

## Bishop Bullen Dolli – A Few Words

Bishop Bullen Dolli was born in 1945. He joined Bishop Gwynne Theological College for the ordained Ministry in 1964. Because of fighting he was forced to complete his training at St Paul's United Theological College in Limuru Kenya. He achieved this in 1965. Ordained in 1966 he first worked in Zaire with Sudanese refugees. Returning to Sudan during the peace in 1972 he was appointed Archdeacon of Mundri in 1976. Bullen did not rest and obtained further training including diplomas in church administration, and Economic development. He also achieved a diploma in Agriculture from Nairobi.

From 1990 until the 1999 Bullen was forced to live in Juba because of the civil war in Sudan. He was selected to be bishop of Lui in a process of consultation that involved both those living in exile and in the countryside. He was consecrated and enthroned as bishop on April 11<sup>th</sup> 1999 at Frazer Memorial Cathedral in Lui.

Despite difficult and limiting circumstances in Lui he persistently worked for the good of Lui and the people living there. In a rising tide of ever more complex communications and the advent of the internet Bishop Bullen could always be found as the voice of Lui.

The visit to Lambeth in 2008 was a bitter sweet moment for Bishop Bullen whose first wife had died. He travelled alone with a company of ECS bishops that had all brought their wives. Undaunted he



visited the Blackmore Vale Deanery in Salisbury diocese and planted the seed of a mutual link with that deanery. For a long time Lui had strong contacts with Missouri diocese in the USA and this became the basis of the only three way link with Sudan when Blackmore Vale decided to work with Missouri in partnership with Lui. A landmark statement of faith and fellowship this powerful partnership is just one legacy of his work carried out with gentle kindness and total faith in God.

Bishop Bullen leaves a widow and a diocese with deep needs, he also leaves a shining example to follow and large shoes to fill. No doubt the people that he touched in his life will honour his memory by keeping alive the dreams that he held so dear.

Bishop Bullen Dolli 1945 - 2010