



Anglican Aid Abroad



The Newsletter of the Missionaries of Saint Andrew

Patron: The Most Reverend P. Aspinall, Archbishop of Brisbane.
Vice Patron: The Reverend Brother Daniel, SSF, Society of St Francis

November Issue 2020

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Although as secretary, I am frequently overwhelmed by the volume of correspondence and the needs expressed, there are also God given moments of joy and refreshment. In October, the recorded talks of the online quiet day conducted by the Sisters of St Mary the Virgin at Wantage, gave such encouragement. The day came not long after the observance of the Season of Creation in the Church's calendar, and in the Northern hemisphere, this is a time of year when creation begins its rest from the productivity of earlier months and enters a time of restoration and healing in preparation for new birth. Jesus often used examples from the world around him in his teaching and creation can speak to us today if we listen.

The everyday lives of Jesus's audience, and our overseas partners, are much more attuned to (and dependent on) the vagaries of weather and seasons than are our lives. Sisters in Africa, Sri Lanka and the Pacific tend gardens to grow vegetables for themselves and the poor. AAA is now funding groups in Tanzania and Thailand that are educating themselves in how to achieve better yields and improved storage so that people in villages can survive till the next wet season. We are providing goats and pigs for projects to empower villagers to provide education for their children and for priests to become less dependent on impoverished parishioners.

Water is life giving when a new well is dug, but violent in the floods of South Sudan and the typhoons experienced in the Pacific and by Sr Ines in the Philippines. Jesus used the life giving properties to convert the Samaritan woman and showed his power by calming the storm on Lake Galilee. Earth, God's Creation, nourishes and sustains us all. Our neighbours know that as their daily lives are intertwined with the earth and the seasons. Do we give sufficient thought to this in our daily lives? Do we ponder how to fulfil our part by in turn nurturing the earth?

During "Covid time" in Australia, our politicians tell us "we are all in this together", and indeed we are. These months have shown us how disconnected we have become from nature and our neighbours and yet how dependent we are on other countries and other people in our neighbourhood. Whilst living with the Sisters of St Mary in Tanzania, I experienced the isolation of not participating fully in worship as I didn't understand Kiswahili. But at the same time, I realised that I was part of the world wide Christian community, the body of Christ, which was a profound, awesome moment of understanding.

Recently, the words of the Graham Kendrick song one Sunday morning moved me to tears.

*Different faces, different races, He made us one
Jesus taught us how to live in harmony.....*

*Loving one another with the love that He gives
Jesus taught us how to be a family.....*

The Gospel message was to love the Lord our God and to love our neighbour as ourselves. Our Parish Priest challenged us by asking, "Do we really love our neighbours?" Another song tells us plainly who these neighbours are. "Neighbours are rich men and poor, neighbours are black men and white, neighbours are nearby and far away." In AAA, God continues to bring new neighbours to our attention, and show us new ways to love them. May we give generously so that through us, Jesus can "turn our (and our neighbours) sorrow into dancing".

The future may well not be what we had hoped for or planned. The quiet day reflections spoke of a need for healing of nature as well as personal and spiritual healing. The Old Testament idea of Jubilee spoke of restoration of liberty, rest for the earth and contemplation of a simpler, more just way of life. As we enter Advent, a time of preparation for Christ's coming, may we ponder afresh the magnitude of God's love for us and how we might show that to the neighbours he gives us. Stay well and safe over the Christmas Season.

Yours Sincerely,

Marilyn Wright.



Food distribution by the Indian Christian Mission Centre.

The Secretary
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PRACTICAL MATTERS

Disbursement of Funds.

AAA remains committed to supporting Religious communities both small and large in many countries. Sadly, we have not yet been able to renew communication with some of these groups. At the same time, this year has brought extraordinary events requiring a rethinking of responses. Thus, we have donated directly to some Churches for food for the poor. Job losses and associated starvation have increased awareness of the need for self-sufficiency projects that will have long term, sustainable impacts, giving dignity and empowerment to clergy and villagers. Some providers have not been as fortunate as AAA and have had to withdraw promises of support. God has wonderfully made provision for AAA to be able to respond to these disparate needs through a bequest that expressed a preference for education activities.

You will also note that we have sent out support to many Communities through the Burse fund so wisely established by Fr Nixon. These funds allow Sisters and Brothers to undertake a variety of courses of a theological and practical nature.

