



*Republic of
Cameroon*



*République
Démocratique
du Congo*



*Republic of
South Sudan*



*Republic
of Kenya*



Rwanda

The Africa Appeal

Trinity, 2021

Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,

People in DRC and Rwanda flee from volcanic eruption, earth quakes and exploding lake

On the night of 22-23 May (the evening before Pentecost) the Nyiragongo volcano erupted in the North Kivu Province of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Congo's new ACC diocese has opened two new missions in the city of Goma, capital of the Province of North Kivu and very near the border between DRC and Rwanda. The eruption of the volcano near Goma forced the inhabitants to flee their homes and seek shelter in the nearby town of Rubavu in Rwanda and also in the village of Sake, about an hour's drive to the west of Goma. Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge writes, "Our Christians have been saved, even their homes, but the problem is their property has been looted by thieves. One of our new churches has lost all their chairs." (Translated by Google) He asks for our help, both through our prayers and financially.

On May 27th, I received another message from Bishop Steven and also one from Fr. Chadrack Niyibizi in Rwanda about the situation in Congo which also affects Rwanda. There is an industrial installation in Lake Kivu which extracts methane gas from the bottom of the lake to be used for cooking. Goma, Rubavu and Sake are all found at the north end of Lake Kivu.

This is what a local Rwandan newspaper had to say:

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 Niyibizi Mvuka Chadrack (Rwanda). Previous issues of this Appeal can be found at

<https://www.traditionalanglican.ca/news/africaappeal/newsle>

Panic and fear has gripped communities bordering Rwanda and their counterparts in Democratic Republic of Congo following a sudden eruption of Nyiragongo volcano on Saturday. The likelihood of flow of extremely hot magma into the waters of Lake Kivu is feared to potentially cause a deadly explosion. Carefully considering the scientific explanations, Rwanda's Lake Kivu is one of the world's three "exploding lakes" and is at serious risk of "overturn". An overturn occurs when the gases at the bottom of a lake are disturbed and rise to the surface, creating a deadly fog that kills. In ... simpler terms an overturn is a process whereby huge amounts of carbon dioxide are released from under its surface, suffocating everyone in the surrounding areas. In Cameroon two lakes with characteristics similar to Lake Kivu have previously exploded causing a catastrophe. The first occurred in Cameroon at Lake Monoun in 1984, causing asphyxiation and death of 37 people. In 1986, Lake Nyos, in the volcanic region of Cameroon, released a cloud of Carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, killing 1,800 people and 3,500 livestock in nearby towns and villages. Since then, engineers have been artificially removing the gas from Lake Kivu through piping. However, Lake Kivu is 2,000 times larger and thus presents a disaster threat of monstrous proportions.

The authorities ordered the evacuation of part of the city of Goma; some people went west to Sake and others south to Bukavu at the south end of Lake Kivu. The danger was very great – both in DRC and Rwanda; there has been wide-spread panic.

The provinces of North Kivu and Ituri in DRC have recently been under martial rule with the aim of eradicating armed groups in the east of the country. But people are worried that this might be a way to impose a military dictatorship on the population very weakened by wars dating back to 1996. The people of these two provinces also denounce the mismanagement of the country by the people of the west and centre. So the eruption of the volcano and resulting threat of explosion comes at the same time that people are unhappy with the military rule they are currently living with. (See the last Appeal for a description of the violence and instability of the region.)

On May 25th, Fr Chadrack Niyibizi asked for our prayers for people in both Rwanda and Congo in the aftermath of the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano. Although this volcano is in Congo, many people fled across the border into Rwanda looking for safety from earth quakes. He himself was housing two families. The earth quakes were strongly felt by him even though he is 60 km away from the volcano.

On June 7th, Aljazeera reported that a phased return of residents to Goma would be implemented by the DRC government; the "seismic situation" was much improved. More information on this devastating eruption can be found at these websites.¹

¹ For more information about the volcanic eruption in the Democratic Republic of Congo see <https://www.cnn.com/2021/05/22/world/volcano-mount-nyiragongo-goma-congo-eruption/index.html> and <https://www.volcanodiscovery.com/nyiragongo/eruption-may-2021/activity-update.html>. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/6/7/dr-congo-to-start-phased-return-of-residents-to-volcano-hit-goma>

Rwandan churches receive upgrades

In April we were able to send \$250 to help Fr Chadrack Niyibizi to meet government standards; he expects that government inspections will come soon. He has written to thank us and has sent photos to show the work they are doing at two parishes.

