



**Pope at Mass: A good bishop is watchful, involved and close to his flock**

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## CATHOLIC COMMUNICATORS CELEBRATE 52ND WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY



Catholic Communicators from Nebbi Catholic Diocese display the communication's drum during the 52nd World Communications Day celebration at Immaculate Heart of Mary Cathedral in Nebbi Catholic Diocese (Photo by Jacinta W. Odongo)

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**Editorial**

Every year the Catholic Church celebrates the World Communications Day (WCD) on the Sunday before Pentecost and this year it was on 13th May. In Uganda, the Catholic communicators held their national celebrations in anticipation on 6th May, in Nebbi Catholic Diocese.

This year's celebration marked the 52nd WCD and it was celebrated under the theme *"The truth will set you free (John 8:32): Fake news and journalism for peace"*. This theme was given to us by His Holiness Pope Francis and it is also the title of his message. In his message, the Holy Father challenges us as communicators to be truthful and genuine in our work of spreading news and information in general. He describes journalists as protectors of news and indeed we should be custodians of news and the truth.

Truth telling is one of the core principles of communication and without it we cannot have genuine communication. Failure to tell the truth leads to mistrust and destroys communication and relationships. We all know how telling lies has broken families and communities. Telling the truth, therefore, is not an issue for only communicators but for all of us. If we are to have peace and harmony in our families and society in general, we have to be people who are honest and open to one another.

Let us keep in contact through New Contact.

**Fr. Philip Odii**  
**Editor/Executive Secretary**  
**of Social Communications**

# Catholic Communicators celebrate 52nd World Communications Day

By Jacinta W. Odongo

Media Officer, Uganda Episcopal Conference

On Sunday May 6, 2018, Catholic Communicators converged at Immaculate Heart of Mary Cathedral in Nebbi Catholic Diocese to mark the national celebration of the 52nd World Communication Day (WCD).

The event was celebrated under the theme, "The Truth Will Set You Free" (Jn 8:32): Fake news and Journalism for Peace, as released by Pope Francis. Over 50 Catholic Communicators from 19 Dioceses in Uganda and one from the Diocese of Nakuru in Kenya were joined by government officials and hundreds of faithful to celebrate the event.

The event began with a procession led by the Bishop Chairman of Social Communications Commission of the Uganda Episcopal Conference (UEC), Rt. Rev. Joseph Franzelli, priests and communicators who head various social communications departments and commissions in the country.

In his homily, Bishop Franzelli called on the communicators and the faithful to love one another truthfully and let it (love) reflect from their actions.

"To love one another means, loving each other and dealing with them in love and truth. But, much of our communication and information doesn't reflect this kind of love from God, that He is love just like we have heard from today's Gospel," he said.

"There are many subtle ways for us to be deceived: the man that you revenge and you speak evil against. This kind of 'love' and 'truth' divides our society including in schools, offices and in communities," he added.

The Bishop also highlighted the Pope's 2018 WCD message which emphasized the need to stem the spread of fake news and to rediscover the dignity of journalism and the personal responsibility of journalists to communicate the truth.

He urged the communicators to live by example in their daily lives and denounce fake news in their reporting.

"We must ask ourselves these questions: the way we live is it truthful to God? Are we authentic Christians or fake ones? Often, we read and listen to news about people who don't belong to the same party or same business as enemies, which isn't the truth. Therefore, our communication should be inspired by God. We are called

not to be fake but true in our professions," said the bishop.

The Executive Secretary of the UEC Social Communications Department (SCD), Fr. Philip Odii, in his speech, called on the communicators to be communicators of truth but not lies and gossip. "The Holy Father reminds us that we are protectors of news and we should be custodians of truth. Each one of us is called upon to communicate the truth beginning from home," he explained.

He thanked the communicators and faithful for their active participation in the colorful celebration and appealed to the faithful to continue supporting the communications work of the Church.

In his speech, the Vicar General of Nebbi Catholic Diocese, Msgr. Richard Lino Opio, who represented the Bishop of Nebbi, Rt. Rev. Sanctus Lino Wanok thanked the organizers and the communicators for the wonderful celebration. He also expressed his gratitude to the Chief Guest, Hon. Obiga Mario Kania, the State Minister for Internal Affairs for honouring his invitation.

Speaking during the celebration, Hon. Obiga said communication in its simple form is one of the biggest gifts to all living beings. "Whether you communicate by word of mouth, signal or in writing, communication is very important because in this world of today people will never know you until you communicate. However, let us endeavor to communicate the truth," he said.

He challenged the communicators and priests to use their communication skills to help fight poverty and environmental degradation in the country which are currently the biggest threats to mankind.

"When we fight poverty in our society, our services will progress in all aspects. Therefore, I urge all priests and communicators to tell people how to fight poverty and control environmental degradation. As we can all see, currently floods are everywhere in different parts of the world, temperatures are rising in many countries and even cold areas are getting more snow than usual," noted the Minister.

The WCD celebration concluded with a handover ceremony of the communications drum to the communicators from Hoima Diocese, the hosts of the 2019 WCD celebration. There was also an award-giving

ceremony of certificates to all the communicators for their participation in the Online Journalism training which was earlier held at a Leo-sim Hotel in Nebbi from May 2-3, 2018. The celebration climaxed with a tree planting session by the Chief Guest.

The 2018 WCD celebration was one of the activities that were held during the Annual Communications Week meeting for the Catholic Communicators of Uganda from May 1-7, 2018 in Nebbi. The Communications Week was organized by the UEC Social Communications

Department in collaboration with Nebbi Catholic Diocese.

WCD is usually celebrated by the Catholic Church annually on the Sunday before Pentecost, however, the Catholic communicators of Uganda usually hold their national celebration in anticipation.

## Pictorial of Catholic Communicators celebrate 52nd World Communications Day



Priests in a procession for the celebration



The Executive Secretary of the UEC Social Communications Department, Rev. Fr. Philip Odii gives his speech during the celebration



Bishop Franzelli (right), Hon. Obiga (centre) and Msgr. Richard Lino Opio present certificates to the communicators



A section of the faithful during the celebration



Bishop Franzelli hands over the communication's drum to the communicators of Hoima Diocese, the host of the 2019 WCD celebration



Bishop Franzelli and the chief guest, Hon. Obiga take a group photo with the communicators and the faithful

Photos by: Jacinta w. Odongo

# Bishop of Nebbi Catholic Diocese urges communicators to denounce fake news



Bishop Wanok



The Catholic Communicators during the workshop.

By Gabriel Adrapi,  
Daniel Amule and Irene Lamunu

The Bishop of Nebbi Catholic Diocese, Rt. Rev. Sanctus Lino Wanok has called upon journalists to seek truth and denounce fake news in their reporting.

Bishop Wanok made this appeal, during the official opening ceremony of the Annual Communications Week meeting that was held at Leosim Hotel in Nebbi Catholic Diocese from May 1-7, 2018.

