



Anglican Aid Abroad



The Newsletter of the Missionaries of Saint Andrew

Patron: The Most Reverend P. Aspinall, Archbishop of Brisbane.

February Issue 2023

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Each year at Christmas and Easter, we receive so many messages of greetings, grateful appreciation, and prayers from our partners that I am unable to mention them all. This year was no exception. The message from Rev Jayaraj Krishnan of the Indian Christian Mission Centre and House of Peace Orphanage spoke of the Christian understanding of Christmas. In it, he asked Who is Jesus Christ? What does the Bible tell us? Jesus Christ existed before the World began. He was from the beginning with God in eternity. Jesus Christ is God. He is the Messiah the Christ. Jesus Christ was called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal Father and Prince of Peace many years before his birth in Bethlehem (Isaiah 9:6). He was called Immanuel which means God is with us (Isaiah 7:14). He is the Bread of life, the Light of the world, the Good Shepherd, the true vine, the Saviour of the world.

Why did Jesus come? Jesus came to save the world, to give abundant and eternal life, to fulfil the law, to serve, to seek and to save the lost, to reveal the father, to be the light. "I came not to judge the world but to save it." "I will be with you always, till the end of the age."

For most of us, Christmas means an over abundance of good food and presents we often don't need. For those assisted by the ICMC and other Indian Churches (see letters) it meant a meal of chicken biriyani, clothes and perhaps a food parcel to allay hunger for a few weeks. For eye patients in Ghana, Christmas brought a reduction in treatment costs and perhaps restored sight. For some villagers in Liberia, it brought a palm oil harvest and new-found ability to buy food and education for children. In Bp Alphonse's area of Cameroon, villagers celebrated increased food production and money to buy life's necessities. These gifts of joy at Christmas were a result of your continuing generous gifts to AAA. Such gifts enable our partners to serve their community, to reveal the father, to be the light, to save the lost and to bring the promise of love, hope and trust found in God's kingdom closer to those they serve.

As you read this, we will be preparing for Easter by perhaps giving up bad habits or doing more good deeds. During Lent, we might consider what it truly means for God to be with us and ask how we might respond.

Yours Sincerely,
Marilyn Wright



*The Indian
Christian
Mission*

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Mission Trip - Fr Daniel Pulraj (continued from the November Newsletter)

Indian Mission- After the trip to Thailand I landed in India, my birth country. People surrounded me speaking my mother tongue but I felt I was in a different place- it did not feel like home. Things have changed in the land and me. There are big buildings, expensive cars on the streets, big shopping malls but at the same time there are a lot of poor on the streets. Small coffee shops are replaced by McDonalds, KFC, pizza, cake and ice cream shops. The rich become richer, and poor become poorer.

Daniel School- I visited the school and met the children we support. There were 17 orphan children because of covid. I spoke to the principal of the school and they were admitted to the different age groups so will get an education because of AAA. We provide them with a healthy lunch at the school, because there is no way for them to bring lunch, as they stay with their uncles, neighbours or any relatives.



Feeding widows- a part of the Gethsemane Mission. 38 young widows come together to do some craftwork then cook their meals, eat and take away the left-overs. We feed them just because most of the time mums don't have enough to eat, so it is better for them to have at least one meal a week using money sent by AAA.

Shelter Trust is a home for HIV positive children. It is still going with the children who survived covid, and now they have a few more "Covid orphan" children who have no-one to care for them. As everywhere, their funds have also reduced due to the present situation.

Gethsemane Mission- It has been a great pleasure to see their work feeding the poor and helping them in times of need. This place is busy. People come and go, cooking all the time. We have helped many people, including pastors, with oxygen in the time of covid. They are very thankful for the timely help. They want to start a of program to help widows and semi orphan young girls.

Indian Christian Mission- They have joined with the breakaway Anglican Church from Church of South India. They are thankful for the help from AAA. There are around

600 children in the homes and they help with Sri Lankan refugees, leprosy people and street vendors. They are building a hospital for free treatment. I am thankful to AAA for our wonderful ministry, and for all people in Australia, for the support. - *Daniel Pulraj (AAA Treasurer)*



News from Ghana.

In the November Newsletter, I wrote of the efforts of Archbishop Cyril ben Smith to raise funds to support disaffected youth in the many countries of the province. Such letters may seem overwhelming in the magnitude of the need. AAA sent a contribution which seemed small, but those who benefit may have their lives changed. To illustrate, I am including this heart-warming story, also from Ghana. You may recall that AAA sent money to the Eye Hospital for an SLT machine. At the beginning of December, Sr Abba Otoo wrote: "After serious deliberation with the ophthalmologist when we realised that the cost of the SLT was way beyond our means (after huge recent price rises) with the AAA donation and a top up from us, we opted for an operating microscope and table. A hundred patients were booked for surgery from the 14th-19th November.

