



*Republic of
Cameroon*



*République
Démocratique
du Congo*



*Republic of
South Sudan*



*Republic
of Kenya*



Rwanda

The Africa Appeal

Trinity 2020

Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,

Congo endures COVID-19 and flooding

On March 10th, Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge wrote that the first case of Coronavirus had been detected in the Democratic Republic of Congo. A Belgian had brought the virus with him from Belgium and was in quarantine. Bishop Steven requested our prayers: “the country is very poor, weakened by Ebola, another outbreak come it’s catastrophic for Congolese.” (Ebola is a persistent presence in Congo; the country has had 11 outbreaks since 1976 when the virus was discovered near the Ebola River¹.)

By the end of March, Bishop Steven wrote that Kinshasa, the capital city of Congo and site of most of Congo’s coronavirus infections, was in lockdown with people confined to their houses. In the rest of the country, the government closed schools, universities and worship services. People were allowed to go to their offices but were required to stay two metres away from each other. Unlike in Canada where people routinely go online for current events and health information about COVID-19, in Congo this information is provided by

¹ Reuters, Ottawa Citizen, June 20, 2020.

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 Ndujiye (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/newsletters.htm>

radio and television. In fact, even instruction for school children has been provided by radio and TV.

In the east of Congo, people were more afraid of infection coming from Rwanda than Kinshasa; Bishop Steven's Diocese is closer to Kigali (capital of Rwanda) than Kinshasa. The government has closed borders with neighbouring countries (including Rwanda) disrupting the food supply; most food in East Congo comes from Rwanda since it is easier to access. Terrible roads make it almost impossible to bring food in from other parts of the country.



As reported in our special Appeal in May, there was serious flooding at Uvira (see photo at left), a town in East Congo at the top of Lake Tanganyika.

There was also flooding at Bukavu, north of Uvira, on the southern tip of Lake Kivu. As bridges over local rivers and streams were destroyed by the floods, the main supply route to Bukavu was cut off, causing anxiety about food and essential supplies to Bukavu and the province of Sud-Kivu from Uganda and elsewhere.

A government delegation from Kinshasa has visited to evaluate the situation but not much is expected since government revenues have fallen due to coronavirus-related shutdowns worldwide. Congo relies on exporting raw materials such as copper, cobalt and diamonds, mainly to the EU and China.

Bishop Alphonse and his family recover from illness and injury in Cameroon

As of June 10th, 2020 there were over 8,681 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Cameroon, with 208 deaths (fatality rate: 2.4%). Cases have been reported in all ten regions of the country though the majority are in the Central and Littoral regions. The crisis is accelerating.²

Despite this threat and chronic lack of funds, Bishop Alphonse Ndutiye continues to advance construction work on his projects – the Cathedral and the health centre. Bishop Alphonse has made appreciable progress as you can see in the photos below. He writes, “With the COVID-19 every service meets obstacles, our incomes are restricted and our daily needs are not met.”

² <https://reliefweb.int/report/cameroon/cameroon-covid-19-situation-report-12-may-29-12-june-2020>



However, Bishop Alphonse is very thankful to continue in good health after a severe attack of malaria early in the year. We were able to send him some money to cover his hospital bill. Then in April, we sent out a special Appeal to raise money for the hospital bills of three of his children. His infant son had malaria and his two other sons were in a traffic accident. All three are out of hospital and recovering well. We are so thankful for the donations of those of you who responded to this special Appeal and pray for the continued good health of his entire family.

On a happier note, Bishop Alphonse and his wife have been blessed with another son. See photo at right. We congratulate them and wish the new arrival good health and happiness.



Food situation in South Sudan made worse by pandemic

Bishop Wilson Garang has been in lockdown in South Sudan and is unable to return to his wife and children in Nairobi. Due to the unstable situation in South Sudan, Bishop Wilson and his family make their home in Nairobi and this is where we send his money – there is no easy way to send it to South Sudan. It must be very hard for Bishop Wilson to be apart from his wife and family while doing the difficult work necessary in his Diocese to fight starvation and bring hope to the people. In fact, the greatest challenge in South Sudan is not so much the pandemic but starvation caused by the continuing famine.

Bishop Wilson has advised that there are now two cases of the pandemic virus diagnosed in the Diocese. He is hoping to provide pails of water, so that people will be able to wash their hands more frequently. For villages with no clean water supply, the challenge of fighting the spread of COVID-19 by frequent hand-washing puts the challenges that we face here in Canada in perspective. And, of course, those pails of water cost money. He asked us if we could increase his funding to help with the extra expense of dealing with COVID-19 challenges – thankfully, due to your donations, we have been able to do this.

As in Congo, Rwanda also suffers from flooding along with COVID-19

Father Chadrack Niyibizi has emailed to let us know that, at the time of writing, there had been one death from COVID-19 in Rwanda. (As of June 23, 2020, Rwanda was reporting only two deaths.) The lockdown which prohibited church services (although he did mention one in a parishioner's home) and clergy pastoral visits has now been ended.

By the end of May, Father Chadrack was planning his visiting program with his assistant to comply with COVID-19 regulations. In addition to COVID-19, his parishioners have suffered from the heavy rains and flooding also experienced in Congo. In particular, Father Shadrack plans to visit the family of Mrs. Nyiramahoro Crodine who lost her life in a landslide caused by the heavy rain. He, like us, is praying for the government to open the churches. We were able to send \$250 so that he could buy necessities for some of these families who have lost so much.

Kenya distributing food baskets to help members



Bishop John Ndegwa wrote to tell us about a project he has started in his church. The ACC-Kenya membership has about 200 members; 80 per cent are unemployed and 20 per cent are either self-employed or small scale vendors. Between 85 and 90 per cent are women.

The current lockdown, curfew and movement restrictions have made everyday life more difficult than usual. The primary need is food. As a result, in March, the bishop started a project to provide COVID-19 food baskets with a starting capital of \$300 from a generous friend. The aim is to reach more than 60 households that have been identified through our social services.

Each basket costs \$25 and includes the following: 10 kg of maize flour, 5 kg of wheat flour, 5 kg of rice, 2 kg of sugar, 1 dozen eggs, 2 liters of cooking oil, 1 bar of soap, 5 face masks, and a ½ litre of sanitizer.

The bishop has acquired a small grain grinder to grind maize into meal, bringing down the cost of that basic commodity. Eggs from the farm operated by his mission are added to the food baskets.

St. Stephen's parish in Athens, Georgia in the United States will provide funds for this project so that Bishop John can keep providing food to his parishioners.



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

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

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

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 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 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 county please indicate which one. Mail to: Diocesan Treasurer, ACC Diocesan Office, St Nicholas House, 42-48 High Street, Lydd, Kent TN29 9AN.