The week-long event was held under the theme “The Truth Will Set You Free (Jn 8:32): Fake News and Journalism for Peace” as released by Pope Francis. Over 50 Catholic communicators from all the four ecclesiastical provinces in Uganda and one communicator from Nakuru Diocese in Kenya were in attendance.

“I am delighted to welcome you to Nebbi Catholic Diocese for the social communications week. This year’s theme talks about Truth: What is the truth? Please, don’t take this question lightly if you do not want to continue with the business of fake news,” Bishop Wanok said.

He noted that the world is taken up by fake news, which tends to threaten peace and set one group against the other and tribes against tribes.

Referring to a recent accident along



Bishop Wanok and Bishop Franzelli (centre) pose for a group photo with the Catholic Communicators

Goli-Nebbi Road that killed four students of Oringi Secondary School in Goli, Bishop Wanok blasted the media, for broadcasting exaggerated figures on the number of those pronounced dead, without verifying the facts.

“I heard from one of the radios that when the accident occurred all the 45 students died on spot. I was devastated when I heard this news. But, when I visited the scene I found out that only two students had died on the spot while the rest were rushed to

hospital unfortunately two more died later while undergoing treatment in the hospital,” Bishop Wanok told the communicators.

The students mainly members of Young Christian Students (YCS) were traveling from their school in Goli to Nebbi Cathedral Catholic Parish for the annual Music Dance and Drama Competition festival.

Speaking at the same event, the Bishop Chairman of the Social Communications Commission of the Uganda Episcopal Conference, Rt.



Bishop Franzelli addresses the Communicators during the opening ceremony of the Communications Week



The facilitator conducts the Online Journalism workshop. Photos by: Jacinta W. Odongo

Rev Joseph Franzelli, who is also the Bishop of Lira Diocese challenged the social communicators to live the spirit of a family and communicate the message of the good news to the world, through various media platforms.

"We are meeting here this week as a family because this is the spirit with which we are called to in this meeting. We are here to communicate the truth because we live in a country and world where there are many more lies spread than the truth being said," he noted.

Meanwhile, the Communicators also took part in a two-day Online Journalism training held from May 2-3, 2018. They were taken through various top-

ics of discussion which includes how to write for digital media/online journalism, the dangers of online journalism, how to verify information online and essential components of online journalism. The communicators also got a chance to learn how to update blogs: add articles, photos, videos, place a map and add a link in an article to curb fake news.

One of the participants, Simon Byakatonda, the president of the Association of Catholic Communication Practitioners in Uganda (ACCPU) said that this was his first time to attend the Communications Week.

He added that the church has many departments which cannot do with-

out communication hence; the organizers should organize more training in future in line with journalism and communication to help the communications team.

"We have done online journalism, but it is not enough, people need to learn more, some don't even know how to use computers and their phones. These people should be given basics on how to use computers," he said.

Sr. Michelle Njeri from Nakuru Diocese in Kenya said that she was glad to be part of the participants, although she had come to learn how Uganda organizes their Communications Week.

## WISE QUOTES FOR REFLECTION

'Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow' – **Anthony J. D'Angelo**

'Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today' – **Malcom X**

'An investment in knowledge pays the best interest' – **Benjamin Franklin**

'He that loves reading has everything within his reach' – **William Godwin**

'Don't limit a child to your own learning for he was born in another time' – **Rabindranath Tagore**

'When someone shows you who they are, believe them for the first time' – **Maya Angelou**

'Even an animal, if you show genuine affection, gradually trust develops...If you showing bad face and beating, how can you develop friendship?' – **Dalai Lama**

'If you keep your faith, you keep your trust, you keep the right attitude, if you are grateful, you will see God open up new doors' – **Joel Osteen**

'Anybody can become angry- that is easy, but to be angry with the right person to the right degree and at the right time and for the right purpose, and the right way - that is not within everybody's power and is not easy' – **Aristotle**

'Your time is limited so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma- which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown your own inner voice. And most important have the courage to follow your heart and intuition' – **Steve Jobs**

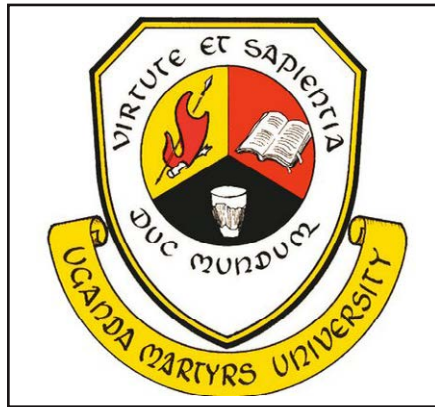
# Uganda Martyrs University introduces new course in Journalism

By Media Officer, Uganda Episcopal Conference

The Uganda Martyrs University (UMU) Masaka has introduced a new course in Bachelor of Journalism and Mass Communication in their academia.

The new undergraduate Course is expected to start this Academic Year (2018/2019) in the August- September intake. The course duration is for three-years with five areas of specialization: Broadcast Journalism; Print Journalism; Advertising; Public Relations and Pastoral Care.

Speaking during the opening ceremony of the Annual Communication Week for the Catholic Communicators held in Nebbi Catholic Diocese from May 1-7, 2018 the Executive Secretary of the UEC Social Communications Department, Rev. Fr Philip Odii, told the communicators that the course was introduced following a proposal by the Catholic Communicators during their Annual General Meeting held in 2016 and 2017 in Moroto and Lugazi Dioceses respectively.



“This new course has been created to build capacity and help those wishing to further their personal development in Journalism and Mass Communication. Therefore, I encourage each one of you to apply and inform other people in your respective Dioceses about it,” he told the Communicators during the Annual General Meeting in Nebbi Catholic Diocese.

Students will spend the semester examining the principles, practice and

responsibility of communication and the convergence of print, broadcast and on-line journalism in the era of the New Media. They will also examine the role and function of mass media.

Individuals who meet minimum entry requirements including professionals, entrepreneurs, job seekers, school leavers, higher institution graduates and small business owners among others, can now enroll for the course.

UMU is a leading faith-based private, non-profit University, owned by the Uganda Episcopal Conference. The University was officially launched on October 18, 1993 by President Yoweri K. Museveni of Uganda.

## Minimum requirements

Undergraduate Programmes: A minimum of two principal passes in the Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education obtained at the same sitting or its equivalent. Diploma holders are also invited to apply. For all those applying for distance learning, relevant certificates are required.

# 90 year-old man among first foot pilgrims to arrive at Namugongo for Martyrs Day celebration

By Jacinta W. Odongo



The 90 year-old foot pilgrim from Bushenyi, Mzee Bernado Tibyangye, who is also the oldest pilgrim to arrive at Namugongo so far.

Pilgrims from across the world have started arriving at Namugongo Catholic Shrine, a week to the 2018 Uganda Martyrs Day (UMD) celebrations.

By Tuesday 22nd May, 2018, over 50 people had already arrived in small groups, with the largest delegation being that of 12 foot pilgrims from St. Kagwa Catholic Parish Bushenyi in Mbarara Ecclesiastical Province. The Bushenyi pilgrims arrived at Namugongo on 22nd May, 2018 having left their home on 9th May 2018. Among the foot pilgrims in that group is Mzee Bernado Tibyangye, who is in his 90s, also the oldest pilgrim to arrive at Namugongo so far.

