

Over Sixty Confirmed in Mapel Archdeaconry

Bishop Moses blessed little children and confirmed over sixty Christians in Mapel Archdeaconry.

On Sunday 29th Oct 2011, His Lordship Rt. Rev. Moses Deng Bol, with his Acting Diocesan Secretary and Diocesan Chancellor Gabriel Majok Longar, arrived in Mapel Archdeaconry where they received a warm welcome by the Archdeacon Rev. Moses Elia (SPLA 5th Division Chaplain at Nyirayo). Both children and adults turned out in huge numbers to greet their bishop with a lot of excitement, thrilling and singing Christian songs. At Nyirayo SPLA 5th Division his Lordship addressed the crowd, in which he said, “You are great men and women of God and soldiers of Christ.....

Inside This Issue

Over Sixty Confirmed	1
Be Aware of HIV / AIDS.	2
International World Peace Day	4
Lady Cox visits Diocese of Wau	6
Schools Closed due to Riots	7
Schools Re Opened in Wau	9
New Hymn Books for Wau Diocese	10
President Kiir Comes to Wau	11
Samaritan’s Purse Makes Wau Diocese Proud	12
Bible Literacy and Discipleship Program	14
Cardinal, Gabriel Zuber Wako Visits Wau	15
Priorities for Giving and Praying	16



...Your fighting was not in vain. You have fought a good fight that is why you are free today at last. It doesn't matter whatever you lost in the course of your struggle. What counts most is not how much suffering you undertook but the freedom of worship. Without interference, this was the freedom you have fought for and now you have it. However sometimes it's easy to forget but I ask you, let's not forget our Savior Jesus Christ. Instead we should give him thanks all the time".

In the following hour Bishop Moses proceeded to Mapel Archdeaconry church where he preached on the subject of Christian love in the Gospel of John 21:15-20 when Jesus asked Peter three times the same question: Peter do you really love me? In this Bishop Moses said, "You Christians of Mapel Archdeaconry I have seen Christian love in you. You live together as one family regardless of your differences, and learn each other's language. I am so proud and impressed in this church, because it's only here I had found a unique congregation where different tribes exist and learn to speak their different languages. This is an indication of true love. I ask you to continue with that spirit. I am very encouraged when I see you in that mood. Therefore, please continue loving each other. Take care of each other. Let nothing separate you from that love". Bishop spoke to the Luo who are the indigenous people of Mapel and the Dinka, another tribe living in Mapel. As soon as he finished preaching the children were brought to him so that he could bless them for the birth of a child is a joyous and solemn event in the life of a family and every parent brought their new born children to give thanks to almighty God the lord of all life for the gift of their child.

Bishop Moses then confirmed over sixty Christians as is required by Anglican tradition that were born again Christians. They were confirmed by a bishop

as an assertion of their faith and they were able to take Holy Communion.

Finally Bishop Moses officially replaced Archdeacon Victor Anei Dhieu with Rev. Joseph Uyu Uguak as Acting Archdeacon of Mapel for a period of two months after which the bishop will decide whether to endorse Rev. Joseph Uyu in the same position or appoint another archdeacon to be in charge of Mapel Archdeaconry.

Be Aware of HIV / AIDS. It's a Terrible Traveler Disease.

The new Republic of South Sudan is not excluded from this terrible traveling epidemic disease. The status of HIV in South Sudan is some degrees better because of more than two decades of war has sheltered the country from experiencing an epidemic similar to that in South Sudan's neighboring countries. Ironically the independence has the potential of accelerating and spreading an epidemic in South Sudan far into the villages as a result of the increased movement of people and their altered economic and social activities. The return of refugees and internally displaced people and the influx of business people from surrounding countries and beyond brings along many circumstances which are known to be traveling



with them with epidemic or drivers of the HIV epidemic into new nation that has weak health systems and limited human, organizational and technical capacity to respond to HIV outbreaks.

