



*Republic of Cameroon*



*République Démocratique du Congo*

## *The Africa Appeal*

### *St. Columba of Iona & St. Bride of Kildare, The Traditional Anglican Church of Canada (ACC-OP) June, 2013*

In this report, the answer to what we have done this past month, and what it is that remains: projects of great value but limited by the lack of funding. The projects are also designed to provide people with an improved livelihood, and therefore the potential to take over the management of the projects and run them for the good of



the people in that town or village: but we can only consider the start of any of them when there is a good indication that the initial funding will be adequate for success.

The photograph to the left is of Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge, but with an addition: his new glasses, which we have been able to supply. It is interesting to note that the cost of a pair of glasses is about the same in the DRC as it is here in BC: so the lower labour costs are eaten up by the risks of doing business in a war zone!! Of course, we must remember that in this, Bishop Steven has been able to find out about his vision impairment, and has been able to rectify the problem with these glasses: which so many of his fellow countrymen and women are unable to buy.

One benefactor kindly sent money for the purchase of a bicycle, and the Bishop writes that this has been purchased and has been given to the Vénérable Bitangaca Etambala, Archdeacon of 'l'Archidiaconé Itombwe-Lulenge', in the high plateaux of Itombwe, shown at right. A bicycle strong enough to withstand the bad roads costs

about US\$150.00: if the exchange rate is right, but of course, these change every day. And of course, there is always a need for more bicycles for the clergy and lay catechists!

Now, having said that, some benefactors like to identify specific projects for their gifts: roof for an altar, bicycle, and glasses for Bishop Steven: but many projects depend on larger amounts: such as the school building project in partnership with the Congolese government.



One example of this is that the school at Birindwa can continue, when Anglican Aid Abroad was able to answer the pressing need for \$1000.00 to secure new land for the school. But of course, as we resolve one challenge, another surfaces, and l' Ecole Primaire Birindwa, & l'Ecole Primaire Mauwa are praying for new construction to be completed before the start of the new school year at the end of August. The construction can be quite rapid, as there are many willing hands to provide hands on 'sweat equity'; but without outside help, the project will remain as great ideas, on paper!

Bishop Steven is very thankful for the assistance given to the women's projects by Anglican Aid Abroad. He has also received information from the Archdeacon in Itombwe-Lulenge that there has been a problem with the goats locally: clearly a major challenge when so much of local livestock are goats. The Archdeaconry has put out an appeal to other parishes to try and resolve their current problem. This is very important, as so often we fail to realize the amount of fundraising and major efforts made by the clergy and the people living in the DRC – to which we can add our funding.

One of the most significant projects proposed by Bishop Steven is to set up a sewing school: on the line of the Ecole de Couture in Yaoundé Cameroon: but in the case of Congo, the school would provide trade training to women who have undergone the most awful experience: where rape is used as a weapon of war, and where rape sows division: between family members, between tribal loyalty, and where rape leads to alienation from their roots for so many. Cost of this project is US\$4,500.00. Can you help?

In closing this section about Congo, the Widow's agriculture project in Mosho missed the first harvest, as funds were much delayed in transfer: but the second has now been made with a full harvest of beans and manioc. The widow's group are now planning to plant onions, as the soil and conditions should provide a good crop, and the demand for onions makes this worthwhile.

In Cameroon, Fr. Alphonse has had to deal with two major concerns raised by the government of Cameroon: the first concerned the licencing of the school, where it is anticipated that demands for the building to be built of durable materials rather than the wood used to date. The second results from the



Figure 1View of Yaoundé

hope that Fr. Alphonse would attend the Provincial

Synod this October, in California. In order to get a passport, it is required that the church be formally registered with the government: this so that Fr. Alphonse will be recognised by the civil authority as an 'employee' of a bona fide church. But there is a catch: for a church to be recognised and registered, it must demonstrate that it is the registered owner of property in the country, and that it has adequate assets and possessions (including the property). Unless there is a major gift received very shortly, the delay will prevent proper arrangements for the Province to make for the travel by Fr. Alphonse this year.

But: the problems will still remain, and the need for the church to be registered will remain, and the need for the school to be registered will remain. It is to support these fundamental needs that we ask your help, despite the economic downturn in North America and Europe!

Last month I wrote, ‘And then what might seem to some of us to be ‘the small

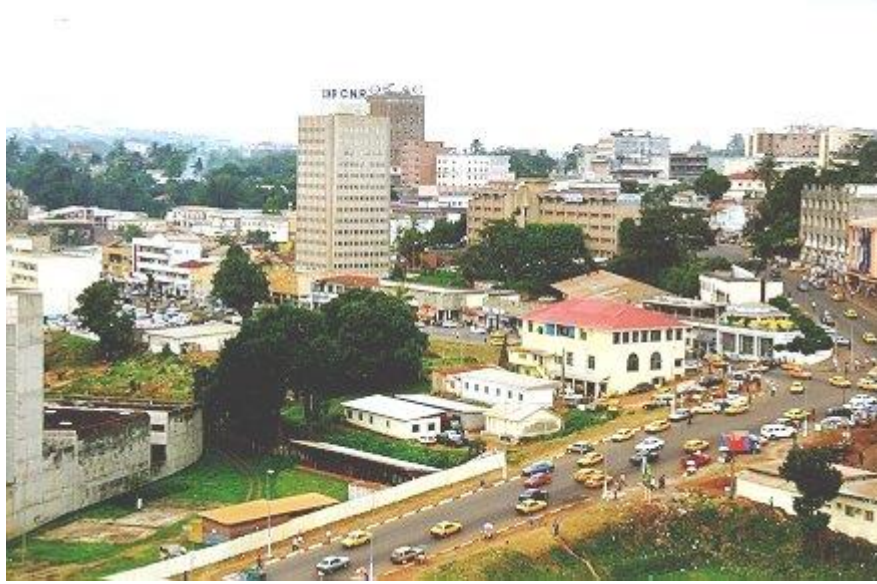


Figure 2 view of city centre, Yaoundé

problems’: at the parish of St Eleuthère de Biteng, the altar is in the open: but Cameroon has frequent heavy rainstorms: it is very difficult to celebrate Mass outside at the best of times, but in heavy rain, this becomes virtually impossible. So the faithful have pooled their assets, trying to

buy enough roofing sheet so that at least the altar and (perhaps) the sanctuary might be protected. Roofing sheets are around \$15.00 each: not much for us, but quite a sum for those who have little or no work! *It’s still raining on the Eucharist in Biteng, and now the government is looking for their \$800 fee....*

Pray for all who work in this outreach, especially those clergy and laity in each country.

O GOD, who willest that all men should be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth: Prosper, we pray thee, all those who labour in the Gospel at home and in distant lands [particularly Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge, Father Alphonse Ndukiye, their clergy and all of their people in Congo and Cameroon]; protect them in all perils, and support them in loneliness and in the hour of trial; give them thy grace to bear faithful witness unto thee; endue them with burning zeal and love, that they may turn many to righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*With my thanks for all of your support in building the Kingdom of Jesus Christ both at home and around the world, in Cameroon and Congo.*

*David+*



## How to give support to these churches:

There are no deductions from moneys received by the Appeal: the full dollar amount is sent to either Cameroon or Congo: any overheads are paid from gifts received for this purpose.

**In Canada:** donations are tax deductible and can be sent to:

The 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 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 or Congo" as appropriate and sent to:

Diocesan Treasurer ACC Diocesan Office

St Nicholas House,

42-48 High Street

Lydd, Kent

TN29 9AN