



## South Sudan

Ibba Diocese

Kajo-Keji Diocese

Maridi Diocese (with Olo)

Yei Diocese

April 2019



CMSI Global Update

### Dear Sudan Sojourners...

In the last update we shared the news of the August 2018 Peace Agreement and the implementation period starting in March. It seems that the implementation has indeed begun and that President Salva Kirr and previous Vice President Machar are working along the terms of the agreement. However, there is some concern that others who were not signatories on the agreement are a risk to its success.

In February six thousand people were displaced from their communities outside Yei Diocese. Bishop Hilary received some of them on Emmanuel Cathedral compound which is again being used as a refuge for Internally Displaced People. For these people, and many more like them, peace does not seem to be within easy or immediate reach. Let us not grow weary of praying for peace in South Sudan.

Archbishop Justin Arama at the official validation of the Episcopal University in March 2019



It has been wonderful to have fresh updates from Yei after Billy Smyth visited for three weeks in February. At the Peace and Reconciliation Conference last October, Bishop Hilary had invited Billy to come to Yei to assess the Yei Vocational Training College (YVTC) in the hope

that it could be reopened. It is Bishop Hilary's hope that this will herald peace for those who stayed in Yei and for the few who are returning from refugee camps. But more than that it is clear that skills building for those who can't imagine a peaceful future is actually a peace building activity in itself. As this project moves forward pray for support for the restructuring of classes, for a peaceful environment and also for Billy as he returns to Yei at the end of April for the official re-opening of the YVTC.



Bishop Hilary visiting Rhino Refugee Settlement  
24<sup>th</sup> March 2019

The Peace and Reconciliation Conference also inspired other Dioceses to engage with new projects. Bishop Moses' youth team in Maridi organised a Peace and Reconciliation Conference for young people from each Archdeaconry. They worshiped and studied the bible together and discussed their role in building peace. Bishop Wilson in Ibba is working on a project which will bring together some local leaders for important discussions on peace in the surrounding community, some of the funds from the South Sudan emergency appeal will be used to assist Bishop Wilson in this courageous plan. Please pray for him and those involved.

In Olo, Bishop Tandema prioritised a Trauma healing project for support, and the first phase has been supported by an Olo Link Parish in Parish. He related to us the urgency of this programme as some of the young men who were involved in the fighting are beginning to return home. The project aims to *“help the young men cope with feelings of bitterness, pains, hopelessness and memories of the past events. The workshops will help traumatised people work towards recovery of the lost sense of belonging and identity.”* This is a huge task and Bishop Tandema asks for your prayers.

Bishop Emmanuel from Kajo-Keji is working hard to build the capacity of refugees to sustain food supplies for families in the camps. He would like to train 100 women in vegetable gardening relevant for the environment in which they find themselves. He recently informed us of the sad news of the passing of Canon Henry Leju’s son Wani Samuel. Canon Henry is well known to many here in Ireland and we ask you to pray for him and also Wani’s wife and children as they face this painful loss.

In the previous update we informed you of the passing of Archbishop Peter Munde Yacob, who led the internal province of Western Equatoria. In March the Internal Province elected Bishop Samuel Peni of Nzara to become the new Archbishop. Thank God for unity within the province as they go forward with their new Archbishop.



Newly appointed  
Archbishop  
Samuel Peni

There is much to be thankful for and much to pray towards as we stand with the church in South Sudan. Thank you for your continued support, prayer and engagement with our Global Partners.



Billy Smyth attended the confirmation service at Emmanuel Cathedral in Yei in February

With best wishes for Easter,

Linda

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