



Republic of Cameroon



République Démocratique du Congo



Republic of South Sudan

The Africa Appeal

Advent/Christmas 2016

Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,

I write this from a city (Vancouver) where the average price of a detached house is over one million Canadian dollars. While housing in parts of Canada can be expensive, only a tiny percentage of households live in inadequate housing. By and large, our dwellings keep out the rain, and running water is enjoyed by the vast majority. This is not always so in Africa where many live in small flimsy houses that do not provide even basic protection against floods and insects.

Seeing photos of my brothers and sisters in Christ surviving in such harsh conditions is what makes me write these Africa Appeal newsletters. I hope that you too will be moved to try to help the parishes of the Anglican Catholic Church in South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo and Cameroon. All three of the African countries where this appeal sends money have lately had issues related to rain – too much, not enough or no clean water.

In South Sudan, flooding brings disease and ruins crops and yet in some areas there is drought

From the Diocese of Aweil in South Sudan, Bishop Garang writes:

I am sorry to report that things are not OK in the Diocese. There has been outbreak of malaria and water borne diseases which has claimed many lives and starvation is still facing many people and

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 US A, 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 Ndukiye (Cameroon).



Villagers and their houses in South Sudan

claiming lives. There have been heavy rains and flooding which destroyed again crops and some parts of the diocese have been affected by drought which has also destroyed crops for this year. Therefore there is still imminent starvation for part of this year and next year and there is also immediate need of medicines to save many lives which are at risk. We are praying for the request of the two boreholes for two villages of Luethvek and Baau for God's provision to provide for the project.

In a sad twist of fate, there can be too much water in the form of floods, but there is frequently also a health-threatening lack of **clean** water: For this reason, there is an urgent need for funds to drill wells



A flooded village house



Mosquito nets are necessary when sleeping

for something we all take for granted - turn on the tap, and there it is – clean water. Father Peter Jardine (St. Matthew the Apostle church in Ottawa, Ontario.) is working with his network to seek out those who have experience in such projects and ask for their help.

Fortunately, the Diocese of Aweil is relatively peaceful at this time, but other parts of South Sudan are still suffering violence.

Roofing sheets badly needed in Cameroon

Father Alphonse is building several health clinics in Cameroon. He has managed to accumulate funds for this project from the earnings of the sewing school programme and by careful management of other projects he has under way. Anglican Aid Abroad (AAA) in Australia has also sent money – their donation of \$750 will allow the completion of the Health Centre in Edea. Father Alphonse writes in his report to the Archbishop:

I am glad to inform you that the work of clinics is under its way. Before, I receive the AAA funding (\$730) some months ago, I had tried to collect monies here by my own local work, and negotiate some conventional roofing sheets....materials for the advancement of the clinic buildings. You will see the work has demanded a lot of money and a very good work. Thanks to local donors and technicians who supported me despite my limited funds. They are always on my side to help me even if there is nothing to offer to them from my pocket. As I told to Father Marriott, this building is much needed and materials are very required but do not have monies.

Father Alphonse mentions roofing sheets (known as *tôles* locally). Previous issues of this Appeal have also described the need for roofing sheets – it's a common theme. It may be difficult for us to grasp the importance of a strong and water tight roof in equatorial Africa where fierce deluges of rain are the norm. The following story illustrates the conditions under which Father Alphonse operates.



Damage to highway between Yaoundé and Douala

In October, the highway between the two major cities in Cameroon, Yaoundé and Douala, was breached by the failure of a culvert after major rainfall. This is a very busy route, and many people needing to make this trip were forced to go by train. In order to accommodate the increased numbers the railway added more carriages to the train. This was not a good idea as the train became unstable with several carriages leaving the tracks at Eseka, west of Yaoundé. Seventy people lost their lives and many more were injured.

In spite of the lack of enough roofing sheets for the new health centres and the frequent heavy rainfall, some of these centres have started operation. In the carefully planned and regulated societies of the west, where so many of us live, it would be up to the local building inspector to decide when the health centre would open. But as Father Alphonse has written, when the need is so great, do you wait for the roof to be completed before seeing the person in need even if the waiting area is still open to the skies?

A roofing sheet costs around \$15.00 and Father Alphonse needs a lot of them – not only for the health centres, but also for the cathedral in Nsimalen and for the new parishes. There has been



Father Alphonse and friends in front of a partially-roofed health centre

steady growth of the number of parishes and this has been accompanied by an increase in the clergy.

You may recall that, whereas Bishops and Vicars General do receive a small allowance from the Missionary Society of St. Paul in the USA, this benefit does not extend to the clergy, who often suffer from short rations. Many if not all of these priests have to go to bed hungry. If they have eaten supper, it will have been a basic and rather unappetizing meal.

Heavy rain followed by earthquake in Congo

The church in Congo has long experience with the impact of tropical rain on the old style brick-adobe church buildings. It is very simple, as the building simply dissolves. A thatched roof, which can stand up to heavy rain on a small home, cannot cope with the amount of water on a larger roof. The walls get soaked and the brick adobe becomes mud. Even solid brick has problems. Bishop



St. Paul Fizi

Steven now advises that in St. Paul Fizi, due to the collapse of walls from heavy rain, the amount needed to finish the roof will reach US\$2,520.

But nature has brought other problems to Congo, besides the rain. The city of Bukavu, where the Diocese is based, has endured another earthquake, which has damaged the walls in the

chapel - only recently renovated. The earthquake at the end of September was rated as 4.8 in intensity and caused two deaths and several injuries in the city. The church will require additional funding to repair the damage to the chapel and ensure that the buildings are safe.

In Uvira, on the shores of Lake Tanganyika quite close to the border with Burundi, the church-sponsored Health Centre has been given notice to move by the property owner. A new location has been found, but it is for sale not rent. Archdeacon Mamba Itongwa advises that the price is US\$4,000. The health centre, Centre du Santé Ste. Marie (Mitumba II) caters for the many who live high above the town centre providing basic health care to many people. The photos below are of the old health centre, taken some years ago.



With our prayers that you will enjoy a blessed and joyful Christmas, with greetings from the clergy and all our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Anglican Catholic churches in Congo, Cameroon and South Sudan.

**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

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 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