



Canonization: Who are the other 5 new Saints?

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BISHOP ZZIWA ELECTED AS NEW CHAIRMAN OF UGANDA EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE



The new Chairman of UEC, Rt. Rev. Joseph Antony Zziwa, Bishop of Kiyinda-Mityana Diocese
PHOTO BY JACINTA W. ODONGO

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DIVINE HOLYLAND EXPERIENCE

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- Mt of Beatitudes
- Via Dolorosa
- Mt Zion
- Cana
- Mary's Well
- Uper Room
- Nazareth
- Garden Tomb
- Sea Galilee Boat Ride
- Church of Multiplication
- Plam Sunday Road
- Dead sea
- Sycamore tree
- Western wall
- The shepherd's field
- Church Of Holy Sepulchral
- River Jordan Baptism site
- Banias, Caesarea Philipi
- Jericho
- Pyramids and sphinx of Giza
- Red Sea Close Over
- Virgin Mary church
- Mt Sinai
- Burning Bush

10 DAYS ISRAEL- HOLY MISSION

MT.SINAI RED SEA EGYPT TO JORDAN EXPERIENCE

DIVINE HOLY LAND SITES

- Pyramids and sphinx of Giza - (Egypt)
- River Nile Cruise - (Egypt)
- Red Sea - (Egypt)
- Virgin Mary church - (Egypt)
- Mt Sinai - (Egypt)
- Burning Bush - (Egypt)
- Petra - (Jordan)
- Madaba - (Jordan)
- Mt. Nebo - (Jordan)

10 DAYS ISRAEL- HOLY MISSION

EGYPT - ISRAEL HOLYLAND EXPERIENCE

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Editorial



The months of October and November have no doubt been marked by key events in the Catholic Church in Uganda and universally. In the month of October, the Holy Father Pope Francis convoked the 15th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the Youth at the Vatican (October 3 - 28, 2018) and also canonized seven Saints: Pope Paul VI, Oscar Romero, Francesco Spinelli, Vincenzo Romano, Maria Catherine Kasper, Nazaria Ignazia of Saint Teresa of Jesus and Nuncio Sulprizio (October 14, 2018). In Uganda, we celebrated the Centenary of the Martyrdom of Blessed Daudi Okelo and Jildo Irwa in Paimol, Gulu Archdiocese (October 20, 2018). What a blessing!

This November, the Church in Uganda has witnessed the Silver Jubilee celebration of Uganda Martyrs University (November 9, 2018), the Golden Jubilee celebration of the Association of the Religious in Uganda [ARU] (November 10, 2018), and the election of new office bearers for Uganda Episcopal Conference [UEC] (November 11, 2018). We congratulate and pray for our new UEC Chairman, Rt. Rev. Joseph Antony Zziwa of Kiyinda-Mityana Diocese; the Vice Chairman, Rt. Rev. Robert Muhirwa of Fort Portal Diocese, all the Bishops elected to the UEC Executive Board and the ten Commissions of the Conference.

We thank the Lord for the Synod on the Youth, the seven new Saints, the Blessed Martyrs of Paimol, Uganda Martyrs University, the Association of the Religious in Uganda, and our new UEC leaders.

Fr. Philip Odii
Editor/Executive Secretary of
Social Communications

Bishop Zziwa elected as new Chairman of Uganda Episcopal Conference

By Jacinta w. Odongo, Media Officer
 Uganda Episcopal Conference

The Catholic Bishops in Uganda have voted in new office bearers for the Uganda Episcopal Conference (UEC), and various Commissions and Departments. Rt. Rev. Joseph Antony Zziwa, the Bishop of Kiyinda Mityana Diocese is the new Chairman of UEC for the next four years.

Bishop Zziwa was elected Chairman by the Bishops on November 11, 2018, during their Plenary Assembly that was held at St. Augustine Institute in Nsambya, Kampala. He replaces Most Rev. John Baptist Odama, the Archbishop of Gulu, who served two terms of four years. The prelate was also recently elected as chairman of the Staffing Committee of the Association of Member Episcopal Conferences in Eastern Africa (AMECEA).

In addition to electing a new Chairman at their Plenary Meeting, the Bishops elected Rt. Rev. Robert Muhirwa as Vice Chairman and other members to its Executive Board for a four year term. His Eminence Emmanuel Cardinal Wamala remains the Patron while Archbishop Odama, Most Rev. Cyprian Kizito Lwanga, the Archbishop of Kampala, Most Rev. Paul K. Bakyenga, Archbishop of Mbarara, Most Rev. Emmanuel Obbo, Archbishop of Tororo and Rt. Rev. Callistus Rubaramira, the Bishop of Kabale Diocese were elected as members. Bishop Muhirwa succeeds Bishop Zziwa who served in the same capacity for the last eight years.

While addressing the UEC employees shortly after his appointment, Bishop Zziwa emphasised the importance of unity, cooperation and teamwork in workplaces as they are key elements for one to grow better.

"I always see leadership as a call to serve God and His people. But I count on the cooperation of people and shared responsibilities because where these elements exist things always move in the right direction," Bishop Zziwa said in his speech at the Uganda Catholic Secretariat on November 12, 2018.

In his speech, the UEC outgoing Chairman, Archbishop Odama thanked his fellow Bishops and the UEC employees for their support and contribution during his tenure. He said that it had been a pleasure and a double honour for him to have served in this position adding that



Most Rev. John Baptist Odama, the outgoing UEC Chairman and Archbishop of Gulu PHOTO BY JACINTA W. ODONGO

with the experience of the newly elected Office bearers, UEC will certainly grow for the better.

The UEC Secretary General, Msgr. John Baptist Kauta said that he is confident that the new office bearers will continue to see the secretariat grow better. He congratulated Bishop Zziwa and Bishop Muhirwa for having been appointed to take over these important roles.

Meanwhile, the UEC also elected several Bishops to head its 10 Commissions. They includes Bishop Rubaramira as chairman of the Finance and Administration Commission, Archbishop Lwanga as chair of the Caritas, Justice and Peace, Rt. Rev. Sabino Ocan Odoki, the Bishop of Arua Diocese as head of Doctrinal Commission, Rt. Rev. Sanctus Lino Wanok of Nebbi Diocese as head of Education Commission.

Others are: Bishop Muhirwa as head of Health Commission, Rt. Rev. Paul Ssemogerere of Kasana-Luweero elected to lead the Lay Apostolate Commission, while Bishop Lambert Bainomugisha, the auxiliary Bishop of Mbarara will head the Legal Service Commission.

The Pastoral Commission will be chaired by Rt. Rev. Christopher Kakooza of Lugazi Diocese while the Priestly Formation and Institutes of Consecrated Life Commission and the Social Communications Commission will be chaired by Rt. Rev. Francis Aquirino Kibira of Kasese Diocese and Rt. Rev. Joseph Franzelli of Lira Diocese, respectively.