From 1st to 5nd Sept 2011 a HIV/AIDS workshop was presented to ECS's pastors from seventeen archdeaconries of Wau Diocese, under the theme "Be aware of HIV/AIDS. It's a Terrible Traveler Disease". It has no restriction to anybody or any boundary to any nation. It is transmitted through sexual intercourse, transfusion of contaminated blood products, pricking or scarification by contaminated needles or instruments, and from an HIV positive mother to her baby in the womb, at birth or through breast milk. It's just as simple as that.

Worst of all there is no cure, so prevention is very important. It is a critical way in which we can control the spread and devastating effects of HIV infections from one person to another. Church leaders are aware of this and we are the best instruments for advocacy at a political level, in local churches and in religious forums, to ensure that the community gets the appropriate information regarding prevention.

Rt. Rev. Bishop Moses said in the workshop: "The church must be aware of the fact that HIV/AIDS is a destroyer and threatening the very survival of young generations today. If appropriate measures are not put in place with the seriousness the virus deserves, South Sudan will lose the opportunities that would have otherwise been available for our new nation to develop. As church leaders, we are challenged to carry out the message of eradication. Otherwise there will be no reduction of vulnerability amongst our Christian society and HIV will bring further complication to our complex land. Therefore, we, the Church leaders remain as the best instrument for a response to HIV/AIDS in educating young people with skills, so that our young people are able to protect themselves against HIV/AIDS and prevent it from spreading from one person to another."

Nelly Murugi (facilitator from St. Paul's University (Kenya) and on representative of the Ecumenical HIV/AIDS Initiative in Africa (EHALA) Eastern Africa Regional Office) added, "Christian's leaders should be aware of other sexually transmitted diseases which are the tokens in which HIV/AIDS finds its way to pass through. Surveillance of these other ways and control are very important in fighting HIV/AIDS."

Let's be aware of the fact that this terrible traveling disease can go anywhere to anybody, and so the best way to control this epidemic disease from one person to the other is to create strong HIV/AIDS awareness so that the whole community is knows.

After the training the participants were awarded a certificate of participation and were sent by his Lordship to go and spread the message of HIV/AIDS awareness to their local churches.



Western Bahr el Ghazal Celebrates International World Peace Day



South Sudan that has been at war for more than two decades with North Sudan. Yet, this year, for the first time since the South's independence, we celebrated World Peace Day on Wednesday 21st Sept 2011 at Wau Stadium in the capital of Western Bahr el Ghazal State. The South Sudanese communities have suffered severely in the long civil war of unrest. They searched for self-determination, justice, peace, prosperity, freedom, human rights and social economic development. The fighting had brought many traumas, psychosis, catastrophic episodes, sanguinary, holocaust, lost of lives, had erased trust, devastated resources and brought on the raiding of animals, all as the results of war. Nevertheless, some were tenured, while other women on the other side were raped, sexually abused in the presence of their children and society, which resulted in women traumatized by these indecent and tragic experiences that they were exposed to and thereafter they developed a culture of hostility as way of life.

On this day the South Sudanese join the world in the celebration of International World Peace Day.

The day came as another era in the life of many South Sudanese communities which marks a new beginning for the people of South Sudan to see new

life and enjoy the fruit of their struggles. His Excellency the Governor of Western Bahr le Ghazal State Rizik Zachariah Hassan addressed the gathering in speech, "I am very gratefully to celebrate such an important day today in our country in which we have been longing for. It was for this day that we have developed a culture of

war, a culture of economic struggling, a culture of divided rule by them. Then later, after signing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005, we started enjoying a peace that was to come. Today here we are celebrating this crucial day in the history of our country. Thus we are overwhelmed with a lot of joyfully sang songs and happiness. We need to take into account what we have deep in our lives; we need to change the culture of hostility that has ripened, change negative attitudes that have rooted, change behaviors that have developed for two decades. It is our predominant duty to do at this defining moment, however, it's not easy to change such chronic behaviors in a short time, but we must work hard to achieve it. It's a fundamental fact of life we will adapt to the culture of peace and co-existence and live as brother and sister". In contrast the UN representative did mention that "peace was a core value of the UN upon which other core values are based. The UN body does not recognize as crucial one's right to be grand".



