Greetings in the mighty name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is my prayer that this message comes to inspire and encourage us in times of distress and anxiety.

Luke 2:8-18, with emphasis on vs10, Fear not for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will before all the people...vs15 when the angels went away from them into heaven...the shepherds said to one another, Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing...vs16. And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told concerning this child.

The shepherds made known what they had heard about the child.
The world is yearning for good news for we have heard enough of the Bad news. The world is grappling with the Covid-19 pandemic and political upheavals. There are stormy winds blowing all through and many people are terrified.

Condolences and sympathies to the families, relatives and friends who have lost their loved ones due to Accidents, Covid-19 related challenges and those who were killed in cold blood during the Riots in November.

As we celebrate Christmas, we are experiencing such rapid increase in Covid-19 community infections and deaths!!!!!! I therefore encourage you to heed the Presidential directives and the Standard Operating Procedures as given to us by the Ministry of Health.

Isaiah envisioned a time when God would deliver the northern regions of the promised Land and proclaimed that "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be on his shoulders, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace...Is.9:6.....

Jesus whose birth we celebrate at this time is known to have gone about doing good, healing the sick, restoring hope and joy to the destitute. It is to Him that we pray and cry earnestly to have mercy on us to save mankind.

When we pray deeply, we discover, when we discover we recover the lost hope, joy and glory.

It is also during this time that the Presidential aspirants are traversing the different Districts of this country campaigning as we look forward to the National Elections come 2021. We have had nasty experiences of clashes of some aspirants, their supporters and the security personnel. The nasty experience that resulted into loss of many lives was in November when one of the presidential aspirants was imprisoned sending his supporters rioting in several parts of this country. Those who tested the brutality of the forces and survived, will live to tell the story.

My appeal to the Leaders and those aspiring to become leaders is to be inspired by the Christmas message and work for the cause of justice, freedom and peace. Wish you a blessed Christmas. Stay safe.

 Rt. Rev. Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira.

Bishop Luwalira Makes Massive Transfers and New Appointments in the Diocese

The constitution of the Church of Uganda in line with that of Namirembe Diocese give the Bishop powers of appointing and making any transfer among the Clergy as well as Diocesan staff at different levels of the Church.

On 27th October 2020, the Bishop announced massive transfers and appointments to the Diocesan Synod and they will start their new responsibilities on 1st January 2021. Take note that the retirement of Canon Nelson Kaweesa the Diocesan Secretary and Rev Canon Benon Kityo the Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral Namirembe left big offices to be filled for the continuation of God's ministry. Everybody was looking forward to seeing who God is calling to take over from the retiring highly experienced Clergy.

Ven Canon Jonathan Kisawuzi who was the Archdeacon of Entebbe was appointed the new Dean of St. Paul’s Cathedral Namirembe and Rev Canon Henry Segawa was appointed the new Diocesan Secretary. Rev Canon Moses Banja who remained the Diocesan Human Resource Office was appointed the new Archdeacon of Luzira, Ven Isaac Membe Kijjambu is now the new Archdeacon of Mengo and still the Diocesan Treasurer, Ven John Gitta Kavuma was transferred to head Entebbe Archdeaconry and Rev Esau Bosa is acting Principal Uganda Martyrs Seminary Namugongo.

The Bishop informed the Synod that other changes will be communicated later. Christians in the Diocese received the news with excitement and thanked God who used the Bishop to make the right changes at the right time.
Before the naming of the new Canons, Namirembe Diocese only had five (5) Canons and these included Rev. Canon Nelson Kaweesa, Rev Canon Henry Segawa, Ven Canon Jonathan Kisawuzi, Rev. Canon Moses Banja and Rev Canon Benon Kityo. Among them, two (2) are to retire from active ministry at the end of this year thus remaining with only two (2) Canons in the active service.

