



Jos Jottings, July 2026: End of Financial Year Report

"I thank my God every time I remember you ... because of your partnership in the gospel..." (Philippians 1:3-5)

Thank you so much for your generosity!!!

Now that Financial Year 2025-26 is over, I need to pass deepest thanks from myself and our Christian sisters and brothers in Nigeria on to you, as Friends of Jos, for your generosity in supporting practical life-giving gospel mission partnership with them. At final tally, you had contributed a total of \$57,900 last financial year in support of our agreed high-priority Missional Partnership projects, consisting of:

- \$25,000 for the Zambiri/Tambes project providing hostel school shelter for disadvantaged and orphaned children;
- \$22,000 for our Emergency Relief project; and,
- \$10,900 for our Christian Institute training project.

This is an amazingly generous outpouring of true Christian love for our sisters and brothers who so often feel abandoned and betrayed by secular authorities, but who are greatly encouraged by this evidence that they are not alone: fellow Christians half a world away hear, see and know something of their distress and needs. So a big "well done" to you all as individuals and church communities!

In tandem with all this, Anglican Aid was also able independently to extend a \$4,000 book-purchase grant to the Christian Institute to help upgrade their learning library collection – a fundamentally-important resource in training faithful and well-grounded indigenous church leaders.

Progress at the Christian Institute, Jos (CIJ): new Community Health bursaries for young women being offered!



As I foreshadowed last month, this continuing generosity has enabled Anglican Aid to reach out and offer a modest but important expansion to our existing annual programme of 10 BTh bursary students. But additionally, Anglican Aid has now also offered the Christian Institute support for a second line of 5 female bursary students to undertake a three-year residential study program in community health and pastoral leadership (CHEW). As I mentioned, CIJ has been producing extraordinarily high-calibre and effective women graduates from this course, with the skills to serve isolated rural communities with primary health care as a fundamental part of wholistic gospel mission. And the Nigerian secular world has taken notice

of them as professionally outstanding women, with distinctively attractive personal integrity and endurance. Your ongoing generosity will change village lives and empower still more young women in their desire to serve!

The "rainy season" gives no respite from deadly persecution

Despite the seasonal rains starting in June which usually reduces ethnic Fulani and other terrorist attacks, deadly violence has continued after (for example) the killing of 22 Christians in Mushere village, Bokkos Local Government Area, Plateau State (south of Jos). A July raid in the same area reportedly saw nine family members of a prominent local pastor killed. Meanwhile, the Barnabas Fund reports that on 26 July, armed suspected Fulani militants murdered at least 30 civilians (including 8 children) in Naridon village, Kaduna State (adjoining Bassa and Riyom Local Government Areas in Plateau State, due west of Jos City) (pictured right). One family lost 5 children, a sixth fighting for life.





Meanwhile, in Benue State to the south of Plateau State, Truth Nigeria reports that at least 61 Christians were killed over the course of July in various alleged Fulani extremist attacks, at least 22 being killed in three separate attacks between 24 and 29 July on villages within the Otukpo Local Government Area.

In response, on 31 July Catholic and Protestant bishops and leaders from the 19 northern states and the Abuja Federal Capital Territory combined under the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) banner to declare publicly that government denial and fear-driven silence have completely failed to stop systematic massacres of Christian communities. Observers say this collective unified speaking out marks a significant break from previous restraint and expression of trust in government security forces: triggered by escalating raids by armed Fulani militias and jihadist factions, church leaders have moved to “a unified stance of active public confrontation”. The CAN chairman and senior CAN representatives said that “northern Christians have reached a breaking point,” rejecting “mere statements of condolence from public figures” as inadequate. They further noted that public reference by officials to the

terrorist attackers as errant “brothers” or “prodigal sons” represented entirely unacceptable normalisation of murderous violence. (Rev. Joseph Hayab, Chairman, Christian Association of Nigeria, in photo left).

Meanwhile in early July, news broke of the mid-June kidnapping by armed bandits of Scripture Union’s Nigeria national director and 7 others (including a senior Anglican member of SU’s national board) in southern Nigeria, returning from an SU national conference. Thankfully, they have now been released and are recovering from their ordeal.

At the same time, the Nigerian church has been encouraged by:

- international recognition in public statements by US Congress representative Riley Moore (R, West Virginia), following a fact-finding US mission, releasing estimates that over 600,000 predominantly Christian farmers now live in squalid displaced-persons camps in Benue State alone;
- the European Parliament’s 9 July resolution demanding independent investigations into Middle Belt massacres and urging structural security reforms; and,
- Observatory for Religious Freedom in Africa (ORFA) data, which found that armed Fulani militants kill civilians at four times the combined rate of Boko Haram and ISWAP, targeting Christians at a 4.4-to-1 ratio compared with Muslims, giving the lie to assertions (by Nigerian Government sources and international media, including those based in Islamic Middle East countries) that non-Christians are targeted just as much as Christians.

Praise God for healing for Archbishop Ben once again!

Not only has our good friend (retired) Jos Archbishop Ben Kwashi answered the call to come out of retirement and be inducted on 8 June in Cameroon to serve as Anglican Bishop (church-planter) of Chad, as I reported last month. But God in his mercy has now healed him from another minor bout with cancer (left lung nodule) on 18 July in the United States. Please praise God along with Ben and Gloria for this deliverance, and pray fervently for ongoing protection against any recurrence.

Points for prayer:

- Thank God for the generosity he has placed in your hearts, and those of other donors, for the needs of our Nigerian sisters and brothers, and pray for continuing joyful generosity as we together see new opportunities to support gospel work and deeds of love in Nigeria.
- Keep praising God for the faithful work done by the Christian Institute, Jos, and pray that the resources may continue to flow to expand our programme, raising up both men and women for servant ministry.
- Please keep praying for protection and justice for Christian rural communities under continuing attack.
- Pray for continuing steady progress on the new Tambes campus of the Zambiri hostel/school for disadvantaged and orphaned children, and quick provision of the necessary resources to complete it.
- Praise God for another example of wonderful healing for Archbishop Ben, and pray for an ongoing effective and fruitful ministry under his leadership as Anglican Bishop of Chad.



To make a tax-deductible donation to Diocesan partnership projects for training at the Christian Institute, or to support our persecuted fellow-Christians in Plateau State in Nigeria with emergency relief, or assist ministry to “at risk” children through the Tambes campus of the Zambiri School, go to <https://anglicanaid.org.au/locations/Nigeria> , and select the project of your preference.