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SUDAN RELIEF REVIEW ENCLOSED



SUDAN RELIEF FUND - 2018 House 1Q Newsletter - CARRIER	TO ART: COPY: NA	SIZE: 6" X 9.25" STYLE: SIDE SEAMS, STANDARD FLAP WINDOW 1: 2" X 3.125" - 75" LEET AND .625" BOTTOM
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MAY 2018



SUDAN RELIEF REVIEW

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

DEADLY FAMINE COULD RAVAGE SOUTH SUDAN

Almost two-thirds of South Sudan's population — more than 7 million people — are at risk of starving to death in another deadly famine without immediate and sustained humanitarian assistance.

According to the UN, <u>this would be</u> <u>the most people ever classified as</u> <u>food insecure in South Sudan</u>.

Last year, South Sudan declared famine in two regions of the country. But humanitarian relief efforts by the Sudan Relief Fund and the Catholic Church, among other organizations, kept it from spreading throughout the country.

This year, the scale and scope of food insecurity have reached new heights as crop production has fallen due to the unrelenting violence.

The brutal fighting and lack of food has already caused more than two million people to flee their homes within the country, and another two million have fled the country as refugees.

Despite the challenges, <u>the Sudan</u> <u>Relief Fund is committed to staying</u> <u>close to the people and helping the</u> <u>Catholic Church save as many of</u> <u>God's children as possible</u>.

Sadly, a famine would just be the latest of all the horrors inflicted upon these innocent and forlorn people. The tens of thousands dead and the millions displaced have suffered a staggering list of atrocities including genocide, child trafficking, rape, castration, and entire villages burned to the ground.



Your prayerful support helps us save those most in danger of famine including 29,000 young children.

With so many conflicts around the globe, the South Sudanese are too often forgotten by the world at large.

The unrelenting violence and chaos have left the Catholic Church as virtually the only functioning institution left in the country. That's why it's critical for the Sudan Relief Fund to continue supporting the Church's heroic efforts to provide for the spiritual and temporal needs of the planet's most helpless souls.

With the prayers and generosity of our donors, the Sudan Relief Fund is now working overtime to deliver lifesaving aid to devastated areas of the country. Yet the needs remain overwhelming and are growing worse by the day. We urgently need increased support so we can get more food and other emergency assistance to the most vulnerable people in the hardest hit communities.

The only way to prevent a widespread famine is to act now before it is too late. God bless you for being part of the Sudan Relief Fund family and making our action on behalf of these downtrodden souls possible.

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A MESSAGE FROM NEIL CORKERY PRESIDENT OF THE SUDAN RELIEF FUND

Dear Friend in Christ,

In South Sudan, the ongoing war continues to devastate the lives of innocent children and adults.

And, as bad as things are, they could soon get much worse.

You see, this war-torn country is again teetering on the brink of famine, which would threaten the lives of tens of thousands.

But the Sudan Relief Fund and our beloved Catholic Church remain close to the people impacted. In this issue of *Sudan Relief Review*, you can read about the work your support makes possible.

We're rushing emergency food to those most vulnerable to starvation. These include orphaned children, the elderly, the sick, the homeless, and others in critical need. We know the next few weeks will be crucial to heading off famine and saving innocent lives.

This is all very hard, expensive work. It couldn't happen without your prayers and generosity.

YOU are helping to sustain a wide range of life-changing initiatives. In this issue, you'll read about the inspiring sacrifice made by the young girls at the Loreto Rumbek School. And you'll read about the visit I had with Bishop Eduardo Hiiboro Kussala in the Catholic Diocese of Tombura-Yambio.

I also stopped by to see Dr. Tom Catena at Mother of Mercy Hospital in the Nuba Mountains. And I can report that countless lives in the region depend on our continuing support of Dr. Tom and his hard-working medical staff.

Thank you and God bless you for keeping the South Sudanese people in your prayers.

