









Republic of Cameroon

République Démocratique du Congo

Republic of South Sudan

Republic of Kenya

Rwanda

# The Africa Appeal

Lent 2022

# Dear Supporters of the Africa Appeal,

# First Bishop of the new Diocese of Eastern Congo consecrated in Nairobi

You may recall reading in a previous Appeal that Congo has a new diocese, the Missionary Diocese of Eastern Congo with Father Lameck Mmokywa Mtundu its first bishop. On January 30th, his consecration took place at the Church of Resurrection Kayole, in Nairobi.

The following Bishops were in attendance: Steven Ayule Milenge – Diocese of Congo Wilson Garang Chan – Diocese of Aweil, South Sudan Alphonse Vascaniat Ndutiye – Diocese of Cameroon John Ndegwa - Diocese of Kenya

This well-attended service was an important occasion – see photos – and both Bishop Steven and Bishop Ndegwa who hosted the celebration,

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, South Sudan, Kenya and Rwanda. These fast-growing churches 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), Bishop Alphonse Ndutiye (Cameroon), Bishop John Kamande Ndegwa (Kenya) and Fr Niyibizi Mvuka Chadrack (Rwanda). Previous issues of this Appeal can be found at https://www.traditionalanglica n.ca/news/africaappeal/newsle

have written to express their thanks for our help. On the request of Archbishop Haverland, the Appeal sent funds (from the Society of St. Columba) to Bishop Ndegwa, so that he could purchase the mitre, cope, pectoral cross, episcopal ring, and crozier for the newly ordained Bishop in Nairobi.



Bishop Ndegwa wrote to the participating Bishops, "The Sacrifices that you made [in finding the time to attend] are not lost to us which included

postponement and relinquishing of duties in your own missions. Kenya cannot take anything for granted since God could have chosen such a colossal phenomenon (presence of five ordinary bishops in such a humble setting) to take place in another worthwhile setting. We are truly humbled."

His words emphasize the importance of these gatherings for isolated bishops to receive support and encouragement from their fellows. We pray that the impact of this stimulation may be felt in their dioceses for some time to come.



# Civil unrest in Congo has a new threat

Previous Appeals have described the civil unrest in east Congo and the effect of this violence on our church members. Now, there is a new threat in Bukavu, this time from the Allied Democratic Forces, a group of Ugandan militias who are linked with the Islamic State. Their tactic is to disrupt society by planting grenades under parked cars.

Le Monde Afrique of January 22, 2022 had this to say about these insurgents, "The ADF group, the deadliest in the DRC, is presented by the Islamic State (IS) organization as its branch in Central Africa (Iscap). Its current leader, Moussa Baluku, made a declaration of

allegiance to this international jihadist movement in 2019." Bishop Steven asks for our prayers as this new threat adds to the danger of living in eastern Congo.



The three children mentioned in our last Appeal who were unable to attend school because their single mothers could not afford the fees, books and supplies, have had the first third of their school costs covered by your generous donations to the Appeal. The total cost for all three of them to attend for one year including their books and supplies is \$1,500 USD. We are hoping to raise \$1,280 CAD (\$1,000 USD) so that

these children may finish their school year. Can you help? Even a small amount is gratefully received.

Bishop Steven, along with others in the ACC compound, looks out for Anaweza, Élie, and Gloire as a father would and enters into conversation with them about difficult subjects as most parents do.

He reported this conversation recently, "Today I was in my office. The children came to talk to me, saying that I had once taught in the Church that God is Almighty. Nothing can escape his strength and sovereignty. If we pray with faith God will answer our prayers. Did you teach that in the church? I answered, of course. So, they asked if children and adults are dying in Ukraine with the houses destroyed as they saw on television. I said yes, it's true. Then one asked what did these children do to deserve such punishment? The other said why can't I pray to God to stop the death of these children? The other said why can't I make a comprehensive program to pray for the children of Ukraine? Is it not their parents who send the money to the Congo to help them study?"

The Bishop was surprised at the complex ideas expressed by such young children. The irony is that they too (like the Ukranians) live in a dangerous world where militia groups make the peace and security we enjoy in Canada impossible. If they can receive an education, they will be better equipped to survive in their difficult world and perhaps someday will make a contribution to a peaceful and stable way of life in DRC.

## Rwandan church building expansion proceeds; needs more cement

From Rwanda, Father Chadrack writes that work is proceeding on the expansion of the St. Barnabas church in Gatovu which is receiving an addition as described in the last Appeal. The addition is necessary for the building to conform to government regulations introduced to fight COVID that govern space

between people. All labour is being supplied by parishioners. They were grateful for the \$300 we were able to send to buy cement. The photos show that foundations have been laid and they are starting to build the brick walls.

