



Egypt

Diocese of Egypt

November 2019



CMSI Global Update

Dear Egypt links & supporters...

In the last update we were looking forward to the visit of Bishop Samy Fawzy and his wife Madeline in June. We gave thanks to God when their visa's arrived and the visit was confirmed. They visited both Hillsborough and Drumbeg Parishes, and folks from other link parishes were able to join in at a well-attended focus event during their visit. Bishop Samy gave a clear and sobering outline of the challenges faced by the church in North Africa. We were encouraged to pray for the Diocese of Egypt's outreach into new regions and countries where there is presently no Anglican church.

One of the outstanding events during Bishop Samy and Madeline's visit was a women's programme where Madeline was the speaker. She gave us an insight into the challenges of raising children of faith in an environment where they are a minority. She spoke of the importance of the summer camps run for children by the Diocese, in Alexandria, and thanked link parishes for their support of these.



Madeline with Margaret McVeigh, Drumbeg Parish

Later in the summer the graduation of Nuba Mountain Bible Institute students took place in Cairo as part of the larger Alexandria School of Theology graduation. CMSI was represented at the graduation by Nigel and Mabel Quinn from Drumbeg Parish. The students expressed their thanks for the



Nuba Mountain Bible Institute Cairo graduation

partnership with churches in Ireland which enables them to study at the Bible Institute. Many of these students return to their home regions to serve in extremely challenging circumstances once their studies are complete.

We recently heard news of one of the students supported through Hillsborough Parish link. After he graduated he returned to the war-torn Nuba Mountain area of Sudan. He will be responsible for all the youth work in the Diocese which includes oversight of church schools. The skills and theological understanding gained while he was at NBIC will nurture the next generation of believers in this area, please pray for him and all those who graduated this year. Pray especially for their safety as they minister in places of considerable risk and for spiritual encouragement as they leave the supportive environment of the Bible Institute.

It was a wonderful addition to the summer when we to heard from Bishop Mouneer that he and Nancy would be visiting Northern Ireland for a short period of much needed rest. We enjoyed a great time of fellowship with them both, and although it was not a work visit, new connections were made and new plans inspired.

One such plan is to develop an informal chapter of the Egypt Diocesan Association (EDA) in Ireland in association with CMSI.



The EDA are a group based in England who meet together to pray for the work of the Diocese of Egypt. They also channel donated funds to the diocese and facilitate visits for their members. CMSI has been represented at the annual EDA meeting in London on a couple of occasions in recent years. The hope is that in the coming years we will be able to host the EDA speaker, who travels from the Diocese of Egypt, for an event in Ireland, bringing together all CMSI's Egypt links and supporters plus others who are interested in praying for Egypt. The first such event is in planning for **Friday 26th June 2020**, we look forward to bringing you more details closer to the time.

At least one partner visit to Cairo is in planning for 2020, with others in the pipeline and there is hope that we will be thinking of a team visit to Egypt in 2021. We also draw your attention to the advertisement on the Diocese of Egypt website:

“The Diocese is currently seeking male Anglican Ministers for the English-speaking congregations of the Churches (All Saints’ Cathedral, Cairo, St. George’s, Tunis, Holy Trinity, Algiers, St. Matthews Addis) serving multi-cultural and multi-denominational congregations.

These are significant and challenging roles and will involve working closely with the Bishops and others in this dynamic diocese. The new Ministers will have a mission vision, a heart for evangelism, be good teachers, gifted pastors and team builders with a strong cultural sensitivity.”

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There are many options to be part of the CMSI partnership with the Diocese of Egypt: from praying, visiting, or offering longer term service.

I hope that this update will encourage and inspire you to continue to be active in your link with Bishop Mouneer and his Diocese.

With best wishes for the coming Advent Season,
Linda

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