

Autumn 2025

# Bamenda Update



Thank you for your support

## Ongoing Political Crisis

The “Anglophone crisis” continues to impact the lives of people in Bamenda and across the north and West of Cameroon. We are in regular contact with the archdiocese including Father Bernardine Nsom who served in our diocese for ten years before returning home in 2022.

In his latest news, Fr. Bern told us that shootings, kidnappings, targeted killings and disappearances continue almost without pause. Mondays remain "ghost town" days as armed separatists enforce lockdowns of businesses and schools. Kidnapping for ransom is a real concern – in April a Mill Hill Missionary and his assistant were abducted.

For ordinary people life is a struggle – roadblocks impede the movement of produce to markets affecting both consumers and producers and people continue to move from the countryside seeking the relatively safety of the towns putting further pressure on already stretched schools and health services.

Despite these challenges the archdiocese continues to serve the spiritual and practical needs of the community, and your generosity is making a real difference.

## Education

Since July 2024 your generosity has enabled us to send our sister archdiocese over £130,000 to support seven projects. Here's just some of the ways this is making a difference to people's lives.



292 children - all either orphans or children of families forced to leave their home due to insecurity – are now attending school. Your generosity has met the costs of school fees and books for children who would otherwise miss out.

In June, work started on a much-needed new primary school in Fr Bern's parish, Ntenefor. Funding for this project (£32,000) includes a very significant contribution from parishioners in Guernsey. The foundations have been started and we look forward to sharing details of the building work as it progresses.



## Health

The Archdiocese Health Services provide vital services for Catholics and non-Catholics across Bamenda. Parishioners across the Diocese have provided surgical equipment for the maternity ward of the archdiocese run St Blaise's hospital. This equipment is helping women many with complex pregnancies – including those who have come from insecure rural areas in search of help – to deliver children safely.



Further health support is being given through developing the skills and confidence of over 30 community health workers who are providing basic health services in the more remote and inaccessible areas.

