



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

May Issue 2021

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I'm sure that many of you were involved in a Lenten study. In our Parish, we journeyed through "Awakening my Faith" by Bishop Jeremy Greaves, an invitation to involve head, heart and hands in practicing faith today. Based on scripture, the musings each week encouraged us to consider what God is calling us to do to put our faith into action. It was interesting, though perhaps not surprising given the way God moves in our lives, that the themes of other reflections I received, both echoed and added to this idea. In week 1 of the TEAR reflections, we were urged to explore how as followers of Jesus, we can respond in this crucial moment in history to live a 'better normal' in the midst of our ordinary, everyday lives. In a Common Grace talk, there was a call to explore the notion of justice- the idea being that the premise for justice is a fundamental care of the wellbeing of others. Could a love for Jesus ever be separated from caring for your neighbour? Jesus' call to love is without limits as demonstrated in his story of the Good Samaritan and by his actions in ministering to the 'outcast'. AAA's partners exemplify this action as they practise their faith and minister to people in communities that are often not Christian.

Fr Richard Rohr of the Centre for Action and Contemplation, reminded readers that all flourishing is mutual. He gave an example of berries needing seeds spread by people and animals. I thought of the role of birds, bees, butterflies and flying foxes in pollinating our modern food crops and rainforests from which so much of our food originated. "These gifts of nature multiply by our care for them, and dwindle from our neglect. We are bound in a covenant of reciprocity, a pact of mutual responsibility to sustain those who sustain us," wrote Fr Richard. Do we daily give thanks for the land and people who sustain us? The farmers in developing countries who produce our cheap food? The poorly paid factory workers who produce our cheap clothing? The overseas workers who pick the food for our tables? Does our collective response to the covid pandemic display an attitude of mutual responsibility? By your generosity, AAA is able to provide food and medicine to our partners, but it falls far short of the need.

In the general theme of resetting, we need to remember that moving to the new does not mean completely rejecting the past. For Christians, it may involve a deeper understanding that the love of God calls us to be more intentional in putting our faith into action. To pray, love and act for justice in the wider world. AAA is undergoing changes, but the core business begun by Fr Nixon, remains firmly at the centre of all our endeavours.

Our Anglican marks of mission call for us to: teach, baptise and nurture new believers; respond to human need by loving service; transform unjust structures of society, challenge violence and pursue peace; strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Fr Nixon may or may not have had these in mind when he began Anglican Aid Abroad, but surely the work we do exemplifies these ideals. Sustainable agricultural projects help poor villagers to grow their food and gain self respect. Education for Tamil girls addresses the unjust structures of society. Support for orphan education challenges the inequalities of life. Food production and tree planting projects strive to sustain and renew the life of earth. Providing food for the starving is a loving response to human need. These projects are a Christian witness to the surrounding communities and lead to new believers. These projects transform lives.

At Easter, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which allows faithful Christians to trust that all will be well. This resurrection transformed the lives of those around- think of Peter- and transformed the world. Are we being challenged to transform something in our life? Or to be the means of transforming the lives of others?

Stay safe in the knowledge of God's Peace.

Yours Sincerely,
Marilyn Wright.



The Sisters of Mary in Tanzania working in their maize field.

The Secretary
Anglican Aid Abroad
PO Box 6134
Woolloongabba, Queensland, 4102
Australia

PLEASE NOTE OUR ADDRESS!

Telephone Secretary: 0402 349 130
Email: contact@anglicanaidabroad.com.au
Web Page: www.anglicanaidabroad.com.au
A.B.N.29626 317152

Plea to provide Christian health care in India

Accustomed as we are in Australia to being able to access free health care in hospitals provided by the Government, it is a severe reality check to receive requests like this one from Rev Bright of the Indian Christian Mission Centre. I quote him at length: "St. Patrick Mission Hospital is being built by Indian Christian Mission Centre Salem, India. The main aim for this hospital is to give best possible healthcare to everyone irrespective of their caste, creed, economical or religious status. Best healthcare even to the poorest of the poor is what this hospital sets to do at free of cost. There are 150 tribal villages in the foothills of Yercaud that have to travel 30 kilometres for a paid hospital service which many villagers cannot afford. So this hospital will be a blessing to all these 150 plus villages and others.....An opportunity to share God's love through advance medical care is a great strength of this mission hospital." Unfortunately, as the pictures show, building has ceased in part due to the decrease of overseas support in Covid19, but also due to the difficulties for some Christian enterprises in receiving funds in these changed circumstances. Rev Bright asks for funds to eventually complete the outfitting of the three floors of the hospital. The cost for the ground floor alone is \$20,000 of which you will see AAA has sent \$5,000.



