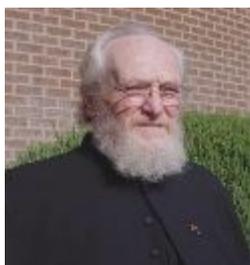


Fr. Robert's Remarks



FR ROBERT MANSFIELD, SSC
VICAR GENERAL

Greetings, The Lord be with you!

We begin our Lenten exercise this week on Ash Wednesday. I should like to draw your attention to the beautiful Anthem *O King all glorious*. This is a Sarum anthem that was included in the thought provoking Penitential Service in our Canadian Prayer Book of 1962 (page 615).

| INSIDE THIS ISSUE | |
|---|---|
| <i>Fr. David Marriott, SSC: Updates from Africa</i> | 4 |
| <i>Fr. Andrew, SDC: Lenten Meditations</i> | 8 |

O King all glorious amid thy saintly company, / who ever shalt be praised:

Thou, O Lord, art in the midst of us, / and we are called by thy holy Name.

Leave us not, O our God; / but grant that with a pure conscience we may duly keep the Paschal Feast,

And at the day of judgement / be placed in the number of thy Saints and chosen ones, King most blessed.

This anthem seems to me to convey the feeling of being a gentle, prayerful reminder that what we do in Lent is not what we do **for** God in a transactional sort of way, so much as it is a beautiful reminder that we are never without God and that whatever we do, as Christians, is always **with** God.



(Continued on page 12)

Fr. David Marriott, SSC: Quinquagesima with Comm. Blessed George Herbert



FR. DAVID MARRIOTT, SSC

From the Gospel of Luke: ‘And they understood none of these things: and this saying was hid from them, neither knew they the things which were spoken.’

And from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians: ‘When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now, we see in a glass darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.’

As we observe that which is happening arounds the world, many of us might realise that we, too, are in the same place as those disciples, that

(Continued on page 2)

Fr. David Marriott, SSC: Quinquagesima with Comm.

try as we might, we simply cannot understand the state of the world around us, and in that, we find it impossible to see and discern what it is that lies ahead, for each and every time that we think we know, something else arises, seemingly out of the blue, which sets things all awry, in confusion and distress.

It seems that there are some people who relish what is called ‘strategic planning’, as was reported as being what had been done in the recent threat of invasion of Ukraine by the ‘next-door neighbour’, Russia, taking advantage of reduced military capacity, both in the USA and in Europe, following the recent withdrawals from Afghanistan as well as from the enduring conflicts in Syria and Iraq, as well as a president in the USA, who had stated his belief that, as reported by the Royal United Services Institute in 2026 (The Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies | RUSI is registered as a charity in England and Wales - Charity number: 210639 | VAT number: GB752275038): ‘ Trump privileges commercial advantage, views military conflict as economically ruinous and contrary to a state’s larger self-interest and yet is unafraid of the limited application of US military force. which resulted in reduced desire for overseas conflict, which would limit potential support for Ukraine, and any threat of any major military opposition.’: all of this so as to ensure that there would be no risk of stronger perceived threats on the frontier of Russia from other nations!

The tragedy of this is purely human in origin, no different from my fear of the ‘monster living under my bed’ as I had heard in the stories that my older brother had told me! As human beings, we are all subject to these totally unrealistic fears and anxieties about what the ‘other’ might think about me! We each guard our secrets, often when there is absolutely no need, and we try to discover the secrets of others, especially of those who we might think are either ‘important’, or those who have behaved very badly! But, of course, there is one who does know us, who knows the bad that we hold inside us, as well as the good: as the psalmist writes, ‘O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it.’ (Psalm 139.1-6)

St. Paul writes, “When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.’ But, to me, the problem is that so many of us would like to think that we have ‘put away childish things’, whilst knowing deep in our hearts and souls that ‘those childish things’ are still in control of our emotions and desires, affecting all of those decisions and choices that we make each and every day, for ‘now, we see in a glass darkly’, with vision tainted by what has gone before in our lives. And, of course, we can then understand why some who achieve power become so determined to keep that power, perhaps not for any other reason than the fear of being labelled a failure.

