

# ARCHDIOCESE OF NYERI



## FROM THE ARCHBISHOP'S DESK

My dear Priests, Religious and my dear Christians.

Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever!

**“Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing” (1 Peter 3:9).**

We have all witnessed the sad turn of events in our country. We have seen the maandamano that have caused many deaths. We are greatly saddened that many of these were shot by the police, and others injured. The terrible destruction of property and looting has also caused tremendous losses to many Kenyans. This has brought our country to a terrible situation, of distrust and hopelessness.

Our leaders on the other hand have involved themselves in verbal exchanges, insults, and threats. There seems to be no respect for one another any longer, or any Christian spirit in their actions and words that we expect of people who fear God. We are in a terrible state where now our leaders are even mocking God!

The Catholic Bishops on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 issued a Press Statement in which they urged our leaders and especially President Ruto and Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga to seek dialogue as the path to resolve the current crisis of our country. All Religious leaders of all faiths have made a similar call.

We realize the bad economic times we are currently in, and have asked the Government to review the Finance Act to ease the pressure from the citizens. We have also asked the Azimio la Umoja to end the maandamano and seek other ways to express their concerns which do not hurt our economy any further.

As Christians we cannot be discouraged by these events nor remain impassive. First of all we resort to prayer, seeking God's intervention. Then, we must do all within our reach to help one another do the right thing. As Christians we are called to react with goodness to the evil we are witnessing.

The Catholic Bishops have asked all people of Kenya to observe a National prayer day this weekend to pray for our leaders and for our country. We as Catholics must take this invitation seriously.

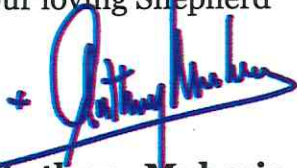
**I am therefore asking all the priests, to ensure that this Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July, we organize prayers in all our local churches, for Peace in our Country, and especially for our leaders to soften their heart and listen to God's voice. I suggest that we prepare the Homily to encourage the Christians to offer prayers**

**especially the Holy Mass, Hours of Eucharistic Adoration and Rosaries for this intention of peace in our Country and an end to this bad situation. Please include specific prayers in the prayers of the faithful, including the prayer of St Francis for Peace. I am also appealing to all the Religious men and women to redouble their prayers for this intention.**

We know that God has always been with us even in the most difficult moments. We trust through the intercession of Our Mother Mary that He will deliver us from the current wave of evil, and return us to Godliness.

I send you my blessings.

Your loving Shepherd



✠ **Anthony Muheria**  
**Archbishop of Nyeri**  
*21<sup>st</sup> July 2023, Feast of St Lawrence.*

