

*A prayer for peace and justice in northern Uganda*

We pray that peace and justice may prevail in northern Uganda.

We pray that the Government of Uganda and the leaders and members of the Lord's Resistance Army may be guided to seek to end the violent conflict which has ravaged the region for twenty years through discussion and reconciliation rather than through the barrels of guns and continuing violence.

We pray that the people of northern Uganda may be able to return home from the internally displaced people's camps in which the great majority are being forced to live; that the nightly "commuters" – thousands of people, many of them children – who are forced to walk several miles each evening into the larger towns of the war zone for overnight protection may be able to stay at home in security; and that the agricultural, educational, health and other needs of the people can start to be met on a sustainable and permanent basis.

We pray for the Acholi Religious Leaders Peace Initiative and all others committed to working for peace, forgiveness and reconciliation in the region.

We pray for the United Nations, the African Union, the Ugandan and donor governments, international and local civil society groups and non-governmental organizations which are committed to bringing relief, rehabilitation and development assistance to the affected people.

We ask all this as members of the single humanity which binds us all together, whoever, whatever and wherever we are.