

Pope visits war-torn African countries

The 86-year-old pontiff visits the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan, delivering a message of peace and reconciliation to two sub-Saharan nations plagued by conflict

"PILGRIMAGE OF PEACE"

For South Sudan leg, Pope (1) will be joined by Archbishop of Canterbury **Justin Welby (2)** and by Church of Scotland Moderator **Iain Greenshields (3)** in unprecedented trip by leaders of Roman Catholic, Anglican and Reformed Christian traditions



A F R I C A

500km
300 miles

SCHEDULE

■ Jan 31, DR Congo:

Pope arrives in Kinshasa. Welcoming ceremony and meeting with President **Felix Tshisekedi**

■ **Feb 1:** Celebrates Mass at N'Dolo Airport. Meets victims of violence from eastern Congo and representatives of charities

■ **Feb 2:** Meets young people and catechists at Martyrs' Stadium

■ **Feb 3, South Sudan:** Pope and two other religious leaders land in Juba. Welcoming ceremony and meeting with President **Salva Kiir**

■ **Feb 4:** Meeting with bishops at Cathedral of Saint Therese and with internally displaced people



SOUTH SUDAN

Predominantly Christian country, still reeling from hunger and violence despite 2018 peace deal, which put end to five-year civil war

North Kivu: Pope's stop in province scrapped due to flare-up in fighting between Congolese troops and rebels

■ **Feb 5:** Mass at mausoleum to **John Garang** – hero of South Sudan's independence struggle.
Departure for Rome