



Zambia

Diocese of Northern Zambia - including
St John's Seminary, Kitwe



CMSI Global Update

April 2019

Dear Friends,

Scotts Home Assignment

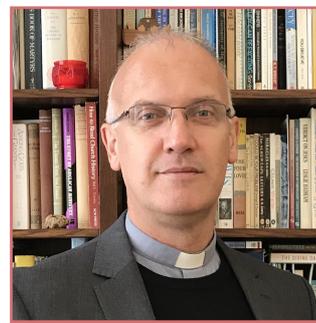
We are grateful for all the support shown to Keith and Lyn Scott during their Home Assignment, during which they visited 11 link parishes from Cork, Dublin, Belfast and Bangor. This culminated in January with a very moving service of re-commissioning at St George's, Belfast, led by Rev. William Odling-Smee (formerly a USPG Mission Partner in India), William Jeffery (former placement student in St John's Seminary) and CMSI Chairperson Rev Adrian Dorrian. At the reception after the service Keith shared his vision for developing theological education at the Seminary, issuing a plea for supporters to take to heart how vital this is for the continuing health and growth of the church in Zambia.



Zambia Team and STEP

One very positive outcome from their time has been the formation of a small team who are preparing to visit Kitwe in July. The group consists of Rev Hazel Minion (Douglas parish), Noreen Hurst & Rev Aaron McAllister (Antrim Parish) and Bishop Trevor Williams (St Anne's Cathedral). This visit will help strengthen relationships between Zambia link parishes/

supporters and the church in Kitwe. It will also provide opportunities for a Mothers' Union connection (as Noreen Hurst is the MU worldwide rep for Connor Diocese), along with input into the College through lectures and seminars.



Another exciting outcome (resulting from Keith's visit to the Church of Ireland Theological Institute) has been a planned Short Term Experience Placement (STEP) for CITI Director Rev Canon

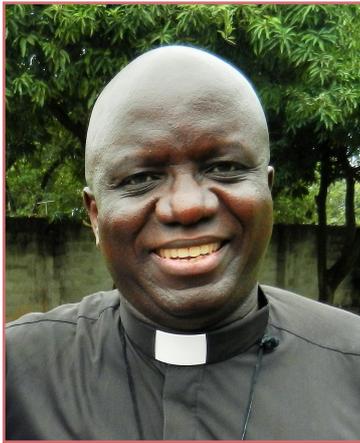
Maurice Elliott, which will take place in early May. With funding kindly granted by the St Augustine's Foundation, Maurice will be delivering theological seminars to the ordinands at the Seminary, meeting with staff and students for capacity building in theological education and visiting Archbishop Albert Chama to strengthen understanding and partnership. This builds on previous two-way links between CITI and the Seminary with students from Ireland visiting Zambia on placement, and Geoffrey Banda visiting CITI in 2017.

Cyclone Idai

On 14 March south-eastern Africa was struck by a catastrophic cyclone and consequent flooding devastating huge areas of 3 countries. Two of these - Malawi and Zimbabwe - belong to the Province of Central Africa, and as such fall under the care of Archbishop Chama, who emailed us as follows:

Greetings

“Thank you for the message of solidarity with us in the Province of Central Africa. The situation is very bad especially in Manicaland, Southern Malawi and in the eastern part of Zambia. We need to stand together with those have lost the beloved ones. Certainly the affected people need emergency help like temporary shelter, food and medical kits. They will need assistance for some time too before they can come to terms with the situation.



Any help will be highly appreciated for our brothers and sisters.

Thank you once more for your prayers and solidarity.”

Archbishop Albert Chama

On the very day the cyclone hit, an environmental gathering called the “One Planet Summit” was being opened in Nairobi, Kenya by President Kenyatta. Participants included President Macron of France, UN Secretary-General, António Guterres and many other leading environmentalists. The summit noted that “while Africa is responsible for only 4% of global greenhouse-gas emissions, 65% of the African population is considered to be directly impacted by climate change.”

While praying for our partners suffering from this cyclone, we all need to make some serious changes to our lifestyles & government policies in order to prevent further disastrous weather events.

With best wishes for Easter,

Roger

Roger Thompson (Partnership Coordinator)
rogerthompson@cmsireland.org

Please pray for Archbishop Albert and his team as they support the local churches in the affected areas to bring comfort and assistance to those in need. If you wish to donate to help fund shelters, food aid and medical kits please send cheques, marked “Cyclone Appeal”, made out to CMS Ireland or donate online via our webpage at www.cmsireland.org.

Dublin

Church of Ireland House, Church Avenue,
Rathmines, Dublin D06 CF67

T: 01 4970931;

E: dublinoffice@cmsireland.org

Belfast

33 Dargan Road, Belfast, BT3 9JU

T: 028 90775020; 048 90775020 (from Rol)

E: belfastoffice@cmsireland.org



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