“This is my seventh year in a row to come here for this celebration,” Mzee Tibyangye said in an interview adding “When I was young I used to pray through St. Andrew Kaggwa, one of my favorite Uganda Martyrs, and I



The two young foot pilgrims from Bushenyi who were among the first to arrive at Namugongo on May 22, 2018. Photos by: Jacinta W. Odongo

would always ask him to intercede for me so that my faith grows stronger each day.”

“This year, I want to ask the Uganda Martyrs to intercede for my family for peace and provision as well as other unmarried families so that they can be able to respond to God’s calling. I also want God to heal my feet so the pain that I am feeling can stop. This healing will be a testimony to many old people so that they can start coming for this pilgrimage,” he added.

Prior to this Namugongo pilgrimage, the 90 year-old had visited Our Lady of Kibeho Shrine in Rwanda twice last year in the months of July and September for a spiritual pilgrimage. Kibeho, a small village in Rwanda, is known as a place of apparition where the Virgin Mary appeared in 1981.

The Bushenyi group also comprised of two minors, Crescent Tindimwebwa 11 years and Bamwesi-gye Bruno aged 10 years. The two young pilgrims, who came with their grandmother, are now referred to by many as ‘Kizitos’, one of the youngest Uganda Martyrs.

“This journey wasn’t easy as I spent almost 14 days walking on foot. But, God gave me courage and strength to keep walking and I know that He will surely bless me. This is my first time to come for this Namugongo pilgrimage, and I came to pray for healing because I have a problem with my eyes and

legs,” said an excited Crescent.

Other first pilgrims to arrive at Namugongo include Janete Owitia Merci, 67 years from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Owitia, who is the first International pilgrim to arrive, started her journey on Friday 18th May by bus, and arrived on Monday 20th May.

According to the person in charge of pilgrims at Namugongo Catholic Shrine, Emmanuel Obong, the foot pilgrims are camping on the shrine grounds ahead of the June 3 celebration.

“More than 50 pilgrims started arriving here over the weekend. We have put up a tent outside the Church that they can use for shelter ahead of the UMD celebration. We expect thousands more to arrive during the course of the week,” said Obong.

About 7,000 foot pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Tororo have also started a pilgrimage to Namugongo on May 25, 2018, and are expected to officially enter the Shrine on May 31, 2018. The pilgrims were blessed and officially flagged off by the Archbishop of Tororo, Most Rev. Emmanuel Obbo on Sunday, May 20, 2018 at the Uganda Martyrs Cathedral in Tororo. The Archdiocese will lead this year’s UMD celebrations.

International pilgrims from the following countries have also notified Uganda Catholic Secretariat about

their attendance: Malawi (110), Tanzania (330), Kenya (300), South Africa (63), Nigeria (40), Zimbabwe (21), DRC (524), Japan (7) and USA (12).

Pilgrims, especially those who intend to travel to Namugongo on foot, have also been advised to go for thorough medical check-up before starting the journey to avoid injuries along the way or preventable deaths.

The Uganda Martyrs Day celebration usually attracts millions of enthusiastic pilgrims from across the world. Millions of these pilgrims usually travel by air, by bus and on foot to mark this celebration which transforms many people’s lives. Their (Uganda Martyrs) intercession has transformed many lives and has become the source of strength amid the challenges and difficulties many Christians go through in their lives.

In the Catholic Church, the Martyrs are venerated for their heroism in professing and witnessing to their faith. They have an intercessional role for those who are still struggling in life’s journey to join them triumphantly at the end of their earthly lives.

The June 3rd celebration usually marks the commemoration of the heroic faith of the Martyrs, both Catholic and Protestant, who were burnt to death on the orders of Kabaka Mwanga II, the then king of Buganda between 1885 and 1887, for refusing to denounce their faith.

# Hundreds take part in 'Walk of Faith' pilgrimage ahead of Uganda Martyrs Day



Archbishop Obbo (holding a Vatican flag) and the Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities, Prof. Ephraim Kamuntu (holding a Uganda flag) flanked by pilgrims during the 'Walk of Faith' Pilgrimage

By Media Officer, UEC

On Saturday May 26, 2018, hundreds of pilgrims from across the country participated in a 10 km pilgrimage dubbed 'Walk of Faith'. The symbolic pilgrimage began from Munyonyo Martyrs Shrine since it's the place where King Mwanga II made the decision to execute the Martyrs for their strong Christian faith, and conclude at St. Matia Mulumba Parish in Old Kampala, a place where St. Matia Mulumba (one of the Catholic Martyrs) was killed.

The 'Walk', which is part of the pilgrims' spiritual preparation for the UMD celebration, is normally held to enable Christians experience the Martyrs' pain and their last moments on earth in a commemorative walk.

The first three Catholic Martyrs, namely, St. Denis Ssebuggwawo, St. Andrew Kaggwa and St. Pontiano Ngondwe were killed at Munyonyo on May 26, 1886. However, some were killed along the way, while others were burned alive in Namugongo on June 3.

The Walk was flagged off by the Archbishop of Tororo, Most. Rev. Emmanuel Obbo and the Minister of Tourism,

Wildlife and Antiquities, Prof. Ephraim Kamuntu, took part as the chief walker.

During the walk, the pilgrims made two stopovers for prayers at strategic sites where some of the Martyrs were killed, before proceeding to the final destination at St. Matia Mulumba Parish for a Holy Mass which was the climax of the 'Walk'. The Holy Mass was presided over by Archbishop Obbo of Tororo Archdiocese.

Tororo Archdiocese (Youth Office), which animates this year's celebration, organized the pilgrimage in collaboration with the National Youth Office of Uganda Episcopal Conference and Uganda Tourism Board. This was the third edition of the 'Walk of Faith' pilgrimage since its launch in 2016.

Meanwhile, Novena prayers have begun at Namugongo Catholic Shrine from May 25 to June 2, 2018, just a day prior to the actual celebration. Catholic faithful across the country are called upon to participate in the novena prayers seeking the intercession of the Martyrs. A novena is a nine days of public or private prayer made in prepa-



Pilgrims during the 'Walk'



Youths holding a banner during the pilgrimage

ration for a feast or to seek special graces.

This year's celebrations will be unique as it will mark 100 years since the martyrdom of Daudi Okello and Jildo Irwa, the two young catechists that were killed at Paimol, in Agago district.





The writer standing next to Murchison Falls to get a glimpse of the powerful waterfall. Above the waterfall is the mist that is released due to the magnitude of the fall.

# Murchison Falls National Park: Uganda's hidden gem

By Jacinta W. Odongo

A few weeks ago, I got an opportunity to visit Murchison Falls National Park, Uganda's largest National Park. I visited this park with a group of Catholic communicators whom I had met in Nebbi Catholic Diocese during our Annual Communications Week that was organized by my department, Social Communications. This was my second time to visit a national park the first being Masaaai Mara Game Reserve in Kenya last year.

