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# **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."

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**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"

**Courtesy Visit to the  
President of the Republic** in  
16:45 the “Salle Présidentielle” of the  
“Palais de la Nation”

**Meeting with Authorities,  
Civil Society and the  
Diplomatic Corps** in the  
17:30 garden of the “Palais de la  
Nation”

**Wednesday, 1st February 2023**

**KINSHASA**

9:30 **Holy Mass** at “Ndolo” Airport

**Meeting with Victims from  
the Eastern Part of the  
Country** at the Apostolic  
16:30 Nunciature

**Meeting with  
Representatives from some  
Charities** at the Apostolic  
18:30 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**

**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**

**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

Departure by airplane from

11:30 Juba International Airport to  
Rome

17:30 Arrival at Rome Fiumicino  
International Airport

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