

# Pastoral Program Newsletter

August 2023



## Training for catechists

The KOCH Foundation, through Friends in Solidarity, supported two seminars for catechists. A training cycle on Catechesis on Laudato Si (from 13 to 16 August 2023) that aimed to bring together 55 JPIC members from eight parishes in the Central Deanery of the Archdiocese of Juba to learn and understand the Holy Father Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter Laudato Si on Ecology and Climate change. Under the leadership of Martin Ochaia, a team of priests facilitated the workshop.

The second training programme for catechists (from 6 to 9 August), on the theme "Discipleship through the Word of God" ("Thy Word, Lord, is a lamp for my steps, a light for my path", Psalm 119:105) was held at the Catholic Parish of St Kizito Munuki in the Archdiocese of Juba. It was a three-day spiritual retreat for catechists from 14 chapels and some prayer centres, who arrived in large numbers. The retreat aimed to strengthen the faith of the catechists and their role as disciples of the Lord. The group of priests from the archdiocese facilitated the programme.



## Women empowerment program



In August 2023, several workshops were organised for the empowerment of women in the Archdiocese of Juba. The invitation was extended by the Cathedral Parish Priest and Comboni missionaries to help vulnerable women who are too often victims of the system and violence. The workshops, facilitated by Sr Jean Rose SHS, took place in the Daniel Comboni chapel from 2 to 5 August 2023; in the Kor William Chapel from 7th to 10th August; in the Christ the King Parish from 21st to 25th. A lot of women attended them, between 80 and 130 each. The Sisters of Mercy of America supported this programme.



## Youth Leadership workshop

Thanks to the support of Missio Munich, several youth leadership workshops were realised. From 21 to 25 August, a workshop was held in the Western Deanery of Bentiu, in the Diocese of Malakal, which was planned and designed by the Solidarity Pastoral Service team in consultation with the Youth Commission. Lokule Santo Augustino from Yei Diocese was invited as facilitator.

At the request of the YCS chaplain of the Yei diocese, we helped them to run this programme. Rev. Joseph Arike Eugenio, pastor of Christ the King Parish and Yei Diocese, and Lokule Santo Augustino, organised a seminar from 28 to 31 August 2023.

Finally, 116 young people from the central region in the Diocese of Torit actively participated in a workshop moderated by Fr Christy John (cmf), at Holy Rosary Parish in Torit, from 29 to 31 August 2023.

## “Healing of memories” for young people from POCs

30 participants took part in this workshop. More than a workshop, it was a personal healing from traumatic memories. Six trained facilitators, who participated in the Memory Healing Institute workshop, facilitated this personal healing. The workshop took place from 20 to 23 August 2023, at the Good Shepherd Peace Centre in Kit. The Sisters of Mercy in America supported this programme.



## Trauma Healing at PoC 1 – Archdiocese of Juba

Two trauma healing workshops were organised at the Protection of Civilian in the Diocese of Juba during the month. The first was held from 2 to 5 August 2023 for 37 United Secondary School students. The other was held at Ngundeng Primary School from 14 to 17 August. 37 students actively participated in the sessions. The workshop focused on how to use exercises and they were further motivated on their education.

Five volunteers trained by Solidarity, including Fr Christy John (cmf) from Solidarity's Pastoral Service, facilitated this four-day programme. Thanks to the Sisters of Mercy of the Province of the Americas for their support.