Located in the Northwest of Uganda, Murchison Falls National Park is a conservation area to untamed wilderness and Savannah woodland, split through the middle by the majestic River Nile. It is Uganda's only National Park which has the four "big five" animals: Buffaloes; elephants; lions and leopards. Unfortunately, Rhinos were extinguished about 30 years after poachers shot the nation's last wild rhino in Murchison in 1983. But they are now being bred again in the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary at Nakasongola

District.

This park not only provides a home for the four "big five", but it is also home to warthogs, antelopes, giraffes, waterbucks, hippos, crocodiles and many other animals. To access Murchison Falls National Park, we hired two private buses from Nebbi town as we were quite many in number and we knew we would have the most interesting experience during the game drive safari.

Our journey from Nebbi town to Murchison Falls National Park began at about 8.20am. It was merry-making in the bus as everybody was excited about this much-anticipated game drive safari. We passed through Nebbi-Pakwach main road, a route which offers one of the best scenic views in Uganda. The road is surrounded with extensive plains of the east which gently rise into the hills of the west. It was the perfect time of day for a view such as this. We kept looking out in awe, admiring the beautiful view of



Beautiful traditional houses in West Nile region

the green landscape which could be seen for miles around. We saw beautiful hills, the majestic river Nile, Lake Albert and unique traditional West Nile huts (houses). All we could smell along this road was pure freshness.

After about one hour, we arrived in Pakwach district where we came to an interesting iconic bridge made of metals, the Pakwach Bridge. This bridge is an interesting point because it is the only bridge in Uganda that crosses the Albert Nile. Moreover, it is the gateway to the West Nile Region



A section of the communicators and journalists pose for a group photo at Tangi Gate in Murchison Falls National Park.



Buffaloes and antelopes grazing at the Park.

as well as Murchison Falls National Park if you are coming from West Nile. As we crossed the bridge to Murchison we saw antelopes and elephants grazing not so far away. We also saw a herd of hippos lazing in the waters of R. Nile while making loud wheezing and grumbling sounds.

We entered the National Park through one of the main entrances, Tangi Gate. It was very hot, temperature read about 32 degrees centigrade, but the excitement on everyone's face for the expedition surpassed the hot temperature. We alighted outside the gate and took photos before heading for registration at the entrance. Afterward, we boarded the bus and began our much-anticipated expedition. Just a few minutes after entering the Park we came across antelopes and waterbucks grazing, but the view in the Park was simply the best. The Park has incredibly diverse vast scenery and we didn't know where to look first. The spectacular vast scenery of the jungle green savannah woodland is a true hidden gem of Uganda,

no wonder they call it 'The Pearl of Africa'.

As we kept on driving, we also came across a herd of huge elephants crossing the road, thus forcing us to stop for a short while for the whole family to cross. We used this opportunity to capture the best shots for our safari photo gallery. We also saw giraffes, small families of warthogs, birds such as Crane and a herd of buffaloes ready to charge at us in case we pose an attack to them.

We continued with our expedition until we reached a harbor at Paraa, where we alighted for a short break as we eagerly awaited to board a ferry to cross R.Nile to Masindi where Murchison Falls is located. At about 2pm, we boarded the ferry alongside other tourists whom we had met at the harbor but, what caught my attention were our vehicles too, including the two buses and other private vehicles for other tourists were parked in the same ferry with us! However, one of the ferry captains later told me that this type of ferry normally carries a

total of eight cars alongside tourists.

Driving through the Masindi-Paraa road was another thrilling experience. We battled tirelessly with tse tse flies at a certain point to avoid getting excessively bitten when the flies tried to sneak into our bus. Tse tse flies are known to carry deadly parasites that spread sleeping sickness, thus we couldn't risk being bitten. It was a fun-filled experience though.

Eventually, we arrived at the falls, parked our vehicles in an open secluded space then walked through a bushy path to reach the actual waterfall. It took us about five minutes to reach the actual waterfall as it is not a very accessible path. As we walked closer to the falls over the glittery rocks we could hear a thundering sound of the powerful waterfall. Murchison Falls is the world's most powerful waterfall. The sight and sound of the Nile surging and plunging down the narrow gorge from the top was very breathtaking! It was incredible to stand beside this magnificent fall and feel the sheer power of it as we took some really nice photos. The mist coming off the fall soaked us pretty good as none of us wore protective rain coats but at that moment nobody really cared. The incredible view before our eyes was what mattered. It made us to fear and appreciate the power of nature. We spent almost two hours at the thundering waterfall and by the time we left we were totally drenched but it was a worthwhile experience. Later, we had our picnic a few metres from the waterfall before our departure back to Nebbi. Although we did not see lions and leopards, we left Murchison in total satisfaction.

### **More about Murchison Falls and the National Park**

Murchison Falls is the name that was given to the point at which the world's longest river, the river Nile, is channeled through a narrow gorge within the Rift Valley, descending almost 50 metres below. Sir Roderick Murchison (1851–1853), was President of the Royal Geographical Society, which was the catalyst for many explorations within 'colonial' Africa, most notably the search for the source of the river Nile.

The wildlife biodiversity in Murchison Falls National Park contains a number of species – 76 types of mammals and 451 bird species and many other animals.

# Pictorial of the Murchison Falls National Park



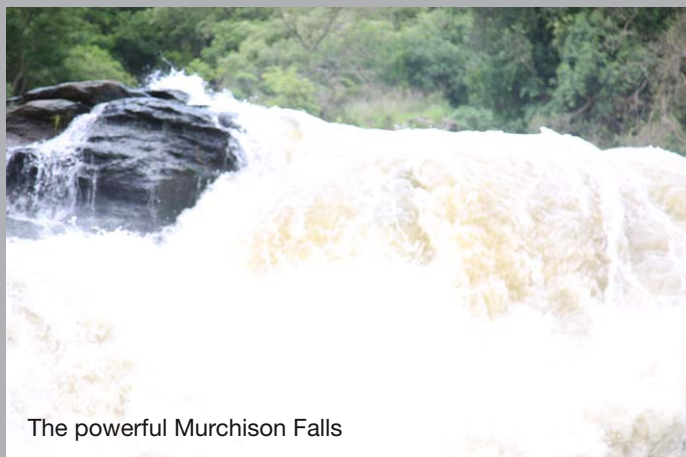
The vast savannah woodland at Murchison Falls National Park.



Elephants drinking water at the banks of River Nile in the Park.



