



*Republic of Cameroon*



*République Démocratique du Congo*



*Republic of South Sudan*

# *The Africa Appeal*

*Easter 2017*

**Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,**

In 2007 when I visited Bukavu in the Democratic Republic of Congo, I heard Father (now Bishop) Steven Ayule-Milenge tell me that he had been poisoned in the past by those who wanted to stop his work for the church. In my ignorance, I thought that it was probably food poisoning or sickness brought on by unclean water. But poisoning does happen in the Congo. Since medical treatments are far apart and cholera is common, who will question another death from diarrheal disease and dehydration?

## ***Sickness saps both physical and financial resources of ACC priests in Africa***

Recently, Bishop Steven has told me that one of his priests, Father Makutano Alonda curate of la Paroisse St. Jean Misisi, who suffered a poison attack last year, is now in a precarious state of health. Father Alonda had recovered after treatment in Bukavu, but when he returned home his problems returned.

At the time of my visit back in 2007, Father Alonda was a catechist - the foundation of the work of the church in Congo in the early days when there were many chapels and few priests. I am familiar

*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 Ndutiye (Cameroon).*



with his work and know that he is one of the builders of the church, bringing so many to love God and His Son, Jesus Christ. I bid you pray for Father Alonda (*photograph at left*) and consider how you could help these dedicated clergy.

A second priest from the same deanery in Congo, Father Mklewa Bilewausomba, who was taken sick at their recent synod, is

also under medical care arranged by Bishop Steven. In Congo, the two main reasons for seeking medical care are cholera and malaria, and waterborne illness is endemic. The risks which confront these priests are immense; they deserve both our admiration and our financial support so that they are not deprived of the physical energy necessary to support their work in bringing all to a love of God.

Clergy health is also a concern in Cameroon; when Father Alphonse Ndutiye suffers a malaria attack, unless he has the money for his treatment, he must wait, fevered and shivering, until funds for his care and prescription drugs can be sent to him. Many go without food so that they can pay for treatment. Without adequate nourishment, it is very difficult to maintain health.

With our health care systems in North America, it is hard for us to understand the desperation of the sick in Africa. In Canada, provinces and territories provide free emergency medical services, even if you do not have a government health card. And almost everyone is eligible for a government health card which provides access to public health insurance covering most health care needs.

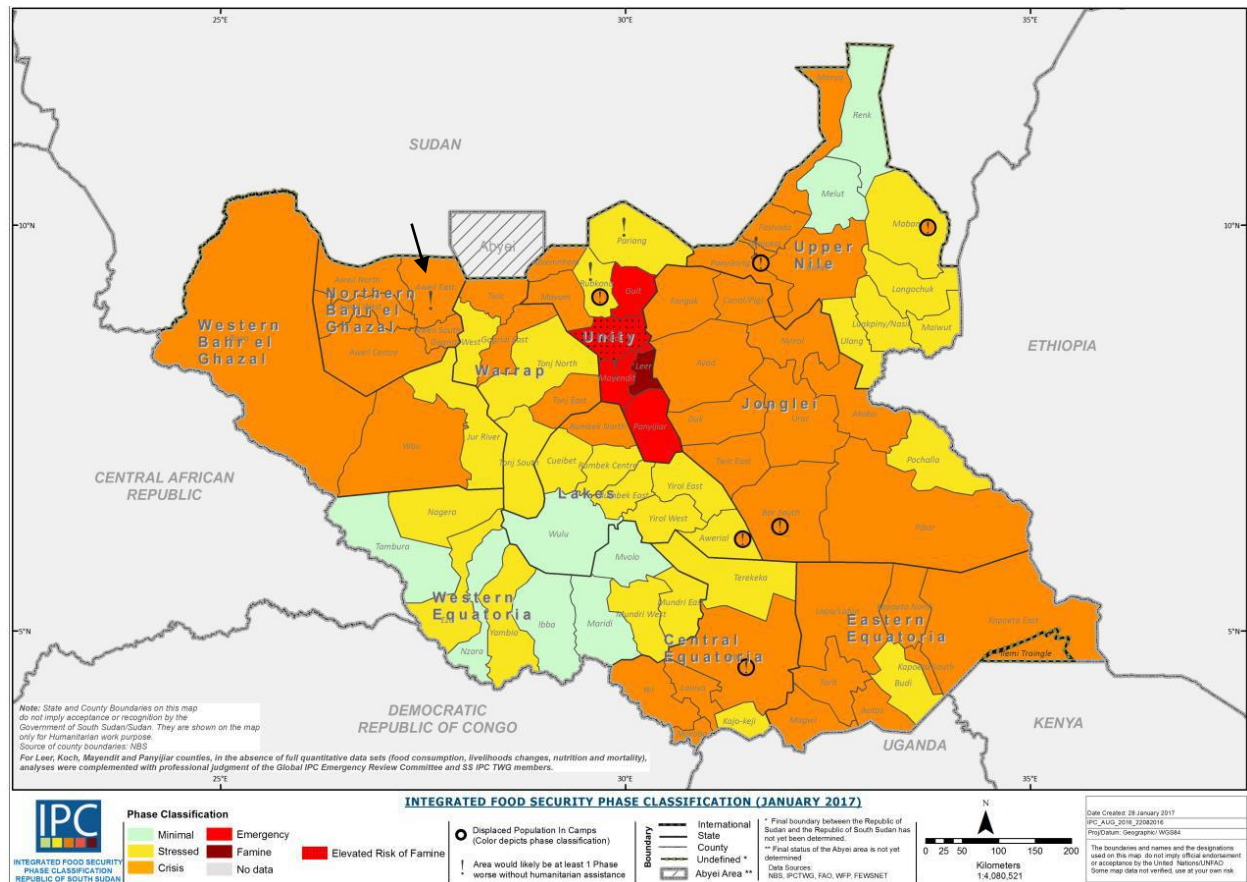
In the USA, if you are taken ill and have no health insurance you will receive treatment at the local emergency department. Hospitals and physicians shoulder the financial burden for the uninsured by incurring billions of dollars in bad debt or "uncompensated care" each year. Fifty-five percent of emergency care goes uncompensated, according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