Amongst them was a 93-year-old lady who was blinded with cataracts for 23 years. Bilateral cataract surgery was done and her review the next day was wonderful. Each day at the clinic 200 patients were screened, it was



hectic and worth it at the same time. Thirty elderly patients were offered free surgery, free dark glasses and medications. This was made possible because of your generosity. The next surgery is being organised for January.” A follow up came just before Christmas: “The optical lab is in operation now and to be able to offer free services to those who can’t afford it is a real joy. We have charity frames in stock and we plan to extend our services to those in the remotest villages. In the past 2 months, all glaucoma patients who visited the facility enjoyed reduction (in cost) of their medications and the smile on their faces said it all. Others received financial support while still more were driven back to their villages. 60 elderly, blind patients received a Christmas parcel and to visit them in their villages was not only humbling but assures us all of the goodness of our maker and the unexpected and strange ways He opens doors to us. A huge thank you to all at AAA. This comes to wish you God’s Blessings this Christmas and know that we are very grateful.” A further clinic was conducted in January.

increased income. They hope to sell live chickens, eggs and meals using their poultry. We wish them well.



The Sisters of Meth Piyasa sent a report on the family mentioned in the November newsletter. “We provided all the materials needed for the family to move to the new place of residence and the two children were admitted to a school. Medical treatment continues to be provided for the Mother. She said that this treatment will bring a lot of mental recovery. Also, she is looking forward to getting a job in a Garment factory again. However, they are looked after and supported in their needs. From the day we met the mother and the children, everything was done for them with the money you had given us. May that help be a great blessing to all of you.”

The Oratory of the Good Shepherd sought more help with their ongoing feeding of street people. “I want to say a very BIG thank you to AAA for the assistance for feeding the poor so far this year. The queues of people needing to be fed are daily getting longer, the GO-GO Kitchen in KwaZulu Natal is going strong, as well as the feeding of the homeless people living on the street. Please find attached how we have spent the money this year, also some photographs of the food parcels.”



From **Rev Pita Unavalu**- “On behalf of the St Paul's Anglican Church, Naviavia. We would like to thank the AAA for your kindness in supporting the needs in our community. Yes, I will update you on every detail as we move forward with the purchasing of our new motor engine and boat. Through your continuous support, we are able to help our own people living a life everyday.”



LETTERS

Rev Basil Bright of the ICMC asked for money to finance a paver making machine to provide work and self-sufficiency for disaffected youth. “There are so many school dropouts-students who are affected because of the covid lockdowns. Their lives have gone into bad habits like smoking, drinking and drugs, there aren’t many skill development and job opportunities for them. We have come up with an income generating project for jobless youth in our area as well as the dropout students. It will help these youth to shape their future in a protective way. We have identified a need for paver brick making through a machine, and we have created a training plan that will provide opportunities for jobless youth to learn new skills and generate income while they stay away from bad habits. This also helps them to stay closer to God and learn a skill that can be life-saving as well.”



Bp John Ndegwa wrote from Kenya that the chicken production that AAA assisted with is doing well. He asked for funds to enable the establishment of a small shop/café to sell food before and during the Christmas period to generate

From **St Martin's Hospital**, Malawi- "Thank you to AAA for supporting us after we asked for financial bailout. We immediately transferred the money to some of our medical suppliers. We are thrilled with your support as you have lessened our burden. God bless your organisation. So far it is only your organisation that has come to our rescue".

The **CSN in Suva** sent a heart-warming report with photographs of the children they help with school fees assisted by AAA support. Altogether there are nine students and one university graduate in Agriculture. "These are 4 children who we support as well. Their father is a final year student at the St John's College studying to be a Priest while the mother is a house wife. The children all attend St John's Primary School at Wailoku where the Dad is a trainee priest. They do appreciate the help given and look forward to more help. Thank you for your assistance AAA for touching the lives of these young students, giving them hope and using CSN as an instrument of change."



