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SRF - 2019 House 3Q Newsletter #2736 - CARRIER	TO ART: COPY: NA SIZE: 6" X 9.25"   STYLE: SIDE SEAMS, STANDARD FLAP WINDOW 1: 2" X 3.125" - 75"   FFT AND .625" BOTTOM	
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# Your Christian generosity accomplishes so much for my people ...

#### IN THIS ISSUE

In South Sudan, the suffering find hope thanks to your support

You help the 'Blue Sisters' bring hope to abused women and girls

Refugees in Riimenze rely on your generosity

Bringing food and hope to the homeless of Wau

A Message from SRF's President



P.O. Box 7084 • Merrifield, Virginia 22116

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Dear << Prefix Last Name>>,

You are a miracle worker.

I know that may be hard for you to believe. But I've seen the miracles you make possible with my own eyes.

Of course, I'm talking about the way your sacrificial gifts to the Sudan Relief Fund achieve wondrous things for my people — your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Among these is the education your generosity provides to desperately poor young boys and girls. Your past support is why the Loreto Rumbek Schools are thriving, and also why we're able to build a new Catholic school at the Ave Maria church outside Mupoi in my Diocese.

So please accept my thanks from the bottom of my heart and know you have my prayers for your continued health.

Building on this success depends on the continuing support of friends like you. And that's why I pray I can still count on you.

If you are so blessed, could you please send a tax-deductible gift of \$AMT1, \$AMT2, \$AMT3, or even more to keep working real-life miracles for my people?

God bless you for saying "Yes" today.

RELIEF + FUND

Gratefully, yours in faith,

Bishop Eduardo Hiiboro Kussala

P.S. << Prefix Last NameXXXXXXXXX>>, please keep changing lives and working wonders in South Sudan by rushing back \$AMT1, \$AMT2, \$AMT3, or more today. Thank you, and God bless you again for all you do!

▲ PLEASE DETACH HERE AND RETURN IN THE ENCLOSED PROVIDED. ▲

<< Member ID>> << Mail code>>

### MY GIFT FOR THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH SUDAN

information needed on the back of this form. Thank you.

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Your gift is very much appreciated and fully deductible as a charitable contribution. A copy of our latest financial report may be obtained by writing to Sudan Relief Fund PO Box 7084 Merrifield, VA 22116-9798 or by phone at 888-488-0348. If you are a resident of one of these states, you may obtain financial information directly from the state agency: **FLORIDA** – A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, 1-800-435-7352 (800-HELP-FLA) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. Florida Registration #CH37686. GEORGIA - A full and fair description of the programs of the Sudan Relief Fund and our financial statement summary is available upon request at the office and phone number indicated above. MARYLAND - For the cost of copies and postage, Office of the Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401. MISSISSIPPI - The official registration and financial information of Sudan Relief Fund may be obtained from the Mississippi Secretary of State's office by calling 1-888-236-6167. Registration by the Secretary of State does not imply endorsement. **NEW JERSEY** – INFORMATION FILED WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONCERNING THIS CHARITABLE SOLICITATION AND THE PERCENTAGE OF CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED BY THE CHARITY DURING THE LAST REPORTING PERIOD THAT WERE DEDICATED TO THE CHARITABLE PURPOSE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY CALLING (973) 504-6215 AND IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT http://www.state.nj.us/ lps/ca/charfrm.htm. REGISTRATION WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT. NEVADA – Sudan Relief Fund was formed in Delaware. NEW YORK - Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. NORTH CAROLINA - FINANCIAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION AND A COPY OF ITS LICENSE ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE STATE SOLICITATION LICENSING BRANCH AT 1-888-830-4989. THE LICENSE IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT BY THE STATE. PENNSYLVANIA - The official registration and financial information of Sudan Relief Fund may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. VIRGINIA – Virginia State Office of Consumer Affairs, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services, PO Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218. WASHINGTON - Charities Division, Office of the Secretary of State, State of Washington, Olympia, WA 98504-0422, 1-800-332-4483. WEST VIRGINIA - Residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305. Registration with any of these state agencies does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by any state.

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The Sudan Relief Fund is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Your personal or corporate contribution is tax deductible to the full extent of the law. If we raise more funds than needed for any given project, your donation will be used to support similar projects.	Thank you, and God bless you! — Bishop Kussala

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## SUDAN RELIEF REVIEW

Bringing the Gospel of Christ, and providing food, clean water, shelter and medical care, to the people of South Sudan

# In South Sudan, the suffering find hope thanks to your support

Without a doubt, the people of South Sudan are suffering greatly in the midst of unrelenting war and chaos. But your generosity — and your prayers to Almighty God — are improving the lives of our brothers and sisters half a world away.

