



# Croydon Zimbabwe Link 2022



*a partnership between the Croydon Episcopal Area and the Anglican Diocese of Central Zimbabwe.*

## *Prayer & Support*

The Diocese of Southwark is linked with four Dioceses in Zimbabwe. Our Link in the Croydon Episcopal Area is with the diocese of Central Zimbabwe. We try to keep regularly in touch with our friends and colleagues in Central Zimbabwe Diocese sharing news and praying for one another. As we seek to find new ways to be church here in the Diocese of Southwark and in this country it is important that we



Ignatios, Bishop of central Zimbabwe

do not lose sight of those who are our brothers and sisters in Christ in Zimbabwe, and other parts of the world, and continue to support them whenever we can.

The Croydon Episcopal Area sends the money raised in the bishop's Lent Call and other donations to help the Diocese of Central Zimbabwe as support for the Diocese's budget. This means that the Diocese of Central Zimbabwe can choose its priorities and use the money in the way which is most needed in the Diocese.

Bishop

## **The Country:**

Zimbabwe is beginning to feel the impact of the world economic situation with, increased inflation. The war in Ukraine has led to inflation of the the US dollar and the consequence of an economy based on the dollar is rising prices that affect the poorest in the country.

Zimbabwe is approaching a general election in 2023. Already they are beginning to see many political rallies taking place. Unfortunately these are frequently associated with violence even at this stage, over a year away from the election, the situation is very bad especially in the capital of Harare.

- Pray that God will raise up good leaders who will promote the common good and uphold human rights and democracy that will enable economic growth.

## **The People:**

Having begun to think that Covid was all over, when the temperature dropped at the beginning of the Zimbabwean Winter the number of cases began to grow once more, reaching more than one hundred cases each day. However, this seems to be stabilising now.

Churches have reopened and services resumed following the lockdown but attendances are lower than before the pandemic began.

- Pray that the fear of Covid will lessen and that congregations will return for worship.

## **Projects in the diocese of Central Zimbabwe: Latest news**

**The Solar project** is now up and running providing power for St Patrick's Mission. The hospital is being extended with the addition of a new ward. The brickwork has been done and is awaiting inspection, so that the roof can be added. Sister Shumba, the Sister in charge at St Patricks has retired and the diocese is seeking to recruit a replacement.

**Water Project:** Funds from the Croydon link have been used to drill a number of boreholes in Kwekwe. In particular two have enabled irrigation to establish good horticultural projects.

**St Cyprian Church, Zhombe:** A church which is in a remote area has been enabled to buy chairs for the whole church which is a wonderful achievement and a positive development for their worship.

- Pray for the continuing development of the diocesan projects and for the churches and their communities.
- Pray for Bishop Ignatios of the Diocese of Central Zimbabwe and all Christian leaders in the country.
- Pray for the work of the link and the ongoing relationship of the link, sharing in faith and friendship, working together for a better future.

## **For your Diary:**

Join us for a quiz night at Christ Church Purley on Saturday 8th October 2022 and an opportunity to find out more about the link. Further details will follow after 1st September about how to reserve a place.

Ven Moira Astin, Archdeacon of Reigate: Chair Croydon Zimbabwe link Committee. July 2022.

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