Yours in faith, Neil Corkery Neil Corkery

Dr. Tom and Dr. Zacharia saving lives with SRF's support

The urgent needs of Dr. Tom Catena and Dr. Ahmed Zacharia were assessed in meetings with Sudan Relief Fund President Neil Corkery during his recent visit to South Sudan and the Nuba Mountains.

American-born Dr. Tom treats hundreds of patients every day at Mother of Mercy Hospital in Gidel. For more than a decade, Dr. Tom was the only surgeon in the entire region. But after receiving years of hands-on surgical training from Dr. Tom, Nubaborn Dr. Zacharia is now saving lives at the new Gigaiba Hospital.

Both of these amazing doctors rely on the generosity of Sudan Relief Fund supporters to treat the suffering and persecuted Nuba people.

Dr. Tom continues to serve about 400 patients every day at Mother of Mercy Hospital. And just about every day, the Sudanese government drops bombs or shells on civilians in the Nuba Mountains. The innocent victims of these horrible attacks desperately need the care provided by Dr. Tom and his team.



Neil Corkery and Dr. Tom

In his meeting with Corkery, <u>Dr. Tom said Mother of Mercy Hospital needs at least \$750,000 annually</u> to provide adequate care for the Nuba people and cover all the costs associated with running the hospital, such as food, medicine, equipment, and staff.

Dr. Tom thanked SRF's supporters for their previous generosity: "Thank you to all the donors who have contributed over the years. We can't do this work without your support. We can't do anything without your support. Your donations provide salaries for the staff, medicines, x-ray machines, and lab equipment.

Continued on Page 3

"On behalf of the people of the Nuba Mountains who don't have a voice, I want to say thank you for your support."

Gigaiba Hospital has similar urgent needs, and **Sudan Relief Fund pledged \$20,000** to help provide more staff at the new facility and **\$100,000 for additional medical supplies**.

Sudan Relief Fund and our partners in the region are committed to meeting the needs for Mother of Mercy Hospital and Gigaiba Hospital to save the lives of the desperate Nuba people forgotten by much of the world.

Corkery also learned that the two hospitals had a specific need for two specially designed trucks with raised axles, called Unimogs, that will allow the delivery of food and other supplies to the Nubas year-round. Moving supplies has been impossible up to now during the five month rainy season when roads are impassable. **Thanks** to the prayerful support of our donors, Sudan Relief Fund was able to cover the costs of these trucks.

Thank you for your continuing support of our lifesaving work in the Nuba Mountains.

Dr. Tom in 'The Heart of Nuba'

Filmmaker Ken Carlson brings Dr. Tom Catena's powerful story of sacrifice and service to his brothers and sisters in Christ to the big screen in his documentary "The Heart of Nuba" being shown in theatres around the U.S.



A New York Times review of the film said:

"It's tempting to call Dr. Catena a living saint. Numerous surgeries, which he performs with kindness and patience, are depicted in detail. The doctor works impossible hours, serving a population of one million. When he's not working as a doctor, he is, say, reroofing the facility. In lengthy interviews he speaks of how he found his calling."

A write-up in The Hollywood Reporter stated:

"Saints don't always look the way you'd expect. Case in point: Dr. Tom Catena ... The documentary chronicles Catena's treatment of several patients, including a baby with a large tumor in his kidney and a man whose nose has been torn off by shrapnel from an explosion. He also attends to a colony of lepers, making sure to engage with them physically."

The U.S. news media doesn't report on the tragic situation in the Nuba Mountains, so most Americans are in the dark. Hopefully this film can spread awareness of the plight of these suffering people. Please keep Dr. Tom and Sudan Relief Fund's lifesaving mission in your prayers.

Girls at Loreto Rumbek School give up food for those even less fortunate

When Pope Francis declared a day of fasting and prayer for the crisis-embroiled country of South Sudan, his appeal included an invitation for all people everywhere to join him. People around the world joined in solidarity with the suffering South Sudanese — 1.1 million of whom are under the age of five and don't know where their next meal is coming from.