You are feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, healing the sick, and bringing Christ's love to the poorest of the poor. For so many in this devastated young country, things are improving bit by bit — and this improvement wouldn't be happening without friends like you.

# One of the biggest ways your prayerful support is transforming lives is through the education of children.

The Loreto Rumbek Primary and Secondary Schools, which your support has made possible, provides a safe haven for girls so they can receive an education. Having just celebrated their ten year anniversary, the schools continue to grow to provide young girls with a bright future. Without the Loreto Secondary School, many of the students would have already been forced into marriage and denied the right to an education.

One of the incoming students, Josephine, says, "I am glad I made it to join Loreto. I will encourage my classmates to study hard as we start and live happily in school."

Surrounded by chaos and death, the



Children are thriving at Catholic schools in South Sudan thanks to the blessing of your Sudan Relief Fund donations.

school is a ray of hope and provides comprehensive support — a refuge offering protection, food, education, clothing, health care, and social and spiritual formation for hundreds of young girls. With the support of donors like you, Sudan Relief Fund has funded the school's food program for four years, helping to keep these vulnerable girls fed and safe.

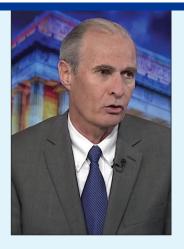
"[Sudan Relief Fund] donors heavily invest in these students, and parents' contribution to keep the girls in school is vital," says Mr. Yuga, headteacher of Loreto Secondary School. "We are very proud of our new students and we wish them every success in their studies and development."

### **INSIDE**

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## A MESSAGE FROM NEIL CORKERY PRESIDENT OF THE SUDAN RELIEF FUND

Dear Friend in Christ,

Your generous gifts are truly making a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ in South Sudan.

But with more than 7 million people still in desperate need of aid this year, the situation in South Sudan remains a serious humanitarian crisis.

As you know, because of the unrelenting war, no one has been able to plant anything in this country. The violence has literally made it impossible for people to grow the food needed to feed themselves. And this has been a huge, HUGE crisis.

But, with friends like you partnering with us, we are providing emergency relief to these poor people and saving lives. And despite the ongoing conflict, we continue to establish schools, churches, hospitals, and other institutions of civil society to build a peaceful and prosperous South Sudan.

Your faithful support also furthers the Catholic Church's presence in these peoples' lives. It's the Church that gives them the spiritual underpinning needed to provide the hope they can get back to a normal life.

Thank you and God bless you for helping to build on the hope you've established with your continuing prayers and compassion. Please keep our brothers and sisters in your prayers.

Yours in faith, Neil Corkery, President

In South Sudan ... continued from Page 1

Meanwhile, your generous support is also funding the education of students at the new secondary school at Ave Maria, the Catholic parish church outside of Mupoi, in the dioceses of Tombura-Yambio. The church was built almost a century ago by Combonian missionaries from Italy, but it fell into disrepair decades ago and is practically unusable.

Now, it's being refurbished by two Spanish priests, Father Avelino Bassols and Father Albert Salvans. Ave Maria Parish is now the epicenter of the peace and rebuilding effort in South Sudan's Diocese of Tombura-Yambio.

"Our mission here is to bring the Gospel in full, and that means not only spreading the Gospel, but also bringing education, peace, and reconciliation to the region," says Bishop Eduardo Hiiboro Kussala.

While the priests work in the slow rebuilding of the shrine, <u>your support is helping to build the new secondary school</u>. The school will serve all the students from the nearby towns of Yubu, Ngpotoneyo, Nboko, and Sabamile.

"In the state of Tombura, 84% of the population is Catholic, and I mean, truly Catholic," says Father Avelino. "We need schools, drinking water, a healthcare facility, issues we are addressing with the help of the Sudan Relief Fund."

As you can see, your prayers and gifts are making a difference for our brothers and sisters in Christ in South Sudan. God bless you for being part of the Sudan Relief Fund family and transforming the lives of so many.

**SUDAN RELIEF REVIEW** | PAGE 2

Neil Corkery

# You help the 'Blue Sisters' bring hope to abused women and girls

Founded three decades ago in southern Sudan, the Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary are usually known by the bright blue color of their habits, giving them the nickname "Blue Sisters."

In the Diocese of Tombura-Yambio, Bishop Edward Hiiboro Kussala tasked them with providing permanent assistance to the many women — including young girls and teenagers —who have been raped, abused or abandoned amid the violent conflicts that have plagued the region for years.

"There is a major stigma that falls over these mostly young women who are victims of the violence of war," says Sister Ester, local superior for the Blue Sisters. The four sisters help with the recovery of 100 women in a facility in the town of Yambio, next to the diocesan chancery.