Pictorial of the new UEC office bearers



Rt. Rev. Joseph Antony Zziwa, the new UEC Chairman and Bishop of Kiyinda-Mityana Diocese



Rt. Rev. Robert Muhiirwa, the new UEC Vice Chairman and Bishop of Fort Portal Diocese



Rt. Rev. Callistus Rubaramira, Bishop of Kabale Diocese, Chairman Finance & Administration Commission



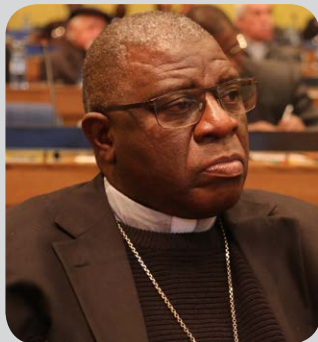
Most Rev. Dr. Cyprian Kizito Lwanga, Archbishop of Kampala and Chairman of Caritas, Justice and Peace Commission



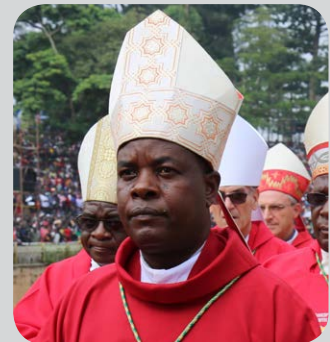
Rt. Rev. Sabino Ocan Odoki, Bishop of Arua Diocese, the chair of Doctrinal Commission



Rt. Rev. Sanctus Lino Wanok Bishop of Nebbi Diocese, the head of Education Commission



Rt. Rev. Paul Ssemogerere of Kasana-Luweero Diocese elected to head the Lay Apostolate Commission



Rt. Rev. Lambert Bainomugisha, Auxilliary bishop of Mbarara, Chairman Legal Service Commission



Rt. Rev. Christopher Kakooza, Bishop of Lugazi Diocese, elected to chair Pastoral Commission



Rt. Rev. Aquirino Francis Kibira, Bishop of Kasese Diocese, Chairperson Priestly Formation & Institutes of Consecrated Life



Rt. Rev. Joseph Franzelli, Bishop of Lira Diocese, Chairman Social Communications Commission

Thousands gather at Paimol for centenary celebration of Blessed Catechists



Pilgrims welcome bishops at Wipolo Shrine for the centenary celebration of blessed Daudi and Jildo. PHOTOS BY FR. SAMUEL MWAKA



A pilgrim carries the relics of Blessed Daudi and Jildo during the Centenary Celebration

By Fr. Samuel Mwaka and John Ocakon

PAIMOL—Over five hundred thousand pilgrims flocked at Wipolo Shrine in Paimol sub county, Agago District to celebrate the centenary of the martyrdom of Blessed Catechists Daudi Okelo and Jildo Irwa on October 20, 2018.

The two catechists were killed by a group of raiders during the weekend of October 18-20, 1918. They were both martyred in the course of evangelizing their faith. The place where they were killed came to be known as Wi-Polo, meaning “in heaven.” Blessed Daudi and Blessed Jildo were beatified by St. Pope John Paul II in Rome on October 20, 2002.

This year’s celebration, which marked 100 years of their martyrdom, was animated by Kalongo Deanery from the Archdiocese of Gulu under the theme “Faith, Courage and Witness: washed in the blood of the Lamb” (Rev. 7:14). It kicked off in a colourful style with jubilation and a massive procession of bishops and priests from across the country.

The Holy Mass was led by Most Rev. John Baptist Odama, the Archbishop of Gulu and former Chairman of the Uganda Episcopal Conference (UEC), and con-celebrated by: Rt. Rev. Joseph Franzelli, Bishop of Lira Diocese; Rt. Rev. Sabino Ocan Odoki, Bishop of Arua Diocese; Rt. Rev. Sanctus Lino Wanok, Bishop of Nebbi Diocese; Rt. Rev. Giuseppe Filippi, Bishop of Kotido Diocese and over three hundred priests.

Bishop Wanok, who delivered the homily for the occasion, said that celebrating 100 years of the martyrdom of Daudi and Jildo manifests the witness of Christianity deeply rooted in everyone’s heart.

“Their blood has truly turned into wellsprings where Catholicism is springing up into the hearts, especially the hearts of youths. This means that we have become witnesses to the core of Christianity,” Bishop Wanok said.

The bishop concluded his homily by quoting the words of St. John Paul II when he said, during the beatification ceremony in Rome, that the two Catechists are a shining example of fidelity to Christ, commitment to Christians and selfless dedication to the service of neighbour.

In his speech, Archbishop Odama noted that the death of the catechists remains the greatest witness to a believer or better, a Christian as they died for sake of Christ.

“Today’s occasion is a call to reawaken the missionary spirit in us especially when we are commemorating 100 years of the martyrdom of the Catechists Missionaries sent to Paimol from Kitgum Mission Parish. We recall the timeless word of Pope Paul VI (now a Saint): ‘You Africans are now missionaries to yourselves,’ Archbishop Odama said.

While quoting the Code of Canon Law No. 995.2 and No. 997, the Archbishop, decreed a Partial Indulgence

for the pilgrims who will fulfil certain conditions: receiving the sacraments of Penance and Eucharist worthily; praying for the Pope’s intention; visiting the Shrine of the Martyrs Daudi and Jildo; reciting the Creed; reciting the prayer of Blessed Daudi and Jildo Irwa and reciting the Our Father and Hail Mary after communion.

He said that these prayers for Partial Indulgence will enable the Christians to grow in faith, courage and witness.

The prelate also announced that in June 2019 the Archdiocese of Gulu will animate the Uganda Martyrs Day celebration at Namugongo Shrine and celebrate the Centenary of the martyrdom of Daudi and Jildo at national level concurrently.

The Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Jacob Oulanyah, who represented President Yoweri Museveni as the guest of honour, conveyed Museveni’s message and announced the President’s cash donation of Uganda Shillings 100 million to the Catholic Church in Agago District for the beautification of Paimol Martyrs’ Shrine.

Oulanyah said the President gave the money as contribution to elevate Wi-polo Shrine to a world class tourist attraction site.

Several dignitaries including Deputy Chief Justice Alfonse Owing Dollo, Leader of Opposition in Parliament AOL Betty Ocan, Chairperson Acholi Parliamentary Forum Prof. Ogenga Latigo, Legislators and local leaders were all in attendance.

Association of the Religious in Uganda marks 50 years of its inception

By Media Officer, UEC

Thousands of Consecrated Religious Men and Women converged at Rubaga Cathedral in Kampala on Saturday November 10, 2018, to mark the 50th anniversary of the Association of the Religious in Uganda (ARU).

Several bishops, major superiors of the religious institutes and Catholic faithful were also in attendance to commemorate the historic Golden Jubilee celebration, which was held under the theme 'In God's Mercy We Are No Longer Strangers but Friends' (Jn 15:15).

The Eucharistic celebration was led by Brazilian Cardinal Joao Braz de Aviz, Prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life at the Vatican. Several bishops and priests concelebrated including Most Rev. John Baptist Odama, former Chairman of the Uganda Episcopal Conference and Archbishop of Gulu, Most Rev. Emmanuel Obbo, Archbishop of Tororo, and Most Rev. Cyprian Kizito Lwanga, Archbishop of Kampala among others.

In his message in the Golden Jubilee Souvenir magazine, Cardinal Braz de Aviz urged all the Consecrated Men and Women in the country to promote a culture of mercy based on the discovery of encounter with others and a culture in which no one looks at another with difference or turns away from the suffering of others.

"As you celebrate this Golden Jubilee, kindly remember to be merciful always, as evidenced in your Jubilee Theme, 'In God's Mercy We Are No Longer Strangers'. Upon this background therefore I invite you to promote all the ingredients of the Pope's Letter and all its rich resource on mercy, the Cardinal said.

