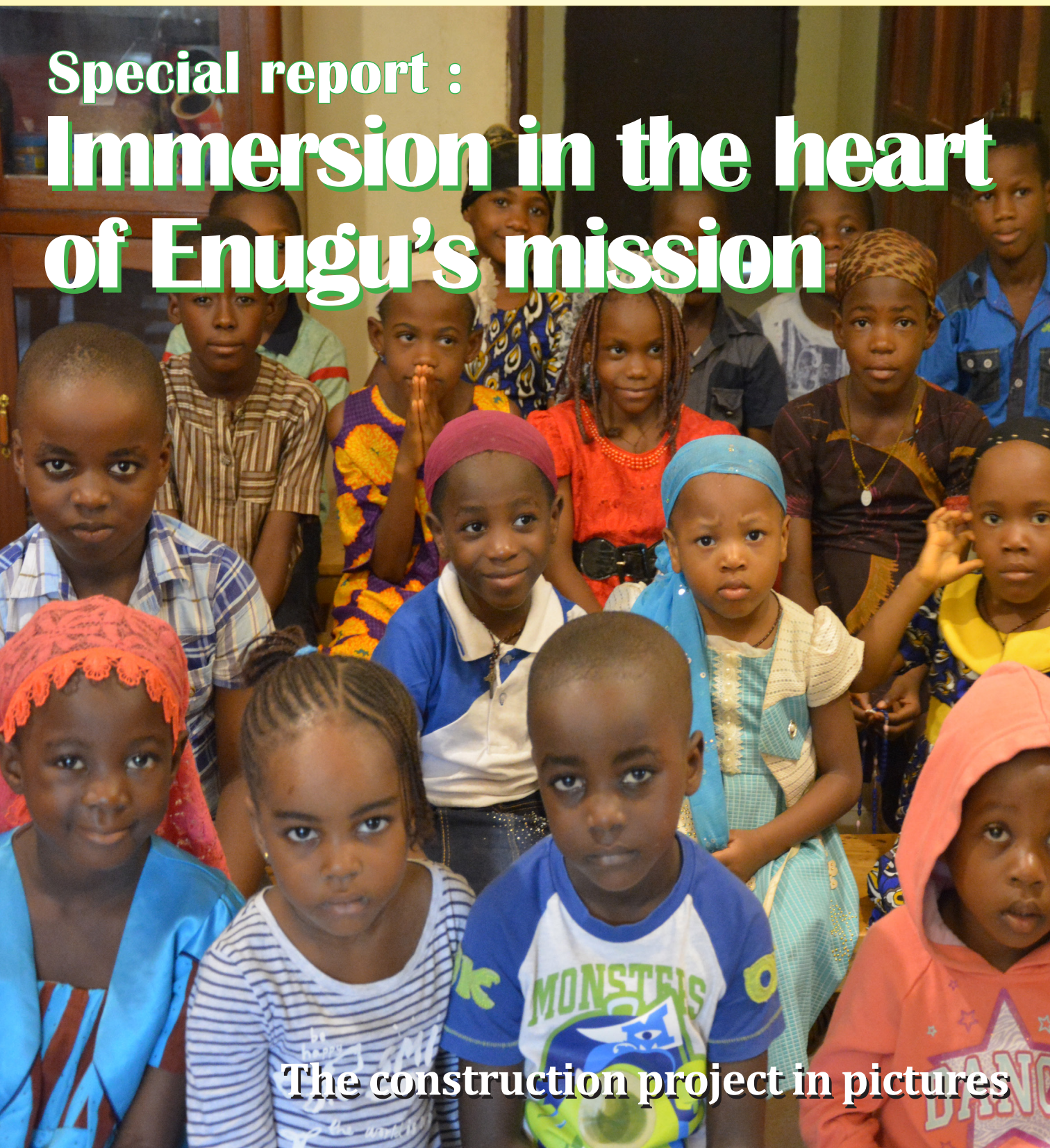


SOS AFRICA

Faith without borders

Special report :

Immersion in the heart of Enugu's mission



The construction project in pictures



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Father Peter Scott



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

Welcome to Enugu !

Dear Friends,

«**W**oe to me if I do not proclaim the Gospel,” wrote St. Francis Xavier to St. Ignatius of Loyola describing his perilous but very fruitful missions as co-founder of the Jesuits. It is with this same spirit that missionaries have worked in Nigeria for many years. Regular dramatic news reminds us of both the risks and the needs of setting up these Catholic missions in the heart of this African giant.

You will discover in this newsletter a young student passionate about Nigeria who tells us about his immersion in the heart of Enugu's mission this summer and we thank him for his interest and his precious help on site!

Because there is no shortage of work, Fr. Peter is providing details of the plans for the ambitious, but so exciting construction project for the long-term establishment of the mission in the service of Nigerians. This will give a physical reality to your spiritual and material help.

On behalf of the whole association, I wish you a good Advent and a beautiful and holy Christmas celebration, thinking and praying for Christians and the future of African Christians!

