



Uganda Martyrs Catholic Community

“In Faith We Grow”

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

NOTICE BOARD

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Marian Ssali	1st
Theo Bengo	8th
Gonzaga Sseeguya	12th
Savio Kevin	12th
Sylvia Mubiru	15th
Chris S. Ssimwogerere	20th
Grace Kalema Ssali	20th
Sharine Kabenge	23rd
Beatrice Nnanyanzi	24th
Irenaeus G. Kasibante	25th
Maria Fatima Ssekalembe	25th
Alice Joy N. Ssebagala	28th
Flavia K. Nnamakula	29th
Pascal K. Sserunjogi	29th
Anna Mary Kisiriinya	
John Balwana	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

John and Juliet Mutyaba:
24th Mar. 1979 = 43 years.

Christopher Ssaalongo
Ssimwogerere &
Agnes Nnaalongo
9th Mar. 1992 = 30 years.



Today we honour the **MOTHERS**. They are the bedrock of our families through their nurturing and parenting efforts.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

- *Miss Winnie Nnantege
- *Mrs Theo Bengo
- *Hilda Kitaka Ndagire
- *Matthias Wasswa
- *Mary Ddungu
- *Michael Katende

We pray for these members and many others, house-bound or in hospital, for God's healing touch.

Dear Brethren,

‘RETURN TO GOD’S HOME’

East or West, North or South—home is best! If you have ever been away from your home environment for a while you have most probably felt homesickness due to separation anxiety! I remember when I first came to England I struggled to adjust. I experienced a cultural shock and it made me feel a real stranger and foreigner. If I had the money I would have booked a ticket for a flight back home. But I had no choice!

In today's gospel (**Luke 15:11-32**) we hear of the prodigal son who had squandered his life's inheritance away from home, leading a life of debauchery and wastefulness! Soon he got broke. He hired himself out to look after pigs deemed to be unclean and forbidden in Jewish culture. He cut himself off from his family, ethnic and religious ties. After deep reflection, he came to his senses and decided to return to the father with a carefully crafted confession of guilt speech.

Interestingly enough, the father is moved with pity. He warmly welcomes him back into the family fold. No questions asked. No recrimination. In fact he rushes to embrace him and orders for a ring and sandals. The party starts! This is a sign of full restoration.

But the elder son is not impressed by this. He begrudges the prodigal son and feels as if his faithfulness over the years has not been acknowledged!

The father, however, is magnanimous in his approach. He sees both of them as his sons. The young son was lost and is now found. Let's celebrate his return. To the elder son he said: “You are with me always and all I have is yours.” So why complain?

This parable teaches us about forgiveness, mercy, compassion and reconciliation. God does not count our sins. **St. Therese** said: “God does not know maths!” He does not treat us according to our sins. He looks at our humble and contrite hearts and our efforts to come back to him. Lent is time to come back to our senses, put our spiritual house in order and return to God's home. **St. Paul (2Cor. 5:20)** encourages us: “Be reconciled to God” and “become the goodness of God”. Let's make an effort to be reconciled with people we have fallen out with. It's a time to reach out to our merciful God for forgiveness and also try to forgive others. Let's be ministers of reconciliation. May the Lord bless our efforts.

Fr. Gerard M. Balinnya



Our Community Day celebrations on 27th February 2022 were led by **St. Balikuddembe** Small Christian Community (Akabondo). It is the biggest basic community, so far, mobilized by Ssaalongo Christopher Ssimwogerere. Members treated us to soulful liturgical music in church. A poem about the Uganda Martyrs in relation to their Kabondo was composed and recited by Mrs Proscovia Kisiriinya. The reception was top class and they have indeed raised the bar! We highly appreciate all the members and commend their effort. We hope that other basic communities will keep developing and grow from strength to strength. Keep up the spirit!

Congratulations to Irenaeus George Kasibante who

was confirmed on 12th March 2022 by Bishop Steve, auxiliary of Birmingham.

