

South Sudan Appeal

Fighting continues in parts of South Sudan. Almost a million people are displaced with over 3 million at risk of hunger.

The Archbishop of Canterbury recently visited the country and saw the scale of the problem first hand. In



Bor, 3,000 had been buried, a similar number had not. He could smell death.

At St Andrew's Cathedral the bodies of 20 clergy and lay workers were laid out and he was asked to bless a mass grave. There is deep anger at the perpetrators.

Our fellow Anglicans in the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Sudan are responding directly on the ground. Their development agency, SUDRA, has the expertise, experience and networks to make sure assistance gets quickly to these who need it most.

As well as providing relief, the South Sudanese Church is providing courageous moral leadership at great

peril, speaking out against political and ethnic factionalism and revenge.

That's why we've launched a Diocesan appeal that will run until Easter to help the Episcopal Church. After Easter, we will ask again for help with more targeted projects to rebuild lives.

You can donate in three ways:

Online via www.justgiving.com/sdbf

Text "SSUD14 £10" to 70070 to give £10 via text message.

Post make cheques payable to *Salisbury DBF SSA*. Send to South Sudan Appeal, Church House, Crane Street, Salisbury, SP1 2QB.

Bishop's Letter

The Right Revd Dr Edward Condry
Bishop of Ramsbury

Here it comes. Lent will soon be with us.

What will it be this year? Cake? Chocolate? I'm too easily tempted.

So, this year I'm giving up my car for Lent. I drive about 1500 miles a month, therefore it's a bit of a challenge.

Cycling to Trowbridge on a cold wet day may not be quite like Jesus in the Judean desert, but it will make me think hard about our responsibility for creation. It will tie in with the dioceses's campaign to find forty parishes which will reduce their

carbon footprint by 40% during the 40 days of Lent: the 40-40-40 Fast.

The Church of England General Synod has just committed us to taking climate change more seriously. We must think about how we turn good intentions into real action.

It will remind me how dependent we have become on the motor vehicle for everything from holidays and shopping, to work, friends and the school run. And that's before you remember the 2000 people who are killed every year on the roads.

Trains and buses will take me for

many of the miles, for scheduled trips to Manchester and London.

Otherwise, I shall be cycling. I've had to borrow a specially small episcopal staff from Bishop Nicholas to strap to

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my bike.

Above all, taking a little longer will give me time to pray. There's nothing like a good cycle ride for sorting your thoughts out.

Sunday mornings will be the biggest test, as then public transport is

Chinese Art at Sarum

Pupils from a number of primary schools gathered at Sarum Academy, a Church of England academy in Salisbury, to mark Chinese New Year.

They embarked on an art day based on the theme of this colourful festival. Pupils learnt how to use watercolours, fold paper into fan shapes and decorate them with Chinese patterns and even Chinese writing. They made dragon puppets, dragon heads and lucky Chinese bags.

The pupils were buzzing with excitement and loved the art rooms.



Daisy-Mae Gardner from Woodlands School said, "We all loved the morning at Sarum Academy. It was fandabodocious, we got to take home all the things we made. We'd all like to do it again, so I hope we get to soon".

Inspiring Youth to be Epic

Our TVs and newspapers are full of the struggles of young adults. Battling debt, high rents and a stuttering economy, today's youth are said to be the first in centuries worse off than their parents.

One group in Wiltshire, however, is working to turn the tide.

Sara Hughes, who worships at St Peter's, Milton Lilbourne, set up the



Epic project after seeing her her son struggle to find a job.

Epic helps 16-25 year olds in the Pewsey area to realise their potential by helping them with things like CV writing and interview skills.

Sara said, "Robert tried so hard to get a job after he graduated, but like many young people, he was up against it.

"There seemed to be so few places for him to go for help. He didn't want to become a statistic, so he ended up moving to China to teach English.

"Not every young person is in a position to move so far to find work."

The Vale of Pewsey Team of Churches supports Epic, by supplying many of its volunteers, underwriting insurance, and in prayer. The project also receives some financial support

Sharing in Christ in Évreux

"Because we all share in the one baptism, we can consider ourselves all to be members of the body of Christ, happily all very different but indispensable to each other."

That was the message of Abbé Pierre of the monastery of Le Bec Halouin in Normandy to a group of visitors from the Diocese of Salisbury.

The visitors were there to give life to Salisbury's twinning with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Évreux.

The dioceses have been linked for over 30 years and have much in common. Both are largely rural regions, with clergy often having to serve many villages. Both are learning how to be Church in deeply secular societies.



from the Diocese's Social Welfare Fund.

16 year-old Jake Amor from Pewsey is one of the people helped by Epic. Jake said, "Epic showed me how to do a good CV, what to do at interview and how to be more organised with exam work. But it did a lot more than that.

"Because I'm dyslexic, some people at school really took the mick out of me. My confidence took a real knock, but the people at Epic belived in me and really helped me get my mojo back.

"I'm now studying public services at New College in Swindon, and I'm hoping to go on to study law at Uni."

Learn more on the group's website: www.epicpewsey.org.uk.