Among those answering the pope's call were students at the Loreto Girls Primary and Secondary School in Rumbek, South Sudan, run by the Sisters of Loreto.

The Primary School helps support and educate young women from the community of Maker Kuei. It has more than 1,000 female students enrolled in morning and afternoon sessions. The Primary School has recently opened a kindergarten to also serve small children in the community.

The Secondary School had nearly 350 young women wanting to enroll, but sadly there was only room for 100 students. The school is in the process of building more classrooms, with some classes being held outside under trees.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, the Sudan Relief Fund pays for the school's food program so the girls don't go hungry, in addition to providing other urgently-needed assistance there.

The girls approached Sister Orla Treacy, the school's Principal, about their desire to participate in Pope Francis's day and fasting and prayer by fasting during lunch and giving some of their lunches to Pan Ngath, a women and child center run by the Missionaries of Charity in the town of Rumbek.

The Sudan Relief Fund applauds these young women at the Loreto Rumbek School, who are living in difficult circumstances themselves, for standing in solidarity with those even less fortunate. Their prayerful sacrifice sets an example all people the world over can follow.

With the continuing prayers and help of our supporters, the Sudan Relief Fund remains committed to supporting this oasis of hope in the midst of so much chaos.

Students at Loreto Rumbek School asked Sister Orla if they could give up their lunch for others on the Pope's day of fasting and prayer for South Sudan



Bishop Kussala praises SRF donors after meeting with Neil Corkery

Sudan Relief Fund President Neil Corkery recently visited the Catholic Diocese of Tombura-Yambio (CDTY) in South Sudan and met with Bishop Eduardo Hiiboro Kussala — who expressed thanks for the generosity of friends like you in the U.S. who haven't forgotten his suffering people.

In a letter to Corkery sent after their meeting, Bishop Kussala said, "Your recent visit made a remarkable impact to the CDTY fraternity." Bishop Kussala also said that Corkery's remarks to the diocese staff and seminarians were "very impressive, energizing and encouraging."

They visited Rimenze Parish, where 7,100 displaced persons are still staying on church grounds. These include more than 1,600 children — who are now safe from being kidnaped by rebels and forced to fight.

With famine conditions worsening, the people will surely need more food shipments soon. There is also a shortage of water, and the

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latrines aren't working.

Thanks to our generous supporters, SRF is providing funds to help these suffering people.

The Rimenze Parish primary school, St. Theresa of Lisieux, has only four functioning classrooms because jungle growth has overtaken half the school. <u>SRF has pledged assistance to get the other classrooms in working order</u>.

"The pledge of support to renovate the school in Rimenze will be of great benefit to the children," Bishop Kussala wrote.

The Bishop also cited SRF's commitment to funding "massive construction" for St. Theresa Hospital in Nzara.

"Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages will significantly increase life expectancy and reduce some of the common killers associated with child and maternal mortality," Bishop Kussala stated, calling the hospital a "dream" of the local community.

Lastly, the bishop's letter expressed heart-felt thanks for SRF's continuing partnership with the Catholic University of South Sudan. The university serves

more than 1,800 students. Corkery gave a speech to the students while he was there and <u>pledged the funds needed to help build</u> <u>two new classroom blocks</u>. Bishop Kussala said SRF's support for the university would ensure the inclusive and equitable quality education needed to promote opportunity for all South Sudanese.

Bishop Kussala expressed his gratitude to Neil Corkery for the generosity made possible by SRF donors.



SRF provides funding for Catholic high school in Tombura-Yambio

Abagnati High School is the only Catholic High School in the Catholic Diocese of Tombura-Yambio. It serves more than 1,000 students, equipping them with the academic skills needed to succeed in the marketplace while preparing them spiritually to thrive in life.

