



Republic of Cameroon



République Démocratique du Congo



Republic of South Sudan

The Africa Appeal

Advent & Christmas 2015

Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,

Fr. Alphonse Nduiyé has sent me an update from **Cameroon** on the state of the church there. It is really most impressive. When I visited in 2010, the church in Cameroon consisted of one parish, St. André, Ngoulemekong, Yaoundé. There are now eleven separate parishes with another 4 or 5 pending. The parishes are located in Yaoundé (8), Nsimalen (near the international airport of Yaoundé) (1), Monatelé (1), Abong Ambang Evoudoula (1), Edéa (1), and Ntui (1). Total membership of the church is 1,265. Pastoral care is provided by nine priests, one deacon, and two brothers.

The primary limitation on the explosive growth in Cameroon is lack of funding. Even the provision of basic needs for the church and the clergy is a major challenge, with clergy reliant on local handouts for their food.

Local governments in Cameroon keen to have ACC parishes in their regions

Local government officials view the establishment of an ACC parish in their region and the accompanying development projects (schools, health centres, and training programmes) very favourably. At Edéa a community of religious is affiliated with the ACC-Cameroun and are involved in a project to establish a school and health centre for the local

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 and South Sudan. These fast-growing churches, together with the parishes of the TACC, 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) and Father Alphonse Nduiyé (Cameroon).

population. The church in Cameroon has established sewing schools and other training projects and there is a need for more of these projects in new communities.

Fr. Alphonse has written several times about the parish in Edéa, where the local authority invite him to stay in the town, but where the small house which he can use has no furniture, no bed - so he has been sleeping on the concrete floor. He writes, “Yes Edéa Clinic needs more funds ... I had a meeting with social authorities sent by the the Prefect of Edéa and these were very glad to see ACC on development actions there. They need also the sewing schools and other actions which developing the lives of our people of God we serve. Little by little things will improve. We need the pastoral funding for the Chapel and Parish that I initiated there.”

Fr. Alphonse also wrote, “After leaving Edéa, I travelled on the Thursday for the ACC Mission and work in the Eastern Region (Bertoua) where I met with the Administrative Authorities, the Prefect and Communal Officers, for talking about the ACC and our work. Since in this region the Boko Haram is killing the innocent people with other bad actions, the police is very attentive for the security of people, I was escorted by the Commissaire Officers of Police who helped me to get a bus for getting back to Yaoundé.”



Gare routiere (bus station) in Bertoua, capital of the Eastern Region of Cameroon

Wilkins Foundation raising funds for Haverland health clinic in Congo

On the Friday afternoon of October 30th, as the Provincial Synod in Athens, Georgia came to an end, Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge and I met Mr. Tom Wilkins of the Wilkins Foundation. The purpose of this meeting was to prepare a video interview with Bishop Steven to be used in a fund raising project of the Wilkins Foundation which has already provided funding for school construction in Congo. (For more information about the Wilkins Foundation, go to untoallnations.org).

The Foundation’s current goal is to complete and open a functional health centre to prevent any repetition of a Malaria outbreak like the one in 2012, when 100 children died from the effects of malaria and anemia. The centre will be called the Archbishop Haverland Health Clinic to honour Archbishop Haverland for his “help of people who were living in distress”.

How much is needed? Approximately US\$15,650 for the health centre, with a doctor to visit one day each week.



Fr. Pardo Mwetaminwa and Fr. Komite prepare to baptise new Christians at St. Trinity, Bukavu, Congo

The video interview is complete and has been distributed by the Wilkins Foundation. We hope that short clips might be made available on Facebook or YouTube in future days. Please contact me for more information.

South Sudan coping with refugees from civil war

The situation in South Sudan is not good. There is widespread displacement of people who have been leaving the areas where fighting in the civil war continues. This adds to the challenge of coping with a serious food shortage in Aweil where Bishop Garang

is trying to administer food distribution in cooperation with the World Food Programme. Bishop Garang has said that as he gathers together more food aid, he transports this to South Sudan and the diocese, thereby assuring its distribution. The problem has been that the receipts from donors, while very generous, have not kept pace with the needs of the refugees who live in despair. This is a similar situation to the refugees from Syria and Iraq who have been displaced to Jordan and Lebanon – but there is less media interest in the South Sudan refugees.

Weak Canadian dollar eating away at donations

The increased value of the US dollar in comparison with many other currencies, including the Canadian and Australian dollars, has had a significant impact on the work which our churches in Africa and elsewhere around the world can undertake in their efforts to fulfil the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

What this means is that when we send CDN\$300 from the Appeal to Congo, Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge only receives US\$219 when he goes to the Western Union office in Bukavu. There is a local currency in the DRC, the Congolese Franc, but there is no widely accepted foreign exchange market for that currency, so the US dollar must be used for foreign exchange. On top of this, Western Union charges a \$10 fee for the transfer. We use Western Union because it is safe, secure and has transfer offices around the world. Canadian regulations would make the use of bank transfers to Congo or Cameroon difficult and expensive.

Amidst the difficult circumstances in Africa – unfavourable exchange rates, refugees fleeing civil war, Boko Haram, malaria – there is still something to be thankful for. The church in Cameroon continues to grow and has attracted positive attention from local government authorities. And an American charity, the Wilkins Foundation, is taking an interest in raising money for a health care centre in Congo.

As we give thanks this Christmas season for the birth of our Saviour, let us remember in our prayers Christians in Africa – those who are hearing the Good News for the first time, and those who teach them and work to relieve suffering. And please consider making a 2015 donation to the Africa Appeal if your circumstances permit.

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 or Congo. Any overheads are paid from gifts received for this purpose.

In Canada

By PayPal to The Parish of St. Bride, see <http://parishofstbride.webs.com/>

to

Or by Canada Post to 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 cheque payable to the parish and 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