The day was characterized with a lot of diverse plays, traditional dancing. Students and soldiers both alike were marching across the stadium with typical attire and with a lot of excitement and joyful songs. The activities all were an expression of peace and happiness.

For the occasion water was chosen as the symbol of peace, for the reason that when different waters are mixed together no one is able to distinguish his/her water and so it's with the peace. There is no individual peace or personal problem which affects one person, it affects entire communities. On the other hand, water has been ranked as second only to oxygen as essential for life because we can only go for a few days without drinking water. Human survival is dependent on water. It is a more important matter for our bodies and the ratio of 2:1 should be maintained every day. Every activity in the body is propelled by water. It is water, which is responsible for two third of activity in the body.

The supply of all-important water to the body is the same as the importance of peace. It opens freedom of movement and social development. We are always in need of more water in the heat of South Sudan, and so we are always in need of more peace. If South Sudan needs to develop then it has to get the full benefit of the peace be seen.

Lady Cox visits Diocese of Wau -South Sudan

On Wednesday 28th Sept 2011, Baroness Caroline Cox (the Chief Executive of HART (Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust) and a senior member of the UK House of Lords) with Rev. David (The Project and Logistics Co-coordinator of (HART)) visited the Diocese of Wau. The purpose of their trip was to gain information on the present development and security situation in the new country of South Sudan.

HART are also champions of freedom from slavery not only in South Sudan but also beyond. Baroness Cox, together with Rev. David Thomas, were so downhearted because of the continuing failure to acknowledge and respond to this humanitarian offence happening around the world particularly in

with the same predicament with a lack of humanitarian aid. They also want to remain in South Sudan but since no political agreement has been reached between North and South Sudan with adequate assurances of security, they are living in fear that when they go back home, they will still



the African continent. They carried out intensive interviews, interviewing both returnees from the North Sudan and the IDPs from Abyei in Kuacjok and on the ECS's Compound. Returnees had experienced many challenges to adapt to the new life in South Sudan. They had found it very difficult to cope up with new life, compared to the North where they spent much of their lives in a predominantly urban environment doing small business to sustain their living. In an interview many returnees accepted the fact that living here is such a difficult thing that they cannot afford. However, they have no choice. IDPs are faced

face the same problems that made them leave. Nevertheless there is hope in advance of voting in a referendum regarding self-determination, it is in this referendum that they will decide either to remain the South Sudan or join the North Sudan.

On the following day Baroness Cox met with different dignitaries among these were his Lordship Rt. Rev Moses Deng who accompanied her to the house of the Governor where Baroness Cox met his Excellency the Governor of Western Bahr el Ghazal state, Rizik Zachariah Hassan. The Governor expressed his appreciation of the

assistance given during the dark period and dangerous days of the war. Without such assistance the people of South Sudan couldn't have achieved the peace they have today. He recounted that the suffering the people of South Sudan have undergone during the struggling and the high price they paid for this freedom is beyond description. Thus the people of South Sudan got freedom they still face formidable challenges, which the predicament of security, law and order. During the struggle it was necessary to use any means to fight our common enemies. That is why everyone was given weapons to defend themselves. Now, after the peace, it is very difficult for government to gather the weapons from untrained people and these people are now using to fight between themselves.

Therefore, security is top priority to deal with. Because irresponsible people are now using weapons to fight other Southerners, this could possible lead to the destabilization and destruction of the new born country. Yet, again, there is the issue of establishment of good governance which remains a great task for a new nation. If there is no good governance then the price paid will be a waste of time energy and resources. The government right from the state level is developing mechanisms of good governance to ensure justice, transparency and accountability. Further, the government know the importance of the equitable and adequate provision of services. Yet, to address it amicable all these things might not happen in just a short matter of time. The fact is they will surely take place and patience is really required.