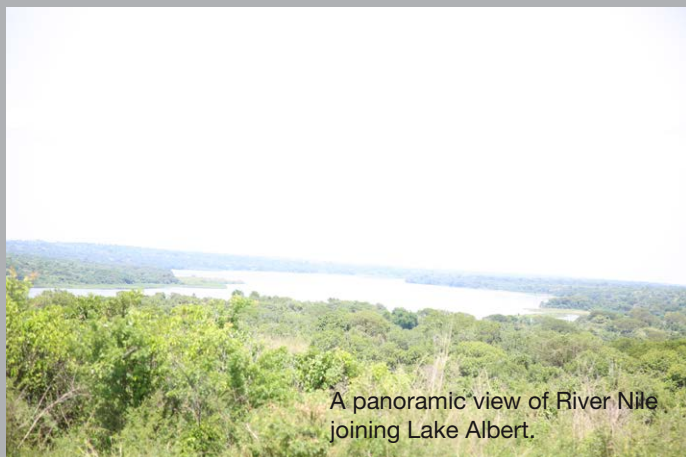
A warthog breast-feeding its young ones at the park



The powerful Murchison Falls



A ferry carrying tourists and vehicles at Paraa in Murchison Falls National Park



A panoramic view of River Nile joining Lake Albert.



Communicators and journalist pose for a group photo at Murchison Falls.



Communicators enjoying a picnic at Murchison.



An aerial view of the devastating area that got flooded after the dam outburst (Internet photo)

# Over 40 people killed in Kenya following dam tragedy

SOURCE: Online News Agencies

Over 40 people were swept to their deaths on May 9, 2018, and many more were reported missing after a dam burst its walls in the Solai area of Nakuru County in Kenya following heavy rains.

The Patel Dam, located on private farmland and used for irrigation and fish farming, broke its one-kilometer-long wall and swept hundreds of homes and crops downstream. This is reportedly the worst flood-related tragedy in the country since the heavy rains started this year.

The extent of the damage was yet to be ascertained by press time and

rescue and relief efforts were underway. Government officials, however, projected that the death toll could rise to more than 100 especially those trapped in the mud.

They include children and women trapped in mud and others whose whereabouts could not be established.

The mega dam on the farm of prominent farmer Mansukul Patel, collapsed and sent water surging across densely populated villages, destroying homes and buildings along the way. Scattered helmets, utensils, clothes and fish from the dam is all that could be seen in what was left of the villages.

Villagers were spotted in small groups talking in low tones about the tragedy that had befallen them.

The rains that started in March have led to flooding and mudslides that have left close to 200 people dead and thousands more displaced.

Eye witness recounted bodies of people--including young children hanging on cliffs or branches of trees that were washed away by the floods from the dam.

The Kenya Red Cross estimates that up to 500 families are affected in the tragedy described by Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiangi as a 'disaster who visited the scene of tragedy, where he announced that an investigation was underway.

The casualties are being treated at the Nakuru County Referral Hospital and Bahati Sub-County Hospital following the incident.

The toll, the highest in a single flood-related incident now brings to 162 the number of people who have died countrywide as a result of floods since heavy rains started in March.

# Ethiopia set to host 19th Ameceea plenary



A billboard in Ethiopia advertising AMECEA Plenary Assembly (Amecea photo)

By Pamela Adinda, AMECEA Online News

The Secretary General of Ethiopia Catholic Secretariat (ECS), Very Rev. Abba Hagos Hayish, CM has announced his Conference’s readiness to host the 19th Ameceea plenary in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia due July 13-26, 2018.

Speaking during the meeting for the AMECEA Executive Board and AMECEA Secretariat Staff held from May 15 -18, in Addis Ababa Fr. Abba said that the bulk of preparatory activities have been accomplished.

“Step by step we have managed to reach a position where we can thankfully say that we are ready to host the 19th AMECEA Plenary Assembly,” said Fr. Abba. “Although it took quite some time to develop and approve the AMECEA Plenary Assembly Logo as well as the prayer, we have managed to extensively promote the Plenary logo and the prayer in the dioceses, and throughout the country as well as with the government and the general public

through the government and private media in the country,” he elaborated.

Other promotion measures that the conference has carried out ahead of the 19th AMECEA Plenary Assembly includes translation of the Plenary Assembly Prayer into about ten native languages in the country to enable the faithful from different dioceses to pray in their dialect. The secretariat has also produced billboards bearing the plenary Assembly logo and the theme, which have been placed in strategic places within the capital city especially in the Catholic Church owned properties.

“We are also trying to work on vibrant diversity, equal dignity and peaceful unity in God in the AMECEA Region on the theme. We started to break this theme in different seminars and workshops in different parts of the country through the structure of ecclesiastical jurisdictions in Ethiopia but also where other members of the public could join us in the discussion,” he explained.

Speaking to AMECEA Online News in Addis Ababa the logistic Coordinator of the event, Getahum Tafesse said that they have identified some volunteers who have international experience in hosting delegates to be part of their team. The volunteers, who will fully be engaged in the plenary, will undergo short training to familiarize themselves with the nature of the event on how to receive the delegates, take care of them from the time of arrival to their departure.

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Kindly contact **New Contact** Managing Director, **Fr. Philip Odii**, (0782746812 / 0702606851)

# Deficient Digital Relationships



Fr. Lazar Arasu SDB  
Priest and School Administrator

Often, developing countries such as Uganda think that developed countries have no time for people and their relationships are too mechanical. But with the advanced technology reaching everywhere, we are very much the same with developed countries, at least among the urban population and youth. We too are part of the 'global village'.

Thanks to Smartphones and Social Media platforms such as Whatsapp, Facebook and LinkedIn, the Digital Age has given new meaning to our connections and relationships with people. Our friends and acquaintances do not only come from our schools, villages and neighbourhoods, but they could be thousands of miles far away from us.

Maybe we have not met them physically or probably we will never meet them, but we feel close to them and even share intimate thoughts with them. We spend valuable time on "chat" with them and feel close to them on similar thinking patterns. But, what are some of the implications that they have in our lives and relationship?

After a serious thought on digital relationships, we tend to ask, "This kind of distant communication through machines is it human? Is it real or illusionary?" For all the good that comes from these modern communications, though we are freed from the limitations of distance we miss the cues that are at the heart of the poetry of intimacy. In Social Media, the humane glances, reactions and idiosyncrasies of personality that reveal the person loved cannot appear fully, if at all, inside the artifice of a text message, or in a distorted computer enhanced image.

Many aspects of digital communi-

cation seem to be positive, constructive and progressive. But do they suit the characteristics and the dynamics of human communication and relationship? Many humane aspects of communications seem to be wanting or much worse seem to be distorted. Technology and much advancement in modern means of communication have changed or distorted the normal and humane way of communicating and relating.

Since mid-'90s, with the advancement in telephone and other wireless communication most communications are not face-to-face. Often we end up communicating with machines. With the advent of Internet came the accelerated speed of communication, which has changed our way communicating and relating with people.

Dr. Lisa Petronis, a San Diego based psychologist says, "...the rapid pace of Online communication plays into the desire for instant gratification. As access to people becomes faster, both the expectation of immediacy and impatience at delay have increased..." This affects our relationships with people. Human relationships are built and sustained in patience and endurance. Patience is one of the defining virtues of love and we have all experienced that relationships suffer in a more fast-paced world.

