



Republic of Cameroon



République Démocratique du Congo



Republic of South Sudan

The Africa Appeal

May, 2014

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 churches in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Cameroon and South Sudan. These fast-growing churches are, together with the parishes of the TACC, members of the Anglo-Catholic Church - 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) such as building schools, a farming collective for widows, and sewing classes for victims of rape.

Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,

During the past few weeks, I have been in close communication with Bishop Steven in Congo, Father Alphonse in Cameroon and Bishop Wilson in South Sudan reviewing details of current projects in each of these three countries. There is so much to do that planning and prioritizing are absolutely essential in the good management of these growing churches. In this newsletter, I am including information about the costs of some of these projects; perhaps a Parish or other group would consider holding a fund-raiser for one of them?

Democratic Republic of the Congo - still hoping to put roofs on two of their churches

In the Congo, Bishop Steven has managed many projects over the years, all designed to provide an enhanced quality of life to the people living in each parish and chapel. His work has been a manifestation of that old proverb, “give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish

and you feed him for a lifetime”. In fact, one of his projects did help people living in a small fishing village to improve their fishery!

Some years ago, we were able to provide funds for the construction of two solid “cooked brick” churches; the bricks replacing adobe walls that were washed away in the rainy season each year. This project remains incomplete because we were unable to send money for the roofing of the churches. Bishop Steven writes to say that the parishes of St. Paul, Fizi and St. Mathieu, Sebele are each still in need of US\$2,070 to buy roofing sheets, framing and nails etc. The actual construction will be done by the parish members as part of their essential contribution to their new parish church.



The altar at St. Paul, Fizi in the old church, 2007



Parishioners of St. Mathieu, Sebele in their old adobe church

In the January newsletter, I mentioned the proposed Cathedral to be built in Bukavu, the capital of Sud-Kivu province in the Congo. The plan for this Cathedral calls for construction to be undertaken in stages, dependent on the funds available, with the first stage being the basement level. This will house the sewing school for victims of rape and a trades training centre for unemployed youth. The budget for this stage of the project is US\$6,500.

In Bukavu one roofing sheet costs US\$15, a 50kg. sack of cement US\$20, a cubic meter of sand US\$15, a cubic metre of gravel US\$21, and one steel reinforcing rod costs US\$14.

Cameroon – preparing ordinands for Episcopal Visit in June

In Cameroon, Vicar-General Fr. Alphonse is preparing ordinands for the coming Episcopal Visit to be made to this rapidly growing church in June by Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge. Only four years

ago, in 2010, the first parish was inaugurated with the first Mass said in the parish of St. André, Ngoulemekong, Yaoundé. There are now three priests working alongside Fr. Alphonse, and Bishop Steven will be ordaining a further six priests and two deacons during his visit at the end of June.

Since 2010, the Church in Cameroon has grown from one parish to four: the original parish in Ngoulemekong, plus Nkolbisson, Evodoula, and Awai. Further growth is occurring in six more communities: Monatele, Abomba, Lomié, Ngolemejap; Mbangasina, and Edea. All of this is being driven by one simple factor: the demand of the faithful for Anglican Catholic worship and devotion. But lack of funds to support this explosive growth threatens to limit Fr Alphonse's efforts to reach more people.

The Africa Appeal has been sending \$300 each month for clergy stipend for the three priests currently working with Fr. Alphonse, that is, \$100 to subsidize living costs for each priest. But how will we be able to provide assistance for the new priests and deacons? It is an immense challenge that Fr. Alphonse faces every day – how to provide and support clergy to meet the hunger for the Gospel message in Cameroon.

I recently received a list from Fr. Alphonse detailing some of his monetary concerns:

- Rent for his house: US\$900
- Payment for the postal box: US\$400
- Payment of the power bill: US\$240
- Watchman salary: US\$120 (essential for personal safety due to high crime level in Youndé)
- The Ordinands: US\$500
- Priests' needs: US\$300
- Travel costs for Lomié: US\$500



Lomié is 380 kms south east from Yaoundé, along a dirt road much like this one and close to a world bioshpere site.

The church in Cameroon faces a problem truly foreign to those of us in the west. While we deal with declining church attendance, the churches in central Africa struggle to cope with the needs of those who have embraced the faith in Jesus Christ and are committed to follow in His footsteps as best as they are able.

South Sudan – Cathedral construction an important symbol of stability

Security is a concern in all three of the African countries covered by the Africa Appeal. Whereas in Cameroon there has been an increase in corruption, petty theft and more serious break-ins, in Congo and South Sudan the threat of outright violence and war is ever present. Thankfully, Bishop Wilson's Diocese of Aweil is not in the region worst affected by the current fighting. Nevertheless, when a country is being built from the ground up after years of war, the insecurity which surrounds conflict demands more from the church, as almost the sole institution which is above the political

intrigues of government. The Church is so important for the people of South Sudan which is why the support we can offer Bishop Wilson is of such great value. The problem is that without your help, we can do nothing!

Like Bishop Steven in Congo, the project uppermost for South Sudan is the cathedral project, for which Bishop Wilson gives the following breakdown of the total cost of US\$45,200.

Steel for roofing: US\$6,700
Contractor: US\$5,000
Cement: US\$8,000
Doors & Windows: US\$2,500
Plastering: US\$5,000
Chairs: US\$5,000
Fencing: US\$13,000



As in Congo, this project will be developed stage by stage. Bishop Wilson has so far received \$14,500 towards the work, but there remains the balance of \$30,7200 before the work will be complete.

Cathedral construction in South Sudan with Bishop Garang

As I said in the last Appeal letter, “But what drives Bishop Steven, Fr. Alphonse, and Bishop Wilson in South Sudan is that when you arrive at the distant parts of their dioceses, there are just so many people who are waiting for the Sacraments and each one is an individual who is committed to his or her faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour.”

Although we cannot be there to witness first hand the enthusiasm with which people are receiving the Good News of Jesus Christ, we can participate in these wonderful events. Your prayers for the African clergy as they do this important work in difficult and even dangerous circumstances are essential. And offering financial support is a concrete way to show them that although we lead very different lives, we are united in our faith. Won't you become a partner in church growth in Africa by sending a donation or holding a fund-raising event?

With thanks for your support and with prayers for a Blessed Eastertide,

**In Christ,
David+**

If you have comments or questions:

Please contact Father David Marriott at drm274@hotmail.com or 409-15210 Guildford Dr., Surrey, BC V3R 0X7.

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, 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, 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