Bishop Luwalira named four new Canons during the Diocesan Synod which sat on 27th October 2020 at Namirembe and these are Ven. Canon Isaac Membe Kijjambu, Ven Canon Godfrey Bk Buwembo, Ven Canon John Gitta Kavuma and Rev Canon Michael Wasswa Sentamu.

St. Paul’s Cathedral Namirembe Gets new Canons

Diocesan Theme Revealed

The Diocesan Synod which sat on 27th October 2020 passed the Diocesan Theme for the year 2021. The theme guides the Diocese in all its activities for a specific year. Ven. Isaac Membe Kijjambu the Archdeacon of Luzira got the theme from Isaiah 48:17.

Diocesan Synod Condemns Brutality of Security Forces

The Diocesan Synod chaired by Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira on 27th October 2020 strongly condemned the extreme force and brutal methods which violate human rights used on Ugandans. Cases of police brutally beating people, firing bullets and tear-gassing are on the rise. The Synod urged police and other security forces to focus on their mandate of protecting Ugandans and their property rather than being the masters of causing chaos and mistreating people. There’s need for security forces to revise their methods since we believe that our forces are highly trained.

NEWS AROUND THE DIOCESE

Six Clergy Retire from Active Service

It is clear and well stated in the constitution of the Church of Uganda article (…..) when a clergy/ Lay reader clocks sixty five (65) years of age, he or she retires from active service. The Diocesan Synod based on that article bid farewell to six (6) clergy on 27th October 2020 who have served the Church with commitment, selflessness and integrity.


The Synod awarded each Clergy a certificate of appreciation in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the Church of God. Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira supported by the Diocesan Head of Laity Mrs. Margret Magumba and the Diocesan Chairman House of Clergy Ven. Emmanuel Ssewanyana handed over the certificates to the retiring Clergy.

In his remarks, the Bishop highly appreciated the Clergy for their service to the Church. He thanked God who has enabled them to walk this journey till the end. He reminded them that they are not retired from preaching the word of God since it’s a life ministry. The Bishop prayed and wished them a good retirement.
Ven. Herbert Kabanda Paul Officially Installed

The sudden emergency of covid-19 Pandemic restricted the official installation of the new Archdeacon of Gayaza Ven. Herbert Kabanda Paul who replaced Ven Canon Silas Musoke this year. However when the lock down measures were relaxed, and Churches allowed to resume with a restricted number of 70 people per service, Christians of Gayaza prepared to officially install their 8th Archdeacon.

On 4th October 2020, a colourful service presided over by the Diocesan Secretary Rev. Canon Nelson Kaweesa was held at St. Andrew's Church of Uganda and Ven. Herbert Kabanda Paul was officially installed as the new Archdeacon of Gayaza. A small number of guests were invited from the entire Diocese in respect of the Government guidelines of gathering and overcoming the threat of Covid-19 Pandemic.

In his sermon, Rev. Canon Nelson Kaweesa who represented Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira, urged the new Archdeacon to be a faithful servant and a good custodian of Church property especially the land. He was also requested to unite all the Christians and reach out to people with salvation gospel of Jesus Christ.

Ven Herbert Kabanda Paul pledged total commitment to serve God faithful. He promised to work with all Christians and other religious groups to promote ecumenism.

Take note that Ven. Kabanda served as the Diocesan Education Secretary and the Parish Priest of Najjanakumbi in Mengo Archdeaconry. He also served in Kyebando, Kamuli Parishes.

Bishop Warns Churches Over Covid-19 SOPs

When the Government announced the official opening of Churches, measures were put in place for all Churches to observe before opening. Among them included Churches having registration books for Christians, putting on masks, observing social distance, spraying after each service, sanitizing, avoiding handshakes and hugs, maintaining 200 people per service, not allowing children to attend Church as well as the elderly.

The Diocese through the Training Department headed by Rev. Abraham Lubega Kisakye put up a committee that moved to all Churches in the Diocese training the clergy, Lay Readers and Church leaders in observing SOPs and ensuring that Churches have all the requirements needed such as temperature guns, sanitizers, hand washing facilities, and sprayers etc.

