KARAMOJA PEACE
& TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY

Season's Greetings

"He will reconcile parents to their children and children to their parents" (Mal. 3:24)

My dear brothers and sisters, I send you my warm greetings in this festive season of Christmas. I hope you have had a good preparation for this year's festive time in which the Christians in their different capacities and in different places express to each other wishes of joy and peace, wishes of health and long life to each other. It is also a time when most of the family members get together or get back from different corners to the nuclear families. It is a time of particular visits. May the Lord bless all these positive movements of bodies and hearts. Also in these festive days, unfortunately, some people will visit others in a way which is NOT the spirit of Christmas, that way which is not approved neither by God nor by the law whether natural or civil law, among them the 'visit' of theft, of the spirit of violence/aggression, etc. This is a negative thing to be eliminated in the festivities and always.

In the Christian context and to all people of good will, I wish to urge everyone to embrace the message in the scripture above, that looks at the Christmas festivities as an event to move our hearts towards the communion of people, to move towards peace building and community bridging. In the spirit of the jubilee year 2025, as proposed by the Catholic Church, may these festivities bring in reconciliation, forgiveness and peace to our human society, beginning from our very families. These days, it has become very common to find/hear of people divided within the families, and yet they are Christians who profess faith in Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Where do our consciences lead us when we think of celebrating Christmas yet we are divided and not having peace in our very families? The Jubilee year 2025, invites us all to 'LET GO', what could jeopardize peace, communion and reconciliation but allow God mold and guide our hearts. As for the people of Kotido Catholic Diocese and Karamoja as a whole, the scripture verse above should help us build a new Karamoja where peace, communion and reconciliation is our song and our heart beat, to say enough with what had caused us calling each other 'enemies' (ngimoe) but embrace fraternity! As we celebrate Christmas this year too, may it help us turn our hearts towards one another; parents towards children; children towards parents; different ethnic group towards each other, to turn Karamoja hearts towards our neigbhours and our Karamoja neighbours' hearts towards Karamoja! This will be real Christmas if these 'returns' take effect in us.

> May these Christmas festivities increase in us the desire to live in harmony with one another. May the Lord bless you all, and grant us His peace. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year 2025.

> > Yours in Christ, Rt. Rev. Dominic Eibu MCCJ