Social media is a byproduct of digital media. They have made many people information-maniacs. Modern men and women have begun to take solace in social media to overcome their boredom, distress and any unwanted feelings by keeping their mind preoccupied; this is done at the expense of healthy relationships with people which

bring true healing in human distresses. In the long run, the constant stream of information only causes more stress and frustration. Often people bury themselves in smartphones to escape from realities.

Psychologist Luke Carey calls the modern culture that is saturated with media as "a pornified culture." Meaning pornography in modern media culture everyone is used and abused. It is a culture that has little humanity and inspiration. Often technology based culture down plays traditional wisdom and any form of divine inspiration. We need to allow our time tested culture and it's practices to inspire the use of technology and not the other way around.

When we allow technology to dominate our habits and characters, our relationships too will be based on the use of technology which will be devoid of humanness. That would be death of our relationships and the joy of living.

Often Social Media sites survive on commercial advertisement subscription. Since they are profit-driven companies, they care little about privacy and well-being of their users. We can be sure that when we engage with free social media services, we are also exposed to many forms of risks. They affect our relationships and we lose trust in ourselves and others.

Our relationship with technology and relationships built through technology often creates illusion. Overly depending on technology creates adverse effect on our health and well-being. But meeting up with friends in person and hanging out with real friends are healthy ways to keep our relationships and health in right balance.



## LITURGICAL KEY EVENTS FOR JUNE

### June 1- Memorial of Saint Justin, Martyr

St. Justin, apologist and martyr, was one of the most important Christian writers of the second century. He passed his youth in the study of letters. When he grew to manhood he was so taken with the love of philosophy and the desire of truth, that he became a student of philosophy and examined the teaching of all the philosophers. He himself tells how his study of all the schools of philosophy led him to Christianity, and how he dedicated his life to the defense of the Christian faith as “the one certain and profitable philosophy.”

St. Justin is particularly celebrated for the two Apologies which he was courageous enough to address in succession to the persecuting emperors Antoninus and Marcus Aurelius. One of them contains a description of the rites of baptism and the ceremonies of Mass, thus constituting the most valuable evidence that we possess on the Roman liturgy of his day. He was beheaded in Rome in 165. Justin is also referred to as “the Philosopher.” He is the Patron Saint of lecturers; orators; philosophers; speakers.

### June 3 – Uganda Martyrs’ Day

Every June 3 pilgrims from across the world make pilgrimage to Namugongo Catholic Shrine to commemorate the heroic faith of the 22 Catholic Martyrs who were killed on the orders of Kabaka Mwangi II, the then King of Buganda between 1885 to 1887. The 22 Catholic Martyrs were beatified on June 6, 1920 by Pope Benedict XV and on October 18, 1964 Pope Paul VI canonized them.

### June 5- Memorial of Saint Boniface, Bishop and Martyr

St. Boniface, known as the apostle of the Germans, was an English Benedictine monk who gave up being elected abbot to devote his life to the conversion of the German tribes. He is one of the great figures of the Benedictine Order and of the monastic apostolate in the middle ages. Pope Gregory II sent him to preach the Gospel in Germany. He evangelized Hesse, Saxony and Thuringia and became Archbishop of Mainz. He well earned the title of Apostle of Germany, and Catholic Germany still venerates him as its father in the faith. He was put to death by the Frisians at Dokkum in 754 during the last of his missionary journeys. The famous abbey of Fulda, where his body lies, has remained the national shrine of Catholic Germany. He stood out for two characteristics: his Christian orthodoxy and his fidelity to the Pope of Rome.

### June 8-Solemnity of Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

The Feast of the Sacred Heart is one of the most popular in the Catholic Church; it is celebrated on a different date each year, 19 days after Pentecost Sunday. Many Catholics prepare for this Feast by beginning a Novena to the Sacred Heart on the Feast of Corpus Christi, which is the Thursday of the week before. On the Feast of the Sacred Heart itself, we can gain a plenary indulgence by making an Act of Reparation to the Sacred Heart.

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus goes back at least to the 11th century, but through the 16th century, it remained a private devotion, often tied to devotion to the Five Wounds of Christ. The first feast of the Sacred Heart was celebrated on August 31, 1670, in Rennes, France, through the efforts of Fr. Jean Eudes (1602-1680). From Rennes, the devotion spread, but it took the visions of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (1647-1690) for the devotion to become universal.

### June 9- Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

In the midst of the Second World War, Pope Pius XII put the whole world under the special protection of our Savior’s Mother by consecrating it to her Immaculate Heart, and in 1944 he decreed that in the future the whole Church should celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Pius XII instituted today’s feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary for the whole Church, so as to obtain by her intercession “peace among nations, freedom for the Church, the conversion of sinners, the love of purity and the practice of virtue” (Decree of May 4, 1944).

### June 11- Memorial of Saint Barnabas, Apostle

St. Barnabas, designated by the Holy Spirit to share the charge and mission of the twelve Apostles, is venerated by the Church as one of them (Apostles). He played an important part in the first extension of Christianity outside the Jewish world. It was Barnabas who presented St. Paul to the other Apostles when, after his long retreat in Arabia, he came to Jerusalem for the first time after his conversion to submit for Peter’s approval the mission to the Gentiles entrusted to him by the Master Himself. Barnabas was Paul’s companion and helper on his first missionary journey and returned with him to Jerusalem, but left him when he set out on his second journey and went to Cyprus. He is the patron Saint of Cyprus; against hailstorms; invoked as peacemaker.

### June 13- Memorial of Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Saint Anthony was born Fernando Martins in Lisbon, Portugal. He was born into a wealthy family and by the age of fifteen asked to be sent to the Abbey of Santa Cruz in Coimbra, the then capital of Portugal. During his time in the Abbey, he learned theology and Latin. Fernando eventually received permission to leave the Abbey so he could join the new Franciscan Order. When he was admitted, he changed his name to Anthony. His preaching was inspired by the love of God and of souls and had an extraordinary power of conviction; it was filled with the penetrating power of the Bible.

He was only 36-years-old when he died and was canonized less than one year afterward by Pope Gregory IX. Upon exhumation some 336 years after his death, his body was found to be corrupted, yet his tongue was totally incorrupt, so perfect were the teachings that had been formed upon it. St. Anthony is venerated all over the world as the Patron Saint for lost articles, and is credited with

many miracles involving lost people, lost things and even lost spiritual goods.

### **June 21- Memorial of Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious**

St. Aloysius Gonzaga's outstanding quality was his radiant purity and the Church praises this perfect innocence with the words, "Thou has made him little less than the angels." He was baptized in the womb, because his life was in danger, and he made a vow of chastity at the age of nine. When he was sixteen he joined the Society of Jesus and died at the age of twenty-three in 1591 as a result of his devoted nursing of the plague-stricken.

He is the Patron Saint of AIDS care-givers; AIDS patients; Catholic youth; Jesuit students; teenage children; teenagers and youth.

### **June 24-Solemnity of the nativity of St. John the Baptist**

This feast, a segment of Advent in the season of Ordinary Time, makes us aware of the wonderful inner relationship between the sacred mysteries; for we are still in the midst of one Church year and already a bridge is being erected to the coming year of grace. Ordinarily, the Church observes the day of a saint's death as his feast, because that day marks his entrance into heaven. To this rule there

are two notable exceptions, the birthdays of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of St. John the Baptist. John the Baptist is the patron saint of Jordan, Puerto Rico, French Canada and many other places.