On this day, February 27th, we commemorate the Blessed Reverend Father George Herbert, ‘(3 April 1593 – 1 March 1633)^[1] was an English poet, orator, and priest of the [Church of England](#). was an English poet, orator, and priest of the [Church of England](#). His poetry is associated with the writings of the [metaphysical poets](#), and he is recognised as "one of the foremost British [devotional](#) lyricists." (Wikipedia.ca – George Herbert), who wrote what I believe to be an excellent hymn for our time:



Fr. David Marriott, SSC: St Francis de Sales

‘The Elixir’ (tune: Sandys)

Teach me, my God and King,
In all things Thee to see,
And what I do in anything
To do it as for Thee.

Not rudely, as a beast,
To run into an action;
But still to make Thee prepossest,
And give it his perfection.

A man that looks on glass,
On it may stay his eye;
Or if he pleaseth, through it pass,
And then the heav'n espy.

All may of Thee partake:
Nothing can be so mean,
Which with his tincture—"for Thy sake"—
Will not grow bright and clean.

A servant with this clause
Makes drudgery divine:
Who sweeps a room as for Thy laws,
Makes that and th' action fine.

This is the famous stone
That turneth all to gold;
For that which God doth touch and own
Cannot for less be told.

[https://www.georgeherbert.org.uk/archives/
selected_work_20.html](https://www.georgeherbert.org.uk/archives/selected_work_20.html)

When, as a young man, I was serving in the British army at the headquarters of the Strategic Reserve, half of our unit were sent to Cyprus, to deal with political tensions between Turkish Cyprus and Greek Cyprus. Those of us remaining in the UK had to move to a different barracks, where we had to take care of the cleaning, as well as our regular work. One day, I was assigned to clean the bathroom: it was in doing this somewhat unpleasant work, I recalled that verse written by Father George Herbert: ‘A servant with this clause, Makes drudgerie divine: Who sweeps a room, as for thy laws, Makes that and th’ action fine.’

This has remained with me ever since, and has turned the most mundane tasks into a prayer, especially when life becomes hard and difficult, as it has for so many in this ‘modern world’ who suffer warfare, violence, starvation and misery: sometimes deserved, but more often undeserved, in our world today.

Does life in 2026 mean damaging the lives of an entire population, sowing division between families and friends, destroying homes and the lives of those inside? Around the world, we can find examples in history and in our time of those who believe that they do have that right: but do this simply because they do not understand that there is a different pathway, that their vision has been so badly corrupted because their ‘glass’ through which they see the world is tainted so very darkly. And it is in the words of St. Paul that we read of what will be given us, that our vision will be clear: ‘now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.’

And St. Paul shows us how we can start to clean the glass of our perception of this world: ‘THOUGH I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.’



Fr. David Marriott, SSC: Updates from Africa: February 2026



*Republic of
Cameroon*



*République
Démocratique
du Congo*



*Republic of
South Sudan*



*Republic
of Kenya*



Rwanda

Kenya.

Bishop John Ndegwa writes, “Dear Father David Marriott and the Church in Canada: I hope and trust that you are doing fine in the Lord. We are aware that the Africa appeal is no longer in existence, but we are not sure whether our continued sharing of information is anyhow necessary. Please pardon us if not.”

[to which Fr. David replied: ‘Dear Bishop John, Many thanks for your news: I am hoping to continue with the monthly newsletter, which Father Mansfield distributes far and wide, which we hope will encourage others to understand your needs for support across the diocese, many of which we so often take for granted, like as you write, education and health care, as well as the need for adequate food supply, which you have worked to provide. In Christ, David+’].



“Yesterday, Sunday 25th January 2026, we held the much-awaited annual work plan meeting, which regardless of the inability to bring on board 3 missions and father Geoffrey who is still admitted in hospital it was a success, praise be to God.



The main objectives of the work plan and which were achieved are as follows.

- i. To strengthen our two orders of Saints Joseph and Mary and increase membership as well as make steady monthly pledges and contributions.
- ii. Strengthen the already revived Saint Anectus Schools
- iii. Empower our Community health workers



Fr. David Marriott, SSC: Updates from Africa: February 2026

in their resolve to put up a community health workers centre in Korogocho slums.

The main project for us this year being **the school**, it was agreed to minimize and cut down expenditure especially those related to travel and instead the bishop to work more from the office, so as to direct any resources towards the school.