Hope for Stateless Karen refugees

Almost 18 months ago, using funds from a bequest, AAA decided to assist a group of Stateless people living on the Thai border, without hope, without food and chance of a livelihood. In response to a plan submitted through Christ Church in Bangkok, AAA sent funds for stage one of a development to give hope and dignity to some of the people there. They began growing fruit and vegetables for food as well as Rosella plants to produce as tea for sale in Bangkok. In January, we received a report on the program to date and a page from the local newspaper the Border News with several photographs of thriving vegetable and fruit plots being carefully tended. During the uncertainties of Covid19 with intermittent schooling, uncertain food supplies and failing donations, this project has been doubly life giving to the Karen people. It has provided occupation, food and hope- in fact, is fulfilling the Ministry Mission goals of Christ Church Bangkok for this area, "to provide spiritual and practical support working towards a greater degree of self-reliance to the Karen community living in the Thai-Myanmar borders". In the midst of our plenty, it is humbling to know that our generosity can help in this way.



PRACTICAL MATTERS

Supporters meeting. The August supporters meeting is also the Annual General Meeting, and will be held at All Saints Anglican Church, Hamilton Rd, Chermshire on Saturday August 14th at noon. Everyone is welcome and a light lunch will be provided. Annual reports will be available and we look forward to a time of sharing and fellowship.

Fr Nixon. Our overseas partners and Australian supporters often ask about Fr Nixon's health. He is well cared for in an Anglican Aged Care facility in Brisbane. Until the enforced cessation of visiting because of Covid19, he was regularly taken to Church by Fr Noel and also attended services in the facility. Supporters who were well known to him over many years also visited. He enjoyed such visits, remembering the spirit of old times without details, and encouraging the work of AAA. I am sure that he would appreciate your prayers for the continuation of the work of AAA which was so dear to his heart for over forty years.

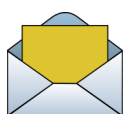
Stamps. For many years, some of you faithfully collected stamps for AAA. Although AAA no longer receives stamps, you can continue to collect them as ABM still needs stamps as part of their fundraising efforts. Stamps can be taken to St John's Anglican Church, Hendra, or to the Diocesan Office.

MONEY MATTERS

Country	Recipient	Amount	Project
Ghana	Order of the Holy Paraclete	\$5,000	Eye clinic
Jordan	The Holy Land Institute for the Deaf	\$4,000	Equipment to assist with online learning
South Africa	Community of Jesus Compassion	\$10,000	House to shelter vulnerable women and children
Thailand	Christ Church- Karen Border	\$12,500	Continuing self-help gardens and food for Karen
Pakistan	Jesus Christ Ministries	\$3,000	Orphanage costs for 6 months
Malawi	St Luke's Hospital	\$5,000	Cycle transport and education for HIV/AIDS, and TB.
Fiji	Community of the Sacred Name	\$2,500	Eduction fees and materials for needy children
Tonga	Community of the Sacred Name	\$2,500	Education assistance for children in poverty
Fiji	Congregation of St Paul's, Labasa	\$5,000	Relief after destruction from 2 recent cyclones
South Africa	Community of Holy Name Zululand	\$4,000	Support for orphan education, Isisa Project
Sri Lanka	Society of St Francis First Order	\$5,000	Salary for 2 teachers in reopening pre-school at St Thomas's Church.
Lesotho	Community of the Holy Name	\$2,000	Sister education. Community support.
Zimbabwe	Holy Spirit Monastery	\$4,000	Bore drilling for water supply.
Zimbabwe	Community of Blessed Lady Mary	\$2,000	Charitable works- care for vulnerable children at home.
Tanzania	Community of St Mary- 4 houses	\$5,000	Sister education, school books, agriculture, pre-school.

MONEY MATTERS cont.

India	Diocese of Madras- poor church	\$5,000	Food, clothes, medicine for parish poor and ill.
India	Board of Theological Education BSSC	\$2,100	Theological education. Books on Dalit life and religion.
Madagascar	Community of Servants of Jesus Christ	\$3,000	Orphan care and community support.
Uganda	Mothers Union, Rukungiri	\$3,000	Education of girls and women at risk.
Tanzania	Community of St Mary- 7 houses	\$5,000	Care of cows, herd boy education, chicken project, medicine, seeds and agricultural equipment.
Sri Lanka	Paynter Home	\$2,000	Orphan care and education.
South Sudan	Duk Diocese	\$4,000	Education of orphans.
Solomon Islands	Sisters of Melanesia	\$2,000	Equipment for community hall.
Liberia	Community of the Love of Jesus	\$10,000	Farming self-sufficiency project for 3 villages.
Jordan/Syria	Women in Need in Syria-WINS	\$4,500	Food and medicine for group of Syrian women refugees- 1 month supply.
India	Indian Christian Mission Centre	\$5,000	Fittings for ground floor of hospital.
Papua New Guin-	Newton Theological College	\$5,000	Nursing centre refit and medicines.
Fiji	Congregation of St Timothy Church in Nabunikadamu	\$5,000	Rebuilding after cyclone damage.
Sri Lanka	First Order of St Francis	\$8,000	Education of children of mostly Tamil tea workers.
Tanzania	Bang'wise Good News Ministries	\$5,000	School building project equipment.