### **June 29- Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul**

Veneration of the two great Apostles, Peter and Paul, has its roots in the very foundations of the Church. They are the solid rock on which the Church is built. They are at the origin of her faith and will forever remain her protectors and her guides. To them Rome owes her true greatness, for it was under God's providential guidance that they were led to make the capital of the Empire, sanctified by their martyrdom, the center of the Christian world whence should radiate the preaching of the Gospel.

St. Peter suffered martyrdom under Nero, in A.D. 66 or 67. He was buried on the hill of the Vatican where recent excavations have revealed his tomb on the very site of the Basilica of St. Peter's. St. Paul was beheaded in the Via Ostia on the spot where now stands the basilica bearing his name. Down the centuries Christian people in their thousands have gone on pilgrimage to the tombs of these Apostles. The feast is observed in Rome because St. Peter and St. Paul are patron saints of the eternal city.

## LITURGICAL READINGS FOR JUNE 2018



### **JUNE 1- Memorial of Saint Justin, Martyr**

**Lectionary: 351**

*Reading 1 1 PT 4:7-13*

*Responsorial Psalm PS 96:10, 11-12, 13*

*Gospel MK 11:11-26*

### **JUNE 3- The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**

**Lectionary: 168**

*Reading 1 EX 24:3-8*

*Responsorial Psalm PS 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18*

*Reading 2 HEB 9:11-15*

*Gospel MK 14:12-16, 22-26*

### **JUNE 5- Memorial of Saint Boniface, Bishop and Martyr**

**Lectionary: 354**

*Reading 1 2 PT 3:12-15A, 17-18*

*Responsorial Psalm PS 90:2, 3-4, 10, 14 AND 16*

*Gospel MK 12:13-17*

### **JUNE 8- Solemnity of Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**

**Lectionary: 171**

*Reading 1 HOS 11:1, 3-4, 8C-9*

*Responsorial Psalm IS 12:2-3, 4, 5-6.*

*Reading 2 EPH 3:8-12, 14-19*

*Gospel JN 19:31-37*

### **JUNE 9- Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Lectionary: 358/573**

*Reading 1 2 TM 4:1-8*

*Responsorial Psalm PS 71:8-9, 14-15AB, 16-17, 22*

*Gospel LK 2:41-51*

### **JUNE 10- Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Lectionary: 89**

*Reading 1 GN 3:9-15*

*Responsorial Psalm PS 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8*

*Reading 2 2 COR 4:13—5:1*

*Gospel MK 3:20-35*

### **JUNE 11- Memorial of Saint Barnabas, Apostle**

**Lectionary: 580/359**

*Reading 1 ACTS 11:21B-26; 12:1-3*

*Responsorial Psalm PS 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4, 5-6*

*Gospel MT 5:1-12*

### **JUNE 13- Memorial of Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church**

**Lectionary: 361**

*Reading 1 1 KGS18:20-39*

*Responsorial Psalm PS 16:1B-2AB, 4, 5AB AND 8, 11*

*Gospel MT 5:17-19*

### **JUNE 17- Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Lectionary: 92**

*Reading 1 EZ 17:22-24*

*Responsorial Psalm PS 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16*

*Reading 2 2 COR 5:6-10*

*Gospel MK 4:26-34*

### **JUNE 21- Memorial of Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious**

**Lectionary: 368**

*Reading 1 SIR 48:1-14*

*Responsorial Psalm PS 97:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7*

*Gospel MT 6:7-15*

### **JUNE 24- Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist - Vigil**

**Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist - Mass during the Day**

### **JUNE 28- Memorial of Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr**

**Lectionary: 374**

*Reading 1 2 KGS 24:8-17*

*Responsorial Psalm PS 79:1B-2, 3-5, 8, 9*

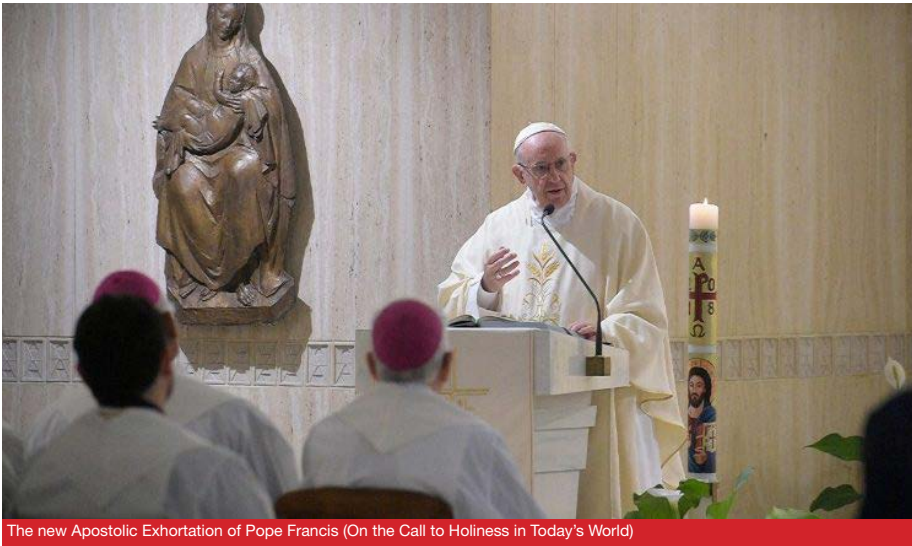
*Gospel MT 7:21-29*

### **JUNE 29- Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles - Vigil**

**Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles - Mass during the Day**



# Pope at Mass: Don't dialogue with the devil, the great liar



The new Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis (On the Call to Holiness in Today's World)

By Robin Gomes

At Mass at Casa Santa Marta, Tuesday May 8 morning, Pope Francis talked about how to deal with the devil who though defeated and dying is still dangerous.

Never approach the devil nor talk to him: he is "defeated" but dangerous because he seduces and, like a chained angry dog, bites if you go to pat him. Pope Francis offered this advice in his homily at Mass, Tuesday morning, in the chapel of the Casa Santa Marta in the Vatican.

Commenting on John's Gospel where Jesus says "the ruler of this world has been condemned," the Pope

spoke about the seduction of the devil and how to deal with him.

The Pope said that even though the devil is defeated and dying he has a great power and capacity to seduce. He promises many things, bringing us beautifully packed gifts, without revealing their contents.

Dying but dangerous

The Pope compared the devil to a dying crocodile, who hunters advise not to approach because it can still strike you dead with its tail. Hence the devil is very dangerous, his proposals are all lies and we foolishly believe him.

The Pope described the devil as the

father of lies, saying he speaks well, he can sing in order to deceive and he is loser who moves about like a winner. His light dazzles like the fireworks but does not last. Instead the light of the Lord is "gentle and permanent".