Although most supporters donate to the general fund, others are very specific in directing their contribution. AAA is obliged to honour these expressed wishes and gladly does so.

February meeting.

Our next general meeting is **Saturday 20th February at 1pm in person at All Saints Anglican Church, Chermside.** Please consider bringing lunch so that we can have a time of informal fellowship from 12noon onwards. Everyone is welcome. The meeting should finish by just after 2pm so that you can be home in time for evening services.

MONEY MATTERS

Funds sent out in August, September and October. Because long term supporters may note some changes to the established practices, I have provided an explanation in the PRACTICAL MATTERS section. Thank you all for your continuing generous support that makes possible AAA's assistance to overseas partners. Their appreciation is expressed in photographs and the LETTERS section.

Country	Recipient	Amount	Project
Fiji	Moana, Community of St Clare	2,000	St Christopher's Home support
Tanzania	Diocese of Central Tanganyika	12,500	Education in food security for pastors
Zimbabwe	Community of the Holy Transfiguration	1,500	Food relief
Zimbabwe	Holy Spirit Monastery	1,500	Well for water
Republic of Congo	Bp Steven Ayule-Milenge	5,000	Stairs of sewing centre, Covid education
Namibia	Sr Gertrude	3,000	School equipment
South Africa	Order of the Holy Paraclete	8,000	Orphanage support, start food garden
Thailand	No Boh Academy	5,000	Food supplement for 1 year
Pakistan	Jesus Christ Ministries	2,000	Food supplement Covid19
Thailand	Christ Church English- Karen	12,500	Education and self sufficiency project
Philippines	Community of St Mary	2,000	Food and medicines disability support
Madagascar	Community of the Servants of Jesus Christ	5,000	Rebuild after fire, community support
India	Heavenly Evangelical Church	3,000	Food for poor parishes
South Sudan	Bp Garang, Arwei	5,000	Improve well and orphan support
Ghana	Diocese Asante, Mampong, Bp Cyril	5,000	Orphanage support- food, wages
Rwanda	Fr Chadrack, MU	4,000	Complete beans storage building
Rwanda	Bp Manasseh, Gahini Diocese	4,000	Finish goat shed and purchase of goats
Malawi	Sisters of St Mary	4,000	Education -student fees and living costs
Haiti	Sisters of St Margaret	6,000	Nursing home support. Burse
South Africa	Oratory of the Good Shepherd	3,000	Gogo food kitchen support. Burse
South Africa	Missionary Diocese of the West (ACC)	5,000	Travelling eye clinic, Khuma township

MONEY MATTERS continued.

Country	Recipient	Amount	Project
Sri Lanka	Meth Piyasa	2,000	Education, garden, Covid relief
Korea	Sisters of the Holy Cross	1,000	Burse
Korea	Society of St Francis	1,000	Burse
Tanzania	Sisters of St Mary	3,000	Burse. Montessori course fees
South Sudan	Duk Diocese	2,000	Orphan education and care
Zimbabwe	Community of the Holy Transfiguration	3,000	Burse. School fees, building materials
Tanzania	VIMICHIA	6,400	Education support for orphans and school
West Germany	Indian theological Student	12,255	1 year Uni fees and part living expenses
Solomon Islands	Franciscan Brothers	1,000	Burse
Solomon Islands	Sisters of the Church	1,000	Burse
Fiji	Sisters of the Sacred Name	1,000	Burse
Solomon Islands	Sisters of Melanesia	1,000	Burse
Rwanda	Bishop Chadrack	4,000	Goats for pastor self-sufficiency
Ghana	Sisters of the Holy Paraclete	1,000	Burse
Ghana	Brothers of the Holy Cross	1,000	Burse
Madagascar	Community of the Servants of Jesus Christ	1,000	Burse
Philippines	Sisters of St Mary	1,000	Burse
South Africa	Order of the Holy Paraclete	1,000	Burse

More Self Sufficiency in Rwanda.

In the August edition, AAA supported two projects in Rwanda, both aimed at increasing self sufficiency and empowering women and families. Fr Chadrack's community completed the building for storing and selling the beans and sent another project which aims to empower clergy. After some modification in line with AAA suggestions, the project is now to provide 38 clergy families with 2 goats each. It has been a long-held dream for Fr Chadrack from when he was a student at Scott Christian University in Kenya. There can be a perception that clergy families don't face economic hardship as others do, yet as the son of a Pastor, he knew that was not true. Giving clergy families a means to generate income will give them more dignity and decrease their dependence on the poorest of their parishioners.