THE MISSION IN NUMBERS

VOCATIONS

- 3 SEMINARIANS
- 2 POSTULANTS
- 4 RELIGIOUS

35

MARIAGES

+1800

COMMUNIONS
PER MONTH

324

THE NUMBER OF BAPTISMS
CARRIED OUT TO DATE BY THE
NIGERIAN MISSION

220

CONFIRMATIONS

+200

CONFESSIONS
PER MONTH

Saint Michael's Mission:

The project progresses



Future church



Future constructions of the Mission Saint Michel

Work update

by Father Peter

Dear friends,

That's it ! We are about to finally start work. You can get some glimpses of what the Mission will look like later once its church, school, priory and sisters' house are finished.

« *We are about to finally start work* »

For the moment we are tackling the building of the priory (a long building of almost 30 meters on three levels) which will house the priests. Until the other buildings are finished, part the priory will be temporarily arranged to accommodate celebrating Mass for the



Future school

faithful on the ground floor, and to welcome the beginnings of the school on the first floor , but will later be transferred to the church and the school. Once that space is freed up, we will be able to accommodate additional priests, brothers, and volunteers.

It is thanks to your loyal support that this step, so important for the Mission, is made possible.

I know you would like things to move faster. Believe me, I am with you on that! But here, time does not work quite like elsewhere ... Fortunately Providence is there and so are you.

« *Fortunately Providence is there and so are you!* »

So thank you for continuing to help us. Be generous: the good Lord gives back a hundredfold! And we keep you all in our prayers.



The choirboys ▲

IMMERSION IN THE HEART OF ENUGU'S MISSION

by Etienne Tricot

I was fortunate enough to celebrate my 22nd birthday in Nigeria this summer during my month-long trip to Enugu. I have always wanted to discover another environment, another way of living. I took advantage of the first year master's degree program in international relations at the Institute of International and Strategic Relations, to specialize in a particular country. I found Nigeria to be an interesting country through its history, but especially by the many inequalities which persist there. I wanted to write a thesis on this country. Called by the taste for adventure, I decided to go there. I was able to complete my dissertation on violence in the Niger Delta in connection with Nigeria's oil policy, thanks in particular to the faithful and the young people, who told me about their daily lives.

« I always wanted to discover another environment, another way of living »

I found out about Fr. Peter's mission thanks to my scout chaplain, Fr. Héon, who advised me to contact Enugu to organize this trip. Enugu is the capital of Biafra, a region marked by war and inequality. I discovered a mission on a human scale, disproportionate, compared to the 212 million inhabitants of Nigeria, but a living mission. Alive thanks to its priests and to the faithful. However, I discovered a country in great difficulty economically, morally, and in providing security. Religion plays a more important part in the south of the country, but the evangelical, Baptist, and Anglican churches rub shoulders with

the Roman Catholic churches. It is quite difficult to retain the loyalty of the locals and sedevacantism is gaining more and more souls.

« I discovered in Nigeria a mission on a human scale, a living mission thanks to its priests and to the faithful »

The life of the mission is really two-fold, weekdays and weekends. For security reasons, the activities of the week are relatively limited. We avoided going out too often during the day. It was quite difficult because the grounds are limited, the walks are short, and the body is suffering but the two dogs of the mission are there to keep us company. There are more joyful moments: the mass every evening, (which is well attended by the faithful), and small conferences during the week, especially Wednesday afternoon, which is the day for sports. When the weather and the number of players allow, great volleyball matches take place between the fathers and the young students. It's an opportunity to see Fr. Peter in his best form, marking all of his serves.

« They are faithful believers in the ministry of the Mass, who only ask for more means to pray in better conditions »

Weekends were the source of the greatest joys. The fathers of the mission spread out to go to the different chapels of the country and I had the chance to visit them all. I was able to travel through southern Nigeria, by car or by plane, to get to all the parishes. I then had the opportunity to meet the faithful who always welcomed me in the most beautiful way and with the most beautiful smiles of children. They are faithful believers in the ministry of the Mass, who only ask for more means to pray in better conditions.

« The most beautiful encounters I have had are those with young Nigerians »

The most beautiful encounters I have had are those with young Nigerians. They are more than willing to help the mission by serving at mass, by fixing things, by giving catechism lessons to the youngest ... During one of my many discussions, a young law student, Tchibom, asked me if I had already been to Lourdes. Surprised by his question I replied that I had gone there almost every year since I was 8 or 9 years old. I then saw the wonder in his eyes and with great excitement, he asked me to describe the grotto, the

pools, the basilica ... I then realized that for this young Nigerian, who had never been outside his country, the apparition sites were so far away. So I then described Lourdes, Pontmain, Fatima and even the tomb of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, which I had visited a few years earlier. This moment made a mark on me, it made me realize how lucky I was to have a church

close to my home and these great religious sites. Sharing the values of Christian Europe with these young people is the best gift we can give them.

