



FRIDAY, MARCH 22

God opened the rock, and water flowed,
so the river ran in the dry places.

— Psalm 105:41

A dry and parched land cannot sustain life. Water is essential to life, but that water has to be clean and managed properly for the benefit of all.

The water projects initiated by the Anglican Church of Burundi, in association with its partners, have helped to reduce diseases such as cholera, as well as diarrhea and parasites. Now thousands of people have improved hygienic conditions at home. They are now realizing the importance of washing hands regularly, of washing their clothes and of using water from a clean source. Having local sources of clean water has also reduced the time spent each day fetching water. In some places the walk to get water has been cut nearly in half.

Conservation of rain water has helped with the growing of crops when the rains are insufficient. One of the cathedrals now has a large tank beside it to catch the rain water that cascades off the roof. Water that once caused flooding is being used productively.

Communities are assuming responsibility for the upkeep and ownership of wells and water sources. This has helped to promote better relationships in the community as people learn to live and work together harmoniously—something that has been noted by others.

May we allow the Living Water of God's Spirit to fill us anew and refresh the dry and parched areas of our lives.

— Léonidas Niyongabo