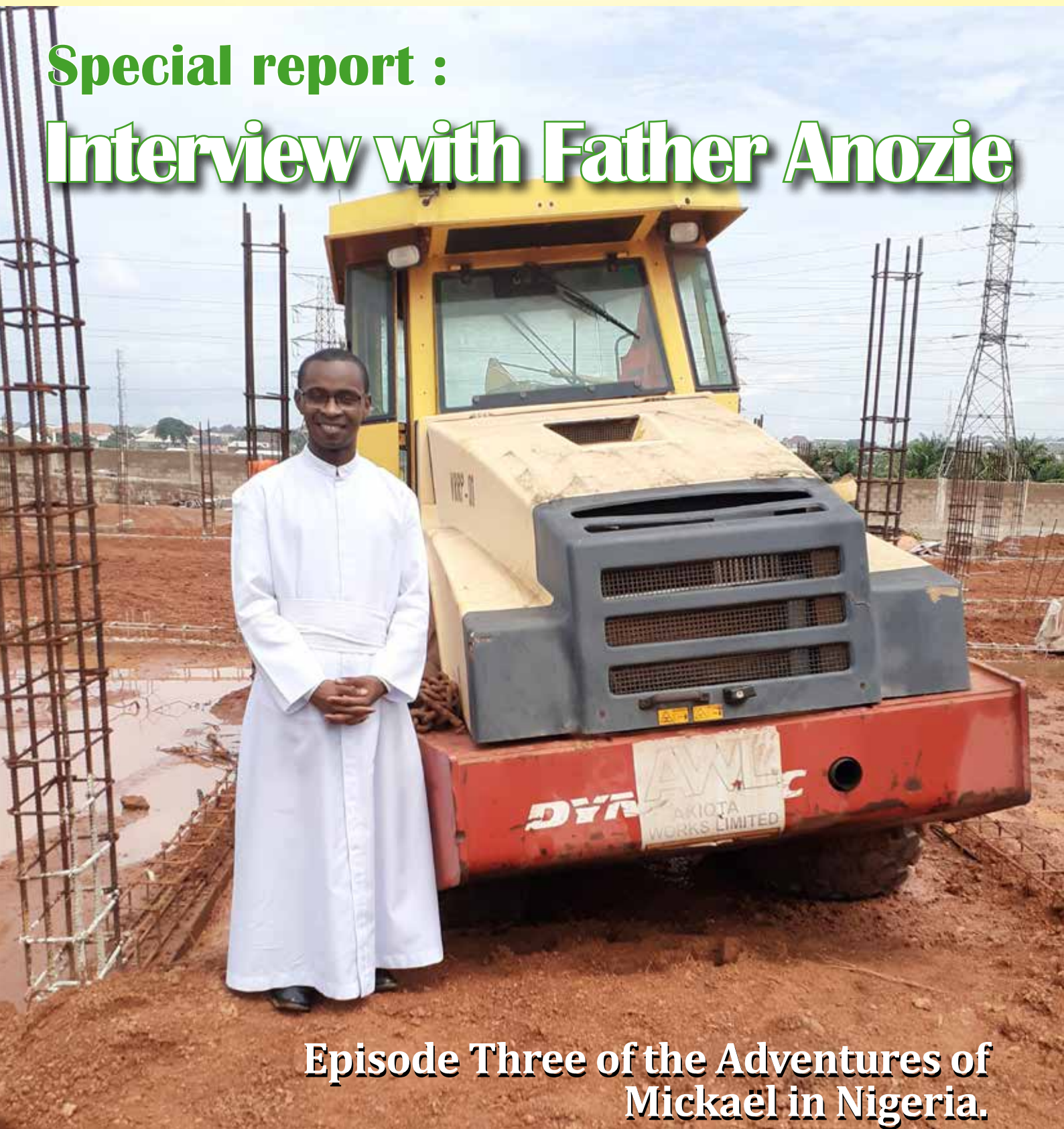


SOS AFRICA

Faith without borders

Special report :

Interview with Father Anozie



**Episode Three of the Adventures of
Mickaël in Nigeria.**



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Father Pius Nanthambwe



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

The solid foundations !

Dear Friends,

Every architect knows that to build for the long term in Africa or elsewhere, it is essential to build on solid foundations ! This is especially the case with St. Michael's Mission in Nigeria, where the beginning of the year was marked by two events with a strong symbolic impact. First, the ordination of Fr. Anozie, the first young, Traditional Catholic Nigerian priest. Second, the laying and blessing of the construction site of the future great church of Enugu which will be completed with a priory and a school.

These two events that Providence brought together in the interval of a few weeks must fill us with hope and expectation for the pursuit and development of these African missions.