The school officially began on 5th January as had been planned. We have four classrooms starting from baby care to Pre Primary 2 (PP2), with about 20+ students already registered mostly from our Church members in Korogocho who were unable to access formal conventional schools due to high fees.



We have 4 voluntary teachers, Jane, Monica, Lucy and Rev. Fr Bonface, who assisting in administration and offering religious related guidance and subjects.

This is a journey towards reviving our educational sector which had more than 300 learners and had to be allowed to rest. The feeding program is now made easier since we are growing maize and potatoes. We have also purchased all learning materials, we have printed our own exercise books and renewed our school certificate. We have also acquired all needed desks and blackboards. It has not been easy but we thank God

Our monthly budget is about **\$ 388 per month** for now and about **\$ 1,164 per term** where the year has 3 terms. The budget includes the feeding program, continuous teaching materials like chalks, mouldings, crayons and volunteer support. We expect that burden to ease once we reach our target intake of 250 pupils.



Fr. David Marriott, SSC: Updates from Africa: February 2026

In conclusion, we have another administrative meeting on 1st February 2026, which we shall report about. As a result of having successional meetings on January and February and with the school being a priority, we resolved to postpone the Diocesan Synod which was supposed to take place from 27th to 29th March to a later date.



Please continue praying for the work of God in this missionary Diocese.

May God continue blessing you in this New Year.

In Christ

+John Ndegwa,

Nairobi, Kenya”

Congo East.

Bishop Lameck has sent some reassuring news about his Diocese, although he and his family are still in a refugee camp in Burundi: he writes: ‘Hello father, I have just informed you about the situation we have today, we are in the refugee camp of RUHIGI where there is no assistance but there have been many deaths from cholera and other problems such as hunger, lack of treatment. People are living in a very difficult situation. +Bishop M'MOKYWA MTUNDU Lameck. In Christ.’ The reassuring news is from his Diocese, where he reported that we had managed to have Western Union amend the funds sent to him in Baraka, DRC, to be received in Burundi, which also enabled funds from the Archbishop to be sent.

Bishop Lameck is also concerned about the need to complete the church in Baraka, which needs funds for the cost of plastering the interior, and paving the church:

1. Cement 250 bags × 15 \$3750.00
2. Sand.\$600.00
3. Gravel. \$600.00
4. Labour..... \$1200.00
5. Grand total: \$6150.00

I am hoping that other parishes will be prepared to supply these funds... Merci père.+Mgr. Lameck. En Christ



PAROISSE DE ST. MICHEL À

Fr. David Marriott, SSC: Updates from Africa: February 2026

He also added the good news that ‘all the parish priests are still functioning’, and all the parishes exercise their regular activities with the exception of the parish of Sainte Marie in Uvira. (Although the M23 have left the city, Bishop Steven has expressed concern that they have just relocated to the surrounding Monts Mitumba.)

Congo.

Bishop Steven writes: ‘Père David Marriott

Greetings in Christ our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Through this e-mail I would like to greet you and know how you are doing because it has been a long time since I have heard from you.

We are somewhat comfortable in the city of Bukavu but inside, in the villages, violent fighting is observed here and there. Telephone communication is cut off in several villages where the fighting is taking place, especially the telephone networks of Vodafone and Airtel. We don't know practically who cut it, was it the federal government or the rebels? People ask themselves a lot. It is impossible to follow the activities of our missions and parishes in these areas.

Then, I would also like to send you the images of the construction of the Saint Agatha Ikoma Mission. We had mobilized (collected) the money in our parishes and missions to reach an amount of US\$ 956 which allowed us to build the building to this level that you see in the photos.

Thus, we are in need of the following materials for the house to reach the level of lintel: 8,000 bricks (\$600); 48 x 12mm rebar (\$336); 30 x 6mm rebar (\$90); 40 bags of cement (\$440); Transportation (\$200); and Labor (\$300).

We pray that ACC-OP parishes might now provide funds for the completion of this parish.

Thank you very much, God bless you.
+Msgr. Steven Ayule-Milenge



SAINTE AGATHA IKOMA MISSION.



THE APPEAL WAS ABLE TO FUND THE SOLID FOUNDATIONS

Fr. David Marriott, SSC: Updates from Africa: February 2026

Cameroon.

Bien Cher P David+

Hello.

I believe you are doing well and I pray for you.