Each Church which fulfilled the requirements was given a certificate as a go ahead to open.

However, some Churches have abused the measures put in place which may lead to high spread of the virus such as allowing children in Church, not using temperature guns etc. It is upon that concern that Bishop Luwalira has warned clergy over abusing the measures put in place by the Government. He said fail to abide by the measures may result into closure of that specific Church.

It should be noted that the Bishop has physically visited various churches on Sundays to see how churches are operating in line with the SOPs. The closure of Churches by the Government caused untold suffering among the Christians, Clergy and Church workers which many would not like to see happening again.

Hard to reach Parishes receive motorcycles for ministry

Numayumba, Kikandwa and Kavumba Parishes in Nateete Archdeaconry each received a brand new motorcycle donated to them by the Christians to ease the movement of Lay Readers in reaching out to the congregation with the word of God. These Parishes have many remote Churches which are very distant and difficult to access especially during the rainy season.

Ven Godfrey Buwembo, the Archdeacon of Nateete who led the fundraising drive for the motorcycles said transport was a very big challenge for the Lay Readers to minister and he attributed this to long distances of worship places and homes for Christians, very remote areas with poor road networks especially when it rains. It was difficult for the Lay readers and other Church leaders to effectively carryout their duties. The 3 motorcycles cost Ug shs12 million.

When handing over the motorcycles, Bishop Luwalira thanked the Christians who supported this cause to enable the word of God reach out to all corners of the Diocese.

He prayed for good use of the motorcycles so that they benefit the Church. The handover ceremony was also graced by Hon. Beti Kamya the Minister for Lands.
Kasubi Gets New Parish Priest

Rev. Christopher Sekakoni is the new Head Priest of Kasubi Parish in Kazo Archdeaconry replacing the highly experienced and long serving Rev. Elisa Mayanja who is retiring from active service at the end of December.

Before Kasubi, Rev. Sekakoni has served God from various Parishes and Churches including St. Peter’s Kalittunsi in Kyebando Parish, St. John’s Ntebetebe in Kamuli Parish, Namugongo Martyrs Church, St. Barnabas Church- Mbuya and St. Paul’s Cathedral Namirembe. He comes with this experience to a very demanding Parish in terms of reaching out to the people with the salvation gospel, development and building of a vast and powerful youth ministry as well as other Church fellowships.

Take note that Kasubi Parish constitutes of five urban Churches including St. Andrew’s Church which is the Parish headquarters, St. John’s the Baptist Church Namuogona, St. Peter’s Kawaala, St. Rachael Bulange and St. Paul Lusanze. As we look ahead with hope in the new normal, ministering especially in urban churches requires high creativity, embracing of information technology especially to the youth, strengthening and empowering of fellowships, regular prayer and check up visits to the Christians, as well as economic development for the sustainability of God’s work. We wish Rev. Sekakoni all the best and to God be the glory who has brought him this far.

Diocesan Offices to Resume Work Next Year

Rev. George Nkoonge
Rev. Julius Matovu
Rev. Edward Kamoga

The emergency of covid-19 and sudden lock down led to the closure of Churches in Uganda. This greatly affected the activities of the Church and led to the shutting down of the Diocesan offices in April. A few offices remained operating such as the Bishop’s Office, Office of the Diocesan Secretary, Diocesan Treasurer, Human Resource Office and the Estates Department. However, other departments such as Education, Youth, Children’s Ministry, Health, Mission, Planning and Development, Women’s Desk, Livestock, Research and Information, are set to resume official work early next year other factors remaining constant.

NEW CANONS INSTALLED

The Diocesan Synod which sat in October 2020 approved the new canons and these included Ven Canon Godfrey Buwembo, Ven Canon Isaac Membe Kijjambu, Ven Canon John Gitta Kavuma and Rev Canon Micheal Wasswa Sentamu. On 6th December 2020, Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira officially presided over the installation of the new canons at St. Paul’s Cathedral Namirembe in a service attended by few Christians due to covid-19 virus.