The parish of St. Michael Nyamyumba has chosen to add an external hand washing station so that worshipers can wash their hands before entering – an important feature in the fight against COVID-19 (see photo top right). Water has already been connected and tiling will follow. When complete, it will look like the photo bottom right.



At the parish of St. Matthew Busumba, they have chosen to increase the amount of natural light in the church building by adding 5 new windows. The photo below shows three of the new windows. Note the hand washing stations - the blue plastic water barrels against the wall. In this parish, water is not piped in but it gets the job done.



Fr Chadrack also writes to thank us for the money Africa Appeal was able to send to get medical treatment for the hand of his infant son, David. This child,

along with his mother, Jeannette, was injured in a traffic accident. (You may recall the lovely photo of mother and new-born child in the Eastertide edition of the Appeal.) Traffic accidents are common in Africa where the rules of the road are not enforced and the roads themselves are not well-maintained.

Bishop Alphonse in Cameroon would like to complete security wall

Bishop Alphonse has sent photos and a plan of the Cathedral compound in Yaoundé which he has been building for some years. When complete the compound walls will contain the Cathedral, a school, a health centre and his home. At the moment, only the health centre and his home (where he lives with his family) are complete. You can see the partially-constructed classrooms of the school in the photo to the left, each with a door and window opening directly onto the courtyard - there is no need for a hallway in the climate of Cameroon. You can also see the water tower to provide piped water to the various buildings. This was funded by the ACC Diocese of the Holy Trinity in the United States. The health centre is behind Bishop Alphonse at the left of the picture.



The walls surrounding the compound are necessary to keep thieves out. They are not yet complete and hoodlums regularly get in. This is the most urgent project for Bishop Alphonse at the moment.

These three photos are of the health centre. They show a reception area, beds for sick patients and a microscope to examine tissue samples.



Bishop Alphonse has had various health setbacks recently. The latest was when he was hit by a motorcycle and had to have hospital treatment for his knee. We were able to send funds to help pay for his treatment. Previous Appeals have described how sick he has been with typhoid and how his children have also been sick. Through all these worries, Bishop Alphonse has continued to work on his compound, especially on the security wall as funds permit.

He has recently received some good news. On July 1st, the Court of Appeal pronounced judgment in the

ACC's favour on the land title case that he has been fighting in court. It has been a stressful and



expensive battle but Bishop Alphonse now appears to have clear title to the land on which his Cathedral compound is built. Perhaps having this settled will encourage donors to contribute funds to help him build his wall and complete the more long-term projects.

Starvation continues in South Sudan

In April, Bishop Wilson Garang wrote about the food shortages in his diocese of Aweil. The effects of the massive flooding that occurred in 2020 are still being felt in the area. The flooding destroyed food crops and most of the families in the diocese did not harvest anything so their granaries are now empty. The current drought has also destroyed crops affecting many households in Aweil Diocese. Here in Canada, we read of weather extremes being a sign of global warming and we think of colder winters and hotter summers. In South Sudan the extremes take the form of too much or too little rain.

The affected residents have devised various ways of coping with the situation. Family members collect wild leaves and fruits that they use as food (see photo right). These leaves are not healthy but they have no choice. One of the victims, a 65-year old woman, is calling on well-wishers to urgently help them with food donations or else many of them will not survive. Even the wild leaves they were relying on have started drying up during this dry season.

Bishop Garang is therefore appealing for donations to assist the victims of starvation. The funds will be used to purchase food items like sorghum, maize flour, beans, lentils and cooking oil that will be distributed to the affected households.

In April Bishop Wilson Garang had pain in his right eye for which he was being treated. But he has consulted a second doctor who is now giving him different treatment. Please pray for his full recovery.

You may be interested in this BBC article about changes to the South Sudan government.² On May 9th, South Sudan's President Salva Kiir dissolved parliament, paving the way for the appointment of MPs from opposing sides in the country's five-year civil war. We hope that this will pave the way for a government that will be able to look after the people.