Once again, touching stories of new admissions to Paynter

Home from the tireless director Angeline. "Two children who have parents and a younger brother of about 4 years. We have no Birth certificates nor School attended proof (School leaving certificate). They were assigned to us through a court order, as the parents had left the two girls alone in the house and gone to Colombo. The neighbours had informed the Police and the Children were taken to safe custody of the Police. The authorities say that they are living in very poor condition, no proper job and the small room that they live has nothing in it. The father of 2 other children has died before and their mother has remarried her late husband's brother. We are making arrangements to admit all four of them to school. We are working hard on getting their legal documents for that purpose."

Paul Selvaraj from Just Mercy wrote: "Hope everyone is well. With the aid from Anglican Aid Abroad last Christmas, we were able to do great deeds for many people around us. We greatly thank you for your continuous support on previous occasions. We wish to do the same this year for Christmas and we need help to succeed in it. We will do the same that we are doing this year too which involves feeding poor people, buying clothes, and distributing groceries and sanitary products to poor families and orphanages homes around us. As people are still recovering from covid effects with the loss of jobs and not stable life, any small help will be greatly appreciated."

Sr Ntombi Sithole of the Community of Jesus Compassion wrote: "Thank you so much for your generous support and well wishes on the journey we are embarking on. It is truly appreciated. We are very much grateful for it. May the LORD bless you abundantly. Please find the attached photos of the complete house. It wouldn't have been a success to do this project without your support. Indeed the vision of our late Mother Superior is being realized through this ministry of helping the poor. We have also filled the house with furniture for a good cause. It is serving its purpose now". Ed- the house is for women and children escaping violence.

"We went to the bank yesterday and there is the money from AAA. God has given us good friends to help look after the poor. The water is going well and the garden is green. The flu is very strong and people are very tired and we are very busy because we have many people at the dispensary. We have 60 children too. Thank you very much because you give us energy to make us strong. With much love and prayers", **from Sr Jacqueline in Madagascar.**

Gethsemane Evangelical Church sent: "Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus. By your financial gift this year we provided provision for nearly 400 families in our locality. We gave rice, oil and groceries. We also gave chicken biryani for 500 people. We were also able to provide dress materials, sarees and dhotis plus ready-made dresses for the children. All these were possible only by your helping hand. Thank you very much and may God bless you."



“This year with your financial aid we were able to provide dress materials (sarees, dhoties, frocks, shirts and pants). On Christmas Day we provided Chicken Biryani for nearly 300 people. Not only that, we gave rice bags (25kg) and groceries for our people who are helpless and downtrodden. Thank you AAA for your generous gift. God bless you,” wrote **Pastor B Asirvatham of the Heavenly Evangelical Church.**



Current Bourses for training of Personnel in Developing Countries.

Readers often request a bourse list. Please cut this out and keep it, as newsletter space does not allow us to publish it frequently. Four are missing as we do not have contact details. After the passing of Br Daniel, who kept the donations for each group meticulously, all bourse funds are combined and we send an amount (often \$1,000) when we know of a need. This list is also on our website -www.anglicanaidabroad.com.au

1. Sisters of St Margaret Sri Lanka.
2. Sisters of Visitation PNG.
3. Sisters of the Holy Paraclete in Ghana.
4. Sisters of the Precious Blood, Lesotho.
5. Sisters of Jesus' Compassion, RSA.
6. Sisters of the Holy Name in Kwa Zulu.
8. Brothers of the Holy Cross in Ghana.
9. Franciscan Brothers in Solomon Islands.
10. Franciscan Brothers in PNG.
11. Sisters of the Holy Cross in Korea.
12. Brothers of the Divine Compassion in Zimbabwe.
13. Sisters of St Mary in Tanzania.

14. Melanesian Brother in the Solomon Islands.
15. Servant of Jesus Christ in Madagascar.
16. Sisters of the Church in the Solomon Islands.
17. Sisters of the Holy Name in Lesotho.
18. Sisters of the Holy Name in Zimbabwe.
19. Sisters of the Sacred Name in Fiji.
20. Franciscan Brothers in Korea.
21. Sisters of St Mary in the Philippines.
22. Sisters of St Mary in Zambia.
24. Sisters of Transfiguration in Zimbabwe.
25. Sisters of the Holy Name in Swaziland.
26. Sisters of St Margaret in Haiti.
27. Sisters of the Blessed Lady Mary in Zimbabwe.
28. St Benedict in Korea.
29. Brothers of the Sacred Mission in Lesotho.
30. Sisters of the Holy Paraclete in South Africa.
31. Brothers of the Holy Transfiguration in Zimbabwe.
33. Brothers of the Oratory of the Good Shepherd in South Africa.
35. Sisters of Melanesia in the Solomon Islands

MONEY MATTERS

Donations for October, November, December were \$81,725.