The wellbeing of clergy is of growing concern in both Congo and Cameroon. Bishop Steven has some clergy who are in the 60's, as well as some over 70 years of age. But there is no state pension

available to them, so their care and support is of concern to the Bishop. In Cameroon, the Vicar General is often so committed to the wellbeing of the church that he forgets to provide for himself: whilst I was visiting Yaoundé, there were times when he simply forgot to eat. The main problem is inadequate resources: this Appeal attempts to resolve this, with your help.

## ***Famine continues in South Sudan***

In South Sudan, the major health risks come from famine and lack of clean water. The map below<sup>1</sup> shows all of the Diocese of Aweil to be classified as being in food crisis, with Aweil East (black arrow) noted as being at the point of moving up to the emergency classification if adequate supplies from relief agencies are not received. The Diocese of Aweil is working on the prevention of the possible food emergency among the people of Aweil.



Coupled with the need for food is the essential necessity in human life - clean water. The list of health problems and disease caused by the lack of a clean water supply is very long, with many of the

<sup>1</sup> Source: United Nations Integrated food Security Phase Classification (Public Domain), via Wikimedia Commons



diseases being potentially fatal and definitely causing the loss of energy and drive - qualities essential for the reconstruction of this new nation, even now wounded by civil strife.

As announced in our last Appeal, Voice of the Martyrs, Canada has agreed to fund the drilling of two water wells in the villages of Baau and Luethwek in Aweil Diocese, in cooperation with the Africa Appeal. The photograph below shows an existing well in the village of Mabill.



This exert is from Bishop Garang's proposal for the water well project:

*Baau Village is located in Aweil Central County of Western Bahr El Ghazal State in South Sudan. The village is located at the western tip of the county near the border with Aweil South County. The major sources of water for this village are seasonal rivers that only have water during the rainy season. During the dry season the residents of these villages and other neighbouring villages have to walk to River Jur which is 30 kilometers away to fetch water. The population of Baau village is estimated at 1,150 (in 209 households).*



*The village of Luethwek is located in the southern part of the county near the border with Gogrial East County in Warrap state. The village has an estimated population of 1,250 residents of which 57% are women, 43% are men. The main sources of water for the villagers in Luethwek are rivers and ponds. During the rainy season villagers fetch water from ponds and seasonal rivers which dry up during the dry season. When there is scarcity of water villagers are forced to walk to the distant river.*

*The two villages, like other villages in South Sudan, have to cope with the challenges of lack of accessible clean water. As is the tradition in most communities of South Sudan the fetching of water for domestic use is the work of women and girls and therefore during the dry season women and girls are forced to spend long hours every day looking for water in distant rivers. Sometimes girls are forced to skip school so that they can look for water. On their part men have to drive their animals to distant rivers for water. Instead of moving with cattle to and from rivers every day the men are forced to live in cattle camps that are located near rivers.*

*Water borne diseases like typhoid, cholera and dysentery are also prevalent in these villages because of use of dirty water from rivers and ponds. These diseases have claimed many lives in these two villages and in other parts of south Sudan. The drilling of boreholes in these two villages will therefore drastically reduce the incidences of water borne diseases and reduced death caused by these diseases.*



Your donations enable Africa Appeal to act quickly when a priest is taken ill to get him the medicines and special food he needs so that he can continue to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. May your prayers also accompany these brave men as they do the work of God.



These new photographs just received show the well which has been drilled in Luethwek....with funds from Voice of the Martyrs Canada



**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