« Sharing the values of Christian Europe with these young people is the best gift we can give them »

Installation of the chapel every Sunday in Enugu ▼



Catechism classes for young ▼



Local chronicle:

Episode two of Michael's adventures in Nigeria

by Louis d'Henriques



Umuawulu street ▲

In Okigwe, Michael leaves the bus. He prefers to keep his savings for crossing the great sea to the North. Then he will manage by some other means as far as Niger. The road is long, it's true. Days, weeks of walking, miles traveled standing on the running board of an overloaded truck, holding-on with his hands, trying hard not to fall off. They do not wait for those who fall off. They do not stop for them. But the effort does not scare him. He learned it at the palm grove: by dint of hard work, by dint of repeating the same action over and over. He knows how hard work can manage to overcome everything. Climb the trees, cut the bunches of nuts, with your bare hands - gloves are too expensive - your hands take on the orange color of the fruit, between the red of the scrapes. Go up, then go down, go up, cut more bunches of nuts, go down, go up again ... repeat tirelessly. The palm trees taught him one thing: if in the morning you look at the immense row of trunks in a line, bristling with spikes, bending under the fruit to be cut, your strength leaves you,

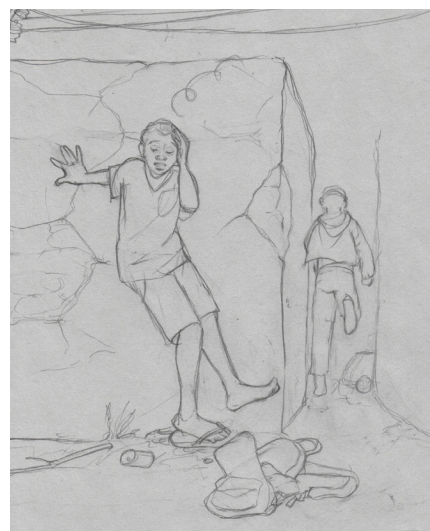
you lower your arms, you bow your head. No, you mustn't look at the line, you can't count the trees, you just have to look at the bunch of nuts above you, go up, cut, go down. Then go to the next palm tree, climb, cut, descend. This is how he survived in the palm grove. Michael thinks of that: in front of him, the immense road lies in its bed of red dust, thousands of kilometers, cities, mountains, deserts, a sea ... he must not count the steps he will have to take, no! He will just have to take the first, then another, and one more, without stopping, while thinking of green Europe. This is the lesson of the palm grove! Michael felt an invincible force inside him.

« But the effort does not scare him. He learned it at the palm grove: by dint of hard work, by dint of repeating the same action over and over. He knows how hard work can manage to overcome everything. »

Enugu! This is the big city.

Michael has never seen such a concentration of houses, shops, various and diverse stalls along the streets, warehouses, shacks of dirty sheet metal, light colored houses with high walls guarded with barbed wire, poverty and wealth mixed in the tumult of the great African megalopolis. He must find accommodation for the night. Or sleep on the street? Which would it be? Michael decides to go towards the center. He walks on Umuawulu street, when suddenly he is hit on the head. Terrible pain, he falls, stunned... he feels a hand searching him ... as long as they don't take his father's savings, those patiently saved for sunny days, provided ... suddenly the dark. In confused thought, the young man threw a prayer to heaven; he sees the church of his childhood, blurred vision ... Michael loses consciousness.

“ In confused thought, the young man throws a prayer to heaven; he sees the church of his childhood, blurred vision...”



Michael after his assault ▲



Mass in Enugu ▲



Procession in Enugu ▲

Association News

Association projects:

Actions planned for 2020

- o Translation of the website and newsletters into English and German, because half of the website visitors are English-speaking!
- o Resumption of the production of rosaries in the colors of Nigeria for sale and distribution.
- o Organization of conferences on Nigeria for the missionaries' visit to France.

- o Collection for the benefit of SOS Africa during a religious concert.
- o Informing the newly elected members of the European Parliament about the defense of Christians in Africa.
- o Preparation of a brochure to present the construction projects in order to encourage contributions from benefactors.

Enugu pictures



OUR MISSIONARIES



Father Peter
Chrissement,
a French
missionary
The Prior.



Father Peter
Scott,
an Australian
priest
missionary.



Father Pius
Nanthambwe
a Malawian
missionary.

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fsspx.africa.sec@gmail.com



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Independence Layout
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contactsosafrika@gmail.com



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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
34 bis, route de Rueil
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»
With the mention : «Please, for Nigeria»
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 ».

DATE:

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AMOUNT:

_ _ _ _ _ , _ _ \$

IBAN NUMBER:

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NAME AND ADDRESS:

_ _ _ _ _
_ _ _ _ _
_ _ _ _ _

BENEFICIARY ACCOUNT :

FR76 3000 3008 1400 0372 6218 101

BIC BENEFICIARY :

SOGEFRPP

NAME AND ADDRESS :
OF BENEFICIARY

**MISSION DE LA FRATERNITÉ SAINT PIE X
CENTRE COMMERCIAL SURESNES II
9, PROMENADE SAINT LEUFROY
92150 SURESNES - FRANCE**

COMMUNICATION :

POUR LE NIGÉRIA

☐

MONTHLY TRANSFER

☐

PUNCTUAL TRANSFER

DATE :

SIGNATURE :