

Bless the children

Ask 700 Connor children to come and spend a Saturday during the school holidays in church for a full day of worship and exam revision and you would probably hear a wave of moans and groans.



Ask the same of 700 P7 leavers in Yei, and the response is an overwhelming yes.

The P7 leavers' day at Yei Cathedral on January 23 was hosted by the Scripture Union of Southern Sudan. The organisation plans and runs camps and one day conferences as well as other programs like Life Skills training, leadership trainings and discipleship training.

During the day the young people, whose ages varied from 11 to 19, prayed, sang, answered questions on their forthcoming exams, danced and listened to speakers. Among them was CMS Ireland associate John Spens (above, right), who spoke on the theme 'Fear not, I am with you.'



Following his address, John asked Archdeacon Stephen Forde to come to the front of the church and bless any child who wished Jesus to enter into their heart. Archdeacon Forde was overwhelmed by the number coming forward – there were more than 200 - but endeavoured to bless each individually. When the numbers became too great, John Spens said prayers of blessing for all those who had come forward.



Archdeacon Ford blessing the children who surged forward (left)



A scrummage for some words from the Bible circulated by John Spens