

Thank you

for your kindness

At the beginning of Lent, we were introduced to Awut & Ajak, the two mothers featured in this year's Trócaire campaign. We heard their story of coming together to rebuild their lives through love, friendship, and solidarity amidst the horrors and loss of a civil war. In their remarkable community, even though life continues to be full of challenges and obstacles for these amazing women, they face these challenges together.

As God's people we are called to not just sit comfortably within our comfort and privilege, but to respond in love and to walk in solidarity with the most vulnerable people within our world. And even though we have not been able to gather together within our churches, we have however been able to come together as a community, as the body of Christ, as church to reach out in solidarity with our neighbours and show them our support.

Over Lent, we responded with our 'From Limerick with Love' fundraising campaign, where 90 people from all over Limerick City & County took part, collectively covering the distance of **14,500kms**, virtually taking us from Limerick to South Sudan and back, raising both awareness of the plight of these people and also raising vital funds amounting upwards towards **€6000** and counting.

Thank you all for all of your energy and efforts, for showing that you care, and for reaching out in love and compassion to Awut, Ajak and all South Sudanese people suffering amidst ongoing conflict.

To quote from Fratelli Tutti, Pope Francis' encyclical on fraternity and social friendship:

'No one can face life in isolation ...

We need a community that supports and helps us, in which we can help one another to keep looking ahead.

How important it is to dream together...

By ourselves, we risk seeing mirages, things that are not there.

Dreams, on the other hand, are built together.

Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travellers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth, which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all.'

**Sharon Collopy
Trócaire Volunteer**

Trócaire