



VOICEAFRIQUE

CATHOLIC NEWS ANALYSIS

FOLLOWING THE FOOTPRINTS OF GOD IN AFRICA

VoiceAfrique Weekly Update

Catholic News Analysis from Africa by Africans, for Africa and the World
Friday, February 27, 2026

Greetings from VoiceAfrique

Friday, February 27, 2026

This week, our stories dwell on the profound spiritual and social transitions of the Lenten season. From a theological reflection on the nature of hell and the soul's freedom to the prophetic expectations surrounding Pope Leo XIV's upcoming pilgrimage to Africa, we examine the call for interior and communal renewal. We also explore the discipline of "biblical listening" in a noisy digital age and the urgent need for African intellectuals and clergy to break their silence and bring the light of truth back to the "caves" of our society. These narratives invite us to embrace a second liberation rooted in conscience, justice, and the transformative power of the Gospel.

By Sr. Helen Kasaka, LSMI — PACTPAN Communication Director

1. Did God create hell? A Lenten reflection on sin, freedom, and the soul

By Stan Chu Ilo

Topping our highlights this week is a deep spiritual inquiry into one of the most difficult doctrines of faith. Fr. Stan Chu Ilo reframes hell not as a mere place of fire, but as a condition of a soul hardened against love and communion. In an African key, hell is seen as the tragic refusal of relationship, challenging us this Lent to return to the God whose very name is mercy

Read more: voiceafrique.org/did-god-create-hell/

2. Pope Leo's pilgrimage to Africa: Grace and a test of conscience

By VoiceAfrique

In a significant editorial, we welcome the announcement of Pope Leo XIV's apostolic visit to Africa this April. While celebrating the continent as a "spiritual lung" for the world, the piece warns that the visit must not be used to legitimize autocratic regimes. Instead, it calls for a prophetic presence that speaks truth to power and awakens a second liberation for the African people.

Read more: voiceafrique.org/pope-leos-pilgrimage-to-africa/

3. Listen and fast: Pope Leo XIV's Lenten call to the church

By Titilayo Aduloju

Drawing from the Holy Father's Lenten message, this story explores the necessity of "biblical listening" in our modern world. In an age of digital noise and polarized speech, Pope Leo XIV urges the faithful to fast from harsh words and misinformation, turning instead toward the cry of the poor and the suffering as a path to true conversion.

Read more: voiceafrique.org/listen-and-fast-pope-leo-xivs-lenten-call-to-the-church/

4. Returning to the cave: Why silence is betraying Africa

By Kizito Chukwunonso Umennadi

In a sharp call to intellectual and moral courage, this analysis uses Plato's "Allegory of the Cave" to address the crisis of silence among Africa's leaders and clergy. It argues that those who have seen the light of truth have a sacred duty to return to the community and challenge the shadows of corruption and ethnic prejudice, rather than retreating into comfortable indifference.

Read more: voiceafrique.org/returning-to-the-cave/

Stay Connected & Support Our Mission



Sr. Helen Kasaka, LSMI
Editor, *VoiceAfrique* Catholic
News Analysis

We welcome your feedback, reflections, and contributions. *VoiceAfrique* is expanding and seeking committed contributors who desire to strengthen African Catholic journalism with integrity, depth, and hope.

Contact: admin@pactpan.org

- We invite you to explore advertising opportunities with us.
- Support our mission and help us build a strong platform for African Catholic news analysis.
- If you know someone who would benefit from this analysis? Please forward this update.

Pan-African Catholic Theology and Pastoral Network (PACTPAN) www.pactpan.org

www.pactpan.org