

# LENTEN JOURNEY WITH SEEDS OF WISDOM IN SOUTH SUDAN

BEGINNING AT ST. JOHN'S PARISH IN ROCHESTER, MN, OUR COMMUNITY IS BANDING TOGETHER TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN SOUTH SUDAN BY BUILDING A SCHOOL FOR THE CHILDREN LIVING IN YEI.

*You are invited to walk in solidarity with SOW School this Lent.*

PLACE A JAR OR BOWL NEAR YOUR CALENDAR FOR ALMSGIVING OPPORTUNITIES. AFTER EASTER, DONATIONS CAN BE MAILED TO SEEDS OF WISDOM SOUTH SUDAN, 11 FOURTH AVENUE SW, ROCHESTER, MN 55902. SEEDS OF WISDOM IN SOUTH SUDAN MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE IRS CODE 501(C)(3)



Seeds of Wisdom in South Sudan was founded on the belief that education is a catalyst for dignity and independence. Pray that the families of the SOW community might realize these benefits.

Only 40% of classrooms in South Sudan have access to a chalkboard. Smartboards do not exist. Place .20 in your jar for

Fr. John's tribe in Yei has donated 37 acres for the construction of the school. Pray that resources from our two communities will be available to support the school.

75% of teachers in South Sudan are untrained. Of those who are, 90% have not completed the 12th grade. Pray for the teachers of SOW school, for access to training and ability to pass it on to the school.

Being mindful of limited water resources, limit your shower to 2 minutes or less of running water.

90% of women in South Sudan are illiterate. Pray for the women and girls of South Sudan and for their future education and success.

90% of South Sudanese citizens live on less than \$1 per day. For today, reduce discretionary spending to \$1 or less, and put the balance of what you would normally have spent in your jar.

In South Sudan, children are more likely to die before reaching age 5 than to complete the 4th grade. Spend 20 minutes in silent prayer in honor of the children who

Fr. John Lasuba is the inspiration for SOW school. Pray for him, his family, and the community in Yei.

More than 67% of South Sudanese residents lack access to clean water. Today, choose to drink tap water, rather than bottled water which further commoditizes this resource.

26% of children in South Sudan complete the 4th grade. Put \$1 in your jar for every year of education you have received past the 4th grade.

Pope Francis said, "Lord, teach us to step outside ourselves. Teach us to go out into the streets and manifest your love." SOW represents our community's attempt to do that! Pray for individuals and communities, that we may see how we are called into the streets.

Talk to at least one friend today about Seeds of Wisdom in South Sudan and its mission.

South Sudan became a country on July 9, 2011. This was preceded by 22 years of civil war during which more than 2 million people were killed. Spend 20 minutes in silent prayer in memory of those lost.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is on the SOW Board of Saints. She started a free Catholic school and was the first native-born American to be canonized. If you have received the gift of Catholic education, place \$1 in your jar for each year you have attended.

In South Sudan, less than 1% of the population has electricity. Today, fast from non-work uses of electronics.

Did you know there is an active SOW board of directors in Rochester and in Yei? Pray for their wisdom.

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4th grade. Spend 20 minutes in silent prayer in honor of the children who have died.

meals and fast from eating meat today.

Today, fast from non-work uses of electronics.

SOW board of directors in Rochester and in Yei? Pray for their wisdom and good guidance in building the school.

Wednesday  
March 26

Talk to at least one friend today about Seeds of Wisdom in South Sudan and its mission.

Thursday  
March 27

Less than half of South Sudanese classrooms have desks. Place .10 in your jar, for the number of desks in your classroom.

Friday  
March 28

Because of limited infrastructure, computers and other electronic learning tools are rarely available in South Sudan. Today, fast from electronic entertainment.

Saturday  
March 29

Pope Francis has said, "In a world where there is so much wealth, so many resources to feed everyone, it is unfathomable that there are so many hungry children, that there are so many children without an education, so many poor persons. Poverty today is a cry." Pray for poor around the world as well as in your own community.

Sunday  
March 30

Monday  
March 31

St. Don Bosco, a SOW Board of Saints member, started a school for disadvantaged youth in Turin. He developed an educational system based on 3 pillars of reason, religion and loving-kindness. Pray for the education of disadvantaged young people here and around the world.

Tuesday  
April 1

Read about poverty in developing countries. (Try [dosomething.org](http://dosomething.org) if you need somewhere to start.)

Wednesday  
April 2

In South Sudan 75% of education structures are not permanent buildings. Put \$1 in your jar for every school building you have attended.

Thursday  
April 3

SOW School classes will be taught in English; students will have variable background with English. Pray that they overcome any challenges with language and communication.

Friday  
April 4

Starting a new school with limited resources presents a real administrative challenge. Pray for wisdom for the administrators of SOW school.

Friday  
April 11

Looking for a good fish meal this Lenten Friday? Join us for the KC Fish Fry at St. John's church from 5:00-7:00 pm. A portion of the proceeds will support SOW.

Thursday  
April 10

Few of us have suffered the loss of our homes or faced the challenges of being a refugee. Pray for the many who have been displaced and cannot return home.

Wednesday  
April 9

Talk to at least one friend today about Seeds of Wisdom in South Sudan and its mission.

Tuesday  
April 8

Bathroom facilities in South Sudan are primarily outdoors. Plans for SOW school include adult and student latrines. Put \$1 in your jar for each bathroom in your house.

Monday  
April 7

Today is the feast day for St John the Baptist de la Salle, the patron of schoolteachers. Read about his life and say a prayer for the teachers who will nurture and guide our students.

Sunday  
April 6

South Sudan is the youngest country in the world. Pray for peace and stability for this new country and for resolution of internal conflicts it faces.

Saturday  
April 5

Saturday  
April 12

Today, take a few minutes to learn about the history of South Sudan. Check the news for recent updates.

Monday  
April 14

Think of the teachers who made the biggest difference in your life. Say a prayer of gratitude!

Tuesday  
April 15

Textbooks are scarce in South Sudan. Put \$1 in your jar for each book you have in your desk.

Wednesday  
April 16

St. Francis said, "Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible." Thank you for each step you've taken with us on this SOW Lenten Journey.

Thursday  
April 17

"These days there is a lot of poverty in the world, and that's a scandal when we have so many riches and resources to give to everyone. We all have to think about how we can become a little poorer." Pope Francis.



*All of us involved with Seeds of Wisdom School in South Sudan are grateful you have journeyed with us these days of Lent, and wish you and your family a joyful Easter! We humbly ask that you consider an additional financial contribution. As you have learned over these days, the possibilities are great, as is the need.*

# WALK WITH US ...