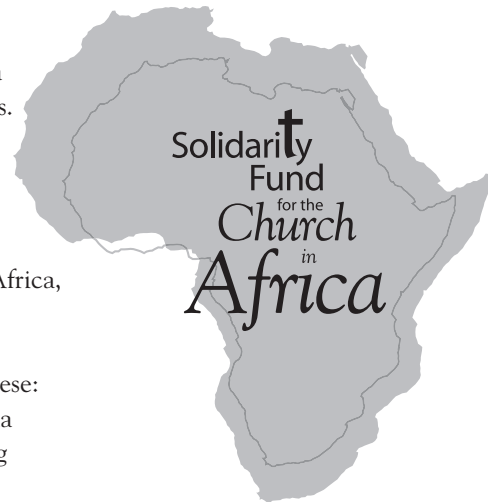


“The Continent of Hope”

The Church in Africa faces grim challenges: political unrest, HIV/AIDS, extreme poverty, and overwhelming national debts. However, these obstacles do not stop African parishioners from practicing their faith with zeal. The Church in Africa—“the continent of hope”—is also the most rapidly expanding segment of the Catholic Church.

—POPE BENEDICT XVI

In 2008, the bishops’ Subcommittee on the Church in Africa approved nearly \$1.8 million in grants for 84 pastoral projects. These projects focus on building the capacity of the Church through Catholic schools, communications, evangelization, clergy and lay leadership formation, youth ministry, and religious education in places like Malawi, Ghana, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, Rwanda, Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa, and Senegal.



Your donation is making a difference through projects like these:

- Workshops on justice, peace, and development in Nigeria
- A training program for Catholic media on peace building in Ghana
- Pastoral care for the sick, natural family planning, and HIV/AIDS prevention among youth in Zimbabwe

“This continent [is] so rich both in promise and in pressing human, cultural and spiritual needs. This morning I called Africa ‘the continent of hope.’ . . . Africa will be able to find the strength needed to face its sometimes difficult daily existence, and thus it will be able to discover immense spaces of faith and hope which will help it to grow in God.”

—Pope Benedict XVI, Papal Address to Special Council for Africa, Yaoundé, Cameroon, March 19, 2009



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