

ALMA (The Angola, London and Mozambique Association)

The ALMA task group wishes to share the following newsletter with all London parishes. ALMA will mark its seventh anniversary in July, so please remember it in parish prayers on Sunday 10 July.

Bishop of Angola – Thursday 28 July 2005 – 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Bishop Andre Soares will be with us to share news from Angola and to answer questions. It is a wonderful opportunity to hear news directly, so do come along and bring others with you.

Venue: All Saints Church, Margaret Street, W1 (nearest tube: Oxford Circus).

Public transport recommended. Please note there will be no refreshments.

The Tree of Life

I hope you all caught some of the publicity that surrounded the launch of Africa 05 in February, a season of events celebrating African arts and cultures. Bishop Dinis was in London with four of the artists who have created sculptures from decommissioned weapons. They were all present at the unveiling of the *Tree of Life* in the Great Court of the British Museum. Do go and see it if you haven't already. Another sculpture, *Throne of Weapons*, is touring the country.

ALMA Accounts 2004

Copies of ALMA's accounts for 2004 will be available at the July meeting. If you are unable to attend and would like a copy, please send a stamped and addressed envelope to Hugh Watkins, London Diocesan House, 36 Causton Street, London, SW1P 4AU. The envelope must be large enough to take A4 paper without having to fold it and must have a 47p stamp on it.

From Messumba to Hammersmith

At the beginning of July, St Peter's Church in Hammersmith will be welcoming as their guests the Revd Mauricio Msossa and his sister Monica Msossa from Messumba in Niassa Diocese, Mozambique. Padre Mauricio was appointed the priest in charge of St Bartholomew's Cathedral Church in Messumba last year. Monica is a leading member of the Mother's Union in the area of Messumba and the lakeshore. St Bartholomew's is where the Bishop of Niassa, Mark van Koevering, was enthroned in the autumn of 2003, and it is St Peter's ALMA link church.

Make Poverty History

I hope you have been keeping in touch with this important campaign in 2005. The next big event is a rally in Edinburgh on 2 July when it is hoped that thousands of campaigners will show the Prime Minister and his fellow G8 leaders that the UK public cares enough about global poverty and injustice to come in person to Edinburgh – just as they did for Jubilee 2000 at the Birmingham G8 in 1998. If you can't be there in person, please keep the day in your prayers and wear a white armband – the symbol of the campaign. These can be bought in Oxfam shops, from agencies such as Christian Aid, or you can make your own.

Lent Appeal

Finally, money from the Diocese of London's recent Lent Appeal is coming in and there will be news on the amount collected by the time of the July meeting. Can you please ensure that any contribution from your parish is forwarded as soon as possible. It's not too late for other donations and anyone who is interested can contact Chris Brice on 020 7932 1121.

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A good read: *Living in the Spirit* by Joan Antcliff MBE is a personal account that covers recent history in Mozambique. Copies at £10 each (cheques payable to MANNA) from Ian Gordon, 16 Bayle Court, Folkestone, Kent CT20 1SN. Every penny from the sale of the books will go to the church in Mozambique.