He also conveyed the Pope's blessing to the faithful, urging them to continue praying for the Holy Father for good health as he leads his flock.

Archbishop Obbo, who is the head of the Institutes of the Consecrated Life in Uganda, called upon the religious to guide Christians to move in the right direction so as to avoid new religious groups that do not offer clear guidance to them (Christians).



Cardinal Prefect Joao Braz de Aviz, the Prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life at Vatican during the Eucharistic celebration



A section of the Consecrated women during the celebration at Rubaga

PHOTOS BY JULIET LUKWAGO

ARU was founded in 1968 by the Women Major Superiors initially as a body of Women Religious working in Uganda. The founding of ARU was a response to a directive by Pope Paul VI that religious institutes in their various countries worldwide should form a forum from which they would address issues of common interest concerning their consecrated life.

The Association is now comprised of about 6000 Religious Men and Women

from 98 Religious Institutes across the 19 dioceses of Uganda. Some of the congregations that are part of ARU include the White Fathers (Missionaries of Africa), Apostles of Jesus, Comboni Fathers, Holy Cross Fathers, Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Repatriatrix, Little Sisters of St Francis, Sisters of Mary of Kakamega, Dominican Sisters, Benedictine Monks, Capuchin Monks and the Carmelite Sisters among others.

PEPFAR meets Faith Based Organizations to galvanize efforts against HIV/AIDS



The Chairman of the Health Commission & HIV AIDS of the Uganda Episcopal Conference, Rt. Rev. Robert Muhirwa poses for a group photo with the participants.

By Jacinta W. Odongo, Media Officer,
Uganda Episcopal Conference

In an effort to provide an opportunity to strengthen relationships and forge new partnerships in response to the global HIV/AIDS crisis, the Uganda Catholic Medical Bureau (UCMB) in collaboration with the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) hosted a consultative meeting at the Uganda Catholic Secretariat premises on October 23, 2018.

The meeting explored opportunities for religious leaders and health service providers from different religious denominations to promote universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support in their communities, and to speak out against stigma and discrimination affecting people living with HIV/AIDS. Partners examined how the longstanding experience of faith-based organizations in responding to HIV/AIDS can alleviate the human suffering caused by the pandemic and how to prevent it from further spreading in the country.

The consultative meeting brought together participants from various religious denominations including Catholics, Anglicans, Orthodox, Seventh Day Adventists and Muslims. The Chairman of the Health Commission and HIV/AIDS of the Uganda Epis-



The Chief Strategy Officer of PEPFAR, Sandra Thurman (right) and the UCMB Executive Director, Dr. Sam Orach (left) after the meeting.

copal Conference, Rt. Rev. Robert Muhirwa, leaders and representatives of networks of people living with HIV, and other organizations active in the response to HIV across the country were also in attendance.

Speaking at the meeting, the Chief Strategy Officer of PEPFAR, Sandra Thurman, said that many faith-based health service providers are joining other actors in the global fight against the devastating pandemic.

"We are really thrilled to be here to consult with both our Catholic partners and other faith based partners who have been engaged in the HIV/AIDS programs in Uganda. Today, we are looking for ways to better our partnership with the existing faith based

institutions and to network with new partners who haven't been working with us before so that we can reach out to those people who need information about HIV on how to keep themselves safe from getting the disease," she said.

"We are consulting with these groups because they have incredible information and experience which will help us to create better programs that will respond to the needs of Ugandans in the urban, semi-urban and rural areas, which have different needs regarding HIV and health education," she added.

During the meeting, participants addressed the realities of how stigma and discrimination are perpetuated both in religious communities and society at large. They identified best practices to strengthen the voice and action of religious leaders and bring about collaboration among different faiths and with other sectors that are involved in the response to HIV/AIDS. PEPFAR renewed its commitment to not only maintain but rather increase support in the fight to eradicate HIV/AIDS as a public health threat.

The UCMB Executive Director, Dr. Sam Orach, said faith based organizations have the ability to inspire and empower change within their own communities hence it is important to engage them in such matters.

"It is true that HIV has been controlled to a big extent. However, we have reached a point where the last part of the mountain has become much more difficult to climb. At this point, we ask ourselves which gear can we engage? And this is when you need to engage the stronger lower gear. Therefore, the purpose of this meeting, is to engage the lower gears, which are the faith based institutions to galvanize our efforts against a disease that continues to spread," he explained.

Since the beginning of the HIV epidemic, religious communities, mosques, temples, churches, hospitals and clinics have reached out to provide support to those living with HIV. Thus, strengthening their partnership with faith-based organisations can greatly influence the lives of many people because religious leaders are at the frontline in the fight against HIV/AIDS at both community and international level.



Caritas Uganda staff inspect a farm owned by refugees in Bidi Bidi Refugee settlement in Northern Uganda

Caritas Uganda holds seminar on Agriculture Financing for peasant farmers

By Media Officer, Uganda Episcopal Conference

In an effort to improve smallholder agriculture production and productivity in the country, Caritas Uganda organized a stakeholder seminar on the challenges and opportunities for sustainable financing for smallholder farmers in Northern Uganda.

The seminar was held on October 26, 2018 in Gulu town under the theme “Advancing Sustainable Financing for Peasant Farmers in Uganda”. It attracted participants from the local government including production officers and secretaries for production, bankers and Caritas Uganda staffs.

Helen Chanikare, the Program Manager of Caritas Uganda said the general objective of the seminar was to bring together key stakeholders to reflect on how best rural farmers in Northern Uganda can access available funding opportunities.

“Most persons in agriculture are stuck at the subsistence level, producing food to meet their day-to-day

needs. Even then, what is produced is not enough to meet their nutritional needs throughout the year. This seminar should lead to consensus on increased collaboration and information sharing among various stakeholders in the region,” she said.

Furthermore, it is expected that local governments and other actors will make a joint appeal to government to increase agriculture financing under programmes such the Northern Uganda Social Action Fund Project and the Agriculture Financing Facility.

During the seminar, participants focused their discussion on various topics including background to agriculture financing, current status of agriculture finance, the role of various stakeholders in promoting agriculture finance and action planning.

The farming community in Uganda is comprised of two categories of farmers namely; the smallholder farmers who are the majority (esti-

mated at 80 percent), and the large scale farmers who mainly pursue plantation agriculture mainly in cash crops and livestock. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, a smallholder farmer is one who operates between 1-3 acreage and these are anticipated to increase in the near future given the rapid population growth rate.

The key long – standing challenge of smallholder farming is low productivity and limited commercialization that has frustrated the full utilization of the productive potential of agricultural innovations in the country. Agricultural production and productivity levels among the majority of smallholder farmers has remained well below its potential (MAAIF, 2010) given the available technology. A number of factors reinforce each other to keep smallholder agriculture at a low equilibrium. The low productivity on smallholder farms reduces enterprise profitability, making the sub-sector to be uncompetitive. These farmers are also less likely to be integrated into the global supply chain, and so lose out financially and technically.



Archbishop Odama (left), President Museveni (center) and Prof. Maviiri (second right) with other bishops during the celebration

Uganda Martyrs University celebrates 25 years of existence

By Jacinta W. Odongo & Alex B. Atuhaire

On November 9, 2018, thousands of alumni, students and staff of Uganda Martyrs University (UMU) flocked at the University's main campus Nkozi in Mpigi District to celebrate the university's 25th anniversary.