"The sisters are an incredible blessing," Bishop Kussala explains. "They were founded by my predecessor, Bishop Joseph Abangite Gasi upon the request of the Sudanese bishops, who realized that a community of African sisters was sorely needed."

According to Sister Ester, the women living at the shelter vary in age and with regard to their level of trauma.

"Several of them remain still in a state of shock, barely aware of their reality," she says. "Our ministry is to help them to recover from the consequences of the terrible suffering they have endured, through love, patience, prayer, and therapy."

The sisters help some women cope with AIDS, and they help others to raise their children — many of whom were conceived in rape. According to Sister Ester, "the connection with their children, surprisingly, is a significant part of the healing process, and not part of the trauma, as some tend to believe."

Although the civil war has significantly abated in this part of South Sudan, the shelter still welcomes abused women every day. For this reason, the Blue Sisters want to expand their facility and enhance the care they provide. That's where the generosity of Sudan Relief Fund supporters like you rides to the rescue.

"Thanks to the significant financial help of the Sudan Relief Fund, we are a few months away from finishing a brand new facility, where the sisters, our experts and volunteers will be able to provide the best treatment possible to our women," Sister Ester says. "Our goal is to gradually integrate these women into society with the adequate

spiritual and mental stability, and with a clear path to their future."

Thank you for your continuing help and prayers!



Sister Ester is thankful to Sudan Relief Fund donors for helping the "Blue Sisters" care for abused women and girls.

# Refugees in Riimenze rely on your generosity

With little time to escape with their lives, 28-year-old Simone and her five children, aged 2 to 11, were forced to flee when the violent war reached their home. They found a safe haven in the small village of Riimenze, where the grounds of the Catholic church there now serve as a refugee camp.

Simone's family arrived two years ago with nothing but the clothes on their back. Simone wishes nothing more than to go back home, raise her children, and live a peaceful and prosperous life. But it's simply not safe to return.

"Life here is very difficult," Simone says.

Sadly, the ability to care for poor souls like Simone has been stretched to the limit. The only health clinic available on site is extremely small and inadequate. It only has one room. So patients must be treated outside, under trees, or inside tents — which often flood during the rainy season.

More than 7,000 children, women, and men are living in the same camp as Simone.

One of them is a poor elderly man named Felipe. Two years ago, his life turned upside down. Soldiers ransacked his village. Homes were looted, vandalized, and burned to the ground. Innocent people were beaten, raped, and even killed. Felipe is safe on the church grounds in Riimenze, but he still lacks food and medicine. He lives under a grass-thatched hut, and heavy rainfall causes his roof to leak.

Continued on Page 4

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Simone and her five children are among the 7,000 refugees your support helps us feed and care for in the Riimenze camp.

Felipe and Simone and her children are far from alone in their plight. Everywhere you look, thousands of poor families desperately need medicine and food.

The reality is, these suffering souls wouldn't stand a chance without the compassion of Sudan Relief Fund supporters like you. Thank you for finding it in your heart to help us bring hope and life of these refugees in their time of crisis.

# Bringing food and hope to the homeless of Wau

Nearly 300 miles north of Riimenze lies Wau, the third-largest city in South Sudan. More than 16,000 homeless are crowded into five church parishes surrounding the city — and they are starving.

"Each time I visit the church parishes, I'm always struck by the desperate need of assistance and the harsh living conditions," says David Dettoni, Sudan Relief Fund's Director of Operations. "Your heart would break to hear the cries of hungry babies and to see the tears in their mother's eyes because they don't know where or when their next meal will come. And for most, SRF is their only source to receive lifesaving food."

The starving children and families of Wau look to you in their time of crisis. Thank you for responding with Christ's love and your gifts to Sudan Relief Fund.

## PLANNED GIVING, LEGACY GIFTS, BEQUESTS, WILLS & ESTATE DONATIONS

What will your legacy be?

Please consider remembering Sudan Relief Fund in your estate planning.



Planned giving or legacy gifts are one of the most generous ways you can help the desperately poor people of South Sudan. At Sudan Relief Fund, we are blessed to have the most generous donors in the world. Please consult your investment advisor, accountant, or lawyer for details on remembering Sudan Relief Fund in your estate plans.



### SUDAN RELIEF FUND

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Your financial support helps us save lives and bring Christ's love to the suffering people of South Sudan and the Nuba Mountains. *The Sudan Relief Review* is published by Sudan Relief Fund (SRF), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax deductible. ©2019 Sudan Relief Fund. All Rights Reserved.

SUDAN RELIEF REVIEW | PAGE 4

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