

Province of The Episcopal Church of South Sudan  
مجمع الكنيسة الاسقفية بجنوب السودان

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**PRESS RELEASE**

***"What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don't they come from the evil desires at war within you?" (James 4:1)***

The Episcopal Church of South Sudan is deeply concerned about the disturbing reports of communal violence, cattle raiding, killing of innocent people, displacement of civilians and destruction of property in most parts of the country. The Church has also noted, with concern, the alarming increase of confirmed cases of COVID-19 infections amongst the population.

In the light of all these prevailing situations we make the following appeal:

1. **To the Revitalised Transitional Government of National Unity:**
  - a) Immediate government intervention to restore law and order to prevent further intercommunal violence in the country.
  - b) To urgently finalise the formation of the State governments in order to handle the emerging violent situations at the grassroots level.
  - c) To urgently facilitate the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, and other humanitarian agencies, to distribute relief food to the displaced and the affected citizens.
2. **To all the parties in conflict.**
  - a) Please, in the name of Jesus, we urge you to avoid violent confrontations to minimise the continued suffering of your people.
  - b) Maintain the Rome declaration and stick to peaceful resolutions to the conflict.
3. **To South Sudanese citizens:**
  - a) Let us all avoid violence and try to love and live at peace with one another.
  - b) Please strictly adhere to all the preventative measures provided by the World Health Organisation through our national Ministry of Health. Maintain physical distancing, avoid crowds and attending social events, wash your hands regularly with water and soap. Strictly avoid greetings by shaking of hands.
4. **To the Christians:**
  - a) Continue to pray from your homes with patience, humility, obedience and strong faith in God. The time will come when God will bring this pandemic to an end and we will welcome you back to give thanks to God and continue with our normal worship and fellowships.
  - b) Remember to support your Church, and the destitute around you.
  - c) The Church is always open for individual pastoral care and counselling.

***"Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone. Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. (Romans 12:18-19)***

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*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations... and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.*

*Mt 28:19-20*