



St Joseph's African Aid

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES | CHANGING LIVES



SJAA has funded school and examination fees for refugee children in Ouzal, North Cameroon

Newsletter 2022

www.sjaa.org.uk

Charity No. 1087768

Registered Office: Kenmore Cottage, The Friary, Windsor SL4 2NP

2021 Project highlights

Despite another difficult year due to Covid there were still a number of projects commissioned and completed in 2021. These are a selection of them ...

Bursaries in Ouzal, North Cameroon

The cover page shows a few of the children from the poorest refugee families which have been impacted by the terrorist activities of Boko Haram. Near our Josephite parish at Ouzal many atrocities have occurred including murder, abduction and the theft of crops and livestock. Many of these families cannot now afford to send their children to school. SJAA has responded to the plight of these families and children by funding their school and exam fees.



Fr Paulin Mbengele CJ, parish priest of Ouzal, can be seen in both these pictures with refugee children.

Prime de Remerciement & Frais de Fonctionnement (DR Congo)

A substantial amount of money is generously donated every year by staff and Governors at St George's Weybridge to supplement the meagre wages of the teachers of the Josephite schools in the Kasai region of DR Congo (Prime de Remerciement). The payments to the teachers, who receive no wages during holidays, provide a lifeline to them and their families. Additional funds are sent to eight schools for on-going expenses such as stationery (Frais de Fonctionnement). This funding is much appreciated by the schools and staff.

College Constant Guillaume, Kinshasa (DR Congo)

The purchase of thirty sewing machines for the newly-founded sewing section at Collège Constant Guillaume in Kinshasa enables valuable skills to be taught to girls. Some of these girls will go on to establish small businesses sewing and selling their creations.



Solar Energy, Ilebo (DR Congo)



Solar panels and batteries and their associated wiring, funded by SJAA some years ago, have been damaged by weather and thefts. SJAA has funded the necessary replacements which, among other things, permit the school's computers to be fully used.

Two motorcycles, North Cameroon



It is practically impossible for a car to climb the rocky mountain paths in the hilly areas of Douvanger and Dourum in order to reach families in their rural communities. "There is no evangelization without development" - "Evangelii Nuntiandi", December 8th 1975, Pope Paul VI.

The social initiatives are not restricted to Catholics or even Christians. Rural animation, literacy, youth supervision, visiting the sick etc. are desperately important in this neglected and impoverished area of Africa. Fr Roger Beya CJ (pictured on the red motorbike) and other Josephites are our agents on the ground in promoting SJAA's stated goals i.e. the relief of poverty, sickness and distress and the advancement of education.

The endless search for water, North Cameroon



When a well goes rotten there is no other alternative than to go looking for water which sometimes involves walking for many miles. To find and build a new well involves water divining, drilling a borehole and when a suitable supply of water is found creating a standpipe and pump, which is then walled for security. A committee of local women supervise each new well. At the end of 2021 SJAA approved a request to build a new water well at Maoudak in the North Cameroon. This was approved and is in the process of being built. A second request for Ngomessing was received soon after and is being funded by St George's Weybridge through two campaigns entitled 'The Colour Run' and 'A Music Marathon'.

This picture shows women in North Cameroon, who will have walked many miles, digging for water in a "mayo", or dried-up river bed. Having found water they will have to walk back carrying a heavy load. This is often done twice a day and is a situation which our well digging programme hopes to alleviate.



Fr Adrian Cadwallader CJ



Over some sixty years Fr Adrian Cadwallader CJ worked for the benefit of the people of the Congo and his contributions and support are greatly appreciated. Among other initiatives he collected stamps to be sold for the benefit of the Congo. One of Fr Adrian's most substantial contributions was to fund the new girls' dormitory in Domiongo, which should be completed later in 2022. He is well known and highly thought of by all with whom he came into contact. A tribute to him is on the SJAA Website [St Joseph's African Aid \(sjaa.org.uk\)](https://www.sjaa.org.uk).

Fr Adrian died in Sunbury Nursing Home after a long illness on August 3rd 2021. He will be sorely missed. May he rest in peace.

Please help us if you can ...

Your donations are the foundation of our work! **Every donation**, no matter how small, is valuable. Money goes a long way in Africa. Donations can be sent by post to SJAA at SJAA, Acorn Cottage, 74 Byfleet Road, New Haw, Addlestone, Surrey KT15 3LB. Donations can also be made online on the SJAA Website through **Paypal**.

SJAA is looking for two Trustees! If you know of anyone that has Project Management experience and preferably is a French speaker or has experience working with charities, please contact Denzil Mascarenhas (denzilm10@gmail.com).