

Latest news

Fund-raising bears immediate fruit

The appeal at the last Masvingo Day in the Cathedral resulted in one-off gifts as well as commitments of £400 each month. Thanks to your generosity, we have been able to fulfil our promises for 2014. Bishop Christopher has also supported work in Masvingo from his Lent Call funds. All this is of real value and importance to the Masvingo Diocese, and below we are delighted to report on the rapid progress of some important projects made possible by your donations. If you have not already been part of this fund-raising, please consider whether you would be able to contribute in future.

Shearly Cripps Memorial and Celebration



The Arthur Shearly Cripps memorial commemorates a man who lived a very simple life in the area for fifty years, devoting himself to the people. It now has much improved facilities, notably a new zinc-roofed dining area, and Southwark Cathedral has funded a water project consisting of a 55 metre borehole with 5,000 litre storage tank, pump and diesel generator. These developments were celebrated at the memorial service last August, with a national choir competition and Eucharist. Yet more needs to be done to improve sanitation and security there, and it is hoped to build guest-houses, too. This is increasingly becoming recognized as an important national monument, and the Chivhu Archdeaconry has recently been renamed Arthur Shearly Cripps.

St Bernard Mission, Chimvuri

An all-important borehole has been drilled, and drawings produced for a clinic and nurses' housing at the Mission, which already has a primary and secondary school. Building materials have arrived for work to start on an ambitious plan to provide a treatment centre essential to cover such a vast area.



Prayer for Zimbabwe:

God bless Zimbabwe, protect her children, transform her leaders, heal her communities and grant her peace. Amen

Website : <http://www.masvingo.anglican.org>

Diocesan Developments: church growth and staff training



Following many years of fund-raising and planning, and replacing a temporary structure of poles thatched with grass, The Church of St Gabriel, Nyamhere, now has a beautiful new building (*above left*) as a base from which to support and enlarge its congregation. Bishop Godfrey dedicated the building and led a celebration Eucharist (*centre*).

An encouraging number of ordinands recently graduated and received their diplomas. To support clergy, we have been able to send them a parcel of 'Light for our Path' lectionaries.

Recent Sunday School training has enabled those involved with young people to develop their knowledge and skill, and resources have been enhanced by materials useful in their regular work (*above right*).

The continuing fight against poverty

Using funds from their membership subscriptions, and after market research to establish the viability of their schemes, the Mothers' Union at several churches in Zvishavane are going ahead with income-generating projects in poultry broiler production, market gardening, peanut butter making and sewing. They have decided to use their churches as headquarters for their projects, in the hope of avoiding possible future conflicts over property ownership, and to improve security. The Transfiguration Skills Centre at Chidzikwe is also embarking on a market gardening scheme to which they are adding poultry and pig production.

The developments described above all demonstrate the determination of many Zimbabweans to improve their lives. So too does the Artpeace sculpture initiative - check out the stunning work on sale in the Cathedral shop. Every penny of things sold goes direct to the artist. Many of the sculptors live very much hand-to-mouth as they seek to support their extended family and friends. Each successful story is tempered by the sadness of another member of the group in difficulty.

Holidays and Politics

You may have noticed the broadsheet papers extolling the virtues of Zimbabwe as a holiday destination. While it's true that tourists might assist the economy of this beautiful country, we are aware that all is not as lovely as it seems. The political situation continues to be precarious, with a battle between the vice president and Mugabe's wife whom it would appear is being groomed as his successor.

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