



*Republic of
Cameroon*



*République
Démocratique
du Congo*



*Republic of
South Sudan*



*Republic
of Kenya*



Rwanda

The Africa Appeal

Autumn 2019

Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,

Recently I have posted on Facebook some of the news that we have received over the past weeks and months; if you want to find the page, search for “Africa Appeal”. There is a convenient link to PayPal for your donation to the Appeal; don’t forget to indicate to which country you want to send your donation.

This Appeal letter is long overdue, for which I apologise. With this summary of recent activity, you will see that the churches in Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, South Sudan, Kenya and Rwanda continue to thrive as the Anglican Catholic Church in Central Africa expands. To continue to help them we need your prayers and financial support.

Lack of security in Congo ongoing

Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge continues to guide his Diocese of Congo through a period of serious political uncertainty, where different armed groups assemble to gain influence in future peace negotiations.

The area in which the ACC Diocese of Congo is located is on the eastern border of Congo adjoining Rwanda. It is a place of great beauty, with good resources and enthusiastic, bright people. But they are held back by corruption and poverty.

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 - 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 Alphonse Nduziye (Cameroon), Bishop Wilson Garang (South Sudan), Bishop John Kamande Ndegwa (Kenya) and Fr. Deacon Shadrack Niyibizi (Rwanda).

Ordinary people in the Diocese of Congo live in fear of attacks from the Interahamwe - a far right Hutu paramilitary organization responsible for the Rwandan genocide in 1994. The Interahamwe and other splinter groups continue to wage an insurgency against Rwanda from neighboring countries (such as Congo), where they are also involved in local conflicts and terrorism.¹

These armed groups stir up existing tribal rivalries. Tribes are already primed to defend their turf against any who might attempt to encroach, leading to the sort of trouble reported by Bishop Steven and mentioned in the last Appeal, “15 villages have been burnt during the confrontations: 12 of the Bafuliro tribe, and three belonging to the Banyamulenge Tutsi.”

The armed groups search out those places where illegal mining of valuable minerals is taking place. The minerals are then taken by force, smuggled out of the country and sold. Public Radio International reports, “Early evening, on a Monday in March, a Congolese customs official stopped a woman casually attempting to pass through a small border crossing between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and neighboring Rwanda. Francine Nakulumba, it turns out, was carrying a parcel of gold that weighed nearly two-and-half pounds, which would fetch over \$40,000 on the world market.”²

The proceeds then go to fund political struggle at the federal level leaving ordinary folk to do their best to survive. One aspect of the pastoral work of Bishop Steven and the ACC-Congo is to preserve and enhance civil society in this lawless and poverty-stricken context. Bishop Steven commented about a candidate in the last presidential election in the DRC, “Also, in his coalition, there were some of the opposition who controlled armed groups, well known to the Congolese people. Finally, the fact that this would mean seeking power from Europeans would lead to the balkanisation of the country to facilitate the pillage of Congolese minerals”.

Please pray for the people of the DRC.



Artisanal gold miners in the Democratic Republic of the Congo use their hands and crude tools to find and extract gold. They get paid only when they find the mineral. These miners are working at a pit in Ngweshe in South Kivu. Credit: Kira Zalan.

¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interahamwe>

² <https://www.pri.org/stories/2017-06-23/tracing-conflict-gold-democratic-republic-congo>

Cathedral construction in Cameroon continues

Bishop Alphonse Ndukiye continues to work on the Cathedral project in Cameroon, for which he has now sent details of the work completed together with the work yet to be done. He has also been training his ordinands, as the ACC in Cameroon grows.

Bishop Alphonse started to build his cathedral in 2013; at that time he thought it would be completed in 2015. The work has three stages: Foundation, Walls and Roof. The foundation phase has been completed and the walls phase is partially complete; \$31,000 US is estimated to be required to finish this stage. The estimate for the roof phase is \$69,000 US.

Funding for the cathedral has so far come from the Africa Appeal in Canada with funds from Archbishop Mark Haverland as well as various connections of Bishop Alphonse – his uncle Muswahili Paulin, a Spanish priest friend who works in Burundi, and his brother Theobald who works in Spain. The determination and resourcefulness of Bishop Alphonse to keep this project moving along is remarkable.

Other news from South Sudan, Kenya and Rwanda

Bishop Wilson Garang has returned to his Diocese of Aweil, South Sudan. Recent peace talks between the government and opposition leaders are again raising hopes that an enduring peace treaty can be negotiated. Violence and civil war have displaced large numbers of people, many of whom came to Aweil for safety. This has exacerbated the problem of starvation and water-borne disease that already existed. The ACC South Sudan has become a major contributor of pastoral care and food support for those in desperate need.

As of September 30th, heavy rains and flooding were still destroying crops, homes and property in Aweil Diocese and the affected population has a great need for medicine, food and shelter. A donor has funded the construction of a hospital in the town of Aweil and the challenge is now to equip it and pay the salaries of medical staff. Bishop Garang is talking to an American donor who is ready to ship a forty-foot container of medical supplies but Bishop Garang must figure out a way to pay for shipping. He has also been in the USA meeting with potential donors to fund the construction of a secondary school in Aweil.

See a selection of images sent from Bishop Garang at the end of this Appeal.

Bishop John Kamende Ndegwa in Nairobi, Kenya has been very busy teaching and preparing his ordinands for their ordination, as well as looking at future clergy education needs.

Deacon Shadrack Niyibizi in Rwanda reports that the church continues its work in compliance with the government decree requiring all churches to be constructed of durable materials such as stone, brick or concrete. This is to ensure that fly-by-night pseudo-churches do not prey on Rwandans. He has also started his studies at St. Bede's Anglican Catholic Theological College, distance learning from the ACCC college in Victoria BC.

Rwanda has now attained high levels of safety and personal security. The *New Times*, a Rwanda daily newspaper, reports, "Rwanda continues to feature as one of the safest countries in the world, according to a new Gallup Global Law and Order report. The report has ranked Rwanda 11th

globally and 2nd in Africa with over 87 per cent of citizens saying that they feel safe and confident in the security organs.”³ The survey measures people’s sense of personal security as well as their experiences with law enforcement. The government has lately put a special focus on improving security to aid in developing the economy and encouraging tourism.

My correspondence with all these African clergy gives me a front row seat to the amazing results that can come from very little money and a steadfast trust in Jesus. It also gives me a front row seat to the hardships they endure: traffic accidents, violence, illness, flooding, corruption. They are truly grateful for any support you can give.

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

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, Congo or Kenya. 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

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

³ <https://www.newtimes.co.rw/section/read/217359>

Photo Gallery – South Sudan



Flooded villages



Temporary houses set up along a road



Newly constructed hospital in Aweil



Unpacking donated medicines