Last year, the Sudan Relief Fund paid for the construction of four new classrooms at the school, and pledged to build four more in the near future.

Neil Corkery, president of SRF, visited the school on his recent trip to South Sudan. While there, he was told that more desks for the classrooms were needed, but the faculty didn't have any money to purchase them. Even worse, he learned school was about to start in two weeks.

Because of the prayerful generosity of our supporters, Sudan Relief Fund was able to provide the funds needed to immediately buy new desks in time for the new school semester.

The high school has other serious unmet needs as well. <u>SRF will continue working to ensure these</u> students — who have already seen so much death and turmoil in their young lives — get the education needed to build a brighter future for <u>South Sudan</u>.

YOUR MONTHLY GIFT WILL SAVE LIVES IN SOUTH SUDAN



Consider pledging a monthly gift to have a greater impact on our lifesaving mission.

You can make a tax-deductible gift every month by an automatic draft from your <u>checking account</u> **or** <u>credit card</u>. Your donation will be made on or about the 15th of each month, and it will be clearly itemized on your bank or credit card statement. Plus, you have total control: you decide how much you want to donate — and you can stop making monthly donations at any time.

Every dollar makes a difference. To sign up for monthly giving to Sudan Relief Fund simply check the box on the "MY GIFT FOR THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH SUDAN" reply form included with your newsletter, indicate the amount of your monthly gift and mail it back in the postage-paid envelope enclosed. Thank you!



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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. ©2018 Sudan Relief Fund. All Rights Reserved.

With your prayers and God's blessings, we can provide emergency food to His children on the verge of famine...

IN THIS ISSUE

Deadly Famine could ravage South Sudan

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Dr. Tom in 'The Heart of Nuba'

Girls at Loreto Rumbek School give up food for those even less fortunate

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A Message from SRF's President



P.O. Box 7084 • Merrifield, Virginia 22116

Dear << Prefix Last Name>>,

Every day I am mindful of how much you mean to the Sudan Relief Fund.

Through SRF, your prayerful generosity relieves the immense misery of God's children who have remained true to Christ in the face of unbearable persecution for so many, many years.

This misery comes in many forms. Displacement, sickness, young children robbed of their innocence, and many more horrors are constant threats.

But now a new crisis threatens my people — famine!

If you turn to the front-page article in your new **Sudan Relief Review**, you'll find more than 7 million people in South Sudan are at risk of starving to death without immediate humanitarian aid — including tens of thousands of little children.

This is the most people ever classified as food insecure in South Sudan.

<<Prefix Last NameXXXXXXXX>>>, please take a moment to reflect on whether or not you can help my poor people again today.

Your tax-deductible contribution of \$AMT1, \$AMT2, \$AMT3 or even more will help us rush emergency food shipments to those most at risk of starvation — and prevent needless deaths.

May God bless you for your faithfulness and love.

Gratefully yours in faith,

Sefuence finance usuale

Bishop Eduardo Hiiboro Kussala

P.S. I will be so thankful for your generous gift of \$AMT1, \$AMT2, \$AMT3 or more for the struggling people of South Sudan. My heart swells with gratitude for everything you do for us.

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MY GIFT FOR THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH SUDAN

YES, I will continue my support for the Sudan Relief Fund and its lifesaving work among the poor and persecuted people of South Sudan and the Nuba Mountains. I've enclosed my tax-deductible gift, given with the love of Christ, in the amount of:

<\$AMT1>

Monthly Gift Option: I would like to make an automatic monthly gift of this amount: \$_____

From my: Bank Account *(Please include a signed voided check.)*

OR Credit/Debit Card *(See reverse.)*

RELIEF + FUND

Please make check payable to: **Sudan Relief Fund**. Or to donate using your credit/debit card, please check here \square and provide the information needed on the back of this form. Thank you.

<<Prefix Full Name>> <<Address>> <<City, ST Zip>>

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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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