



Republic of Cameroon



République Démocratique du Congo



Republic of South Sudan

The Africa Appeal

Easter 2016

Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,

As promised, this newsletter is devoted to reporting what happened with the Appeal during 2015. We received donations totalling \$14,445 in Canadian dollars. The balance carried forward at year end was \$1,652, so the amount distributed was \$12,793 (all figures unaudited).

Over half of this amount (56%) went to clergy support in Congo and Cameroon. Despite some anxious months, we have been able to send \$300 monthly to each church in the two countries - a practice we started some years ago.

Slightly less than one-third of the amount distributed (31%) went to the construction of a house for Fr Alphonse Nduitiye in Cameroon. You may recall that in 2014 we announced a special appeal to raise \$3,000 by February 2015 to provide funds to build a house for Fr. Alphonse in Yaoundé, Cameroon. Thanks to your generous donations, we were able to raise \$3,900. As we reported in the 2015 Lenten Africa Appeal newsletter, the house has been completed and is now occupied by our Vicar-General for Cameroon. The house is adjacent to the cathedral project on land which was generously transferred to the church in Nsimalen, a part of Yaoundé close to the international airport.

Finally, 13 per cent went to help Bishop Garang alleviate suffering in the the Diocese of Aweil, South Sudan and to respond to a variety of urgent requests for funding where no other resolution was possible. As reported in the March-April

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 Nduitiye

2016 edition of *The Trinitarian*, “a growing health crisis threatens to overwhelm the ACC’s Diocese of Aweil in the north-west corner of strife-torn South Sudan, the world’s newest nation and one of its poorest.” The article goes on to describe the almost non-existent health care system where many die due to malaria and water-borne diseases. During recent years drought and starvation have also been serious problems but Bishop Garang reports that there is hope in the new peace process started last summer.

The amount which we have been able to transfer in 2015 (\$12,793) is reduced from previous years. In 2013, we transferred \$15,000; in 2014, this increased to \$18,870.

This has proven to be a pattern for many charitable organizations in the past few years since the financial turmoil of 2008 and the subsequent economic uncertainty. Reduced funding has had a profound effect on those whom we have been assisting in their struggle to build church infrastructure and eventually become self-sufficient.

Self-sufficiency is the goal behind most of the projects which the Appeal is funding. In some cases our clergy work closely with local governments or non-governmental organizations – a testament to the respect in which the ACC is held. For example, in Congo, Bishop Steven is in partnership with civil authorities to build schools and health centres. In South Sudan, Bishop Garang has taken on the job of food distribution with the World Food Programme. At the heart of all the work of the Appeal is the desire to bring people into the joy of our faith in Jesus Christ and the promise of salvation.

As with any effort to grow the Church, there are many difficulties and roadblocks. In the case of Fr. Alphonse in Cameroon, it was the appearance of an imposter dressed as a Bishop, who proclaimed himself to be the bishop of the ACC in Cameroon! The police were called and have caught the man.



For Bishop Steven in Congo, there have been two major issues. Twice over the years an earthquake has damaged the church in Bukavu requiring repairs to the chapel, office and meeting rooms (see photo at left). Even worse, there is the threat from illegal militias which hold sway in many areas where we have parishes.

For Bishop Garang in South Sidan (below), a major difficulty is meeting with parishioners who are clearly sick, but where there is no health professional, no doctor or nurse, who can tell the Bishop what is the best thing to do.



Here in Canada, we have seen the buying power of our declining donations further eroded by the falling exchange rate with the US dollar. Because funds sent to Congo are received in US dollars, the \$300 we send each month translates into \$225 US dollars for the church in Congo. These funds support the diocesan secretary and his family so, unfortunately, the secretary has had short rations for a full year. Thankfully, there has been a slight increase recently in the value of the Canadian dollar.



News from Cameroon

The Church in Cameroon has seen tremendous growth, which has strained its resources. But the situation in Edéa (west of the capital Yaoundé) has improved. The photos at left show the house and compound used by the Religious Sisters House of Edéa, who have a school and support centre for the community (financially helped by Anglican Aid Abroad in Australia). This property, which had been badly damaged, was given to the ACC in Cameroon by the intervention of the local authorities, who have been very supportive of the work which the church is accomplishing for the community. Across the yard is an open air chapel, visible in the photographs, with a roof (essential to keep out the tropical rain) but no walls. Judging by the photograph, one might think that the church in Edéa must be pretty small since the chapel is not large. But if you go to Mass there during the rainy season, you would be well-advised to take

an umbrella since you would be standing with many others in the courtyard outside. The shelter is for the altar so that the Mass can be said properly, without fear that rain might damage books or come into contact with the Blessed Sacrament. The fact that worship is still conducted in the thatch roof shelter demonstrates the scale of the work which remains to be done.

In the photographs at the right, you can see the shrine to Our Lady (the parish is dedicated to St. Margaret Marie Alacoque, the patroness of the Religious Sisters House of Edéa) and the altar table in the chapel that Fr. Alphonse uses for the celebration of the Mass.

Fr. Alphonse is now working with the local authorities in Bertoua (population 90,000), capital of Bertoua Province which covers almost the entire eastern half of Cameroon. It is clear that Fr. Alphonse has gained local government support for his plans for the growth of the ACC in Cameroon. They have seen the benefits which have resulted from the investments made by the ACC in schools, trade and skill training, and in the support for health care services, especially to women and children.

We pray that, with your help, we shall be able to continue and even expand the support which is so necessary for the churches in Congo, South Sudan and Cameroon. May you have a blessed and joyful Eastertide.

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



The children of St André, Ngoulemekong, Yaoundé, Cameroon

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

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 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