The Silver Jubilee celebration was preceded by a graduation ceremony that was held on November 8, 2018, in Nkozi with over 2000 students graduating in several academic disciplines. The two events were held under the theme "Celebrating 25 years of Excellence in the Footsteps of the Uganda Martyrs".

The anniversary celebration began with a thanksgiving Mass, which was presided over by the UMU Chancellor, Most Rev. John Baptist Odama, who is also the outgoing Chairman of the Uganda Episcopal Conference and Archbishop of Gulu. The Mass was also concelebrated by Most Rev. Cyprian Kizito Lwanga, the patron of the university and Archbishop of Kampala, Rt. Rev. Sanctus Lino Wanok, the chairman of the university's governing council and Bishop of Nebbi Catholic Diocese, and several bishops and priests from different dioceses.

President Yoweri Museveni, who inaugurated the university in 1994, was the Chief Guest at the silver jubilee celebration. In his speech he praised the role played by faith based universities in training and impacting knowledge relevant to the needs of the society.

He donated Shs520 million towards supporting several projects at UMU, of which Shs.400million was made as contribution towards constructing a proposed silver jubilee complex worth Shs.16billion that will be built at Rubaga Campus, while Shs.100 million towards the Equator Project for the university's alumni association and Shs.20million towards the university community SACCO.

The President said that the idea of starting faith based universities started way back in the 1990s, however he added that the government had resisted the idea back in days when Muslims requested to set up a faith based university in 1979.

While delivering his speech, the University Vice Chancellor, Professor John Chrysostom Maviiri, thanked the government for its continued support towards funding the university in support of its infrastructure development. He noted that the university will put its emphasis on renovating and transforming higher education by offering more quality programmes.

Meanwhile as a way of achieving the objective, the university launched new 16 programmes, added to the other existing range of creative diploma, degrees and doctorate courses, all designed to cater for the public needs.

Since its beginning with only 84 students in 1993, the University has now over 5000 students in more than

80 academic programmes, running in seven campuses located in all the four Ecclesiastical Provinces of the Catholic Church in Uganda. Academic programmes offered at UMU have expanded to include on Doctoral level - Governance, Peace and Development; and Agro-ecology; on Masters level - Medicine, Public Health, Health Services Management, Counselling Psychology, Bioethics, Architecture, Development Economics, Business Administration, Accounting and Finance, Education, Agro-ecology, Monitoring and Evaluation, Development Studies, Human Rights, Peace and Conflict Management, International Trade Policy and Law.

The university also offers Bachelor's degree programmes which includes Journalism and Mass Communication, Computer Science, Science in Economics and Natural Resource Management, Science in Agricultural Technology, Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Management, Procurement and Supply, Transport and logistics, Real estate management, Arts in fashion and textile, Education in Early Childhood Development, among others. There are also a number of programmes on diploma and Certificate levels in selected fields. The silver jubilee celebration attracted alumni members, parents, students, religious leaders and dignitaries among other people.

Pictorial of UMU Silver Jubilee Celebration



Archbishop Odama during the Eucharistic celebration



Bishops in a procession for the Eucharistic celebration



President Museveni and the Bishops cut a cake during the anniversary



President Museveni unveils the new plan of the Silver Jubilee complex that will be built at Rubaga Campus, Kampala

PHOTOS BY: ALEX B. ATUHAIRE

WISE QUOTES FOR REFLECTION

If you can't do anything about it, then let it go. Don't be a prisoner to things you can't change. – **Tony Gaskins**

Life is like a piano. The white keys represent happiness and the black shows sadness. But as you go through life journey, remember that the black keys also make music – **Anonymous**

Forgive yourself for not knowing what you didn't know until you lived it. Keep the lesson and make better choices going forward. Trust your journey. – **Brigitte Nicole**

People take different roads seeking fulfilment and happiness. Just because they are not on your road doesn't mean they have gotten lost. – **Dalai Lama**

If you do not tell the truth about yourself you cannot tell it about other people. – **Virginia Woolf**

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel. – **Maya Angelou**

Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one only

remembers to turn on the light. – **Steve Kloves**

We need to learn to love ourselves first, in all our glory and our imperfections. If we cannot love ourselves, we cannot fully open to our ability to love others or our potential to create. – **John Lennon**

Strong people don't put others down. They lift them up. – **Michael P. Watson**

Do everything with a good heart and expect nothing in return, and you will never be disappointed. – **Unknown**



UMU Chancellor cuts the Ribbon at the Launch of Ngetta Campus

Uganda Martyrs University (UMU) launches new Campus in Ngetta

By Fr. Toby Okello

The Uganda Martyrs University (UMU) has officially opened its new campus in Ngetta sub county, Lira District as part of its commitment to support students throughout the country.

The new UMU Campus was opened on August 16, 2018, by Most Rev. John Baptist Odama, the Chancellor of UMU and Archbishop of Gulu, in the presence of Rt. Rev. Joseph Franzelli, the Bishop of Lira Diocese, Rt. Rev. Linus Sanctus Wanok, the Chairperson of UMU Governing Council and Bishop of Nebbi Catholic Diocese and Professor John Chrysostom Maviiri, the Vice Chancellor of UMU among other guests.

The Campus is expected to offer full academic services to students, staff and the general public from across the country.

Archbishop Odama referred to the birth of Ngetta campus as a salvation of Northern Uganda Region after years of insurgency.

“We are delighted to officially open UMU Ngetta branch as it is a gesture of solidarity with the people who are recovering from war. The University is necessary for the reconstruction and the rebuilding of peoples’ broken lives from the 20 years of insurgency,” Archbishop Odama said.

He added that the campus is not only open for the people of Ngetta but also for persons from different parts of the world irrespective of their tribe, race or religion. The prelate said that people are free to come and learn wisdom and virtue, as per the motto of UMU *Virtute et Sapientia Duc Mundum* (in virtue and wisdom lead the world) adding that UMU is not only for knowledge but change of morals in society.

In his speech, Bishop Wanok noted that the presence of UMU in the Northern Region will uplift the standard of agriculture, communication, human relations, and the spirituality in the country.

Bishop Franzelli in his remarks, appealed to all stakeholders to take care of the new campus because it is a gift from God, and it requires cooperation and sense of responsibility to see it grow.

Meanwhile, the Vice Chancellor of UMU, Professor Maviiri reiterated that the new university will offer quality service to everyone who joins. “The fears from previous failures should be buried today. UMU treasures ethical and moral virtues of the gospel through research and community engagement,” he said adding that the campus will offer accredited courses which include Agriculture, Business Administration and Education.

The colourful celebration was marked by a number of activities including a march in Lira Town, celebration of the Holy Mass, blessing of the pioneer students, reading of the University charter, the cutting of the cake and ribbon, and tree planting to symbolise the humble beginning of a University slated for growth.

It attracted several top dignitaries including Hon. Jonathan Odur, the MP of Erute South, Hon. Okello Bonny Kony, MP Kole North and Hon Daniel Omara Atubu, the former Minister of Lands.

