



ad·vent - the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event



What does Advent mean to you? Does it mean carols and lessons, candles, familiar worship? Does it mean serving food for the homeless at a soup kitchen? Does it mean shopping for presents for loved ones and not so loved ones? Does it mean writing cheques for donations to get the tax receipt for the current year? Does it mean thinking of the homeless person on the street, the unemployed man worrying about the rent at the end of the month, the women raped in an African conflict, the community of deaf children in Cairo receiving education, the brothers and sisters in Cuba who this month will experience baptism and new life, the Karen young people in Thailand receiving education? Does it mean the beginning of the Christian year and a season of penance and reflection before the celebration of Christmas? Does it mean thinking of THE gift from God given to us without merit, no condition, just accepting?

The question is: Why only at Advent time, why not these reflections all year?

Will you pray for our brothers and sisters in Cuba, who often do not have the basics? We are getting wonderful reports from the Cuban pastors. One friend writes: *"This year complete families have found peace in Jesus and have become part of our church"*



The ARDFC car is currently getting some body work and a new paid job. The car has generated a net profit in the last year of US \$ 3,043 being hired for transportation. This is one of the elements to make the Cuban diocese self-sufficient. US \$ 3,000 represents the annual stipend for 2 pastors! This is truly us providing the tools and the people using them to multiply the gift. We thank God for this project and those of you who have made this possible. Thanks be to God!

Restoring health, hope and dignity in Jesus' name



The Anglican Relief and Development Fund Canada

**Thank you
for praying:
building permit
received – building
is progressing
rapidly**

Update on the Cameroon clinic project for affordable healthcare

We have generated all the funds committed and these have been wired to the diocese. We have shared with you that there is a constraint on getting some of the permits which has caused a delay in completing the project. Bishop Dibo Elango writes: "Dear Claus, Greetings from Douala-Cameroon. I acknowledge receipt of your email. Give till the end of the month. We are almost at the end of documentation. On the other hand, things concerning the Anglophone crisis, are affecting many things now. I assure you, everything will be fine. We have finished the pillars of the ground floor. As soon as the documents are out, we will be decking the first floor. Best and warmest regards" Bishop DIBO ELANGO.

Please continue to pray for Cameroon, pray for peace in those areas where there is civil strife, pray for Bishop Dibo and his people, pray for the final documents to be signed by the authorities.

A vocational School to equip vulnerable youth in Giza Egypt.

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. Hosea 11:1



Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son." Matthew 2:13-15

Church in Cairo built on the place where according to tradition, the Holy Family rested (lived). Isaiah 19:19 *In that day there will be an altar to the Lord in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar to the Lord at its border.* How appropriate, Giza where the vocational school is being expanded is right in the centre of Egypt. The Anglican Relief Development Fund of Canada, in partnership with the Anglican Diocese of Egypt, will help to support the continued development of a Vocational Training Center in Giza, Egypt. The Vocational Training Center will enroll 144 students, both male and female, between the ages of 16 and 30. The Center will teach young people valuable technical skills that will help to make them more employable in their communities. Students will be able to learn a new trade or discover how to operate a small business on their own. These students all have some level of technical training/ability, but do not yet have enough skill to secure gainful employment. The Vocational Training Center will increase enrollment and funding to meet the needs of these students. In 2015 Bp. Charlie Masters and Claus Lenk visited the school and were impressed with the enthusiastic group of young people learning new skills.

The commitment on this project is C \$ 111, 000. So far we have received \$ 11,500. We are truly grateful for the generosity of so many. **We ask for your prayers and financial support for this important outreach.**

Will you pray? Will you consider supporting this at this Advent season?

On behalf of the ARDFC board best wishes for a joyous Christmas.

Claus Lenk,
National Director

- See a video of Bishop Mouneer of Egypt expressing his support and gratitude
- See more information on our website: <http://ardfc.ca/projects/>
- Donate on-line here: <http://ardfc.ca/donate/>

Restoring health, hope and dignity in Jesus' name