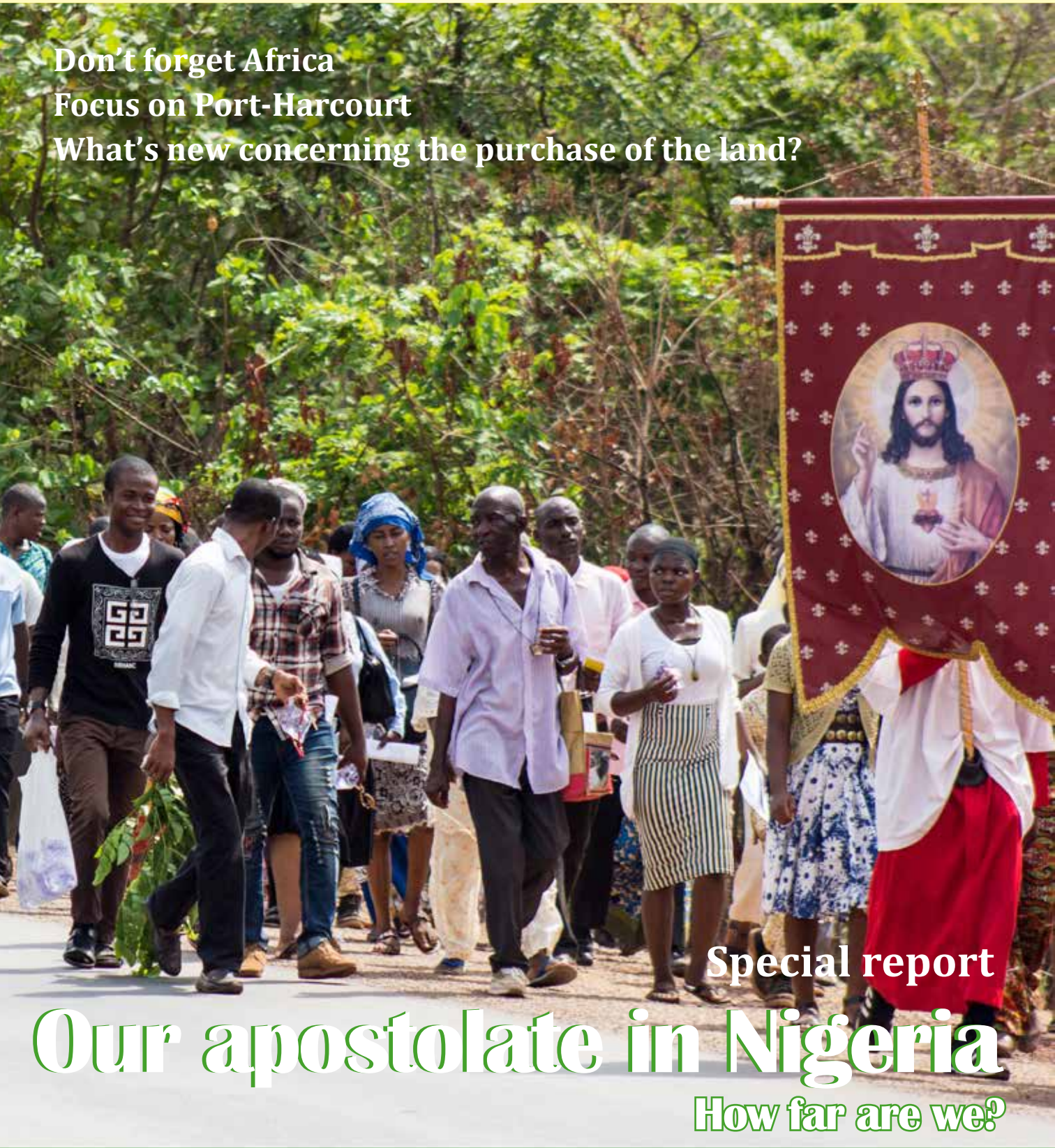


SOS AFRICA

Faith without borders

Don't forget Africa
Focus on Port-Harcourt
What's new concerning the purchase of the land?