KEY LITURGICAL EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

November 1- Solemnity of All Saints

All Saints' Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1. The day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, all those who have attained heaven. All Saints' Day is also commemorated by members of the Eastern Orthodox Church as well as some protestant churches, such as Anglican, Lutheran and Anglican churches. Generally, All Saints' Day is a Catholic Holy Day of Obligation, meaning all Catholics are required to attend Mass on that day, unless they have an excellent excuse, such as serious illness. All Saints' Day was formally started by Pope Boniface IV, who consecrated the Pantheon at Rome to the Virgin Mary and all the Martyrs on May 13 in 609 AD. Boniface IV also established All Souls' Day, which follows All Saints.

November 2- The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)

All Souls Day is a holy day set aside for honoring the dead. It is dedicated to those who have died and not yet reached heaven. The day is primarily celebrated in the Catholic Church, but it is also celebrated in the Eastern Orthodox Church and a few other denominations of Christianity. The Anglican Church is the largest protestant church to celebrate the holy day. Most protestant denominations do not recognize the holiday and disagree with the theology behind it.

November 10- Memorial of Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Leo I, Pope and Doctor of the Church, ruled from 440 to 461. He is surnamed "the Great" and ranks among the most illustrious sovereigns that ever sat on the throne of St. Peter. Of his life, we know little; with him the man seems to disappear before the Pope. He saw most clearly that one of his greatest tasks was to vindicate the primacy of the Roman bishop, St. Peter's successor, and to raise the prestige of the Holy See before the entire world. Hardly any Pope in history has occupied a like position in the ecclesiastical and political world.

November 12- Memorial of Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr

Josaphat Kuncewicz was born about the year 1580 at Vladimir, Volhynia, (part of the Polish province of Lithuania at the time) and given the name John at baptism. While being instructed as a child on the sufferings of our Savior, his heart is said to have been wounded by an arrow from the sacred side of the Crucified. In 1604 he joined the Ukrainian Order of Saint Basil (Basilians), lived as a monk in a very mortified life, went barefoot even in winter, refrained from the use of wine and flesh-meat, and always wore penitential attire. In 1618 he was appointed Archbishop of Polotzk; in this position he worked untiringly for Church reunion.

He was a great friend of the poor, once even pledged his arch episcopal omophorion (pallium) to support a poor widow. The foes of union decided to assassinate him. Josaphat's body was thrown into the river but emerged, surrounded by rays of light, and was recovered. His murderers, when sentenced to death, repented their crime and became Catholics.

November 13- Memorial of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

This saint, the first United States citizen to be canonized, was born in Italy of parents who were farmers. She was the thirteenth child, born when her mother was fifty-two years old. The missionary spirit was awakened in her as a little girl when her father read stories of the missions to his children. She came to America as a missionary, founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart to care for poor children in schools and hospitals. After thirty-seven years of unflagging labor and heroic charity she died alone in a chair in Columbus Hospital at Chicago, Illinois, while making dolls for orphans in preparation for a Christmas party. She was canonized by Pius XII in 1946. She lies buried under the altar of the chapel of Mother Cabrini High School in New York City.

November 21- The Presentation of the Virgin Mary

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, celebrated every year on November 21, commemorates (in the words of the Liturgy of the Hours, the daily prayer of the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church) "that dedication of herself which Mary made to God from her very childhood under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit who filled her with grace at her Immaculate Conception."

November 22- Memorial of Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

St. Cecilia is one of the most famous and most venerated of Roman martyrs that her name was placed in the Canon of the Mass. Already in the fourth century there was a church of St. Cecilia in Trastevere, erected on the site where her home had stood. According to the Church findings it is difficult to determine the date at which she lived. Her martyrdom probably occurred during the reign of Emperor Alexander Severus, about the year 230. In 1599 her grave was opened and her body found in a coffin of cypress wood. It lay incorrupt, as if she had just breathed forth her soul.

November 25- The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, formerly referred to as "Christ the King," was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as an antidote to secularism, a way of life which leaves God out of man's thinking and living and organizes his life as if God did not exist. The feast is intended to proclaim in a striking and effective manner Christ's royalty over individuals, families, society, governments, and nations.

November 30- Feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle

St. Andrew was a native of Bethsaida in Galilee, a fisherman by trade, and a former disciple of John the Baptist. He was the one who introduced his brother Peter to Jesus, saying, "We have found the Messiah." Overshadowed henceforth by his brother, Andrew nevertheless appears again in the Gospels as introducing souls to Christ. After Pentecost, Andrew took up the apostolate on a much wider scale, and is said to have been martyred at Patras in southern Greece on a cross which was in the form of an "X".

Vocation: Art of Listening and Accompaniment



Fr. Lazar Arasu SDB

The word 'Vocation' can be explained as calling, inclination, aptitude and ability. It is an urge to do something; it is a passion towards something that you want to achieve and find fulfilment in doing it. Vocation is all about listening, following, training, and committing oneself into a particular mission that you feel attracted to.

Vocation is a call. It is something heard as an inner voice, sometimes seen as a mental image, sometimes felt as a push from behind, and sometimes experienced as the voice of God above. It is a call that urges you to go past the surface level and do something that has lasting value.

It is a mystery... because no one really knows what it is. As people try to define them it is often eludes. No one can know it for sure and definite. It is like defining what love is and what grace is.

Though vocation can be given or sort at different point in life and situation, it is a matter of young people. Adolescence and young adults are in a precarious stage in life when they ought to discern and make a choice in life on what they want to do with their life that is ahead of them. This task can be baffling, confusing, and even mystifying. At this moment Listening and Accompanying becomes a necessity.

Listening is dialogue between God who calls the young person who is listening discerning the call. Here intermediaries such as parents, pastors and spiritual guides also help the young to listen better and help the young to discern according to the call of God.

Our God is God of Accompanying. He journeys with us as he journeyed with the people of Israel and their leaders. God accompanied with Jesus,

His Son in his ministry of redemption. In turn Jesus accompanied with the Apostles and other disciples in their way to the Gospel and ministry.

Listen and Accompaniment seems to be weak or negligent in this modern age of media and technology. Though initially young people are taken up by modern trends and gadgets at hand they soon feel empty and left alone. They look for guides and directions. Finally what satisfies them are models and examples to follow rather than rhetoric bombardments.

In relations with teenagers and young people, authentic listening means: Encouraging openness to others; an openness with our whole person. Paying full attention to what the person communicates and actively engaging in understanding what one wants to communicate. Listening with true concern and with true empathy. It is about identifying ourselves with and walking with the other person.

It is listening to their struggles and weaknesses, to their joys, sufferings and expectations. It also requires a certain inner silence, which has as its starting point the acceptance of people as they are and in the situation they find themselves in.

Accompanying teenagers and young people involve: Knowing the way they walk, to what extent they are located and where they are heading, so as to be able to walk together as Jesus walked with his apostles and disciples as he did along the road to Emmaus.

Following her master, the Church is our mother and guide. The organisation of the forthcoming Synod of Bishops for Youth in October 2018 takes the theme: "Young People, the Faith and the Discernment of Vocation," as an

"expression of pastoral concern of the Church for the young" and is "in continuity with the findings from the recent synodal assemblies on the family and with the contents of the post-synodal apostolic exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia*."

The synod "wishes to accompany young people along their existential journey towards maturity so that, through a process of discernment, they can discover their life plan and achieve it joyfully, opening themselves up to an encounter with God and humanity and actively taking part in the building of the Church and society."