As a result of my health situations, I had a knee accident on the motorcycle and had to stay in the hospital for more than a month. I had enormous expenses, not to mention the illnesses of my children.

The Appeal no longer exists, you have finished your ministerial mandate. I wonder how are we going to have funds without your assistance?

I would like you to help me pay some bills and buy some food

Could we have other parishes in Canada to help us?

ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE THROUGH OUR FAITH.

Please RIA works well with my name, you can help me.

Thank you beaucoup.

Bishop Alphonse.

I hope that as the Appeal has had to terminate support, that other parishes will have the ability to support these needs, especially those parishes with someone who speaks French.

DRM+



Fr. Andrew, SDC: Meditations for Sundays in Lent

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

'IF'

'If Thou be the Son of God.'-S. MATT. iv. 3



'I COULD do such a lot,' people sometimes say, 'if I had the time,' or the money, or the ability. That little word 'if' makes a tremendous challenge. We are either accidents or animals or the children of God. If we are accidents, there is not much point in life, and we can only wait till that other accident which we call death comes to end this accident which we call existence. If we are animals, we can only live as animals and die as animals and fight as animals. But if we really are the children of God, we must be rising ever to the splendour and royalty of the everlasting Divine Life, to the majesty, glory, and beauty worthy of God. We are called to love Him with all our heart and soul and strength, and our brothers and sisters, our neighbours, as ourselves.

Continued on page 10



How to support these churches:

In Canada

Please note that, in Canada, no donations can be accepted for the Africa Appeal after November 1, 2025.

Since the Appeal ended on November 1st, 2025, we were advised that Canadian donations could be made to the Anglican Catholic Church Mission Fund Inc. - ACC Mission Fund, at a reasonable cost.

However, this advice has been adjusted, as the total cost could be significant. If you want to send funds, please check the costs for a bank transfer, Western Union, or Ria, to ensure good value.

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.

Fr. Andrew, SDC: Meditations for Sundays in Lent

Lent brings before us a picture, of temptation, of our Lord tempted to act in ways that were inconsistent with being the Son of that God Who is His Father and ours. Temptation went all through our Lord's life, as it goes through the lives of all men. All of us are tempted to doubt that we are the children of God. If we are anything less than that, we shall not be ready to face the cross. But if we *are* His children, then we would surely prefer any pain that came to us through doing His will rather than effect an escape, if by escaping we lost our union with Him. It may be that the way of faith will take us through darkness and pain, but if we are the children of God we cannot come down from the cross that proves our faith and our love.

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

THE SPOILT CHILDREN OF GOD

'He answered her not a word.'—S. MATT. xv. 23

THOSE words come right in the middle of the Gospel of Love, and we cannot shirk facing them. Here is a poor woman, not asking anything for herself but for another, and Jesus answers her not a word.

The Curé d'Ars used to call himself *L'enfant gâté du bon Dieu* (ed. *The spoiled child of God*), and his was a life of great suffering. Those who are really in the highest sense the spoilt children of God are those who are given grace to follow in the footsteps of the crucified Christ. Sometimes God has taken His dear ones out of their difficulties, but the greatest grace of God is when He enables them to go on in those difficulties. S. Paul besought Him three times that the 'thorn in the flesh' might be taken from him, and then got the answer, 'My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness.' To those who are capable of rising highest in the spiritual life God gives the grace to follow Christ along the way of sorrows.

To this poor woman, who is a type, He gave grace to on and to persevere in believing, to persevere in following, and then she got the gracious answer, 'O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt', and her daughter was made whole in that hour. He Who had answered not a word now answered in love and compassion, and the prayer that seemed not to be answered had its complete and perfect answer in the absolute healing of her child. Great faith is not the faith that walks always in the light and knows no darkness, but the faith that perseveres in spite of God's seeming silences, and that faith will most certainly and surely get its true reward.

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

THE STRONG SON OF GOD

'Stronger than he.'—S. LUKE xi 22

CHRISTIANITY is a religion of strength, and Christ is the strong Son of God, stronger than the strongest. We want to make our religion a real thing. It is not just filling a pew on Sunday or coming



Fr. Andrew, SDC: Meditations for Sundays in Lent

to a festival. Our religion ought to be, and is, if it is real, a tremendous conflict. We have often to go down on our knees and say, 'I am not going to get up till I have won a spiritual victory. Here is a strong man holding me by the throat, but there is One stronger than he, and he is going to be laid low.'