Special report

Our apostolate in Nigeria

How far are we?

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The cross will protect the land



The editorial By Jean-Benoît de Lacoste,
president of the association

Don't forget Africa!

The importance of evangelisation in Africa

In the last newsletter, Fabienne Monclar interested and puzzled us with her vision of Africa in her book 'The White Woman with her Cross'. We should all lift up our eyes from our daily occupations to look at the evolution of this huge continent: a part of its youth dreams of becoming still more westernised and is prey to the same Islamic danger as in Europe. At the beginning of next year, SOS Africa will make a speech in the European Parliament in order to alert the deputies concerning the lot of the Christians in Africa, and to ask for their help.

In this newsletter, you will discover photos and news from Nigeria, which is becoming the most populated and the richest country in Africa. This, of course, hides huge inequalities, since two-thirds of the population live below the poverty line fixed at \$1 a day per person...

We shall make a stopover in Port Harcourt, a coastal city rich in history, founded by the British settlers in 1912, with an illustrated map.

You will hear about the African adventures of our missionaries who keep fighting against the administration and fake owners!

Thank you for your support and your indispensable generosity towards the missions here; the whole association adds its voice to mine in order to wish you a happy and blessed Christmas with your families... all the while keeping a thought or a prayer for the Africans!

THE MISSION IN NUMBERS

30 HOURS

IN TRANSPORTATION, THE
TIME SPENT BY
THE 3 PRIESTS EVERY
WEEKEND

\$40 DOLLARS

THE SUNDAY
COLLECTION IN THE
PRIORY

1800

MONTHLY
COMMUNIONS

\$70 DOLLARS

THE SALARY FOR ONE MONTH

\$3,5

THE DAILY FOOD IN
PRIORY

70 HOURS

THE CONFESSIONS AND
OFFICE HOURS EVERY
MONTH

Pictures of the Mission

The Mission continues !



The workers building the fence



Mass in Achalla



Mass in Enugu



Some faithful with Father Peter going to the land



Transportation



The famous taxis called «Keke»



Mass in Lagos



Preparation of the Mass



OUR APOSTOLATE IN NIGERIA

How far are we?

It has been 5 years since the Society settled in Nigeria. ("Settled" is a bit exaggerated for the moment). Yet since August 2012, by renting a house in Enugu, we have been able to develop our apostolate. From now onwards, even if we lack a stable basis as long as the priory and its church are not yet built, we can say that the organisation of the ministry is improving.

Whether at the priory or in the four chapels regularly visited throughout the country, each time a good

team is here to actively help the priest.

« The organization of the ministry is improving »

Under the responsibility of the local coordinator, several faithful have got involved in the teaching of Catechism, the training of good Mass servants, the choir, the sacristy (knowing that most of the time we must bring everything, put up and then take down everything, even at the priory, where

Mass is always celebrated outside), the circulation of the newsletter, the lending of books, the selling of religious items, the transportation and putting up of the priest... A whole organisation we had to set up, and which is now bearing fruits.

Except in one city where Catholics are proportionately less numerous, the number and conviction of the faithful are everywhere growing. Of this, Port-Harcourt is a good example.

In this southern coastal city, strengthened by their Ignatian retreat, three enthusiastic young men decided to invite their friends, students or young workers.

« A whole organization we had to set up and which is now bearing fruit »

The priests came once in a while to say Mass for eight of them, but last September they were more than forty. Yet, God knows the amount of courage needed to find the money needed for the fare, to spend two or three hours in worn-out buses, and to reach the chapel for confession at seven on Sunday morning because the priest has to celebrate Mass early in the morning in order to rush later to another chapel.

This mobilization of the faithful and the arrival

of new ones encouraged us and showed that Providence is blessing our efforts. Now, all this has to last, and if we want it to last, we have to settle a little bit better. The land for the mission in Enugu is now ours, but everything is yet to be built. The plans are almost finished. The Superiors have decided to build step by step.

