not the only threat; even more serious problems preoccupy ordinary people. While we are absorbed in our own lives, others battle foreign armed groups and serious political instability. The accomplishments of Bishop Steven of DRC and all the other African clergy in the Anglican Catholic Church are even more impressive when you consider the difficulties they encounter.

Fr. Mmokywa Mtundu Lameck, the Bishop Elect for the new diocese in Congo, has just written asking for money for roofing sheets for three churches whose walls have been built over the past five years. More details should be available in time for the next Appeal; we hope to be able to help.

#### New church under construction in South Sudan

Bishop Wilson Garang writes to ask for support for the construction of a new church at Adoor in the Northern Bahr El Ghazal region.

The church in Adoor was started under a tree in 1993 and church services were conducted this way for the next 2 years. In 1995, the congregation constructed the mud-walled and grass-thatched building shown in the photo below. Due to seasonal heavy rains, the building only lasts for three years and then it has to be pulled down and built again. Over the last 27 years the church building has been rebuilt nine times. The local under-tree school has used the church building as a classroom - especially during rain and strong winds.



In 2018, the congregation decided to make bricks and put up a concrete church building. The new church building has a seating capacity of 1,500. So far, they have put up the walls as shown in the photo on the next page. They have run out of money for the roofing, solar power, finishing, windows and doors and for buying the chairs and also for paying the contractor. They estimate that

they would need USD \$50,000 to finish the church. The finishing of this church would free parishioners

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See https://blog.kivusecurity.org/in-the-highlands-of-south-kivu-a-political-impasse-and-a-chain-of-desertions/ for more information about the situation in eastern Congo from the Congo Research Group, based at New York University's Center on International Cooperation and Human Rights Watch.



from the hard work of rebuilding every three years and give them a permanent meeting place as a focus for their faith.

The congregation is therefore appealing for financial support to complete the construction of the church building. Any donation of any amount will be much appreciated and will be blessed by our Lord Jesus Christ. The congregation is also

asking for prayers for God's provision of the funds needed to complete the construction before the start of the next rainy season in May.

## Kenya systematically grows its Church

Bishop John Kamande Ndegwa describes the progress made by the ACC in Kenya in implementing the recommendations from their Summit held in October 2020. As reported in the previous Appeal, they are looking to improve financial contributions, care for the needy and increase the involvement of men in parish life. A major decision taken at the Summit was to form the Order of Saint Joseph the Worker and the Altar Service Guild. These organizations will form the basis on which local resources can be mobilized and mission initiatives strengthened.



Bishop John's report lists mission parishes that are priorities. His Church is focusing on improving the stronger parishes first to form a solid foundation for future growth. The first mission visit was held on January 31, 2021 (the date of the consecration of Archbishop Mark Haverland) at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Korogocho, Nairobi. The photo to the left shows the congregation of The Church of the Good Shepherd with Bishop John sitting at the front.



To the left is the exterior of the Church of the Good Shepherd.

During the mission visit, Bishop John and his wife, Esther, distributed 100 copies of annotated church calendars for parishioners to hang in their homes; these can be used to explain about the Church to enquirers and as a means of evangelization – see photo below where Bishop John's wife Esther (in long white dress with dark blue stripes) discusses the new calendars with parishioners.

They also printed a simplified version of the Catechism booklet in the local national dialect (Kiswahili) which contains the basics of faith, the 10 commandments and the Church precepts so that those preparing for confirmation and reception into the Church will have easy-to-follow study materials. The books are also set up so that families can use them for morning and evening prayers at home.

Bishop John and his wife also presented to the parish the equivalent of USD \$ 218 (locally collected) to

be used for tiling the altar area and repairing a fallen fence and broken wooden staircase that were damaged during attempts to extinguish a fire that gutted an adjacent building. This money is to purchase materials only since Mr. Peter Nguru (a mason and carpenter) and other parishioners will provide the labour free of charge. The youth of the parish received a new musical drum to be used in Mass and other church services.

Bishop John invites our prayers for the next Diocesan Synod in Kenya to be held March 26-28, 2021



where a Palm Sunday procession, confirmations, receptions and blessings of marriages will take place. He says, "Any assistance will be a great boost towards this humble, locally bred, long term and resilient initiative that has proved to be the engine by which mission and church planting will be accelerated in Kenya."

Bishop John Ndegwa has taken two courses in 2020 at St. Bede's Anglican Catholic Theological College in Victoria – we pay his tuition for these online courses at St. Bede's.

As always, our ability to support the Anglican Catholic Church in Africa depends on your generous donations and prayers.

I pray, in the words of Dr Bonnie Henry<sup>2</sup>, head of public health in the province of British Columbia, that all of us "Be Kind, Be Calm, Be Safe!".

In Christ,
David+
(Father David R. Marriott, SSC)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Dr. Bonnie Henry has been called "one of the most effective public health figures in the world" by *The New York Times*. She has also been called "a calming voice in a sea of corona virus madness," and "our hero" in national newspapers. She leads the public health initiative in British Columbia, Canada.

### How to support these churches:

There are no deductions from money received by the Appeal; the full dollar amount is sent to Cameroon, Congo, South Sudan, Rwanda or Kenya. Administrative costs, eg, money transfer fees, are paid from gifts received for this purpose.

#### In Canada

The Parish of St. Bride



PayPal see <a href="https://www.parishofstbride.com/africa-appeal">https://www.parishofstbride.com/africa-appeal</a>

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

Please make a note that the funds are for the Africa Appeal on the front of your 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 and New Zealand

### Anglican Catholic Church Missionary Diocese of Australia and New Zealand Appeal Fund

By cheque made out to: ACC (OP) DAT and sent to

Missionary Diocese of Australia and New Zealand

C/- 5 Fallow St

Chermside West, Qld. 4032 Australia

If you intend the donation for a special ACC (OP) project, please let us know, so we can designate it accordingly.

### By Direct Deposit to:

Anglican Catholic Church (OP) Diocesan Administrative Trust or ACC (OP) DAT (for short) BSB 034-064

A/c 335868

Please note the intentions for the donation on the direct deposit details.

Please be aware that given the current Australian Law situation, we are unable to offer any tax deductible receipts.

#### In the UK

Cheques should be made payable to Anglican Catholic Church - Diocese of the United Kingdom and marked on the back "Mission". If you would like to designate a particular country please indicate which one. Mail to: Diocesan Treasurer, ACC Diocesan Office, St Nicholas House, 42-48 High Street, Lydd, Kent TN29 9AN.