

May 10, 2020

Dear Monsignor/Father:

Peace and all good!

Father Jean Ikanga, Ph.D., a Divine Word Missionary from the Democratic Republic of Congo, has been in Atlanta since 2014. He presently resides at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Atlanta; he has previously lived at Holy Spirit in Atlanta and St. Thomas More in Decatur. Jean has been an adjunct faculty member at the Emory University School of Medicine, where he conducts research on Alzheimer's disease in Africa.

Last year, the Conference of Bishops of Congo asked Father Ikanga to take leadership in establishing a School of Medicine at the Catholic University of Congo in Kinshasa. In addition to recruiting a French-speaking medical faculty from around the world, a large part of his task will be to raise funds for this undertaking.

Please know that the medical school project is known to me and has my support. I have given Father Ikanga permission to approach pastors and others in the Archdiocesan community who may be willing and able to assist him. You are at liberty to support this project as you see fit. There is no obligation.

I know that Father Jean would be grateful for your prayers for the success of this undertaking.

With prayerful best wishes for continued Easter blessings, I am

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Fraternally yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv.

Archbishop of Atlanta