

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

Departure by airplane from

7:55 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”**

Meeting with Authorities, Civil Society and the

17:30 **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

Meeting with Young People

9:30 and Catechists in Martyrs' Stadium

Prayer Meeting with Priests, Deacons, Consecrated

16:30 Persons and Seminarians in the Cathedral “Notre Dame du Congo”

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**
Courtesy Visit to the
15:45 **President of the Republic** at
the Presidential Palace

16:15 **Meeting with The Vice-
Presidents of the Republic**
**Meeting with Authorities,
Civil Society and the**

17:00 **Diplomatic Corps** in the
garden of the Presidential
Palace

Saturday, 4 February 2023

JUBA

**Meeting with Bishops,
Priests, Deacons,**

**9:00 Consecrated Persons and
Seminarians in the Cathedral
of Saint Therese**

**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

Departure by airplane from
11:30 Juba International Airport to
Rome

17:30 Arrival at Rome Fiumicino
International Airport

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