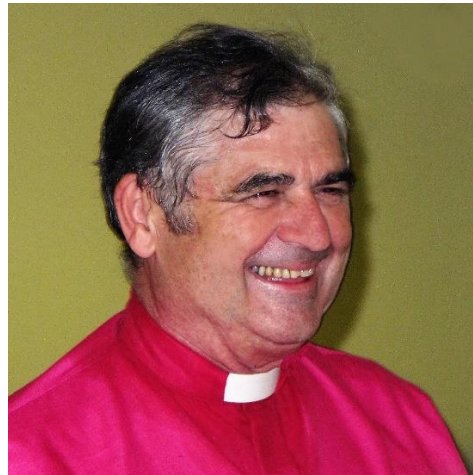
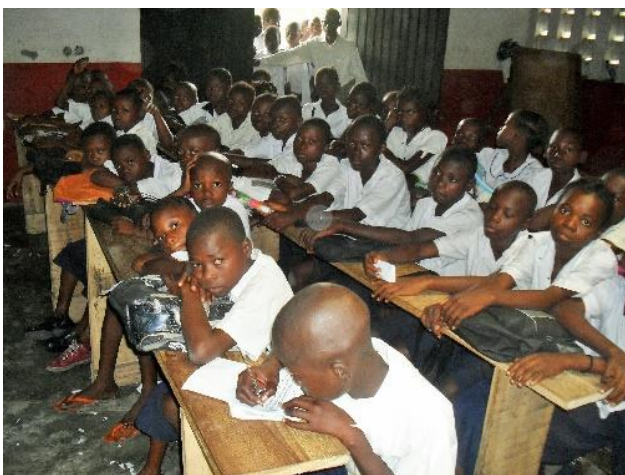


In France – cooperation with the Liberal Catholic Church

Seven years ago the TOS in France joined the Liberal Catholic Church in its educational project in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a country where there has been ongoing conflict for decades. Aid agencies say that the DRC is the worst-affected country by conflict displacement in the entire world excepting Syria! Violence has forced 1.7 million people to flee their homes in 2017 alone, they affirm.



The TOS supports the Church's school for the poorest of the poor in Mikondo, a suburb of the Congo capital, Kinshasa. The school's roll is steadily increasing. A new building, equipped with the help of the TOS, is scheduled to open in early 2018. The Liberal Catholic Church has reliable members in the city to oversee the project, which is essential in this sort of situation. The teachers are members of the Church and are paid a symbolic sum for their services.



French TOS Vice-President, Christian Schoch (above), visited the school in June 2017. He reports:

“My visit was a touching one. I found myself surrounded by several hundred exuberantly joyful children all beaming at me with utter confidence. What inspiration there is to be found in the gaze of children with complete faith in the adults supporting them in their quest for a better life!

It was a pleasure to see that almost all the children have a uniform now, that more comfortable classroom benches have been installed, everything freshly painted and the new building almost ready to

open. I feel deep gratitude to the teachers whose dedication and sense of service are exceptional and to Father Paul Martin who scrupulously oversees the operation.”