



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Dear brothers and sisters of many different faiths,

It is distressing, disappointing, and painful to realize that, since the end of World War II, there have never been as many armed conflicts in the world as there are today. Speaking of war means thinking about victims in terms of both deaths and lives marked by forced relocations, the destruction of homes, physical and mental injuries, as well as hatred that multiplies and is destined to continue over time. Among the conflicts that do not receive much media coverage, but which also deserve our attention, are the wars currently underway in the **Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan**. Unfortunately, there are no reporters or correspondents able to relay up-to-date information and images of the massacres and violence inflicted on the people in the areas affected by these “hidden conflicts.”

This is yet another reason to pray for the inhabitants of those places who are being subjected to all sorts of cruelty and brutality and who are living in terror. Recently, we have received terrifying news from missionaries, NGO staff, or some of the people who live in those areas. I ask you to join their tears with your prayers on November 27, our monthly appointment in which the invocation for peace rises to heaven from believers of many different religions who know how to unite their voices in a single plea for peace, as taught by the historic meeting in Assisi on October 27, 1986.

Let us then pray for the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan. May the one God hear the pain of his children and the prayers that rise up to him from so many parts of the world.

May the Lord give you peace

Assisi, November 2025

+ Domenico Sorrentino, Bishop