« Now, all this has to last, and if we want it to last, we have to settle a little bit better »

First the priory, then the church, and finally the school. But for a better organization, we must take everything into account, and so draw all the plans: that takes time. This delay is not too much to try and get back this part of our land which has been squatted on. Corruption does not affect only the top, in this country. It is everywhere. Luckily, thanks to a very good lawyer (a close friend of the governor) things are going ahead.

« It remains for us to find a trustworthy building manager »

Finally, it remains for us to find a trustworthy building manager who would be willing to come here and

oversee the construction at a reasonable price. This is an important prayer intention. But we have no doubt that with your spiritual and material help, the grace of God

will not let us down. You can rely on our fervent prayers, and those of the Nigerians.



The crib in Enugu ▲



Beginning of the Mission ▲



Procession of gifts after the Mass ▲

Port-Harcourt, insecurity and black air



2,3 million inhabitants. Port-Harcourt is the fifth urban area in Nigeria. Here, everything smells of hydrocarbons. It is the city of refining, and oil is to it both a blessing and a curse. It was long the crucible of many industries, especially French ones: Total established a subsidiary company there, and Michelin had a factory there until 2007.

« Here, everything smells of hydrocarbons »

There, the French firm, that was manufacturing tyres the raw material of which came from the many Nigerian hevea plantations, went away ten years ago. Why? Insecurity: it is the same everywhere in Nigeria. In this city situated

right in the middle of the Niger delta, everyone fights for something. Islamic violence, unhappily affecting the North of the country, cannot be found there, but violence breaks out between ethnic groups (such as the Ijaw) or separatist movements.

« Everyone fights for something »

The area is undermined by the remains of the past Biafran war (1967-1970) and above all by the crucial issue of oil. Armed groups run wild refineries, while others attack those of the oil companies.

In this mainly Christian area, danger does not come from Islam. It is the consequence of extreme poverty, the unequal

redistribution of profits and general insecurity, the effects of which are felt there. Kidnappings are frequent, and there is a strong pressure on Europeans.

« Persistent black soot sweeping across the city »

The air itself is vitiated: In 2016, the authorities of Rivers State –capital city: Port-Harcourt, noted the fact that persistent black soot was sweeping across the city and its surroundings. Nothing surprising in a country where the air pollution is one of the highest in the world, but something that does not bring comfort to the already difficult life of the inhabitants of Port-Harcourt.

News from the Association



▲ Father Peter and the postulants

In progress:

- o Presentation of the association to the various members of the European Parliament.
- o Looking for a clerk of works to oversee the construction on the new piece of land. Cf detailed job advertisement.
- o Selling of rosaries with the colours of Nigeria, in aid of the missions in Africa.
- o Improvement of the website and the FB page to attract more attention.

For the future:

- o Speech at the European Parliament in Strasbourg in February 2018 to alert the members concerning the lot of the Christians in Africa.
- o Partaking in the various humanitarian and religious forums of associations.
- o Selling of wine with the colours and in aid of SOS Africa.

SAINT PATIENCE !

A story concerning the purchase of the land.

On Thursday, August 20th, Father Peter was summoned to the EFCC (Economical and Financial Crimes Commission). He went with a faithful. There, the officer told them that someone was accusing us of occupying his land (the 2 famous plots which the former owner had sold twice: to us and to another person). We tried to explain, and when the officer understood that the owner had sold twice, he was furious against him.

« The owner sold twice »

We went back to fetch the copy of the documents while he summoned the former owner. In front of us, the latter explained, without faltering, that he had warned us of the fact that the 2 plots were no more for sale! Happily enough, the documents of the sale clearly mention the 31 plots bought, including those 2 (we had it modified by the lawyer, on the last minute, the very day of the sale).

The owner was in a tight corner: it is a crime to sell the same plot

twice. But then the officer went out to speak face to face with him, and later with the faithful.

