

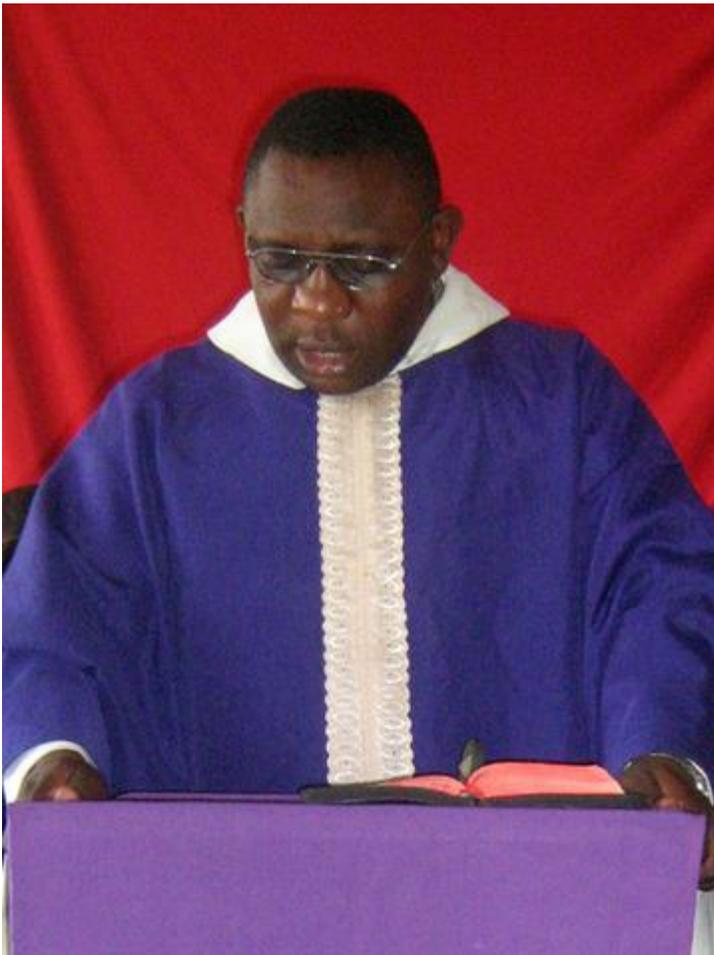
# *The Africa Appeal*

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

*October 2012*

This notice was published on the Anglican Catholic Church website (<http://www.anglican catholic.org/>) on October 4<sup>th</sup> 2012:

The Metropolitan of the ACC announced this week that he has taken order for the episcopal consecration of the Very Reverend Steven Ayule-Milenge to be the first Bishop Ordinary of the Missionary Diocese of Congo (MDC). Established in 2011 by an act of the ACC's Nineteenth Provincial Synod, the MDC covers one of the most troubled areas in all of Africa, the Region of Kivu in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



Located on the DRC's border with Rwanda, the Kivu Region has been subject to repeated invasion and devastation since the late 1990s. Much of the fighting was a continuation of the struggle between the Hutus and Tutsis that began with the Rwandan genocide of 1994. Because belligerents have included both national armies and ethnic militias, peace has been very difficult to achieve. Though a treaty was signed in 2009, the area still suffers from the aftereffects of a brutal conflict, where starvation and rape were commonly used weapons against the civilian population.

Bishop Elect Ayule-Milenge has been instrumental in advancing the Church's mission of bringing healing to this war torn area. Under his leadership, the ACC has been able to carry out a great deal of humanitarian work, particularly through providing economic assistance and counseling to victims of sexual violence. Since rebuilding lives must be accompanied by rebuilding

infrastructure, the Bishop Elect has also been working with the Regional government to provide new opportunities for education. His diocese was recently authorized to open twenty-five new schools around the Province of South Kivu, one of the areas hardest hit by the fighting.

Bishop Elect Ayule-Milenge will be flying to the US later this month where he will participate in the October Provincial Meetings. His consecration will take place at 5 p.m, October 16th at the Church of the Holy Guardian Angels, Lantana, Florida. Archbishop Haverland will preside.

For more information on this story, or other news from around the ACC, see the November/December issue of [The Trinitarian.](#)

Father Steven arrived in Florida on the 13<sup>th</sup> October after a full 24 hours of travel: and so very tired, but all was well as he recovered for his consecration as the first Diocesan Bishop of the Eglise Catholique Anglicane du Congo. May his work, which has been so important in bringing the Word of God into so many communities which are themselves only now starting to recover from so many years of conflict, continue to prosper and be further enhanced by the formation of the Missionary Diocese of Congo (DRC)!

In Cameroon, the church continues to grow, driven by the demands of the people, who are asking that the church expand, in effect, more rapidly than should be possible by Western standards: but due to the great dedication and work of Father Alphonse Vascaniat Ndutiye and his clergy, the achievements keep on coming!

The land for the school is paid for in part: but there is still a debt amounting to some \$13,000 remaining which needs to be resolved. The school is functioning, with 3 sections able to accommodate 40 children, but there is an on-going need for the supply of educational materials and text books. In Canada, recent contact has been made with the Canadian Bible Society to see if it may be possible to send copies of the Bible in French for the students: this request also includes parishioners in Cameroon and Congo (DRC). It may be that there are suitable textbooks available here as surplus to school boards, but the major challenge is the cost of shipping of books!

The Sewing school has been expanded, and is now considering the manufacture for sale of vestments: Fr. Alphonse has been asked to provide more details of this project, but it appears that the school is looking to become self-sufficient, a goal with which the project was started, and as the skills of the seamstresses has developed, there is a god possibility that this school will be able to contribute to the revenue for the church, supporting future growth and new projects. More news about this will be provided in future Appeal letters.

Perhaps one of the new projects would be this, similar to the Widows' Agriculture project in Congo: a group of 30 women, members of the parish, would need \$900 to start an agriculture project on 4 hectares of bush: the projected harvest, at the end of an 8 month project, would be over \$4000!!! Such data can remind us that for the lack of very little in start-up capital, people go hungry, and become listless: whereas so many are able to perform great things with the opportunity that we as the benefactors can supply...

Two other potential 'community development' projects are to look into the raising of poultry, which could be started with a sum of \$500, and a project to raise goats and pigs, which could start with an

investment of some \$800. These types of project give a threefold benefit, especially in a society saddled with high unemployment:

- the people have a place to work: to have somewhere to go, something to do every day
- the families have improved nutrition
- the contributions made by the faithful to the church increase, thus giving some support to clergy and parish.

It is hard for us in the west to comprehend a system where, as the Africa Review reports: ‘Cameroon has a population of 19.8 million, according to the last census whose preliminary results were released last year. Of this number, about 13 million people are employable; 13 million Cameroonians with skills that would earn them employment. But from figure, less than one million are actually employed now, leaving close to 12 million jobless Cameroonians. These figures were in April this year updated, based on a 2009 survey by Cameroon’s National Institute of Statistics (NIS).’ (<http://www.africareview.com/Special+Reports/-/979182/1171742/-/10saxjiz/-/index.html>)

Of course, the 12 million who are ‘jobless’ are not really without any source of income, but they are reliant on the ‘informal’ labour market for work: just like those who are compelled by need to go to the ‘day labour’ outlets in many cities and towns across Canada. That just gives a greater impetus to the effect that your gift might have: in effect, we are enabling people to learn how to fish: we are not just providing the fish – or the chips for that matter.

DRM+

## 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