

Lynn Treneary

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CHURCH
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The call in action

"A bruised reed He will not break and a smouldering wick He will not extinguish; He will faithfully bring forth justice." Isaiah 42:3

Dear all,

I write from the UK where I am currently on home leave, all safe and cushioned from hardships, but I also write as one whose light feels like a "smouldering wick", so I'm thankful that he will not "snuff it out".

Things are not looking good for the peace process in South Sudan, which is spluttering. Please pray with all your heart for the millions of ordinary people there, especially those in refugee camps, to have the life of peace which they require for living a quiet life and to get on with the development of health, education, social services, local government and all that is required for a town and country to run smoothly. I can't stress enough how important this is. They are living in dangerous times.

Looking back over the last four months, Maridi seems like a really blessed place compared to other places in South Sudan. I put this down to the strength of the prayers being prayed by people near and far both in time and place. I praise God for those who have prayed in the past and those who are praying now.

In October at All Saints Cathedral we celebrated 30 years of Maridi being a diocese in a splendid way. Hundreds of confirmations, licensing of lay readers, ordinations of deacons (including me) and deacons being fully priested. We had a great service in the church and a party outside afterwards where many of the Sunday schools and youth groups of the diocese sang and danced. The service was also well attended by government ministers.

In September and October, I was given the honour of helping to set up homegroups as standard for all parish churches. The diocesan secretary and I travelled to all the deaneries within which are all the parish churches, where we met with pastors, Mothers' Union members, youth leaders, etc. and taught about the necessity of homegroups and how they can be run. We came up with many challenges such as the lack of literacy and resources. However, everyone was very keen to help growth in discipleship and churches, and to put groups in place. I will be visiting them all again on my return. Please pray for them.

Since the civil war broke out there has been no road development and I can only thank God for the miracles of travel he gave us and the blessings for Andrew, our driver.

We have had a big setback in setting up the centre for Nodding Syndrome as the NGO, AMREF, has decided it will be sticking to research only and not helping out with the medicines and centre. Please pray about the ongoing



Name: Lynn Treneary

Location: South Sudan

My call: Encourage and strengthen people in Maridi through faith and love to live out their lives as children of God.

My role: Teaching English at Chaima Christian Institute, working with the evangelist teams and the Mothers' Union.



Ordinands

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ministry for people suffering from Nodding Syndrome.

Another exciting celebration coming up (but not till Dec 2022) is 100 years of Christianity in Maridi. CMS mission partner Sir William Haddow was the first person to share the gospel in Maridi. He also had the cathedral built and a school, Haddow Primary School. His picture hangs on many walls. On the day I was accepted as the CMS mission partner to Maridi we went and prayed and sang at his grave. Again, I give thanks to God for all those who paved the way before me, so much so, that it is now me bringing the Good News back to the UK from South Sudanese Christians who are strong, graceful and humble. ...

We are planning a week-long celebration to mark the 100-year anniversary and, on behalf of the bishop, I invite all of you, if conditions allow, to come and celebrate with us. As part of the celebration it is hoped we will be able to restore the first mission house which is being used as offices now but is in a ramshackle condition.

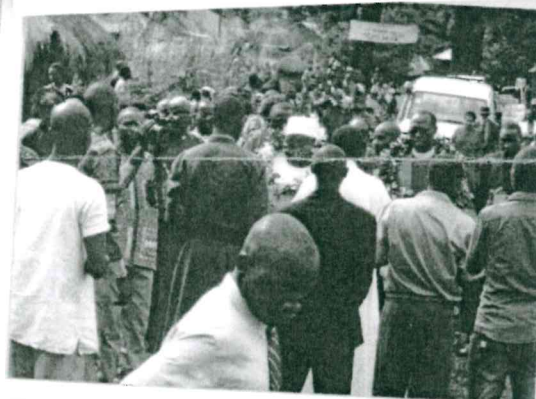
Please remember in your prayers Chaima Christian Institute, which is still working hard to become a campus of the Episcopal University, the Mothers' Union Widows and Orphans group, the retired pastors struggling to get by and of course all the leadership of the diocese as they try to grow and strengthen the church in the face of hardship.

I have started my round of visiting link churches, having just visited Ormskirk Parish Church which is just up the road from me. I will be travelling all over England as well as to CMS conferences and churches in Scotland. It's a lot of miles and I need to find ways of travelling with all my earthly goods and find places to stay. I am trying to communicate what God and CMS are doing in Maridi and to open up relationships between Maridi and the UK. If you have ideas please make them known to me when I come your way.

To say your prayers and financial support are greatly appreciated is an understatement. Please help me to give thanks to God for all he is doing in our lives.

With huge respect and love

Lynn



Photos from top to bottom: Ordination with Rejoice and Bishop Moses; blessing of the musical instruments used for worship; welcoming the Archbishop of the Internal Province; government at church consecration

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If you would like to discuss your mailings with us or to receive this link letter on a regular basis, please email supporter.care@churchmissionsociety.org or call 01865 787400

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