Empowering an Indian Student

"Greetings! I am Sam Sunny Anand S., an ordained priest from the Church of South India (CSI), Diocese of Madras. Currently, I am doing my Masters study in the field of Ecumenical Studies at the University of Bonn, Germany (M.A. in Ecumenical Studies). I have worked as a priest and an ecumenical worker in India since 2013. My major work was concentrated in rural parts of South India around Chennai (Madras) among under-privileged sections of the society. After completion of my studies, I will go back to India to continue my ordained ministry to serve the needy and deserving." This was the start of an unusual email received in October. Sam Sunny used his own savings to move to Germany in 2019 and is now in the second year of his studies. However, because of Corona he was unable to work and support his wife and young daughter. After

diligent checking and consultation, AAA decided to fund the less than half of his needs that he had requested. Many of us have seen or heard of the dire straits of overseas students stranded here in Australia without support in the past 6 months. Sam Sunny's thanks were profuse and we look forward to hearing of his success and return to Chennai in 2021 to again work in his community.



Feeding the Five Thousand or Gogo's (Grand Mother's) Soup Kitchen.

This wonderful story of the initiative, persistence and self-sacrificing hard work of Grandmother Edith Nokwanda Khanyile from an Informal Settlement of more than 10,000 people in KwaZulu Natal, came via the Oratory of the Good Shepherd. Although unemployed, she survives on sewing and serves as a Pastor in her Church. Seeing the need, she started a soup kitchen to feed the hungry children and elderly in the community and now provides a hot meal of soup and bread 3 times a week. Before Covid19, she accessed left over food from supermarkets and used donations from friends to help. These sources are no longer available. Brothers from the Oratory of the Good Shepherd have visited her and offered some help. AAA sent a contribution towards the annual cost of food, replacement gas bottles and utensils. Matthew 25:35- *"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink...."* And 40-*"Truly, I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of those who are members of my family, you did it to me."*



LETTERS

Once again in the past months, on your behalf, I've been privileged to receive a variety of email letters, some of which I now share. I have deliberately kept much of the original wording as it shows the effort of our neighbours to communicate in English and their care for our well being.

Rev Dr S Jayaraj Krishnan from the Indian Christian Mission Centre wrote- "Greetings to you in his matchless name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus. Here is our pictures of your money helping leprosy families, Sri Lankan refugees families and blind families with food hampers with 10 Kg rice, oil, Dal, Sugar and other food supplies.

Thank you for partnering with us to reach out to India' poorest and most suffering at this most difficult times. May God bless you richly.





A brief note from the **Community of the Sacred Name in Fiji**. "Jotikaa graduated with BA in Commerce. Thank you for all your help in her education."

Sister Isabella from Madagascar wrote after we sent money for well repairs. "The Lord will be with you and your family and all the members of AAA. We all are fine now! And we repeat many thanks to you of the money which you sent for us. Yes we want to rebuilt the house of well but we think very deep because we must have another well. When we called the engineer to look at it! And it is very expensive! So we wait in this month and dig a new well and we use the money which you sent! And to make a gutter to collect the water from the rain! When the rain comes! And use the water to wash etc. Send our love and our thanks to all the members of AAA .The weather in Madagascar is warm so the coronavirus is moving now ! With much love and prayers....."

Bp Alphonse Vascanit Ndukiye wrote from ACC Yaounde Nsimalen of illness and the need for completing the clinic. He sent a photo of the compound wall needing completion.



Bp Ayule Milenge Stephen from the DRC sent pictures of the staircase and Covid19 education funded by AAA.



Joyful excitement came from **Sr Miriam** at the orphanages in South Africa after our gift and suggestion that it be put towards a food garden and chicken project.

Sister Merina Dube of the Sisters of the Transfiguration in Zimbabwe wrote with pictures of their water supply and brick making for work on a new house they are slowly building as accommodation for new Sisters. " In our country we make farm bricks if we want to build small building. It's cheaper, but when the building is big we buy stronger bricks. The hole in the corner was dug so as to create a place to mix mud and water for moulding bricks. The youths moulding bricks are about to finish moulding bricks. The water problem - we have 3 boreholes one at the secondary act, hospital and primary school. The sisters' Convent is connected to the hospital borehole and secondary school, but when there is no electricity to pump water we normally have problems. As for bricks, we get water from a distance that is at our primary school borehole whereby we ended by hiring someone to fetch water for the project. In normal circumstances, if we delay to receive rain all boreholes remain with little water which we use carefully up to the rain season. We hope you are all well and safe. As for us, we very fine and keeping indoors when we have no business outside.