Thus, in this bulletin you will find, in addition to the usual sections, an interview with Fr. Anozie and the first photos of this beautiful project. The collection of photographs may also be found on our web site now translated into English thanks to the work of some volunteers, whom I thank profusely!

The project is vast, but the missionaries' energy and the needs of the local population are unlimited. Even the coronavirus that is present even in Nigeria has still not stopped them: lets make the most of it !

And thank you once again for your indispensable support, I ask you to pray for this young priest together with this beautiful mission in service of the Nigerians.

WORK COMPLETED IN NUMBERS

**METAL BARS:
7,3 TONNES**

**1200M²
TRENCHES**

**+1000M³
EXCAVATION: MORE THAN**

**176 M³
CONCRETE POURED:**

**7200 M²
LAND DEVELOPMENT**

Saint Michael's Mission:

The status of the work



Blessing for the start of work



Project manager always present on site



The works are not impacted by COVID 19

The status of the work

by Father Peter Chrissent

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

At last! Thanks to your generosity, the first building is rising from the ground. Construction has begun on the great building, 30 meters by 10 meters, that will accommodate the priory, the beginnings of a school (3 large classrooms, a library, and teachers' lounge, 3 offices for the Fathers), and a temporary chapel (which is designed to open up at the back so that on Sundays it can expand to accommodate 200-300 faithful).

« At last! Thanks to your generosity, the first building is rising from the ground. »

Providence is good to us: we finally have a construction site manager, an excellent member of the faithful from Germany. We are very satisfied with the company that has begun the work.

Sadly, as usually happens in construction, the costs have become much greater than the projections, but the quality is truly good. We are able to pay for the structural work, but we have a risk of not having enough money for the following: electricity, plumbing, framing, and finishing...

« We are very satisfied with the company that has begun the work. »

So we are counting on your unfailing fidelity to be able to complete the work. This is the time for you to show your support!

To this joy of finally seeing the Mission growing is added that of the ordination of our first seminarian, Fr. Martin Anozie. Could he be the first in a long series? Be assured that you are in his prayers and those of all the community.



The first Mass of Father Anozie in Enugu ▲

INTERVIEW WITH FR. ANOZIE

What was your life like before you came to the Mission?

Before coming to the Mission, I lived with my parents in Asaba, Delta State, Nigeria, where I received my kindergarten, primary, secondary, and tertiary education. Growing up, I attended meetings of the Block Rosary Crusade where mostly children living in an area gather in the evening to recite the rosary. I joined the Legion of Mary after my first holy communion, and the Apostolate of the Precious Blood later on. During my tertiary education, I expressed my desire to try my vocation. Once I had finished my tertiary education, I got a teaching job where I worked for a very short time (one term) before I was invited to South Africa as a pre-seminarian. At the end of my stay with the priests in South Africa, in 2012, I was sent to the Holy Cross Seminary in Australia to discern my vocation. Through my superiors, God in His goodness, on December 19, 2019, called me to share in the priesthood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Here I am in the Mission.

« Through my superiors, God in His goodness, on December 19, 2019, called me to share in the priesthood of our lord Jesus Christ. »

What vision do you have for Nigeria and for the faith of Catholics?

My desire for Nigeria is to see the reign of our Lord Jesus Christ in every domain. Considering the mystery of our salvation, our end (possession of God in heaven) is made possible and accessible by His passion and death. We no longer belong to ourselves; we belong to Him. Therefore, He should reign not only in our hearts and in our families, but in our society, in our country Nigeria.

« My desire for Nigeria is to see the reign of our Lord Jesus Christ in every domain. »

Regarding the faith of Catholics, I long to see more Catholics acquire and increase their knowledge and love of the unchanging Catholic faith and to live out their faith, cherish it, and defend it. Our Lord tells us, « if you love Me, keep My commandments. »

As the only Nigerian priest for the mission, what vision do you have for the mission's apostolate?

I long to see a proper Traditional Catholic church built, where the traditional liturgy can be celebrated in its grandeur. At the moment, we are using a rented building and classroom for our chapel, which makes us look like a sect since such facilities are rampant among protestant sects. A proper church will make a difference.

« I long to see a proper Traditional Catholic church built, where the traditional liturgy can be celebrated in its grandeur. »

We also need a good Catholic school in Nigeria to ensure a Catholic education for the children and a source for future vocations.

As the purpose of the SSPX is the priesthood and all that pertains to it, I wish to see more vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Many young men

and women knock at our door asking to try their vocation. They need to be tried and tested.

Many want to try their vocation. However, not only it is difficult for most Nigerians to get visas, but it is also too expensive for them to travel abroad. Because of this, should we reject these vocations or send them to other places? I think not. Therefore, I long to see a seminary, even a pre-seminary as a start, erected one day in Nigeria. I would also like to see other traditional religious communities set up foundations in Nigeria to give people the choices of discerning their vocation.