The sponsor was Mrs Proscovia Kasozi.

May the young man grow in faith filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

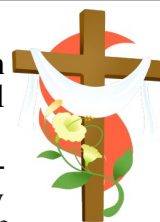
TOWARDS EASTER...

We are in the 4th week of Lent. **Palm Sunday** is due **10th April**. This will mark the start of Holy Week.

Holy Thursday (14th Apr.) - institution of the Eucharist; **Good Friday (15th April)** - suffering and death of Christ; **Easter Vigil (16th April)** culminates into **Easter Sunday (17th April)**.

Let's get ready for the coming holy season through prayer, reflection and positive action. Pray for peace in Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen, Syria, Eritrea, Ethiopia, etc.

Holy Martyrs of Uganda, pray for us.

**OBITUARY**

Fr. John Mary Ahimbisibwe, born 15th Sept. 1960, served as a Montfort Missionary for 25 years. Based in Cricklewood—North London, he used to minister to our UMCC as well as other communities around London. He battled with

cancer and diabetes for a while and he passed away on 17th March 2022. His funeral took place on Wed. 23rd March 2022 at Mbarara Cathedral and later laid to rest in the Montfort Missionaries Compound.

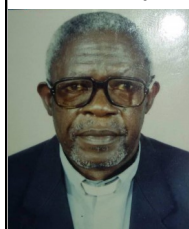


Fr. KEVIN McDEVITT, a very loving priest who welcomed us into St. Gabriel's Church as UMCC in January 2007, sadly succumbed to cancer on 20.3.2022 in Ireland. Born 8th Sept. 1943 he was ordained as a Marist Priest (Society of Mary) on 20.12.1969. He was at St. Gabriel's from 2003 up to his retirement in July 2014 when he returned to Ireland. We have very fond memories of his warmth and hospitality towards our Community. May his soul rest in peace.



Mrs Scholastica Zzibu (81 yrs) [d. 19.3.2022]

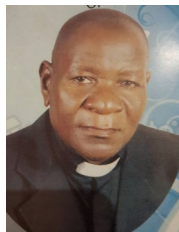
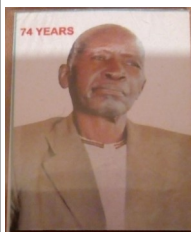
Mr. Jimmy Kisambira (died 7.3.2022 in Uganda)



Fr. Cosma Mukasa (1937—22nd March 2019)

Mrs Maria Ssemwanga (12.12.1933 - 14.3.2019)

Fr. Gerald Mukwaya (16.10.1936 - 2.3.2019)



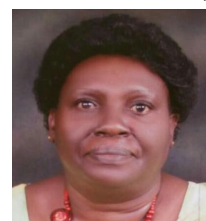
Ssaalongo William Muyomba (1944—24.3.2018)

Fr Damian Kato Kasozi (21.10.58 - 3.3.2018)

Mrs Flora Alice Oyelewu (3.11.1938 –30 Mar. 2017)

***Radigonda Nnakajugo** (d. 20.3.2020)*

***Jane Frances Nnassejje** (d. March 1996)*

AD MEMORIAM (Memorial Anniversaries)

Sr. M. Theopista Nnakabira (20.9.1960 –14.3.2017)

Miss Jocelyn Nnabbosa (1998 - 7.3.2017)

Miss Teddy Kiyaga, of Kyengera (died 11.3.2016)



Fr. Richard Bitalo (1960—11.3.2016)

Mr. Samuel Kafeero (died 8th March 2016)

Mrs Olive Nora Kawungu Makumbi (29.12.38 - 28.3.15)



Mrs Maria Nnakiragga Kawere (1955 - 4.3.2015)

Mgr William Mpuuga (b.1919; Ord.11.12.49; d.1.3.2001)

Mr. John Chrysostom Ssozi (died 17th March, 1989)