



Laudato Si Week 2023 Message from Sister Mūmbi

In South Sudan, Solidarity Teacher Training College and the Catholic Health Training Institute are busy with graduation preparations. As the conflict continues in neighboring Sudan, more South Sudanese nationals who had been refugees in the north since 2013 are now making their way back to their country's borders seeking safe shelter, and so are nationals of other neighboring countries such as Ethiopia and Eritrea.

South Sudan, despite its many challenges, has not turned away anyone from their border, although there is little available in terms of emergency aid and response for those who arrive at the border areas in great need of food, medicine and temporary shelter.

South Sudan and especially the diocese of Malakal that stretches to the Sudan border, where many of the returnees and new refugees are encamped, is also facing a crisis because of global warming. In my travels through various states in February, I witnessed firsthand the growing deforestation taking place and the rising air temperatures. A [recent documentary by David Muir of ABC News](#) shows the continuous flooding that has made huge parts of Malakal diocese uninhabitable.

Our people on the ground have made a commitment to caring for the earth and teaching our students and

collaborators more on environmentally sustainable practices. **It is for this reason that we make an appeal to you to financially partner with us in this mission in promoting the values and invitation of the Laudato Si encyclical, by [making a donation to Friends in Solidarity](#).** We have an opportunity to teach many others in South Sudan in caring for creation since our students are intentionally drawn from every diocese and state in South Sudan and the Nuba Mountains in Sudan, and they commit to between 2-3 years of service in their home areas after graduation.