

CHURCH OF THE PROVINCE OF CENTRAL AFRICA  
ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF MASVINGO

**MARCH 2022 DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER**

*What joy for those whose strength comes from the Lord, who have set their minds on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. When they walk through the Valley of Weeping, it will become a place of refreshing springs. The autumn rains will clothe it with blessings [Psalms 84:5-6].*

Bishop Godfrey (with the support of Mrs. Albertina Tawonezvi) has been a rare icon during his Episcopal ministry in the Anglican Diocese of Masvingo. He was development-oriented and had a heart for the less-served communities and also a desire to see the presence of the Church in the communities served by the Church transform to havens of joy and prosperity. Thus as the Psalmist says in Psalms 84:6, Bishop Godfrey has 'walked through the valley of weeping' and many communities in the Diocese of Masvingo have been transformed into 'a place of refreshing springs'. In this March Newsletter, there is the evidence of some of the work The Lord Bishop and his Team were able to do in March 2022.

**1. MUTOREDZANWA COHORT CF TRAINING**

The Savings Group Ministry in the Diocese of Masvingo expanded to Mutoredzanwa Archdeaconry, making it the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Archdeaconry to be impacted by the Savings Group Ministry. On the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2022, a three days training of Church Facilitators or Savings Group Ministry volunteers was conducted. The instructional and technical support is given by the Diocesan Partner in the Savings Group Ministry (**Hope International**). The training was a success.





**CHURCH FACILITATORS DOING PRACTICE FACILITATION DURING TRAINING SESSIONS**

## **2. OFFICIAL OPENING OF MUFUDZIWAKANAKA RECTORY**

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2022, the Lord Bishop officially opened the Rectory for Mufudziwakanaka Church, in Mutoredzanwa Archdeaconry. Mufudziwakanaka (meaning Good Shepherd) Church is the furthest Church in the North-Eastern direction of the Diocese. There was so much jubilation as congregants celebrated during and after Mass. The Rectory was built with the support of the Lord Bishop and the Diocesan Office.





**CONGREGANTS AT MUFUDZIWAKANAKA AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THEIR RECTORY**

### **3. ST. GEORGE'S, MUNYARADZI & ST. AUGUSTINE CHAPWANYA TEAM MEMBER DAY CELEBRATIONS.**

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March, Group members under St. George's Church, Munyaradzi (*The Comforter*) Church and St. Augustine Chapwanya Church gathered at St. George's Church to celebrate their membership in the Savings Groups, through praise, songs, dances, dramas and poems. Testimonies of the impact of the Savings Group Ministry in the lives of many families and individuals were also shared. Also present on this occasion were 5 members from Hope Zimbabwe and a videographer from Diocese of Harare, as well as 2 (two) Field Coordinators, 4(four) Clergymen and a Ministry Coordinator. Representatives from local government authority and Ministry of Health and Child Care also witnessed the event.



**SOME OF THE MEMBERS WHO WERE PRESENT AT THE MEMBER DAY AT ST. GEORGE'S**



**A BOY WHO TESTIFIED HOW HE BOUGHT A GOAT AFTER SAVING MONEY FOR 6 MONTHS**

#### 4. LADY DAY CELEBRATIONS

The Mothers' Union in the Diocese on 19<sup>th</sup> March celebrated the Lady Day or The Annunciation, which is the day when the Church commemorates the visit of the Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, during which he informed her that she would be the mother of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The celebrations were done a week prior the actual day because of the by-elections which will be held throughout the country on 26<sup>th</sup> March. The celebrations were done at done as either Archdeaconry level (*as in the case of Shurugwi*) or as Districts merged to celebrate the day together (*as in the case of the remainder of the Churches in the Diocese*). The celebrations which were done after a lengthy period of restrictions on gatherings due to COVID-related lockdowns were characterized by a lot of joy, music and dance, fruitful teachings, outreach and alms giving.



LADY DAY CELEBRATIONS AT ST. JOHN'S CHIFAMBA BUHERA



**MOTHERS' UNION MEMBERS APPRECIATING A PRIEST'S WIFE (*IN WHITE JERSEY*) AT LADY CELEBRATIONS HELD AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS IN MASVINGO.**

## **5. COMMISSIONING OF THE WELL (BOREHOLE) AT CHRIST THE KING DARAMOMBE MISSION FARM**

On Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March, the Lord Bishop commissioned a well at Daramombe Mission Farm in the presence of over a thousand congregants, who included almost 800 High School students. The well and all other related accessories were funded with the support from St. Like's Sister Bay Parish (USA). We are very grateful for this gesture of kindness which will enable us launch horticultural activities on a wider scale.



**DRUM MAJORETTES LEADING THE PROCESSION.**







COMMISSIONING OF THE WELL AT CHRIST THE KING DARAMOMBE FARM BY BISHOP GODFREY

## **6. OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE CARETAKER'S HOUSE AND COMMISSIONING OF THE FIELDS**

The Lord Bishop after commissioning the Well Project, went on to officially open the Caretaker's House and Storeroom and commissioned the fields where we currently have been doing dry land farming. The effects of climate change are being very visible through the drought which has started in the country and is disrupting even meaningful teaching and learning in our Diocesan Schools and other schools as well. However, our vision is to acquire a pump to assist with flood irrigation, since we have a big and productive river which is 150 metres away from the fields and it is within our farm. The flood irrigation will augment the drip irrigation from the water from the well, so that we don't cease crop husbandry activities on the farmland.



**OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE CARETAKER'S HOUSE AT CHRIST THE KING DARAMOMBE MISSION FARM BY BISHOP GODFREY**



**COMMISSIONING OF THE FIELDS BY THE LORD BISHOP**



**CONGREGANTS WITNESSING THE COMMISSIONING OF THE FIELDS BY THE LORD BISHOP**

## 7. COMMISSIONING OF THE DAIRY PROJECT

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of March, the Lord Bishop also commissioned the Dairy project which was funded by our Partner Diocese of Fond du Lac. Four (4) milking cows and 2 uni-calf heifers were bought from a reputable Dairy Farmer in Beatrice. All of the 6 cows were serviced and one (1) of them had a calf four days ago.

Fencing of the feeding area and paddocking area was done as well and also relevant meal (feeds) for the cows was bought and stocked. Present during the commissioning was the Chief or traditional leader of the area, Ward Councillor, representatives from Ministry of Health and Child Care, Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education, congregants and High School students.

The Anglican Diocese of Masvingo is very grateful to Bishop Matthew Gunter and the various congregants in the Diocese of Fond du Lac in assisting us in this big way, to enable us generate income constantly.

**BELOW ARE VARIOUS PHOTOS ON CHRIST THE KING DARAMOMBE MISSION FARM DAIRY PROJECT**











**CHRIST THE KING DARAMOMBE MISSION FRAM DAIRY PROJECT COMMISSIONING PLAQUE**



**THE LORD BISHOP & WIFE POSE FOR A PHOTO WITH DRUM MARJORETTES AFTER THE COMMISSIONING**