AAA was able to respond when **Fr Damien Trudeau** from the ACC Missionary Diocese of the West in South Africa, wrote seeking support for an Eye Clinic to be run by Dr Keith Reid and the Reach4Sight foundation. The 3 day workshop is scheduled to take place at Khuma Township in November, but Covid may change those plans. The clinic would see approximately 240 people and provide up to 150 pairs of glasses.

PRAYER REQUESTS

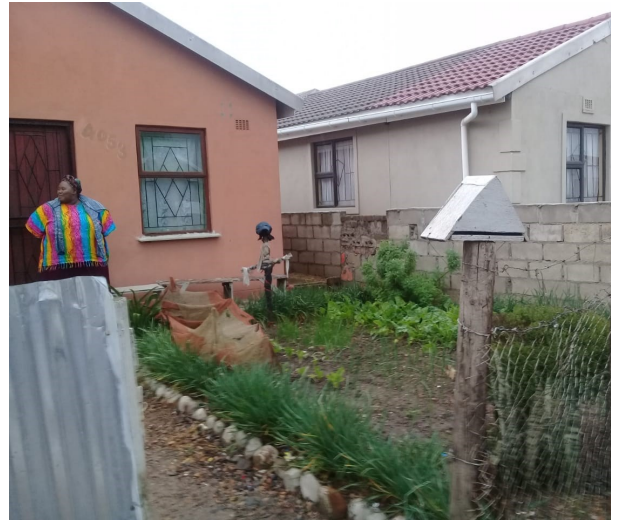
Remembering that we are all completely dependent on God's loving mercy, please pray for:

- A continuing generous spirit within us as we discern the neighbours Christ calls us to serve.
- Wisdom for all world political and religious leaders as they manage their people during Covid19.
- Justice in how decisions are made as to who will receive assistance and care. Relief for those suffering hardship, hunger and illness in countries ill-prepared to cope with a pandemic.
- The people in Ghana, especially in Asante-Mampong, where the effects of disease are still rife.
- Wisdom for the Sisters in Madagascar as they discern how to improve their water supply.
- The continuing successful transfer of aid funds and wisdom to see "scam" attempts in the emails.
- The Pastors in India and Pakistan as they try to care for their people with scarce resources.
- The government and people of South Sudan as they try to live in peace.
- More dedicated people with understanding



Praise God and give thanks for:

- Your compassionate generosity as you continue to provide funds for our Sisters and Brothers in far flung islands and continents.
- The joy of the people at the orphanages in South Africa when they received funds for a garden and chicken project.
- Peaceful elections this month in Tanzania.
- Making contact again with the American Sisters connected with Haiti.
- The Religious around the world who sustain the rest of us by their diligent, faithful prayers.



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.

Would Priest members kindly remember our work at the Altar and also those who distribute funds and those who receive them.

FORM OF BEQUEST

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.

DIRECT CREDITS

A safe and inexpensive way of sending your gift is to make a deposit at any WESTPAC BRANCH to our account at Morningside, personally, or via the internet.

Account Name: Missionaries of St Andrew - Anglican Aid Abroad
Account No: BSB : 034 058 Account Number: 580656

If you need a receipt, for tax purposes, please write/email and tell us your name, details of the deposit and enclose a self-addressed envelope. Alternatively, email us and we will email you a receipt directly. If you intend the donation for a special project, please let us know so that we can designate it accordingly.

If you are not on our mailing list and would like to receive our newsletter, please fill in your details below -

Your name:

Your address:

.....

Telephone :

Email:

and **post** to either address below -

The Secretary
ANGLICAN AID ABROAD
PO Box 6134, Woolloongabba
Queensland, 4102.

or **email** to - contact@anglicanaidabroad.com.au

The special project I should like to donate to is:

- 1 The General Fund *.....
- 2 A Burse (number) *.....
- 3 The work of *.....
- 4 Administration
- 5 Investment Fund

Tax exempt *

Gifts of \$2.00 or more to AAA's overseas work are tax deductible.

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