Likewise, the Warrap State Minister of Health - H.E Deng

Mariak Deng - met Baroness Cox in the absence of the Governor and pointed out that, "people of South Sudan are very grateful to those who stayed with them through terrible times. It's through them we are who we are today".

The minister emphasized capacity building and the need for training as the biggest challenge facing South Sudan that needs the international community's help.

Schools Closed due to Riots

A Rampage that occurred on Tuesday 4th Oct 2011 in Wau town, has led to the closing down of innocent schools. According to the eyewitnesses, the demonstration was started at St. John Paul Secondary School. The students started marching on the street from their school, with the slogans "Youths for Change", to Salaam Secondary School compound to team up for a riot. Yet, on reaching the gate they were stopped by a head boy of Salaama Secondary School. They were told not to enter into school compound but they jumped over the fence and got into the church's compound, and immediately police men started shooting tear gas at them and the compound became very small. The question was/is why did St John Paul students marched all the way through to Salaama Secondary school? There was speculation that Salaama



Secondary School was involved in one-way or the other. However, Salaama Secondary denied these allegations made against their name. They told the Police Commissioner when he addressed them in the assembly before the demonstration took place. Yet, a few minutes later when he left the school compound, students from St. John Paul came in immediately marching to Salaama Secondary School compound. It's very difficult to trace down that actually was behind this demonstration between these two schools.

It is no wonder that Salaama Secondary denied assertions made against them. They were the victim. As a consequence, both students and teachers (including the Sunday Basic School head teacher) were beaten and taken in to custody for hours. Guns were shot including rifles which scared some children and left some unconscious. Nevertheless there were more than 42 tear gas rounds fired on protesters. This is an exceedingly large amount, as you can see in the picture.

In fact, in accordance with the eyewitness reports, St. John Paul was the one who took the initiative to start the riot, which left many people injured and one person shot dead. The reasons that led students to demonstrate were never articulated properly, thus there is some speculation that it could be the high price of commodities in the market as well as the lack of proper teaching. However, the demonstration was totally condemned and described by his Excellency Rizik Zacharia Hassan (Governor of Western Bahr el Ghazal State) and Rt. Rev, Moses Deng Bol (His Lordship the Bishop of Wau Diocese) as unacceptable behavior. The end result was to shut down all schools in Wau town until a thorough investigation could be carried out to pin down the root cause of the demonstration.

Schools Re Opened in Wau

The State Government has official re-opened both primary and secondary schools today.



On Saturday 24 Oct/2011 Western Bahr el Ghazal State authority authorized the reopening of both primary and secondary schools in the capital of Wau after being closed for more than 18 days when student's went on the rampage to express their disappointment regarding food insecurity and lack of proper teaching in various schools.

The opening of schools came after a thorough investigation had been carried out in many different schools to pin down what led students to riot. As a result some of the students from various schools were found to have been inciting others to go berserk. Some of these students who were alleged and arrested in different places are now still in custody.

Although they were charged for this incident, they have denied these allegations made against them. Thus they cannot be freed until a verdict is heard to declare them innocent.

It's not very clear exactly who was inciting the students to act in this manner which has brought suspicions and wrangles among the politicians and communities as a whole. According to his Excellency the Governor of Western Bahr el Ghazal, Rizik Zachariah Hassan, "The students were not demonstrating on the education bases as such but were aiming to demoralize the state Government".

Not all schools were opened as usual. Unfortunately, Salaam Secondary is affected because it has been accused on severally occasions of trying to spread unrest to the rest of the schools. The first incident, Salaam was accused of holding frequent meetings in school at weekends. Meetings were questioned by the state government.

Yet, again in the 2008, Salaam was involved in demonstrations and was closed down for some time

by the former Governor Mark Nyipuoch Ubong. Sometime later in the same year it was re-opened but given a warning.

This year in the second week of Sept 2011, the Salaam Secondary Students stopped the current Governor at 9:30 am when he was heading to his office. The students were claiming that they were not being taught. Then the governor summoned them together and solved their problem amicably.