With this Synod, "the Church has decided to examine herself on how she can lead young people to recognize and accept the call to the fullness of life and love, and to ask young people to help her in identifying the most effective ways to announce the Good News today"

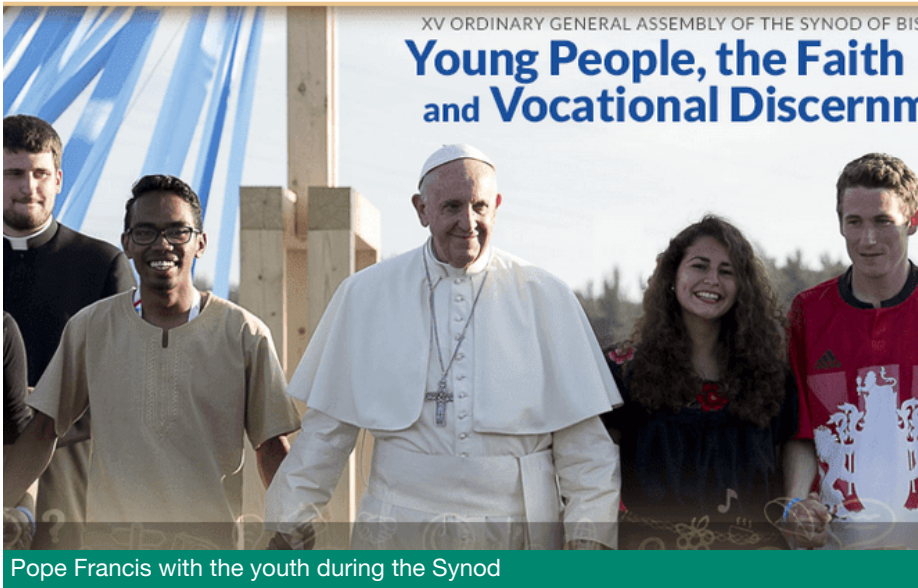
In the process of guiding young people two elements of vital importance in today's world are, 'listening and personal accompaniment.' It is a recognition that there are thousands of good young people are open to life, eager to be formed and to learn; they are in search for meaning in life. Many of them have a great and generous heart, and wish to serve others, to do something for others, to help, to donate themselves.

They are young people who request our help to continue to grow and mature in their faith. And there are others who do not ask explicitly, but who feel a great need for a personal encounter and for being listened to. There are many who would be willing to take a personal and communal path of discernment and accompaniment.

In the words of Fr. Angel Fernandez Artime, the Superior General of the Salesians of Don Bosco, "...the Church is asking the pastors, youth leaders, teachers and animators: what are we waiting for? Why do we not decide to be much more available to accompany all our young people in what is most important to their lives? What is holding us back? Why "being busy" or "spending time" in other things when this is a real priority for education and evangelization?"

Are we ready to taking this challenge on behalf of youth?

AMECEA Representatives Participate in Meeting on Young People at the Vatican



Pope Francis with the youth during the Synod

By Fr Joseph Healey

Representatives from the nine AMECEA (Association of Member Episcopal Conferences in Eastern Africa) countries participated in the Synod of Bishops on “Young People, Faith, and Vocational Discernment” at the Vatican in Rome from October 3-28, 2018. These include 11 Bishop Delegates led by Cardinal John Njue, the Archbishop of Nairobi, Kenya and Cardinal Berhaneyesus Demerew Souraphiel, CM, the Archbishop of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. There are two delegates each from Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda and one delegate each from Eritrea, Malawi, South Sudan/Sudan, Tanzania and Zambia.

The Opening Mass on Wednesday, October 3 used the Gospel of St. John: “The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, will teach you everything.” The participants are trying to truly listen to the experience of young people from around the world and to move to practical, pastoral action on the grassroots. To show the universality of the Catholic Church the “Prayers of the Faithful” were read in Chinese, Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese and Swahili (read by Sister Lucy Muthoni Nderi).

During the first week there are four minute “Interventions.” Topics or themes that are being covered by the bishops from the nine countries of the AMECEA Region include (alphabetically): accompaniment in

schools and universities; civil, social and political engagement; the digital world and its impact on young people; dignity of women; formation for active citizenry in politics; integral and holistic formation in Catholic schools and universities; training of spiritual directors; unemployment; violence and young migrants; and young people as protagonists.

Cardinal Njue is preparing an intervention on how good catechesis can counter the impact of “religious fundamentalism” on Catholic young people in Africa.

Young people themselves, from around the world, are asking for a more credible Church and concrete steps to remove clericalism from the Catholic Church.

The participants from the AMECEA countries will join the 14 Small Working Groups by language during the second week and will use a 3 Step Reflection Method based on: Part I, “Recognizing: The Church Listens to Reality”; Part II, “Interpreting Faith and Vocational discernment” and Part III, “Choosing: Paths of Pastoral and Missionary Conversion.”

This is based on the “See,” “Judge” and “Act” reflection process that is well known in Eastern Africa because it is used in the Young Christian Students (YCS) and Young Christian Workers (YCW) movement meetings. Key is the “Act” step as Pope Francis

has called upon the Synod to make “concrete pastoral proposals.” Cardinal Sergio da Rocha from Brazil, the Relator General of the synod, said that in Part III “the Church is called to take a position, to make courageous choices, even risky ones, to create the conditions for an authentic pastoral, spiritual, and missionary renewal of the Church.”

A well-known international journalist said that one of the main challenges for the bishops at the Synod is that young people must be welcomed and empowered to create their own Small Christian Communities. Some of these will undoubtedly be virtual communities.

The 11 AMECEA Bishops Synod Delegates are meeting and planning together at the Consolata Fathers and Brothers Generalate near St. Peter’s Basilica. There is a popular African proverb: If you want to walk fast, walk alone. If you want to walk far, walk together. It is hoped that young people in Africa, including the nine AMECEA countries, will take ownership of the synod, that is, be active protagonists by joining the Synod online through the social media.

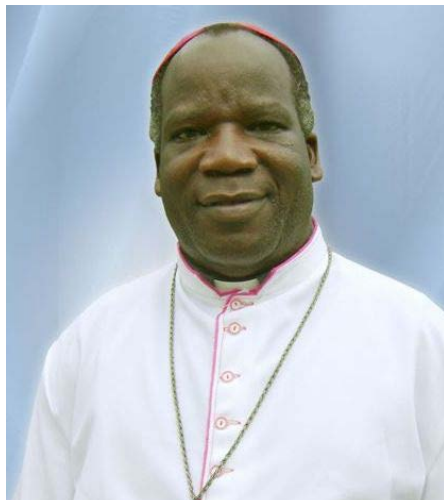
Representatives from Eastern Africa also participated in a Book Event in Rome on 1 October, 2018 to launch the book *God’s Quad: Small Faith Communities on Campus and Beyond* (Orbis Books, 2018) and produced the following statement: “Young Catholics and the Synod: Listening to Voices from Around the World”: Statement to the Members, Auditors and Observers of the 2018 Synod of Bishops on “Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment”

Of the roughly 350 participants there are 267 voting members of which 247 are Synod Fathers (bishops) who represent more than 130 Catholic Bishops’ Conferences including all the AMECEA countries and 10 Superior Generals of Religious Congregations (eight priests, two brothers). The auditors include three women religious and 34 young people between the ages of 18 and 29.

