



Republic of Cameroon



République Démocratique du Congo



Republic of South Sudan

The Africa Appeal

December, 2014

The Africa Appeal is an outreach project under the care of the parishes of St. Columba of Iona and St. Bride of Kildare who are part of the Traditional Anglican Church of Canada (TACC). With traditional Anglicans in Australia, the USA and the UK, we send money to churches in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Cameroon and South Sudan. These fast-growing churches are, together with the parishes of the TACC, members of the Anglo-Catholic Church - 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 Ndutiye (Cameroon) such as building schools, a farming collective for widows, and sewing classes for victims of rape.

Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,

The Thanksgiving edition of the Appeal described plans to cope with two problems encountered by our church in Africa: the difficulty of coming up with a large lump sum to cover rent over six to 12 months, and the heavy rains that make having a roof over worship space (at the very least over the altar) very important.

Our last Appeal described how Bishop Steven's church in Congo plans to renovate a house on church land that had been damaged by an earthquake and turn it into a chapel and diocesan office until their new cathedral is finished. This of course would free up the money currently spent on worship and office space for other uses. They estimated the cost at \$US 1,250.

The church in Cameroon plans to build a house for Vicar-General Father Alphonse on church-owned land in Yaoundé beside the cathedral whose construction is proceeding as funds permit. This would allow the Vicar-General to live rent-free but would require the up-front sum of \$US 2,400 to complete. They are also still hoping for donations to cover the purchase of metal roofing sheets (at \$US 15 each) to keep out the rain in their semi-constructed cathedral.

This month we show you some of the results of last month's appeal for funds for these projects.

Good news from Congo

First, the success storey ... In just over a few weeks, a derelict earthquake-damaged building has been converted into a chapel and diocesan office. The chapel of La Sainte Trinité in Bukavu has seen its first Mass. It is remarkable what local efforts and labour, combined with funds from our Appeal and the Diocese of the United Kingdom have accomplished.

This project has eliminated one of the major worries of the church in Congo: the necessity of paying



rent some six to 12 months in advance while receiving support on a monthly basis. Churches not only in Congo, but also across Africa and in other nations have this problem - with the result that the eviction of parishes and clergy from their homes is quite common.

While we were able to send an initial sum to Congo for the renovations, it was Bishop Mead and the Diocese of the UK who picked up the balance, in fact, the larger portion of the necessary amount.

The new chapel of La Sainte Trinité in Bukavu in a building renovated with funds from Canada and the UK

Anonymous benefactor provides matching donation to end homelessness of Father Alphonse in Cameroon

Father Alphonse's plans to move into a small house owned by the church acquired new urgency last month. His current landlord insisted on nine months' rent in advance and would not permit Father Alphonse to stay for only 2 or 3 months. So he is now effectively homeless. He wrote "Where I sleep now, I am threatened by people who say that our church is poor and that you will never have a home to live in!" This is the more unsettling for Father Alphonse since Yaoundé can indeed be a dangerous city where threats are to be taken seriously.

But we have been blessed by a generous and anonymous donor who will match any donations towards the construction of a house for the Vicar-General received by the Africa Appeal before the end of February 2015, up to \$1,500. The house will be built adjacent to the cathedral church, on property that the church owns at Nsimalen, near the international airport in Yaoundé.

This is a wonderful opportunity to double the effectiveness of your donation to Africa Appeal! For example, if we receive donations totalling \$1,200 before February 28, 2015, this will be matched by another \$1,200 from our anonymous donor and we would have collected approximately the entire sum needed to build the house. Any donations in excess of the amount needed for the Vicar-General's house will be directed elsewhere as needed. Please ensure that you label your contributions "Father Alphonse house".

We have spoken in previous appeals about the difficulty of celebrating an open air Mass in the rain or, more accurately, the tropical downpour or deluge which is common in Yaoundé. We are pleased to report that we have received a gift to buy two roofing sheets for Cameroon and that this has been greatly appreciated by Father Alphonse.



Worshippers, probably hoping it won't rain, gather in their semi-constructed Cathedral in Nsimalen near the international airport in Yaoundé

Construction of Cathedral in South Sudan continues

Speaking today (the end of November) with Bishop Wilson Garang as he prepares for another journey from his home in Nairobi to the Diocese of Aweil in South Sudan, I was very pleased to be able to tell him that we are able to send \$250 toward his great cathedral project: It will provide funds for work to be completed on window frames and doors. In a place where you have to keep things secure, these are very important. Many thanks to the donors who have made this possible.

Donation dilemma...

While donations targeted to particular projects are important and necessary, so too are untargeted donations that we can use to cover clergy and staff stipends in Africa. (No money is spent on this in Canada.) In the month of October, it became apparent that we would have great difficulty meeting the commitments which we, so far, have been able to keep - to send money monthly for the Diocesan secretary in Congo and for the clergy in Cameroon. I wrote to Bishop Steven and Father Alphonse to let them know in advance. Thankfully, at the last minute, we did receive enough in donations to allow us to meet our commitment and I was able to write again and reassure them that we could send the money.

So which should you do? Send money for particular projects or leave the use unspecified and let me send it where the need is greatest? It is, of course, entirely up to you. At the moment we have an unprecedented opportunity to double the size of our donations and this might influence your decision if you are able to donate before the end of February.

It is extremely gratifying to me (and, I hope, for you too) to watch the difference your donations make in the growth of our church in Africa. The renovation of the damaged structure in Congo into a chapel and Diocesan office is an example of the effectiveness of our donations. The money that you send is indeed making a difference in Africa.

With thanks for your support and with prayers for a blessed and prayerful Advent,

**In Christ,
David+**

If you have comments or questions:

Please contact Father David Marriott at drm274@hotmail.com or 409-15210 Guildford Dr., Surrey, BC V3R 0X7.

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, 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

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

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