The poor man at Gadara, possessed by a legion of devils, was a terror to himself and the countryside. He was possessed by fear, but there came One stronger than his fear, stronger than his darkness and disease. Jesus without any fear went to him, and told him that he was the child of God, and, as we last get a glimpse of that man, he is clothed and in his right mind, and, instead of being the terror, he is the evangelist of the countryside. He is preparing the way for the mission that Jesus will take when He comes to Gadara again.

There is that mysterious possession of evil, which we call the devil. We have all of us known what it is to be gripped by some unreasoning passion, some unreasoning hatred, something of which we say, 'This thing is not me, though it seeks to possess me.' This mysterious power of evil exists. 'While men slept, the enemy sowed tares among the wheat.' But there is a power stronger than the enemy, the strong man, Christ our Saviour.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

THE SURENESS OF CHRIST

'He Himself knew what He would do.'—S. John vi. 6

As we read the Gospel of S. John, we arrive at certain impressions which were indelibly stamped upon the mind of the apostle as a result of his experience of communion with the life and mind of his Divine Master. One of these impressions or convictions which is most clearly evident is S. John's sense of the sureness of Christ, the perfect know-ledge, the absolute freedom, the royal dominance, which were His, as He met the various occasions and lived amidst the different settings which the Gospel shows us of His life amongst men.

This is brought out in the story of the feeding of the five thousand. 'Whence shall we buy bread that these may eat?' asks our Lord. What a sense of His sureness is expressed in the parenthesis, 'This He said to prove him, for He Himself knew what He would do.' That was just it. Here was the challenge—five thousand hungry pilgrims who had somehow or other to be catered for. It was a situation wholly beyond the powers of the apostles, but their incapacity to deal with it only threw into relief the complete power of the Master to handle the situation. He knew what He would do, and they knew that He knew, and so with a great simplicity they put at His disposal all their little store. Just a few loaves and fishes, wholly given to the One Who knew exactly what to do with them, was a sufficient contribution to enable Him to rise to this great occasion and to turn the barren wilderness into a garden glade where God and His people picnicked together. Here is a fulfilling of the prophecy, 'The wilderness shall blossom as a rose.'



TRADITIONAL ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

TACC Office
136 William St.
Parry Sound, ON
P2A 1W2

EUNTES IN MUNDUM UNIVERSUM
GO YE INTO ALL THE WORLD

Phone: 705-746-7378
E-mail:
vicargeneral@traditionalanglican.ca
&
We're on the web at
TRADITIONALANGLICAN.CA



The Traditional Anglican Church of Canada is a Missionary District of the Original Province of the Anglican Catholic Church.

The Anglican Catholic Church is a growing worldwide body with Dioceses, Districts, and Parishes present in North America, the UK, South America, Africa, Pakistan, India, Australia, New Zealand, & the Philippines.

The Anglican Catholic Church enjoys full communion in sacris with the Anglican Province of Christ the King and the United Episcopal Church of North America.; and since the signing of the Atlanta Accord in October, 2017, with the Anglican Church of America, the Anglican Province of America, and the Diocese of the Holy Cross.

The Traditional Anglican Church of Canada is a Canadian Registered Charitable Organization #84410 7235 RR0001 Donations may be sent to the District Office. Income Tax receipts will be issued.

Fr. Robert's Remarks

Parishes
St. Athanasius
Belleville/Roslin, ON
613-477-3098
The Resurrection
Walkerville, ON
519-255-1703
St. John's
Parry Sound, ON
705-746-9720
Holy Trinity & St. Jude
Thunder Bay, ON
807-251-3489
St. Mary's
Chapleau, ON
705-864-0909

There is another item to which I should like to draw attention . This is the Collect for Quinquagesima.

O Lord, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth: Send thy Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee. Grant this for thy only Son Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen*

Again this Collect is a reminder of the same—that it is never us alone, our relationship with God is not transactional; it is gift from God with which we co-operate. Lent is a time in which we can focus on that.

More next month,

R+



Newsletters 4 U
You may subscribe to this free Newsletter by going to <https://traditionalanglican.ca/news/newsletters/newsletters.htm> and clicking on <Subscribe> or send an email to Newslet-