The Salaam Secondary School already had enough bad records to be relocated. The Salaam Secondary has since been relocated to Mayo School and the mode of study has been shifted from morning to evening. Only the private Salaam Secondary students are now operating in the previous compound.

According to the state ministry of Education and senior Government official, Salaam is very near to the Governor's house. Apart from that, it's also very congested. One compound composed of three secondary schools i.e. Salaam public school, Salaam private, the Bursary Secondary school and two primary schools with church buildings as well as offices. It is an unacceptable thing in accordance with education policies. Seeing that is the reason why Salaam Government Secondary has been relocated in Mayo School.

New Hymn Books for Wau Diocese

The Falls Church (Episcopal) USA in conjunction with Five Talents have donated forty Hymns books to the Diocese of Wau English curate service



The English Service has been facing a lot of challenges since its beginning. However the biggest challenge has been the lack of Books of Common Prayer. Needed for the Administration of the Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church and for hymns in the Anglican Church. The lack of English bibles is also another cause for concern.

Both the bible and the Book of Common Prayer are hardly ever found in South Sudan. The four Books of Common Prayer which were used on Sundays to administrate the service and sacraments were brought from outside the country by good friends of Wau Diocese.

On 5th Oct 2011 the team from Falls Church USA donated forty books of common prayer and administration of the sacraments and other Rites

and Ceremonies of the church to the English Curate Service.

The head of the team presented the books to the pastor in charge of the English service, Rev. Andrew Apiny, who received them on behalf of the English congregation. Rev. Andrew expressed his gratitude, "I am very grateful to The Falls Church, Virginia for their gift that they have given us. For the last five months I have been appointed as pastor in charge of the English service. One of the identified problems in the English service was the lack of books of Common Prayer. It affects our service badly. The only one copy we have had been duplicated by a good

Samaritan lady called Lydia Marona (our church member) to try to curtail the issue. Yet, that didn't get to the bottom of the problem since some pages were missing. Now together with these copies it has really resolved the issue amicably.

Therefore, I would like to acknowledge and appreciate Lydia and The Falls Church for their gifts and the support they have given us. Our service will never be the same again. At least the officiating will be in agreement".

President Kiir Comes to Wau

By Andrew Apiny Macham



On Monday 31st Oct 2011, the president of the Republic of South Sudan arrived in Capital of Western Bahr el Ghazal State -Wau for the very first time since independence. Western Bahr el Ghazal State comes as the first of the ten states in the Country he has visited following the declaration of independence of South Sudan from the north three months ago. He received a warm welcome by the State governor Rizk Zachariah Hassan, deputy governor, Efisio Kon Uguak, 5th Division Commander, Andrea Dominic along with other distinguished state dignitaries which included state Legislative Assembly members, the state ministers at the airport and citizens both young and old, men and women alike all with a lot of thrilling, exciting and dancing.

His coming was extraordinary. Everything was shut down including businesses, schools, movement was restricted on the roads, offices and other buildings were closed down. It was such a

wonderfully warm welcome, which was overwhelming and crowded with everyone who was overjoyed to see their president that they had voted in.

Over a hundred citizens queued along the way from Wau airport to the state ministerial premises to welcome their president. While the president was in the car heading to the council of ministries, he stretched out his hand through the window and waved to the crowd all along the way. As he moved the security was tight all the way from the airport to the council of the ministers. At the council of the ministers the president was expected to address the public. Unfortunately the president declined to address the audience gathered there who were so overexcited and eager to hear something from him. Alas the president didn't speak and the public exhilaration was let down. Instead he held a private meeting with the specific state officials in which the media were not permitted. After the meeting he told those who had been waiting for him for three hours to calm down and wait for him to address them after he came back from his home town of Akon in Warrap State.

However he congratulated them for their warm welcome. He said, "I appreciate you so much for your votes by which you voted me in, which is why am your president today of the Republic of South Sudan and your choice during the referendum has given you freedom and a new country. Thank you so much for your decision."

