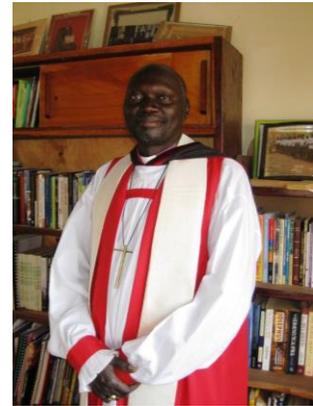


June 27, 2017

We are a localized manifestation of Christ's universal church. In our fellowship and celebration of the Word and Sacraments, the full presence of Christ is manifest. What we also have to remember is our invisible connection to churches and believers throughout time and space. As Hebrews 12:1 reminds us, "We are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses."

In light of that truth, I am writing to bring your attention to a few things that call for our prayers and participation.

1. **This Sunday, July 2nd**, The Right Reverend Bismarck Monday Avokaya, Bishop of the Diocese of Mundri, Episcopal Church of South Sudan, and his wife, will be visiting our Church to preach and celebrate the Holy Eucharist. Our Church has recently given his Diocese a grant of \$5,000 to help minister to the intense suffering that envelops this new and war-torn nation. Please join us as we gather to hear how the Church in this troubled region is responding to the poorest and the neediest in their midst. I am certain that it will be a revelation of grace and an inspiration for all of us.



2. On the left The Reverend Alan Everett of St. Clement Church in Nottingham Dale London is pictured with supplies for fire victims. His Parish is where the horrific Grenfell Tower Apartment fire that claimed at least 79 lives and displaced thousands of others is located. About eight months ago we began a sister parish relationship with St. Clement Church. Alan wrote a letter for our Christmas newsletter, as I wrote one for his. His Church is in the epicenter of this tragic fire and has been

constantly ministering to the sudden needs of those near the church, or as they say in England, in his parish. Fr. Everett is quoted in the Guardian as saying, "We are called to share in the brokenness and the forgottenness of the people we serve." The second Sunday in **July, the 9th**, we will take up an offering to show our support. The church will send these monies to St. Clement's as a way of showing solidarity and participating in their ministry of healing.

We welcome our new seminarian, Kije Mugisha Rwamasirabo and her family. Kije is a graduate of Union Theological Seminary and is enrolling in a Master's studies at General (Episcopal) Seminary in order to prepare for ordination. Please come and welcome her in the days and weeks ahead!



Your attendance is more crucial in summer than any other time of year! As people go away on vacation you might be the welcoming face of Christ that a visitor wants to see. Come participate in the Word and Sacraments, and renew yourself and your church through worship and compassion.