Country	Recipient	Amount	Project
Sri Lanka	Samaritans of Goodwill	5,000	Feeding poor- taxi drivers, widows, aged
India	ICMC	4,000	Feeding leprosy families
India	Madras Diocese	5,000	Food and help for tribal families
Thailand	Noh Bo Academy	3,000	Sporting equipment, team travel
Kenya	Anglo-Province of St Jude Mission	2,500	Equip small shop for selling chickens
Tanzania	Diocese of Central Tanganyika	7,000	Follow up for 500 trainees in food security
South Africa	Oratory of the Good Shepherd	5,000	Support GoGo kitchen and local poor
South Africa	Order of the Holy Paraclete	5,000	Support of 2 orphanages
Fiji	Community of Sacred Name	2,000	School support for 9 students
India	Heavenly Evangelical Church	2,000	Food and clothing for 250 poor families
India	Just Mercy	5,000	Clothes, food, groceries for poor and orphanages in district at Christmas
India	Gethsemane Evangelical Church	5,000	Christmas food, clothes for 470 families
Madagascar	Community of Servants of Jesus Christ	2,000	Community support, Bourse 15
Pakistan	Rev Dr Naeem Nazir	3,000	Food parcels for homeless families
Sri Lanka	Third Order of Sr Francis	2,000	Back to school for many poor families
Sri Lanka	Paynter home	2,000	Orphan support- food, clothes, education
Pakistan	Bp Andrew	2,000	Flood relief- clothing, food for villagers
Tonga	Anglican Missions Board	1,000	Tongan disaster relief

PRACTICAL MATTERS

Meeting dates for 2023. It is so encouraging for Board members to enjoy the company of Supporters four times a year to discuss progress and issues. Please put these dates for 2023 into your calendar to ensure your ability to attend. February 24th, May 26th, August 25th, November 24th. All meetings are at 12 noon on the last Friday of the month and are held at All Saints Anglican Church, Hamilton Rd, Chermside. A light lunch is provided.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for:

- Wisdom and guidance for leaders to be peacemakers in the Middle East, Ukraine and countries in Asia and Africa where insurgents regularly target Christians.
- Rev Sr Yekisiwe who has been duly elected as Mother Superior of the CJC in South Africa. Please support the Community in prayer after her installation service on 18th February.
- Church leaders in partnering groups to make wise decisions about support of the aged, infirm and outcast.
- Support for health services and hospitals, especially in Malawi, and good health for our contacts.
- AAA Board members to use wisdom and compassionate cultural understanding as they allocate funds.



Give thanks for:

- AAA donors, new and continuing, who give sacrificially to help our partners, and make God's kingdom known through Asia, Africa and the Pacific.
- Providing funding through our partners for education and self-sufficiency for Ordained clergy, Sisters, Brothers and lay people.
- Religious orders in many countries who serve God, seek the lost and are light and salt in their communities.

MISSIONARIES OF ST ANDREW PRAYER

O God, our Heavenly Father, who did'st send Thine only begotten Son into this world to teach us to love one another; grant that the missionaries of St Andrew and their co-workers may so faithfully obey His command that all people may live free from want, in peace and security, through the same Jesus Christ Our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Anglican Aid Abroad is entirely dependent on donations from those who support us. We deduct no administrative costs from overseas gifts. Your continued support allows us to support so many others, around the world, on your behalf. Below are ways that you can donate. ***If you intend the donation for a special project, please let us know so that we can designate it accordingly.***

DIRECT CREDITS

You can make a deposit via your bank, personally, or via the internet., but please add your name to the deposit so we can issue receipts.

Account Name: Missionaries of St Andrew - Anglican Aid Abroad

Account No: BSB : 034 058 Account Number: 580656

CREDIT CARD VISA MasterCard (You can also phone us with your credit card details if you prefer.)

Card Number _____ Expiry Date: __/__/__ Amount: \$_____

Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address (if postal receipt required) _____

Please email receipt Post a receipt Receipt not required

CHEQUES may be posted to our mail box and we shall send you a receipt as soon as we are able.

FORM OF BEQUEST - making a bequest to AAA is an *extraordinary and wonderful gift* from you to all our partners. Please consider it. I give the sum of _____ (or _____% of the residue of my estate) to the Missionaries of St Andrew- Anglican Aid Abroad- for charitable purposes of that organisation and I declare that the receipt of the secretary or treasurer for the time being will be an absolute discharge of my trustee/s who will not be liable to the application of those funds.

Any queries, please contact:

The Secretary

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