Never dialogue with the devil

The devil, the Pope said, knows how to seduce us in our vanity and curiosity and we buy everything, falling into temptation. Knowing that a thought, a desire or move is dangerous and we still go there, it is like approaching the devil that is like a chained angry dog that can still bite.

Unlike Eve who thought herself a "great theologian" and fell, the Pope said we must never dialogue with the devil because he wins, he is more intelligent than us. On the contrary, Jesus in the desert responds to the devil with the Word of God, hunts down demons, sometimes asking his name but doesn't dialogue.

Pray, watch, fast

Recalling the advice of Jesus to watch, do penance and fast, Pope Francis said we too must do so but never enter into dialogue with the devil. And in moments of temptation we must approach the mother, like frightened children do. According to the Russian mystics, in times of spiritual upheavals, take refuge under the mantle of the great Mother of God, the Pope said.

By Christopher Wells

## Pope Francis greets "moms" on Mothers' Day



Vatican photo 1) The Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima on May 13 (ANSA)

In many countries around the world, Mother's Day this year fell on May 13, which is also the feast of Our Lady of Fatima. Pope Francis remembered all mothers with a special greeting at Sunday's Regina Coeli.

Pope Francis had a special greeting for "moms" on Sunday, which is observed as Mothers' Day in many countries throughout the world.

"Today being the day dedicated to moms in many countries, a round of applause for moms!" the Pope said at the conclusion of his remarks at the day's Regina Coeli.

"I want to greet all moms, thanking them for their care of families," he said. "I remember, too, the moms who are looking upon us from heaven, and continue to keep us safe with their prayers."

Pope Francis noted that Sunday is the feast of Our Lady of Fatima. "Let us pray to our heavenly Mom, who today, May 13th, with the title Our Lady of Fatima, helps us to continue the journey."



Vatican photo 3) Pope Francis at Mass at Casa Santa Marta, May 4, 2018. (Vatican Media)

# Pope at Mass: A good bishop is watchful, involved and close to his flock

By Robin Gomes

In his homily at Mass on May 4, Pope Francis reflected on what makes a genuine bishop, stressing on the qualities of watchfulness, closeness and being involved in the life of his faithful.

According to Pope Francis, a good bishop is one who is close to his flock, awake and watching, defending and confirming them in the faith. This was the heart of the homily of the Pope at his Friday Morning Mass in the chapel of the Casa Santa Marta residence in the Vatican.

The disorientation of God's people

Pope Francis was commenting on the day's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, where Peter and the apostles, keen to put the Christians of Antioch at peace, send them Paul and Barnabas along with two others. Those in charge of the Church in Antioch, believing themselves to be true orthodox theologians of the faith, were in fact disorientating the faithful, the Pope said. On the other hand, the apostles, i.e. today's bishops, confirm them in the faith.

Bishop – awake, watchful and involved

The Pope described the bishop as “one who monitors, who guards - a sentinel who knows how to watch out in order to defend the flock from the wolves that come”.

Jesus, the Holy Father explained, distinguishes between the true shepherd from the employee, from the one who goes for his payment and does not care if the wolf comes and eats one of the sheep.

The Pope said the true shepherd is awake, who is involved in the life of the flock, defends not only each and every sheep, but also confirms them. And if one goes away or is lost, he goes looking for it to bring it back. He is so involved that he does not let one be lost.

Bishop - close to his people

The Pope evoked the image of a bishop after the heart of Christ. A bishop is a shepherd who knows the name of each sheep, i.e. he is close to his sheep.

He said the faithful can make out a bishop who doesn't care much about them: a bishop who is always busy, who meddles in business, a businessman, one who is busy with things incompatible with his mission, one who is always going about everywhere suitcase-in-hand, or one with “guitar-in-hand”, and so on.

The people of God really know that a shepherd is a shepherd, when he is close to them, when he is able to keep watch and give his life for them, the Holy Father said stressing on the word, “closeness”.

The Pope held out the example of St. Turibius of Mogrovejo of what a true bishop is like. The Spanish saint died in a small indigenous village, surrounded by his Christians who played the “chirimía”, a wind instrument, so that he could die in peace.

In conclusion, Pope Francis urged prayers so that the Church may not lack good pastors, who work, pray, are close to God's people and who know how to keep watch.



Pope Francis at Mass in the Casa Santa Marta (ANSA).

# Pope Francis announces names of fourteen new cardinals

Vatican News

Pope Francis on Sunday, May 20, 2018 announced that he will create fourteen new cardinals in a Consistory scheduled to take place on June 29, 2018.

In the surprise announcement following his Regina Caeli address, the Pope noted that the places from which the new cardinals come “express the universality of the Church, which continues to announce the merciful love of God to all men and women on earth”.

## Universality of Church

The men who will receive their red hats from the Pope include bishops from Iraq, Pakistan, Portugal, Peru, Madagascar, Italy and Japan.

The list also includes Polish archbishop Konrad Krajewski, who serves as the papal almoner here in Rome, and three Italian archbishops, Angelo De Donatis, the vicar general of the Rome diocese, Luis Ladaria,

Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, and Giovanni Becciu, the Substitute of the Secretary of State and Special Delegate for the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. Pope Francis said their nominations “manifests the unbreakable bond between the See of Peter and the local Churches throughout the world”.

Alongside them, Pope Francis also nominated to the College of Cardinals a retired archbishop of Mexico, a retired bishop of Bolivia and a priest from the Claretian order, all of whom, he said, “have distinguished themselves for their service to the Church”.

The names of the new Cardinals are:

- His Beatitude Louis Raphaël I Sako – Chaldean Catholic Patriarch of Babylon
- His Excellency Luis Ladaria –

Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

- His Excellency Angelo De Donatis – Vicar General of Rome
- His Excellency Giovanni Angelo Becciu – Substitute of the Secretary of State and Special Delegate for the Sovereign Military Order of Malta
- His Excellency Konrad Krajewski – Almoner of the Office of Papal Charities
- His Excellency Joseph Coutts – Archbishop of Karachi
- His Excellency António dos Santos Marto – Bishop of Leiria-Fátima
- His Excellency Pedro Barreto – Archbishop of Huancayo
- His Excellency Desiré Tsarahazana – Archbishop of Toamasina
- His Excellency Giuseppe Petrocchi – Archbishop of L’Aquila
- His Excellency Thomas Aquinas Manyo – Archbishop of Osaka
- His Excellency Sergio Obeso Rivera – Emeritus Archbishop of Xalapa.
- His Excellency Toribio Ticona Porco – Emeritus Bishop of Corocoro.
- Reverend Father Aquilino Bocos Merino – member of the Claretian order.

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Nsambya Hill, 672 Hanlon Road, P.O. Box 2886 Kampala, Uganda, **Tel:** +256-414-510570/0414-10544/ 0414-510571/0414-510398,  
**Mobile Tel:** +256-782746812, **Fax:** +256 414 510 545, **E-mail:** [ucsnewcontact@gmail.com](mailto:ucsnewcontact@gmail.com), **Website:** [www.uecon.org](http://www.uecon.org)

