

Living Water 2009

The Diocese of London Lent Appeal will support our partners in Angola and Mozambique by funding water and sanitation projects. Bishop Mark Van Koevering (Niassa) writes of the importance of engaging with development and justice issues, as well as evangelism and the gospel. 'We are promoting a holistic view of the Christian faith, which is particularly important in a country where poverty is such a major concern for many people.' Access to clean water is the most vital step in poverty reduction and raising life expectancy. See www.almalink.org for further information and resources.

Lent Appeal Prayer

Lord God we acknowledge, for us, the living has often been easy. We have taken our water provision for granted, and not always been measured in how we use it. We have not always been thankful for this most precious gift. During Lent open our eyes and our hearts each time we turn on our taps. Make us advocates and agents of change so that all your people have clean water. Uphold our partners as they work to bring this about. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Living Water.

How to give

Parishes: Gift Aid envelopes are available for use in services, fundraising events and Lent lunches.

Individuals: can give online by using Justgiving, which has a Gift Aid facility: www.justgiving.com/almalent09.

By post: cheques payable to LDF (Lent Appeal for ALMA) can be sent to the ALMA Link Officer. London Diocesan House, 36 Causton Street, London SW1P 4AU. Gift Aid Forms are available on the Diocese of London and ALMA websites - details below.

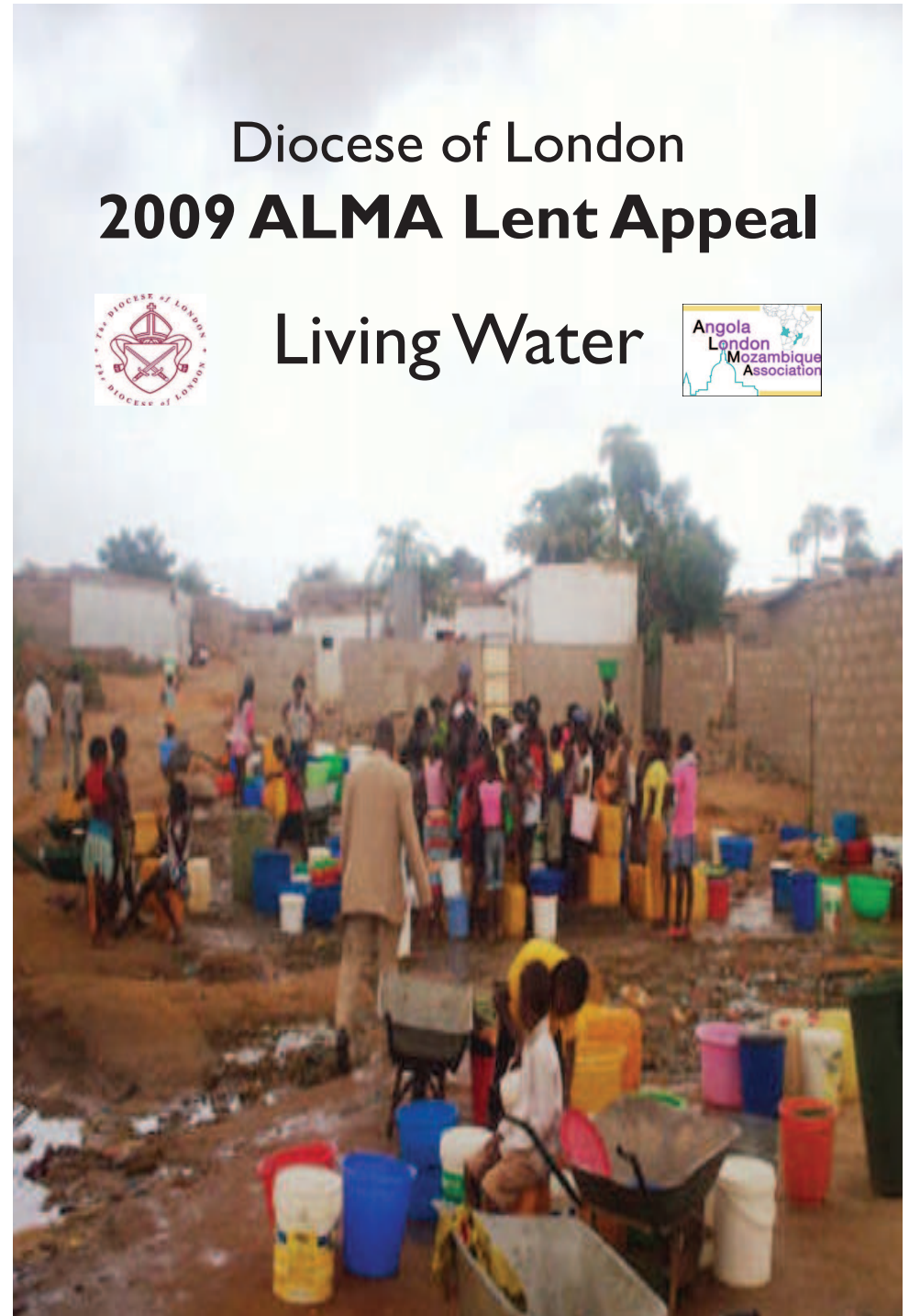
This appeal aims to be green and cost efficient. All money received in 2009, including any tax recovery, will be spent on water projects in our Link Dioceses in Angola and Mozambique, after deducting the publicity expenses of the appeal. Any donations received thereafter will be retained and applied to the 2010 Lent Appeal.

More information: www.london.anglican.org and www.almalink.org
ALMA, London Diocesan House, 36 Causton St, London SW1P 4AU

Diocese of London 2009 ALMA Lent Appeal



Living Water



Sufficient clean water is foundational for all community development. Lack of water and sanitation is an obstacle to education for children across the world, leading to hundreds of millions of lost school days each year. Safe water is necessary for economic growth and to reach the Millennium Development Goals. Lack of access to clean water perpetuates cycles of disadvantage, which affect millions of people, with illnesses and lost educational opportunities during childhood leading to poverty in adulthood.



Luanda, Christmas 2008

Dear Friends,

In Lent 2009, as we live through financially challenging times in London, we hold firm to London Challenge 2012. We continue our advocacy for the Millennium Development Goals and work alongside our partners in Angola and Mozambique where lack of access to water and sanitation in rural and urban areas runs counter to the abundant life and living water the Gospel of Jesus promises.

In the UK our water consumption has increased by 70% in the last 40 years. In the developing world water related disease remains the main cause of childhood death. Bishop Andre Soares of Angola has recently shared news of the severe water shortages that affected Luanda just before Christmas. In January the ALMA's Children project in Chihunzuine, Mozambique will be officially opened: there children will no longer spend two hours each day fetching water - instead a solar powered pump draws water from 100 metres below ground to storage tanks in the grounds of the new nursery school.

This Lent we in London Diocese have the opportunity to

- Reflect on our own use of water
- Reduce our consumption
- Drink tap water
- Donate our savings and sacrifices
- Support water projects in our link dioceses
- Raise £60,000 for water projects

In Angola the diocese will be working in partnership with Living Water International (www.water.cc) to bring clean water to more communities: in suburban Luanda, Uige and Cunene. New wells will be built and disused wells will be rehabilitated. Niassa and Lebombo Dioceses in Mozambique are working on co-ordinated plans, building on current work to improve water provision for their people. We rejoice in the holistic community development work of the Equipa da Vida in Niassa, Padre Albano's rebuilt well in Shire and the vision of the Chihunzuine Project. May these be replicated many times over.

Richard Chartres, Bishop of London