Kenya's chicken project gets them through the pandemic

Our last Appeal mentioned that Bishop John Ndegwa had planned a Synod in Nairobi for March 26-28. On March 27 he wrote to say that the President of Kenya had announced travel restrictions and the suspension of all worship and meetings starting March 28th. Luckily, Synod delegates from outlying

² <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-57046645>

areas had anticipated such an announcement and had adjusted their travel plans so they were not caught in Nairobi unable to get home. They had expected to have baptisms and confirmations at their Synod and these plans have been put on hold. Bishop John is only able to hold private Masses with the persons living within his Resurrection Church compound – which includes his family and postulants. The lockdown is indefinite and the level of COVID is comparable to that experienced in Kenya in February 2020.

By April, Bishop John was looking on the bright side. The lockdown has given him the opportunity to get more organized, catch up with government paperwork and plan for the future.

There has also been a short-term advantage for his chicken project. (Some of you may remember that the Kenyan Church has organized the raising of chickens to fund Mission work and improve the diet of some of the parishioners.) Because of the current lockdown, Nairobi poultry farmers are unable to market their products outside the city. The Bishop's poultry "farmers" are buying their fertile eggs at much lower prices than usual and incubating them. At the time of writing, they had 1,200 eggs incubating in two batches and a plan to incubate an additional 600 soon.

Recently, Kenya banned the importation of maize from Uganda and Tanzania, making the price of chicken feed rise by 40%. Luckily they still had enough ingredients to make feed to last for a while. They are praying that by the time goods and people move freely again they will have plenty of good-sized chicks to sell. They are also in a position to sell feed to other chicken farmers and do not plan to raise their price as long as the current stock of ingredients lasts – at least not too much.

The Appeal has been able to help fund a special meeting planned for July 20th in Nairobi. This meeting is necessary to deal with an administrative issue arising from a serious "access and tamper attempt" on their annual returns to the government dating from 2014. An annual general meeting with a two-thirds majority is necessary to approve the replacement returns which they must prepare.

Bishop John closed with this thought, "In the meantime as we all learn how to deal with the effects of the pandemic, let us continue praying for the whole state of the Church believing that Christians will emerge out of it even stronger".

Financial report 2020

In 2020, the Appeal received a total of \$21, 863. Our generous donors include not only individuals, but also the Traditional Anglican Church of Canada, its parishes, and bequests (Society of St. Columba of Iona). Donors have the option of designating funds for the country or project of their choice. The amounts designated to individual countries in 2020 are shown in the table below. The year 2019 is shown for comparison.

The Appeal was able to maintain all monthly funding commitments³ and, thanks to the generosity of our donors, was also able to add to these amounts. The table below shows the amount received by each country. Transfer fees represent payments to Western Union, MoneyGram, Ria and World Remit to send the money. One individual donor has committed to covering the cost of these transfers.

Thanks to you all for your generosity. We look forward to maintaining this work in the years to come with your continued assistance and support.

³ These regular payments are as follows: Cameroon: \$300 per month, Democratic Republic of Congo: \$400 per month (for two dioceses), and South Sudan: \$2-300 per month. Kenya and Rwanda do not receive regular payments.

Africa Appeal Financial Report, 2019, 2020		
	2019	2020
Donations		
Designated Donations		
Cameroon	\$2,320.00	\$4,315.00
Congo	\$665.00	\$90.00
South Sudan	\$100.00	\$20.00
Kenya	\$175.00	\$50.00
Rwanda	\$0.00	\$510.00
Unassigned donations	\$17,681.00	\$16,331.35
Transfer fees	\$709.56	\$546.57
TOTAL	\$21,650.56	\$21,862.92

Transfers/Expenses		
Cameroon	\$9,303.00	\$9,725.00
Congo	\$4,600.00	\$4,200.00
South Sudan	\$3,900.00	\$3,750.00
Kenya	\$1,150.00	\$200.00
Rwanda	\$1,500.00	\$2,512.10
Paypal Fees	\$9.30	\$0.00
Transfer fees	\$709.56	\$546.57
TOTAL	\$21,171.86	\$20,933.67
Difference between donations and transfers/expenses	\$478.70	\$929.25

While we battle COVID and heat waves in Canada, it is good to be reminded about the serious difficulties in other parts of the world. Let the ingenuity and perseverance of our fellow Christians in Africa remind us that we are not alone in our struggles and that we have much to be thankful for. As always, your prayers and financial support are greatly appreciated.

**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 <https://www.parishofstbride.com/africa-appeal>

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 St. Paul Missionary Society, 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.