

Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa

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Dear Diocesan Director,

Global economic hardships and ongoing inflation after the COVID-19 pandemic have impacted everyone, especially church organizations and dioceses with limited resources and income. Prudent planning and administration of funds are vital components of a diocese's ability to minister to the people it serves.

In the French-speaking west African country of Togo, the Diocese of Kara has improved and modernized the administration of its 11 parishes. Using a grant from the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the diocese provided its priests with training in planning, budgeting, transparency, and efficient use of resources so that they can better serve the faithful.

The Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa helps dioceses and episcopal conferences throughout Africa to meet and overcome challenges in managing resources during severe economic hardship. Your efforts to promote your diocese's collection for the Church in Africa are crucial to their success.

We need your help to promote your local parish collections for the Solidarity Fund and to share the stories of those who benefit. You can help the collection by using the sample letter from your bishop and by encouraging pastors to highlight the collection at Mass and to use the bulletin announcements and the social media tool kit available at <u>www.usccb.org/africa</u>.

If you have additional questions, please contact me at 202-541-3365 or <u>mhren@usccb.org</u>. Thank you for your continued support.

With gratitude,

Margaret Hren Assistant Director, Promotions