# The Church in Kenya, as in other ACC African countries, has security problems

On February 12th, Bishop John Ndegwa wrote from Kenya that, shortly after the ordination on January 30th, he had been rushed to the hospital at night by his Archdeacon and wife Esther. He had "developed severe throat, neck, back, head and abdominal pains. ... The doctor, upon some tests and examinations, prescribed medication and advised me to have bed rest for two weeks. The drugs given are strong. They are causing too much sleep and sometimes hallucinations. But I am now feeling better, thanks be to God."

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bishop John described concerns about the security of his church compound. The Church of Christ the Resurrection in Kayole hosts the Diocesan headquarters, the bishop's office, the poultry and feed making projects, Saint Anectus High School (which is

in a transformation stage after the Covid 19 pandemic) as well as the Bishop's and the Archdeacon's families and some postulants. It is located close to the Kayole dumpsite which has grown towards the door step of the parish. It is well-known that their Church is a thriving concern.

Here is his description of the situation:

Recently the government of Kenya banned the sale and purchase of all types of scrap metal in the country in order to minimize vandalism on government installations such as road signs and electricity poles; as a result there has been an influx of young men idling around our gates posing a great security threat.

Our Church area has been especially affected due to its proximity to the dumpsite as the young men attempt to adopt other means of earning a living such as scavenging for sellable materials. The most notable spot the men idle is on an elevated slab in front of the Church.

Even though we have a good relationship with our neighbors and most of the young men, three especially serious security concerns have been noted;

- 1. When our young daughters are cleaning the Church on Saturday evening and the young men pretend to help them while their conduct remains suspicious,
- 2. When any of our young people open the gate and the young men pretend to request to use the church's washrooms and sometimes forcefully enter,
- 3. When we give some men casual work cleaning the chicken houses and others forcefully request to be allowed to help them.

He and his advisory council are considering installing security cameras at the main two entries, the mission van garage, the entry into the staircase leading to the upper floors of the building and the chicken area on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. They are receiving estimates and it looks like it will cost in the neighbourhood of \$500 CAD. Can you help?

## Bishop Alphonse in Cameroon attacked

On January 2nd, Bishop Alphonse celebrated Mass at the Central Hospital in Yaoundé. As he was leaving the hospital, he was assaulted by three men and beaten around the head and back, with damage to his kidneys. During the struggle, he fell several times. The doctor ordered an echocardiogram because of chest pain. Bishop Alphonse also writes about pain in his feet.

The assault has been reported to the police, who have now issued a warrant for one of the three assailants to appear in court. They continue to search for the other two. We have been able to send \$400 to pay the hospital fees for now, but of course, more is needed.

Bishop Alphonse writes that his wife, children and clergy have not been vaccinated for COVID. He himself was vaccinated so he could cross the international border and attend the Consecration in Nairobi, but the cost of all vaccinations is prohibitive for poor people in Cameroon.

Clearly, security is a huge issue in Africa as in so many other parts of the world, especially at the moment in Ukraine. We must pray for peace, for people to lay down their arms and build a better world where corruption does not siphon off aid meant for the poor and people are secure enough to build for the future.

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

### How to support these churches:

There are no deductions from money received by the Appeal; the full dollar amount is sent to Cameroon, Congo, South Sudan, Rwanda or Kenya. Administrative costs, eg, money transfer fees, 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

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 St. Paul Missionary Society, The Anglican Catholic Church, PO Box 5223, Athens, GA 30604

#### In Australia and New Zealand

### Anglican Catholic Church Missionary Diocese of Australia and New Zealand Appeal Fund

By cheque made out to: ACC (OP) DAT and sent to

Missionary Diocese of Australia and New Zealand

C/- 5 Fallow St

Chermside West, Qld. 4032 Australia

If you intend the donation for a special ACC (OP) project, please let us know, so we can designate it accordingly.

#### By Direct Deposit to:

Anglican Catholic Church (OP) Diocesan Administrative Trust or ACC (OP) DAT (for short) BSB 034-064 A/c 335868

Please note the intentions for the donation on the direct deposit details.

Please be aware that given the current Australian Law situation, we are unable to offer any tax deductible receipts.

#### In the UK

Cheques should be made payable to Anglican Catholic Church - Diocese of the United Kingdom and marked on the back "Mission". If you would like to designate a particular county please indicate which one. Mail to: Diocesan Treasurer, ACC Diocesan Office, St Nicholas House, 42-48 High Street, Lydd, Kent TN29 9AN.