AMECEA Executive Board Members Appoint Key Office Bearers



Most Rev. Ignatius Chama



Most Rev. Thomas Msusa



Rt. Rev. Joseph Anthony Zziwa

By Pamela Adinda

AMECEA Online News

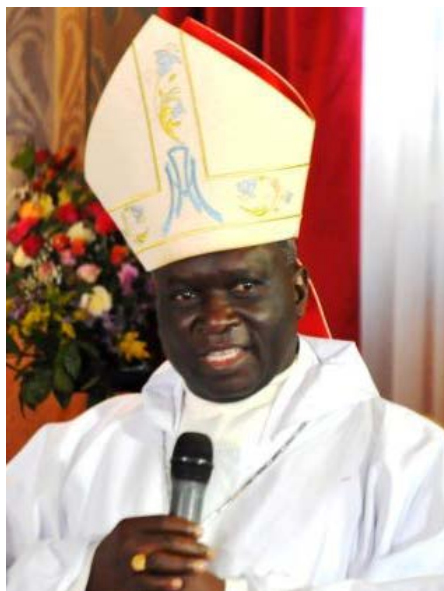
The executive board of the Association of Member Episcopal Conferences in Eastern Africa (AMECEA) has appointed new members to head various departments at the AMECEA secretariat in Nairobi, Kenya.

The appointments were made during the first Executive Board Meeting of AMECEA held on October 10-12, 2018 in Nairobi. This was the first executive board meeting since the 19th AMECEA Plenary Assembly that was held in Addis Ababa Ethiopia in July 2018. The two-days meeting took place in Nairobi, Kenya from 10th to 12th October.

Most Rev. Thomas Luke Msusa, the Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Blantyre, Malawi has been reappointed as the Vice Chairman of AMECEA. Archbishop Msusa, who is also the Chairman of the Episcopal Conference of Malawi (ECM), will be serving for a second term as the Vice Chairman of AMECEA. He was first appointed to the position on September 25, 2014.

Speaking to AMECEA Online News after the meeting, AMECEA Chairman Rt. Rev. Charles Kasonde said that all the positions have been filled according to the recommendations of the 19th AMECEA Plenary Assembly, and the Executive Board has just responded to the substrates of what the Plenary Resolutions were all about.

The Executive Board also elected Most Rev. Ignatius Chama, Archbishop of Kasama (Zambia) as the Chairman



Rt. Rev. Philip Anyolo

of Pastoral department. He takes over from Rt. Rev Phillip Anyolo, Bishop of Homa Bay (Kenya) who has been appointed Bishop Chairman of AMECEA Social Communications. The position was previously held by Rt. Rev Charles Kasonde, Bishop of Solwezi (Zambia) who is now the Chairman of AMECEA.

Rt. Rev. Rogatus Kimaryo, C.S.Sp., Bishop of Same (Tanzania), was elected chairman of AMECEA Integral Human Development Department, previously known as AMECEA Justice Peace and Caritas Department which was headed by Rt. Rev. Joseph Anthony Zziwa, Bishop of Kiyinda-Mityana (Uganda).

Bishop Zziwa was newly elected as



Rt. Rev. Rogatus Kimaryo

Chairman of AMECEA Staffing Committee, a position previously held by Bishop Kimaryo. Most Rev. Michael Didi, Archbishop of Khartoum (Sudan), remains the Vice Chairman of Staffing Committee.

The executive Board also confirmed Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Chimombo as the Deputy Secretary General of AMECEA. Fr. Chimombo has been acting under the same capacity since the departure of Rev. Fr. Chrisantus Ndaga who ended his contract at AMECEA and is now back to his Diocese of Mahenge in Tanzania.

Fr. Chimombo who comes from Zomba Diocese, Malawi, is the Coordinator of AMECEA Pastoral Department.

Pope Francis: Synod is a time for sharing



Bishops and youth delegates from across the world attend the Synod in Vatican

By Christopher Wells

In his Opening Speech for the Fifteenth General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on October 3, 2018, Pope Francis said “the Synod we are living is a time for sharing” – sharing that must involve both speaking with courage and frankness, and listening with humility. The Synod, he said, “must be an exercise in dialogue,” especially for those directly participating in the event.

Pope Francis emphasized that the Synod “is an ecclesial exercise in discernment,” an “interior attitude rooted in an act of faith.” One of the innovations in this General Assembly will be moments of silence after every five speeches, precisely in order for participants to discern what they have heard.

The importance of listening was an important motif in the Pope’s speech. In order to be a Church that “listens and journeys,” Pope Francis said we must “leave behind” our “prejudice and stereotypes.” In particular, he warned against both the “scourge of clerical-



The Holy Father shares a light moment with bishops and priests during the synod

ism” and the “virus of self-sufficiency.”

Despite the troubles the Church faces today, Pope Francis reminded us that “our faith tells us that it is also the Kairos,” God’s time, “in which the Lord comes to meet us in order to love us and call us to the fullness of life.”

“May the Synod awaken our hearts!” he proclaimed, expressing the hope that “the meeting between genera-

tions” might “be extremely fruitful for giving rise to hope.”

During the Synod, Pope Francis said, “let us ‘spend time with the future,’” in order “to take from this Synod not merely a document – that generally is only read by a few and criticized by many – but above all concrete pastoral proposals capable of fulfilling the Synod’s purpose.”

Pope to Synod Fathers: don't let past mistakes crush your dreams and hopes



Pope Francis (at the back) and bishops arrive for the Synod

By Linda Bordoni

Pope Francis celebrated the opening Mass of the Synod of Bishops on Wednesday expressing his trust in young people, whom he said, are called to help renew the Church's capacity to dream, to hope and to build a better world.

Speaking during his homily at an open-air Mass in St. Peter's Square that inaugurated the 3-week Synod on "Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment", Pope Francis called on his brother bishops to heed the voices of young people in the effort to build a better world than that of their elders.

He expressed his confidence in the new generations that, he said, "are capable of prophesy and vision" and prayed that the Holy Spirit may grant synodal Fathers the grace of being anointed with the youthful "gift of dreaming and of hoping."

It is with an attitude of docile listening to the voice of the Spirit, he said, that

"we have gathered from all parts of the world". He remarked on the fact that for the first time, at the Synod, there are two bishops from mainland China and that "the communion of the entire Episcopate with the Successor of Peter is yet more visible thanks to their presence".

The Pope expressed his hope that the ecclesial meeting will help broaden the horizons, expand hearts and "transform those frames of mind that today paralyze, separate and alienate us from young people" leaving them, he said, "exposed to stormy seas, orphans without a faith community that should sustain them, orphans devoid of a sense of direction and meaning in life".

But, he said, hope challenges and moves us, shattering that conformism which says, "it's always been done like this".

"Hope asks us to get up and look directly into the eyes of young people

and see their situations" he said.

Francis said that today, young people are calling us "to join them in facing the present with greater commitment and to work against whatever prevents their lives from growing in a dignified way".

Young people ask us not to leave them alone

He said they demand from us creativity, dynamism, intelligence, enthusiasm and hope. They ask us, he continued "not to leave them alone in the hands of so many pedlars of death who oppress their lives and darken their vision".

The Pope reminded his fellow bishops and priests that they are called to be humble and without prejudice as they look to the interests of others: "In this spirit we will try to listen to one another, in order to discern together what the Lord is asking of his Church."

