Apostolic Journey to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan

Links to Pope Francis' homilies and addresses on his apostolic journey to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan 31 January to 5 February 2023.

01/31/2023

On 29 January, Pope Francis announced his upcoming ecumenical peace pilgrimage to South Sudan: "I thank the civil authorities and the local bishops for their invitations and for the preparations they have made for these visits, and I greet with affection those beloved peoples who await me.

"These lands, situated in the centre of the great African continent, have suffered greatly from lengthy conflicts. The Democratic Republic of the Congo, especially in the east of the country, suffers from armed clashes and exploitation. South Sudan, wracked by years of war, longs for an end to the constant violence that forces many people to be displaced and to live in conditions of great hardship. In South Sudan, I will arrive together with the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. Together,

as brothers, we will make an *ecumenical pilgrimage of peace*, to entreat God and men to bring an end to the hostilities and for reconciliation. I ask everyone, please, to accompany this Journey with their prayers."

Tuesday, 31 January 2023

ROME - KINSHASA

7:55	Departure by airplane from Rome/Fiumicino International Airport to Kinshasa
	Greeting to journalists on the flight to Kinshasa
15:00	Arrival at Kinshasa "Ndjili" International Airport
15:00	**Official Welcome**
16:30	**Welcome Ceremony** at the "Palais de la Nation"

16:45	**Courtesy Visit to the President of the Republic** in the "Salle Présidentielle" of the "Palais de la Nation"
17:30	**Meeting with Authorities, Civil Society and the Diplomatic Corps** in the garden of the "Palais de la Nation"

Wednesday, 1st February 2023

KINSHASA

9:30	**Holy Mass** at "Ndolo" Airport
16:30	**Meeting with Victims from the Eastern Part of the Country** at the Apostolic Nunciature
18:30	**Meeting with Representatives from some Charities** at the Apostolic Nunciature

Thursday, 2nd February 2023

KINSHASA

9:30 **Meeting with Young People and Catechists** in Martyrs' Stadium

16:30 **Prayer Meeting with Priests, Deacons, Consecrated Persons and Seminarians** in the Cathedral "Notre Dame du Congo"

18:30 **Private meeting with Members of the Society of Jesus** at the Apostolic Nunciature

Friday, 3rd February 2023

KINSHASA - JUBA

8:30 **Meeting with Bishops** at CENCO

10:10 **Farewell Ceremony** at Kinshasa "Ndjili" International Airport

10:40

Departure by airplane from Kinshasa "Ndjili" International Airport to Juba

The Holy Father is making the Journey to South Sudan together with the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

15:00	Arrival at Juba International Airport
15:00	**Welcome Ceremony**
15:45	**Courtesy Visit to the President of the Republic** at the Presidential Palace
16:15	**Meeting with The Vice-Presidents of the Republic**
17:00	**Meeting with Authorities, Civil Society and the Diplomatic Corps** in the garden of the Presidential Palace

Saturday, 4 February 2023

JUBA

9:00	**Meeting with Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Consecrated Persons and Seminarians** in the Cathedral of Saint Therese
11:00	**Private meeting with Members of the Society of Jesus** at the Apostolic Nunciature
16:30	**Meeting with internally Displaced Persons** in the "Freedom Hall"
18:00	**Ecumenical Prayer** at "John Garang" Mausoleum

Sunday, 5 February 2023

JUBA - ROME

8:45	**Holy Mass** at "John Garang" Mausoleum
11:00	

	Farewell Ceremony at Juba International Airport
11:30	Departure by airplane from Juba International Airport to Rome
17:30	Arrival at Rome Fiumicino International Airport