Words on COVID-19. What is the on-the-spot experience and to what extent has the mission/site been impacted?

Nothing escapes Divine Providence. Covid-19 is not an exception; it falls within Divine Providence. Only God is able to bring good out of evil. The country followed the international trend and imposed lockdowns, and as Divine Providence may have it, the mission did suffer from a shortage of priests. At the same time the prior was away, I happened to be here at the priory waiting for my visa to be approved so I can go to my place of assignment in South Africa.

Some of our faithful have not been able to have Masses

due to the lockdown, since we are not able to cross the state borders. But those living within Enugu, where we have a priory, have profited greatly. While most people did not get any Easter ceremonies, the faithful at the priory had their Easter ceremonies for the first time with three priests, who were all here. Covid-19 has provided some people with the opportunity to discover tradition. Since the

bishop closed the doors of the churches, some people were able to discover us.

« Covid-19 has provided some people with the opportunity to discover tradition. Since the bishop closed the doors of the churches, some people were able to discover us. »

Blessings by Father Anozie in Enugu after his first Mass ▼



Father Anozie inspects the works ▼



Local Section:

Episode Three of the Adventures of Mickaël in Nigeria

by Louis d'Henriques



Enugu district ▲

Suddenly all was dark. The light seemed to vanish. Mickaël feels a terrible pain squeezing his head like a vise. His thoughts get confused. How strange! He hears the hurried steps of his attacker who runs away, leaving him there. These steps remind him of the heavy step of his father when he came home in the evening ... In a clumsy gesture, he feels around him. His bag is gone. This bag that contained his father's savings for a sunny day. There will be no sunny days, no Europe. This thought suddenly makes him shed a tear, it runs hot down his face ... hot? like blood! He suddenly realizes that blood is flowing, soiling his hair and rolling on the dirty dust of the road. He then tries to get up, but suddenly loses consciousness.

«In a clumsy gesture, he feels around him. His bag is gone. This bag that contained his father's savings for a sunny day. There will be no sunny days, no Europe.»

He regains his senses a little. He hears voices. A woman's voice. "Quick, help me Bob. By Jesus! What thug could have left this poor boy in such a state? Ah Lord, tell me, we have to help." Hands seize him. Two strong hands take him by the shoulders, two others by the legs. They raise him as best they can. Mickaël opens his eyes slightly. Who are these people? What are they going to do with him? He is thinking of struggling and running away. But when he opens his eyes, he meets the lady's gaze. A smile lights up her face, her eyes overflowing with kindness. She looks like the statue of the Virgin in his church. Oh, the eyes and the kindness that comes from that face. The lady is black, round, a yellow scarf on her hair. But her gaze removes all desire to flee. He wouldn't have the strength anyway. He again feels he is losing consciousness. So, before fainting, he casts a tearful glance at the woman, a glance which says "You breathe kindness

madam, I throw myself into your arms." As he sinks again, an image of the statue of the Virgin made up in black remains in his mind, a beautiful smile on her lips. Do they not say that there are Black Virgins in Europe? Ah Europe ...

« But when he opens his eyes, he meets the lady's gaze. A smile lights up her face, her eyes overflowing with kindness. She looks like the statue of the Virgin in his church. »

One morning Mickaël feels sunlight on his face. He feels his head, wrapped in a large bandage. Several days have passed since his assault. He cannot say how many. He opens his eyes, at the end of the bed, the smiling woman is seated. She looks at him first without saying a word, the language of eyes, the language of souls, then she says to him: «Hello my boy. You have been badly beaten up, but your head is solid, really. You will get away with a beautiful scar, thank the good Lord and the good angels ». The boy smiles and whispers « It was the Blessed Virgin who saved me. Thank you! »



Our Lady of Africa ▲



Enugu Hospital ▲



The streets of Enugu ▲

PICTURES OF THE WORK



OUR MISSIONARIES



Father Peter Chrissent, a French missionary The Prior.



Father Peter Scott, an Australian priest missionary.



Father Pius Nanthambwe a Malawian missionary.

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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
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78000 Versailles, France
or bank transfer your donation, mentioning
«pour le Nigeria»
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BIC : SOGEFRPP

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With the mention : «Please, for Nigeria»
sent to:
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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:
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AUS - Rockdale NSW 2216, Australia

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_____, ____ \$

IBAN NUMBER: ____ | ____ | ____ | ____ | ____ | ____ | ____

NAME AND ADDRESS: _____

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NAME AND ADDRESS : **MISSION DE LA FRATERNITÉ SAINT PIE X**
OF BENEFICIARY **CENTRE COMMERCIAL SURESNES II**
9, PROMENADE SAINT LEUFROY
92150 SURESNES - FRANCE

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