

# *The Africa Appeal*

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

*December 2012 – January 2013*

As promised, here is the report on what has been achieved in the year 2012, as we have continued our support for the churches in Cameroon and Congo (DRC), as well as to bring greeting for Christmas and the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord from both Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge, his clergy and people in Congo, and from Fr. Alphonse Ndutiye, his clergy and people in Cameroon. Fr. Alphonse writes :

Joyeux Noel à vous, au Vicaire Général du District du Canada, aux Trésoriers de St Colomb et St Bride - and to all the faithful in our sister parishes across Canada. I ask you to express our thanks to all those who have supported us during this year 2012. To all who have sent money to us for the growth of our St. Augustine School, for the sewing and couture workshops, the computer technology centre we offer our thanks, asking that you might tell all that we continue to need their help as the activities continue and the projects grow.'

We have been able to send, thanks to your generosity, the majority of funds to Cameroon, as it has had greater needs in its infancy, and whilst the church in Cameroon has just started to receive support for Fr. Alphonse personal expenses from the Missionary Society of St. Paul, as well as some very valuable funding for the school project from Anglican Aid Abroad in Australia, the needs have been high. More recently, we have responded to the request made by Bishop Steven Ayule-Milenge, with assistance for the schools project in Congo, as well as continued help with the widow's agriculture project in Mosho, near Bukavu.

The total moneys received in both parishes has been \$14205 (St. Bride) + \$1700 (St. Columba) = \$15905. The amount sent has been \$14054 + \$1100 = \$15150, with a balance remaining to carry forward of \$155 + \$600 = \$755. All costs related to mailing and photocopying, Western Union fees and/or bank fees have been absorbed by the two parishes: no administration or promotion costs have been incurred. (*Note that these are not audited figures, but approximate to the actual year end totals*)

At the start of the year, it had seemed that the task of finding some \$1000 per month for the Appeal was well-nigh impossible: but it is thanks to you that we have been able to surpass that goal once again: and with this, the two churches have been able to grow and initiate new projects, new parishes, responding to the demands placed on them by those who are discovering the Anglican Catholic faith, and who like what they see and hear, and then want a new parish established.



Bishop Steven has now established parishes in the province of Kasai Oriental, in the centre of the country. As the distance to the synod is far, and due to the high cost of air travel, the lack of roads and/or transport, it was impossible for the delegates from there to attend, but it is expected that this new deanery (of Kasai Oriental) will grow from the current 5 parishes.

When you drive south from Uvira, there is a range of mountains to the west: the *'Monts Mitumba'*.

If you walk along the pathways over these mountains (there are no roads) you come to the equatorial forest. But it is not quite as easy as that: hidden in this jungle are the armed groups known as *Iterahamwe*: these are militia groups, almost private armies, which become the functional rulers of that little corner of the country, so that they can mine and smuggle out the mineral wealth that is to be found in these mountain ranges. As delegates were making their way from the parishes to the road from Uvira to Baraka, on their way to synod they were stopped by these *Iterahamwe* who forced both men and women to strip off their clothes, so that anything of value could be found and seized by the militias: those who encounter the militias are usually pleased that they have been allowed to live, to continue on their path, despite the humiliation and loss of possessions! (You may recall that Bishop Steven himself has been attacked and seriously wounded by these same militias, some few years ago.)

Bishop Steven writes, "The diocesan's parishes situated in the south of the Province were divided into three Archdeaconries and Deaneries in order to make easy the administration of the diocese. The size of each Archdeaconry maybe equal or biggest for the size of the Republics of Rwanda and Burundi combined. The three archdeaconries are:

\* Archdeaconry of North Tanganyika has bordering as the administrative area of the Territory of Uvira and the Collectivity of Tanganyika in the Territory of Fizi.

\* Archdeaconry of Baraka- Kimbi has bordering as the administrative area of the Collectivities of Mutambala and Ngandja in the Territory of Fizi.

\* Archdeaconry of Itombwe- Lulenge has bordering as the administrative area of the Territory of Mwenga and the Collectivity of Lulenge in the Territory of Fizi.

\* The other archdeaconry is the Archdeaconry of Bukavu, which has as bordering the North of the Province of South and other provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo where we are going with evangelization to establish our churches.'

The 4 Archdeacons in Sud Kivu consists of some 22 parishes, with those in Kasai included in the Archdeaconry of Bukavu.

Projects are numerous, and we will focus on them as the year progresses: Bishop Steven concludes his synod report with these words, 'The ACC-OP/ Missionary Diocese of Congo beseeches the ACC-OP church members to hold hands with us, help us to provide income generating projects and have good diocesan infrastructures. We do not have building only small churches build with mud bricks and roofing of the sheet metal. Many churches are built with mud and glass. The church leaders are walking to visit the parishes by lacking the vehicle; working very hard for the development of the diocese where our churches are scattered on the dangerous place which need for the leader to have a diocesan four wheel drive vehicle. We humbly ask you to think of us and the difficulties we experience in our ministries. We hope in your prayer that this time will be our time of sharing what God has given us and the blessing to you in our Church Communion.'

We are waiting to receive some photographs from both Congo and Cameroon: where Fr. Alphonse Ndutiye has continued his work, together with the other 4 clergy, on an incredibly small budget. This effort has been helped by the willingness of the faithful in Cameroon to contribute to the growth of the church: a considerable gift that has allowed the church to purchase – with the deposit at least – land for a new parish to be built close to Nsimalen airport, the main airport for Yaoundé. Similarly the sewing school which we supplied funds for the purchase of sewing machines has expanded to two locations, with local gifts providing more machines. This school has also achieved the goal of self-sufficiency which was a commitment made by the church councils in the initial proposal. The primary school is now in full operation with its own land and property: again, helped out greatly by local efforts.

Fr. Alphonse is intending to follow some of the same precepts that have been successful in Congo: and indeed from the late Fr. Pierre Dil in Zambia! It is simple: if people have no skill, the education and training to acquire a skill which might permit an improvement in one's life is possible here in the west, but often very difficult in Africa: so the churches step up to the plate and provide the basics, the fundamental skills, so that those trained can take on the task of refining skills, whether in farming, livestock management, information technology or fashion: as an example, one proposal, still in its infancy but to be moved forward in 2013, it for the sewing school

to start marketing vestments for clergy: once the quality has been established. This is similar to a project in South Africa with Bishop Kenyon-Hoare.

With heartfelt thanks to all at this Epiphanytide,  
In Christ,  
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:**

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