

South Sudan Council of Churches

Head Office

P.O. Box 209 - Juba, South Sudan.



مجلس كنائس

المكتب الرئيسي

ص - ب ٢٠٩ جوبا - جنوب السودان

Tuesday 4th April 2023

SSCC PASTORAL EASTER MESSAGE OF HOPE 2023

"Do not be afraid! I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here! He is risen from the dead ..." (Matthew 28:5-6).

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Happy Easter! The Lord is truly Risen! Alleluia!

As we approach the most significant day in the history of our salvation that we get to celebrate the Good News of the Church's proclamation to all of humanity in the resurrection of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ, we wish to assure you ALL of God's unfailing and abundant love for us. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."* (John 3:16). Thank you, Lord, for proving to humanity through your resurrection that there is life after death. Amen!

While the challenges of the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement for the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS) remains, we still can vividly remember the words of His Holiness Pope Francis during the ecumenical pilgrimage of peace: "I have come here as a pilgrim of reconciliation, in the hope of accompanying you on your journey of peace ... we present ourselves to you and to this people in the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace." (Pope Francis speech during the meeting with Authorities, Civil Society and Diplomatic Corps in the Presidential Palace in Juba - 3rd February 2023).

In the spirit of the Risen Lord and of the recent ecumenical pilgrimage of peace, let us continue in the spirit of dialogue and transformation to resolve our internal issues and challenges, in order to end violence, forgive one another, reconcile with one another, and keep our hope focused.

May the peace of the Risen Christ come and remain with the people of South Sudan. May the Risen Christ appear to the people of South Sudan with the message: *"Peace be with you!"* (John 20:20-21). May the Risen Christ breath on the people of South Sudan as He said: *"Receive the Holy Spirit!"* (John 20:22). May the Risen Christ enhance in us the spirit of true forgiveness, peace, justice, and reconciliation (John 20:23). May the Risen Christ transform into hope all the sufferings and challenges that we endure.

We are inspired to remove from our hearts and minds rumors, hatred, and revenge. It is time to build a new South Sudan, filled with true love of our Risen Lord. Never lose

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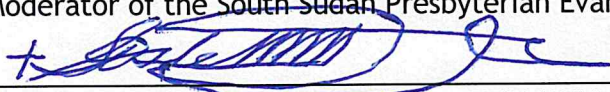
hope. And lose no opportunity to build peace. May hope and peace dwell among us.
May hope and peace dwell in SOUTH SUDAN.

With the promise of the presence of God, we wish you ALL a Happy Easter of the
Resurrection of our Lord.

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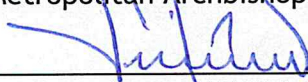
Rt. Rev. Thomas TUT PUOT MUT
Chairman, South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC) &
Moderator of the South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church (SPEEC).



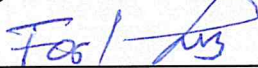
The Most Rev. Dr Stephen AMEYU MARTIN MULLA
Metropolitan Archbishop of JUBA
Catholic Church.



The Most Rev. Dr Justin BADI ARAMA
Primate of the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (ECSS) &
Metropolitan Archbishop of JUBA Diocese.



Rt. Rev. James MAKUEI CHUOL
Moderator of the General Assembly
Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCSS).



Bishop James LAGOS ALEXANDER
Presiding Bishop, Africa Inland Church (AIC).



Bishop James LADU EMILIANO
General Overseer, Sudan Pentecostal Church (SPC).



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