LETTERS

As always, I am humbled by the resilience of our partners and their love and care for us in their hardship. Sr Martha of the CMM in **Tanzania** wrote that because of Covid, Easter service numbers were very small and the Sisters have not been able to earn their usual income from the sale of chickens, eggs and milk. They are trying to be self sufficient



at a farm outside of Dar es Salaam, but need help with seed and equipment. Mother Dorothy of CMM at Kilimani sent thanks for our gifts and pictures of their Daycare Centre.

Sr Fehoko from **Tonga** wrote with gratitude for AAA help with student fees and uniforms, but unfortunately, sent photographs of a water problem for the Sisters for which repair costs are over \$2,000.

Mother Alena of the Community of the Sacred Name in **Fiji** sent photographs of devastation across the Islands resulting from two cyclones in recent months.



LETTERS cont.

AAA has responded and Rev Pita Unavalu in **Fiji** sent thanks and details of the more than 60 children the Church was able to help with education materials using AAA funds.



Mother Phindile wrote: "The Community of the Holy Name extends gratitude to the Missionaries of St Andrew Anglican Aid Abroad for making the donation of R 45 190.00 towards the education of destitute children of **Isisa Project**. We really thank God for your compassion and we give glory to Him." It is satisfying to know that AAA is once again able to support this project, written of so fondly by Fr Nixon in his final newsletter.

Brothers and Sisters of the Holy Spirit Monastery in **Zimbabwe** thanked AAA for the provision of life-giving water from a new borehole.



Rose Nakidde wrote thanking AAA for enabling some children in **Uganda** to return to school with equipment and clothes. Unfortunately, schooling has since then been interrupted by Covid19.



Paul Rathnam of NYSS provided this picture (below) of girls who received books, food and clothes at the orphanage in **India**. Poor children at the Daniel Matriculation School in **Chennai** were able to continue their education thanks to funds for fees and books supplied by AAA.



Jesus Christ Ministries in **Pakistan** sent grateful appreciation for the funds for orphan care and pictures of children assisted.



All of our partners write with real love and gratitude with assurances that the funds are used in extending God's kingdom on earth through loving service. *Matthew 25:40*



PRAYER REQUESTS

With deep gratitude for the wonderful blessings we are receiving here in Australia, please pray for:

- The Justice and compassion of Jesus in the hearts of leaders of the developed world as they share the Covid vaccines with developing nations.
- The Indian Christian Mission Centre to receive the funds needed for their St Patrick's hospital and for wisdom in the allocation of such funds. For health and healing for the leaders and parishioners.
- The good health of our partners in Africa, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and India as they daily risk infection through their work. Pray for healing for those infected and that hospitals will have the medicines needed to treat the poor and sick. Remember especially our neighbours in India where the sick are sheltering in Churches to pray as they have no access to hospitals.
- The situation of violence, drought and famine in South Sudan remembering that hunger results from failed crops and exacerbates violence. Especially remember the work of Bp Garang in trying to build a new school and Bp Daniel educating students in Uganda.

- An easing of the covid infection numbers and of restrictions in our partners' communities, so that people will be able to return to farming and other work to support their families and avoid starvation.
- The wisdom of our partners as they set priorities, seek funds and spend the funds provided.
- Those who serve AAA both here and overseas- may they have good health, wisdom in decision making and success in financial matters.

Give thanks and Praise every day:

- For our health and safety in Australia and for systems that assist the needy to also mostly remain healthy.
- For the incredible generosity of friends and supporters that has enabled AAA to respond to so many requests for aid in the past months. Give special thanks for generous bequests.
- For the wisdom and foresight of Fr Nixon when he set up AAA so many years ago.
- For the courage, wisdom and godliness of our Brothers and Sisters overseas who daily minister in conditions that we can not imagine.

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.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ANGLICAN AID ABROAD DEDUCTS NO ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS FROM OVERSEAS GIFTS