Love for the Gospel, he continued, and for the people who have been entrusted to us, challenges us "to broaden our horizons and not lose sight of the mission to which we are called".

"May the Spirit give us the grace to be a memory that is diligent, living and effective, that does not allow itself from one generation to the next to be extinguished or crushed by the prophets of doom and misfortune, by our own shortcomings, mistakes and sins" he said.

Council Fathers and Pope Paul VI

The Pope concluded recalling the message of Council Fathers at the end of the Second Vatican Council when the Synod of Bishops was established.

It was a message, he said, that urged the Church to "rejuvenate her image" in order to respond better to the design of Christ. And he concluded quoting Pope Paul VI's 1965 address to young men and women of the world: "it is in His name that today we exhort you to open your hearts to the dimensions of the world, to heed the appeal of your brothers, to place your youthful energies at their service. Fight against all egoism. Refuse to give free course to the instincts of violence and hatred which beget wars and all their train of miseries. Be generous, pure, respectful and sincere, and build in enthusiasm a better world than your elders had.



Pope Francis and young people at the Synod of Bishops in the Vatican.

Pope says Church depends on youth for its missionary dynamism

By Robin Gomes

Pope Francis on October 6, 2018 expressed confidence that young people will provide the missionary dynamism for the Church's evangelizing thrust in today's fast changing, globalized and greatly interconnected world, saying they are not just the future but also the Church's present.

His remarks came in a prepared address to a festive rally in the Vatican that brought together some 7,000 young people from various parts of the world and the Synod Fathers who are participating in the October 3-28 Synod of Bishops on the theme, "Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment."

The Church goes out with the young

"The Church, therefore, does not go out 'to' the new generations, but goes out 'with' the new generations, and the Synod is the fruit of a work in which you have been and are protagonists," the Pope said.

Saturday's rally entitled "Noi Per. Unici, Solidali, Creativi"- meaning young people for uniqueness, solidarity and creativity – was a variety programme that included singing, danc-

ing, music, performances, testimonies from young people from around the world and their questions to the Pope on some of the burning issues that they are faced with.

The Pope said the contribution of the young people will be used by the Synod Fathers in their work in order to continue the dialogue with them.

Moving testimonies

Daniel Zaccaro, a 25 year old Italian from a poor, crime-ridden neighbourhood of Milan narrated how he sank into crime, landing in prison at the age of 18. But good souls helped him come out of the dark tunnel and today he is in university.

Another young man from Iraq, Aziz Sadeq, narrated how in just one day, without warning, he lost his home, friends, family and dreams when terrorists invaded his village. He was 18. After two months of despair in exile, France welcomed his parents, where Sadeq has managed to rebuilt his life. He has graduated from high school and is in the university today.

Rising again

Pope Francis said he was moved

by their "personal stories, imbued with passion and pain, animated by desires, solicited by aspirations, marked by falls but also by the desire to rise again, to face the challenges of life in a positive way and to run towards the most beautiful goals."

The Pope said they have experienced first-hand the illusions of contemporary man, who believes he can dominate the world and at times does not realize that he is in turn dominated by idols such as money, power and pleasure, that sow injustice and corruption. "But the most touching thing in your stories," the Pope said, "is the discovery that another life is possible." "Jesus does not leave us alone in our adventure, especially in moments that put us to the test."

Protagonists

Pope Francis said he was also struck by their questions which expressed their desire to become protagonists of change and to participate fully in the mission of the Church.

And the first way to be protagonists and to participate, the Pope pointed out, is precisely to ask questions, because they come from that attitude of seeking that is typical of young people, a search that does not want to stop at theory but to arrive at practice, choice of life and behavior. Rather than "why", they should rather ask "how" to solve problems, the Pope added.



Pope Francis celebrates Canonization Mass in St. Peter's Square

Canonization: Who are the other 5 new Saints?

By Vatican News

While much attention at Sunday's October 14, 2018, canonization was focused on Paul VI and Oscar Romero, another five people were recognized saints by Pope Francis.

The names and brief biographies of the new saints were presented to the Pope and to the thousands of people in St Peter's Square on Sunday morning, by the Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, Cardinal Giovanni Becciu.

Francesco Spinelli

Blessed Francesco Spinelli was born in Milan on April 14, 1853. After completing his priestly formation, he was ordained a priest in 1875. He started a community of young women in Rome who consecrated their lives to Eucharistic adoration. After meeting St. Catherine Comensoli, he founded the Institute of the Adorers of the Blessed Sacrament. Blessed Francesco Spinelli fulfilled the role of both Founder and Superior. He died peacefully on February 6, 1913. Pope St John Paul II declared him Blessed in 1992.

Vincenzo Romano

Blessed Vincenzo Romano was born in Torre del Greco, near Naples, on June 3, 1751. In 1775 he was ordained a priest. His ministry was characterized by his special attention to those most in need, and his commitment to educating children and young people. On June 15, 1794, the town of Torre del Greco

was almost completely destroyed by a violent eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Blessed Vincenzo Romano spear-headed both the material and spiritual rebirth of the community. He died on December 20, 1831. Blessed Pope Paul VI declared him Blessed in 1963.

Maria Catherine Kasper

Blessed Maria Catherine Kasper was born on 26 May 1820 in Dernbach, Germany. A strong and extrovert child, she spent her adolescence working in the fields and even breaking stones for the construction of roads. In this context she chose to found an Institute of Sisters at the service of the humblest social classes. In 1848 she opened the House of the "Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ", where the poor of the country were welcomed. The Congregation spread rapidly, even outside Germany and Europe, reaching the Americas and, later, India. She died of a heart attack on February 2, 1898. Blessed Paul VI proclaimed her Blessed in 1978.

Nazaria Ignazia of Saint Teresa of Jesus

Blessed Nazaria Ignazia of Saint Teresa of Jesus March Mesa was born in Madrid on January 10, 1889. Her family moved to Mexico where she met the Sisters of the Abandoned Elders and entered the Institute in 1908. After making her first vows in 1911, she was sent to Bolivia. As she became

aware of the increasingly problematic social situation there, Nazaria founded the Congregation of the Missionary Crusaders of the Church to serve the poor and assist women. Her life was in grave danger both in Bolivia and in Spain during the civil war from 1936 to 1939. In 1942 she travelled from Spain to Buenos Aires, but her health deteriorated. She died on July 6, 1943. She was beatified in 1992, by Pope St John Paul II.

Nuncio Sulprizio

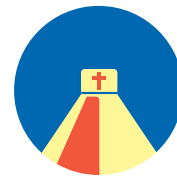
Blessed Nuncio Sulprizio was born on April 13, 1817 in Pescosansonesco, in the province of Pescara, Italy. Orphaned of both parents at the age of six, he was cared for by his maternal grandmother, who taught him to seek Jesus present in the Eucharist and to invoke the Blessed Virgin. When his grandmother died Nuncio was entrusted to an uncle, with whom he worked as a blacksmith. Hard work and ill-treatment caused him to contract bone tuberculosis. He moved to Naples and was admitted to the Hospital for Incurable Diseases. There he was able to receive his long-desired First Communion. The disease degenerated quickly and he died on May 5, 1836. Nuncio was just nineteen years old. It was Pope Leo XIII who decreed his heroic virtues in 1890, and proposed him as a model for young people. On December 1, 1963, Blessed Pope Paul VI proclaimed him Blessed.

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