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A cry of anguish by the missionary of love



“Our only hope is a white vehicle” is the plea to ensure that the Diocese’s water tanker continues to quench the thirst of the children of southern Madagascar.

Some 400,000 people in the south of Madagascar, a huge island in the Indian Ocean off southeast Africa, remain at the mercy of drought and face the specter of hunger and even death.

The Bishop of Toliara and Southern Madagascar, His Grace Prodromos, has over the recent period travelled hundreds of kilometers on a daily basis in an attempt to keep hope alive in the tear-filled eyes of children with broad smiles.

Bishop Prodromos recounted the words of a mother who sees her children dying from hunger and hardships, as everyday needs for food and medicines are great and pressing.

“Our only hope is the white vehicle… without it our children get sick and die!” are the words of a mother, who describes a wretched existence in a drought-plagued southern Madagascar, where the salvation of an entire village depends on a white water tanker, one operated by the Orthodox Diocese of Toliara and southern Madagascar, approaching the shacks made from bamboo, hay and mud.

“Dear brothers, thanks to your love and support over many years, we’ve been able to distribute food, and with the water tanker we have, we distribute 12 tons of water on a daily basis, and on some days even more. I ask for your forgiveness in advance. As a Father in care of these children, who strive for a better future with your support as well, I ask you for your help, so we will not stop the work we have commenced,” Bishop Prodromos stresses in a released video.

These people in need attempt to quench their thirst by drinking mud; these fellow humans, according to His Grace, attempt to fill their palms even with the Holy Water of the sacrament of Baptism in order to wet their dried mouths. Thanks to the love of the faithful and the self-denial of those spreading the Gospel in person, the people in need continue to breathe, and will continue to do so as long as they remind in our thoughts and soul.