

NOTICE BOARD

EASTER CELEBRATION and YOUTH DAY 2014

We plan to celebrate Easter Sunday on 20th April, 2014 as our monthly Community Day.

Since students will be on Easter break, we will celebrate **YOUTH DAY** at the same time.

We will **NOT** meet on 27th April. Please plan accordingly. Thank you!

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Happy birthday to all!

Marian Ssali 1st March
Deo W. Kasozi 3rd March
Chris S. Ssimwogerere 20th
Beatrice Nnanyanzi 24th
Flavia K. Nnamakula 29th
Pascal K. Sserunjogi 29th



UMCC advocates Love,
Peace and Friendship

MASS INTENTION

Ms Maria Ddungu prays for the repose of the souls of:

Justine K. Ddungu
Josephine N. Ddungu
Bishop A.K. Ddungu
Mary Levocata
Nnakakeeto.

May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in eternal peace. Amen.



CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

DOES CHRIST'S LIGHT INSPIRE YOU?

Dear Brethren,

Since around 9th of March we have had much improved weather conditions with more light, more sunshine and more warmth! Light and sunshine excite the body and mind as they uplift our spirits! Young people in rural areas of the developing world are often lured into moving to towns and cities attracted by the street lights!

Musicians Jay-Z and Alicia Keys sing of the lights of New York in 'Empire State of the Mind': *"In New York, Concrete jungle where dreams are made of, There's nothing you can't do, Now you're in New York, These streets will make you feel brand new, The lights will inspire you, Let's hear it for New York, New York, New York."*

Yes, **the lights will inspire you...**! This is the message of the wonder of light coming through today's readings. In the gospel, the man born blind is given a life-line to have his eyes miraculously opened. He immediately begins to witness to Christ as he argues with the unbelieving Jews, "Here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes... If this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing." Initially he refers to him as *'the man called Jesus'*; then he acknowledged him as *'a prophet'*, and finally he believed him as *'Lord'* and worshipped him. Christ is an inspiring light!

Our encounter with Christ should be an eye-opener leading us to enlightenment, joy, proclamation, witness and salvation. Knowledge of Christ is a source of excitement because it's good news. Christ enlightens our lives, uplifts our hearts and transforms our minds. What would the world be like without the light of Christ?

So St. Paul reminds us: *"You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth" (Ephesians 5:8-9)*. That's the challenge and work of Lent: namely to be like children of light, dispel works of darkness, wake up from our sleep, rise from the dead and let Christ shine on us (Eph. 5:11; 14).

We are reminded about the right conduct during Lent and beyond. We need to learn more about our faith and pick courage to share it with others joyfully. It's everyone's duty to be the light of the world as we share the good news and become messengers of the gospel and ambassadors of Christ. Indeed, this is the invitation of Pope Francis in his latest exhortation: *'The Joy of the Gospel'*. It's our Lenten recommended reading.

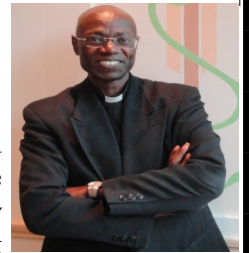
May the Lord bless our efforts in all our tasks as we get closer to the celebration of the saving passion, death and resurrection of the Redeemer. May Christ's light inspire us and make us feel brand new in the Church and world. Be blessed!

Fr. Gerard M. Balinnya

(UMCC Chaplain)

30TH MARCH, 2014

"In Faith We Grow"

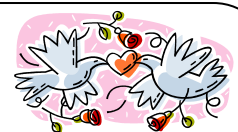


WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (MARCH)
Congratulations to our couples who
celebrate their Wedding Anniversaries !!

John and Juliet Mutyaba: 24th Mar. 1979 = 35 years!

Christopher Ssaalongo Simwogerere & Agnes Nnaalongo
9th Mar. 1992 = 22years!

Best wishes for a happier married life. Long live!





Chairman's Message—March 2014

Dear Friends in Christ,

A very warm welcome to March 2014 monthly celebration. Just a quick update from last month on what is happening behind the scenes. The UMCC Executive is working on a major organisational development initiative. The Executive, Trustees, Chaplain and some members have now met three times in an exercise to review what has been/ is working well, and how we can use this as a platform to progress to a higher level. This exercise is being driven by the Executive Team, facilitated by Mrs Estella Makumbi who is a consultant in organisational development.

We will soon be consulting you, our members, to find out what your thoughts are on these developments, and most specifically the direction you would like your organisation to take. The UMCC Executive requests your full support in this exercise to enable us to lead your organisation in the most appropriate way. I will therefore endeavour to speak to you all, in view of gaining your support and advice in this worthy cause.

The following are some of the areas that we have commenced working on:

1. *Building a stronger, united organisation.*
2. *Financial sustainability*
3. *Build a firm ground for the youth*
4. *Develop clear structures, systems and procedures*
5. *Developing effective communication systems*
6. *Taking the organisation to a higher level of service delivery*

The Executive are now working on a detailed action plan to deliver the way-forward programme to this effect. We therefore request you (if you have not already done so) to provide us with your contact details to enable the communication process.

Needless to say, you know that we always welcome your thoughts on how we can improve and enhance your experience when you come to attend any of our events. The members of the Executive Committee are always there to listen and attend to your suggestions or needs. So, please, use every opportunity to channel your thoughts and suggestions through them or to me directly. May God bless you all.

Robert Mukiibi

MOTHER'S DAY: The history of Mother's Day is centuries old and the earliest Mother's Day celebrations can be traced back to the spring celebrations of ancient Greece in honour of Rhea, the Mother of the Gods. During the 1600's, the early Christians in England celebrated a day to honour Mary, the mother of Christ. The holiday was later expanded in its scope to include all mothers, and named as the Mothering Sunday. In Britain it is celebrated on the 4th Sunday of Lent. It began as a day when apprentices and servants could return home for the day to visit their mothers. They would bring a gift with them, often a "mothering cake" -- a kind of fruitcake or fruit-filled pastry known as simnels.

Mother's Day is a celebration honouring mothers and motherhood, maternal bonds, the family and the influence of mothers in society. We thank all our mothers and grandmothers for their love, affection and service. We pray for those mothers and grandmothers who have already passed on to rest in eternal peace.

* *"Mama exhorted her children at every opportunity to 'jump at de sun.'*

We might not land on the sun, but at least we would get off the ground." -- [Zora Neale Hurston](#).

* *"There was never a great man who had not a great mother -- it is hardly an exaggeration."* -- [Olive Schreiner](#).

• *"A mother's arms are more comforting than anyone else's."* -- [Diana, Princess of Wales](#).

Music to remember: 'Mother, how are you today?' and "Omukwano gwa maama... Maama tolina duplicate!"

*We also congratulate all Women as we belatedly mark **WOMEN'S DAY**: 8th March.*

FOR THE SICK MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

We pray for all the members of our community, especially Mrs Ocana, who are unwell but on the mend. May the Lord of life touch and heal them.

OBITUARY (Ad Memoriam)

Julie Ssozi, Tina Ssozi, Rose Ssewali and Augustine Ssozi lovingly commemorate their father's anniversary, the late **Mr. John Chrysostom Ssozi** who passed away on **17th March, 1989**.

We also remember to pray for **Tina Ssozi's** son, **GEOFFREY KASUJJA** (40) who died suddenly in December 2013. **May their souls rest in peace. Amen.**