Samaritan's Purse Makes Wau Diocese Proud.

The Samaritan's Purse is an evangelical Christian organization dedicated to providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since its formation it has helped meet the needs both spiritual and physical with the purpose of sharing God's love through Jesus Christ. For the two and half years the organization has been working hard not only building churches but building up the lives of people for better. Also, they are strengthening churches in capacity building, offering Biblical and literacy discipleship programs which created job opportunities for many Christian leaders. Above all, they show the love of Christ.

Two years ago the Bishop of Wau Diocese invited the Samaritans Purse organization to Wau Diocese to help putting up concrete buildings. Little did he know the organization would create undeletable stories in this diocese. Today as we are speaking the organization has changed Christian life tremendously; the organization knew by building up people's lives it would automatically create an impact in the church.

For many years most of the Christians not only in Wau diocese have been praying in this kind of *tukul* church. This one was built in 2009 at Hai Kososi, Wau Archdeaconry, made with mud and with grass on the roof which takes one and half



years to repair again. Some were even praying under the trees. Things were very hard. But after the Samaritans Purse came they have made Christian life flexible and comfortable. Today many Christians are praying in concrete buildings in Wau Diocese.

I asked some Christians what difference it had made. Rev. Peter Garang, Archdeacon of Wau, is among those whose congregation have been praying in such a building and this what he said, "At least now we are at peace and proud. Every year we were always faced with the same predicament which is the question of repairing churches. Each year, this building you see was built one year ago and from the look of the shape it seemed it was built ten years back as its almost collapsing.

Apart from the frequency of building, we also mould mud as benches inside it since we were unable to buy benches. The bad thing was it has kept our believers away and Christian visitors did not want to attend our services because they didn't want to sit on the mud benches that will make their clothes dirty and so they go to the churches where they could find good seats to sit on. It's not that they necessarily love to be there but due to the conditions they are facing they feel forced to leave. This is why the Diocese of Wau local churches were experiencing poor attendance on Sundays in those days. I thought the problem was with my preaching style and that caused me a lot of struggling. After the Samaritans Purse organization built this church the attendance is now increasing every Sunday. Each Sunday we receive no fewer than five visitors who later become our church members. In this, I realized that the reason behind the poor church attendance was lack of good structures. Now I am proud of what Samaritan Purse International has done in my Archdeaconry to set up this kind of building".

Likewise Rev. Andrew Ngong, Archdeacon of Kuacjok Archdeaconry, said, “Today not many Christians want to sit on the floor under the trees. Everyone wants to sit comfortably in the church. None of them want to sit on the ground. It was good at that time but now it is awkward because most people are smart and you cannot expect someone who is dressed in a suit to sit on the ground. It’s impossible. They will either go where they can sit on a chair comfortably or else remain at home.

We really didn’t know how to curtail this issue but the Samaritans Purse have made us proud in this diocese, not only building churches but also they helped us in evangelism. In those days evangelism was such a difficult thing for us due to lack of transport. Today that problem has been solved by the Samaritan Purse who provided motorbikes to

those who are doing evangelism and created jobs opportunities to pastors.” The Samaritans Purse is such wonderful organizations that has had a very positive impact on the life of the people of God and made the church of Christ become strong as well as giving church leaders voices.



Bible Literacy and Discipleship Program

By Dumo A.Peter



A one – week Bible Literacy and Discipleship training workshop was officially opened and later closed by His Grace Right Rev. Moses Deng Bol (Bishop of Wau Diocese) at the Good Shepherd Cathedral Wau.

The training was facilitated and conducted at Good Shepherd Cathedral from 25th -29th October 2011 by Samaritan Purse International – a Christian based charitable organization working towards church planting and faith building in South Sudan and other parts of the world. The training had drawn about 70 participants mostly pastors and evangelists from 31 different churches built by Samaritan Purse under the 17 archdeaconries in Wau Diocese.

