

c/o B.P. 5 Gisenyi, Rwanda  
Email: angkindu@yahoo.fr

# Happy Christmas

Thank you for your prayers and support of Kindu Diocese during 2015



Clergy at the 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Inauguration of the Diocese

## From Bishop Masimango

### State of the Nation:

The next presidential election is due in 2016. However there has been much debate between the ruling party and opposition called Wamoja (Unity) about whether this will actually occur.

Local, state and national leaders all need to be elected. One proposal from the government is to begin with local government elections and continue to state and then

presidential. This would be a long process and the opposition party has indicated their concern that this would be used to prolong the mandate of the current president Kabila.

The president has begun a dialogue with civil society and the two main parties to find a solution.

Please pray for this dialogue, that all participants will be willing to listen to each other and that a plan will be

formulated for the election.

### Anglican Province of Congo:

A retreat for all the Congolese Bishops was held in August. Retired Tanzanian Archbishop Donald Mtetemela attended and his wisdom was much appreciated. SOMA UK also sent a team who provided prayer support. The retreat was very helpful and an important time to strengthen fellowship between the Bishops.



Bishop Masimango teaching Bible Story Telling Method at the 2015 Pastor's Conference.

## Prayer

Please pray:

For 3 students studying at Bunda Bible College in Tanzania and now spending time with family during the Christmas break

For Berea Bible School students starting a 3 month parish placement.

For pastors in missionary archdeaconries as they preach the good news of Christ at Christmas

For Bishop Masimango as he leads the Diocese

State of DRC

For the provision of resources where they are most needed.

## Kindu Today– Malcolm and Elizabeth Richards

It was 2 years since our last visit to Kindu and 10 years since we first arrived in Kindu to work in the Diocese after the war.

Some things were still the same. It was dry season so the Congo river level was rapidly falling. Dug out motorised canoes were still the main form of transport on the Congo River connecting East and West Kindu. Outside the Bishop's house there was a line of people each

morning wanting to draw water from a natural spring in their garden. In the dry season this reduces to a trickle but early in the morning there is enough in the pool to draw buckets of water.

A major change was the sealed roads from the airport all the way into and around the centre of town. This has significantly reduced the dust and mud but increased the volume of traffic. Fewer people

now use bicycle taxis- there seem to be plenty of motor bikes to go round.



Newly paved roads in Kindu



*Presenting the story of Peter and Cornelius at the pastors conference*

## Pastors' Seminar

The annual seminar for pastors and their wives was held in August 2015 and coincided with a visit from Malcolm and Elizabeth Richards from CMS Australia. It was as usual a great week of teaching and fellowship. Bishop Masimango introduced "Evangelism by Story Telling". He modeled this method in his talks keeping everyone's attention and

then sent all participants off in groups to prepare and produce the story of Peter and Cornelius. He also taught on Team Building.

Georges Bisoga took sessions on Community Mobilisation using "Together We Can" teaching with the aim of encouraging pastors to take control of their own lives.

Malcolm and Elizabeth prepared small group Bible Studies from Romans, taught on the main themes from Romans, and taught on marriage and conflict management.



*Damage to the Bible School septic system repaired after a stray cow cracked the cement and fell in*

## Berea Bible School

The 2015-2016 academic year began on the 7<sup>th</sup> September and this year caters for 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year students plus a course for wives of 3<sup>rd</sup> years. The college community continues to grow and this year should reach 37 with students, wives and young children.

A review of the Bible School course was held in August. It found that the course is meeting the goal

to produce clergy who are well trained with a good understanding of the Bible and of ministry.

We completed the construction of students' house number five (5) earlier this year and have continued to experiment with projects towards self sufficiency.

It has also been encouraging to making the course available to



*Georges Bisoga setting off to teach in villages*

students from other dioceses. One from Katanga Diocese graduated from Berea and was ordained Deacon in July.



*Berea Bible school pineapple plantation has been a successful project to increase self sufficiency*



*Berea Students and families June 2015*

## Diocesan Schools

Kindu Diocese currently manages 120 primary and secondary schools throughout the Maniema region.

All schools have been approved by the Government, but only half currently receive Government money for teachers salaries. The remaining schools rely on school fees to pay the teachers although in many villages this is very difficult.

Bishop Masimango describes a trip to an isolated part of Maniema: "Making a pastoral visit in the deep Equatorial forest in April 2015, I discovered many forgotten children who never have the opportunity to go to school. They live in remote areas where

qualified teachers are not found. So I discussed with local authorities and church leaders how the Anglican Church can take a lead so that together we can build a school with an Anglican teacher. The idea was welcomed, parents are ready to work on bricks and the Diocese of Kindu could help in building three classrooms. Could you join the Diocese to offer these children an opportunity to study? They need someone to sponsor them. Most of their parents are Anglican farmers; they grow rice and cassava to feed their family. Because of inaccessibility there is no market for them to sell produce and get money to send their children for studies."