« We would need to pay 10 million nairas to the owner »

He finally called Father Peter and explained to him that either we go on with the procedure, going to the court, with all the expenses and the loss of time, or they can oblige him to make sure we are no more bothered, but we should pay the owner the amount of 10 million naira. Father Peter understood that the latter had certainly promised them a good percentage of the money, knowing, besides, that a friend of the officer's, debtor to the owner, is also involved in the affair (the officer himself had imprudently confided the matter to us before hand). Father Peter came back furious. Luckily, the lawyers advised us not to undertake anything, since we had right on our side. But the problem is not yet solved, and we will soon have to start with the works. Another prayer intention !



▲ Interview with Fr Pius to present the Mission

Why make a donation to SOS AFRICA ?

Help us to build the Mission to keep the Mission in Enugu going thanks to

The construction of the church, priory and school is a large project. Even if we plan to build in three steps, we still need to follow the advice of Archbishop Lefebvre: We must have at least half of the money before commencing to build. Help us to start. **We still need \$300 000.** It is therefore crucial that contributions from benefactors be regular if we are ever to finish the work as planned. For the salvation of our Nigerian faithful, we are calling upon you to help us realise our project.

HOW TO HELP US:

In Euros (UE), by cheque payable to «Mission de la Fraternité Saint Pie X» sent to: SOS AFRICA
5, rue de la ceinture, Bâtiment B8
78000 Versailles, France
or bank transfer your donation, mentioning «pour le Nigeria»
IBAN : FR76 3000 3008 1400 0372 6218 101
BIC : SOGEFRPP

In American Dollars (USD), by cheque payable to: «Society of Saint Pius X» sent to: SSPX African Missions - Regina Coeli House
11485 North Farley Road
USA - Platte City MO 64079, USA
(Tax receipt sent on request for US residents)

In British Pounds (GBP), by cheque payable to: «Society of Saint Pius X» sent to: SSPX African Missions,
St George's House
125 Arthur Road,
GB - Wimbledon Park SW19 7DR, Great Britain

In Australian Dollars (AUD), by cheque payable to: «Society of Saint Pius X» sent to: SSPX African Missions
280 West Botany St
AUS - Rockdale NSW 2216, Australia

TO DONATE :

PLEASE SPECIFY IN AN ACCOMPANYING NOTE THE MENTION « FOR NIGERIA».

OUR MISSIONARIES



Father Peter
Chrissement,
a French
missionary
The Prior.



Father Benedict
Laignelot,
a French
missionary.



Father Pius
Nanthambwe
Malawian
missionary.

THE MISSION IS LOOKING FOR A BUILDING MANAGER

Wanted in Nigeria: a good Catholic faithful with experience in building construction. We have the land, we have the money for materials and local labor, but the local companies and contractors need to be managed by a trusted and experienced professional.

We need an English-speaking building engineer with some experience and a lot of patience, who likes adventure and is willing to sacrifice for the kingdom of Christ, who wants the grace of building a church for the True Mass to be celebrated and a school where thousands of Nigerian children will learn to save their soul.

We can adapt your pay according to your needs, but please know that we cannot afford to pay 1st world wages in a 3rd world country.

If you are in a financial position where your family is already provided for, and you now have the time to dedicate your skills for love of God to do something for His glory, something that will be your legacy, why not help this poorest mission of the Society of St. Pius X in Africa?

Contact Fr. Peter at the Nigerian SSPX Mission for more information at sspxnigeria@gmail.com

DISTRICT HOUSE :

Our Lady Queen of Africa House
P.O. Box 14881
Bredell 1623
South Africa
Tel: (+27) 11 396 1807
Fax: (+27) 866 970 120
fssp.x.africa.sec@gmail.com



Follow us on facebook  [sos.africa](https://www.facebook.com/sos.africa)

www.mission-sosafrica.org

THE MISSION :

St Michael's Priory
15 Umukwa Street
Independence Layout
Enugu - NIGERIA
sspxnigeria@gmail.com
contactsosafrica@gmail.com