The purpose of the training workshop was to train and equip church leaders and clergy with the skills and knowledge required for reading and teaching the bible messages to the people in their own language, enabling them to open up centers for

preaching. The training was done in the Dinka language and participants were each given certificates before being sent out to go and preach the word of God in response to the command of Jesus in [Matthew 28: 18-20](#), which says ; ‘ All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the father, and of the son and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.’

His Grace Bishop Moses Deng Bol, the Bishop of Wau Diocese, in his closing remarks reminded that the participants should not go and bury the skills and talents they have gained but invest them in themselves and bring more people to the words of God. He related his message to the analogy of the parable that Jesus told of the three servants ;[\[Matthew 25:14-30\]](#) who were given different talents according to their ability and one ended up burying his talents instead of investing and multiplying it to bring in more talents like the others.

The participants were officially sent back to their flocks after they were given training certificates and Bible teaching booklets printed in the Dinka language. They were promised by the Samaritan’s Purse International to give them incentives as they go on with their ministries of church planting and faith building in their churches. The ministry program manager, Mr. Luke Runyon from the Samaritan’s Purse International, said that the church is at the peak of expanding and this initiative was important for the mission of evangelizing to the world.

Cardinal, Gabriel Zuber Wako Visits Wau

By James Deng Dimo



On 17/Oct/2011 the Roman Catholic Church of Sudan Cardinal, Gabriel Zuber Wako, with fourteen other Roman Catholic Bishops from different Dioceses of South Sudan and North Sudan, arrived at Wau Airport. They were received by State Governor, Rizik Zackaria Hassan, and high profile state cabinet members.

On the right in the picture, his Excellency the Governor and on the left Cardinal Gabriel and Roman Catholic Christians who turned out in big number to receive their Cardinal. Only minimal security was required along the road to welcome the Cardinal who was visiting Wau for the first time after the independence of South Sudan on 9th July 2011.

Jubilant screams sounded high as St. Kazito choirs started singing at the airstrip following Cardinal's descent from the plane before addressing the crowds at the Catholic Health Training Centre premises.

He congratulated all the Roman Catholic Christians who turned out in large number to welcome him. He said, "I Am very happy to be with you today in South Sudan here in Wau, my coming here is a blessing from almighty God and of course to the people of South Sudan in particular to the people of the Western Bahr el Ghazal state capital Wau".

The Cardinal's purpose in coming to Wau was to hold a bishops', priests' and father's conference. On the third day, the conference kicked off at the Catholic Health Training Centre in Wau. Speaking during the opening ceremony, the Secretary General of the conference, Fr. Santino Maurino Moto, said the conference is focusing on how the two nations will work together and tie harmonization as one family and children of God regardless of political or geographical distribution.

On Sunday 23th Oct 2011 at St, Marys Catholic Church the Cardinal told South Sudanese Roman Catholic Christians that they had made the right choice at the right time during the referendum as it had given you an everlasting freedom that they will never regret.

Prayer Priorities

1) Peace at Christmas in the Diocese of Wau

This season is one of disarmament in the Diocese of Wau. Yet, as neighbouring rebel groups become more vocal there is fear that peace will not last into the dry season of the first months of 2012.

2) School Students

Disrupted by the riots, in the middle of their studies, many of our students have an uncertain future. Pray for their courage to keep going.

3) Soldiers

Many people in South Sudan continue to serve in the armed forces. The Diocese tries to reach out to them and serve them in their spiritual searching.

4) Christmas Around The World

God has started to give us friends around the world in this season. This chimes with this season of dreaming of all that God might do. Pray for a fostering of love and understand between us. Pray that this Christmas season will speak to us all again.

Priorities For Giving

1) Ploughs for Pastors

As above, we are praying the world will give the pastors the potential to feed themselves and their communities.

2) Development Officer

To further the service of the Diocese, we have appointed Dumo Peter as a South Sudanese Development Officer to create and co-ordinate our aid and development work. We need donations to fund this post.

3) Sponsorship for Pastor Pupils

As much as pastors hope to learn, they need financial support to do this.

**For more information, contact
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