The Bishop handed over the tools of authority to the canons and prayed to God to use them do His work faithfully and guide the church to move in the right direction amidst these very challenging times. The canons who were installed together with their wives were then guided by the Dean of St. Paul Cathedral the Very Rev Canon Banja Moses the new Archdeacon of Luzira effective 2021, Canon Jonathan Kissawuzi the new Dean of St. Paul’s Cathedral Namirembe and Rev Canon Henry Segawa the new Diocesan Secretary. Rev Canon Nelson Kaweesa and Canon Benon Kityo will be retiring from active service at the end of this year.

Three Ordained to Priesthood

Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira ordained three to Priesthood during an ordination service held on 6th December 2020, at St. Paul’s Cathedral Namirembe. The ordained priests had fulfilled all the requirements that qualify them to be elevated to the level of a Priest. Before ordination, the clergy had a one week retreat at Uganda Martyrs Seminary Namugongo under the supervision of Ven Canon Isaac Membe Kijjambu the outgoing Archdeacon of Luzira.

During the retreat, various resourceful speakers talked to them about how God can use them for a successful ministry focusing on the great commission of preaching the gospel to all corners of the world and being good stewards as well as custodians of everything God will entrust with them in service. The ordained Priests were Rev Edward Kamoga Mukasa currently serving in Nkumba Parish, Rev Julius Matovu the Parish Priest of Jjungo in Entebbe Archdeaconry and Rev George Nkoonge the Parish Priest of Masuliita in Kazo Archdeaconry.

In his remarks, the Bishop urged the clergy to be role models and maintain the respect that comes with their calling. He reminded them that their work is to preach the gospel and help many turn to God. He prayed for Gods guidance and wisdom to the clergy as they minister among His people.

The new Canons during the installation service
New Deacons Ordered

Five Deacons were ordered by Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira.

Bishop Calls for Peace Ahead of Elections

Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira strongly condemned violent acts and inciting, abusive and attacking language used by some politicians both in the Government and opposition in this election process. The Bishop said violence by the security forces is a direct attack and violation of human rights thus it should be strongly condemned and not tolerated at all.

Some of our leaders campaigning have continued to use disrespectful language against their opponents which portrays really bad example to our children. The same words you use against your opponent will be the same words used against you by someone else. I urge our leaders to respect each other and focus on ideas that will progress our Uganda. He also pointed out deaths and injuries caused to so many people during the nationwide demonstration due to the arrest of the NUP Presidential candidate. On the other hand the Bishop also warned the population to avoid provoking and attacking the security forces. He said many times people throw stones, abuse, defy orders and keep on insulting the security forces in many ways. He added that this is totally wrong since the security people are also human and can get annoyed and respond to the insults with extreme force thus leading to violence.

The Bishop called for respect, peace and following the lawful orders of security for the good of our country. There's nothing good in violence apart from pain, destruction of property. Elections will come to an end and life has to continue so let's love one another and embrace peace.

ARCHBISHOP LEADERSHIP SUMMIT EMBRACED

Namirembe Diocesan Staff led by Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira and the Diocesan Secretary Rev Canon Nelson Kaweesa joined the rest of the Province to actively participate in the first Archbishop's Leadership Summit on 7th December 2020 from Bishop Dunstan Nsubuga Hall.

Held under the theme “Business Unusual: Accelerating the Conversion of the Head, the Heart and the Hands (Jer 17.9-10),” the summit which was facilitated by highly experienced professionals was timely and a wakeup call to Church leaders on the progress of the Church and embracing the use of information technology in reaching out to the people with the word of God.

Topics such as “the call to Biblical leadership for the new times, fruitful stewardship, church leadership during and beyond Covid-19: challenges, lessons and opportunities, family harmony for effective leadership, etc challenged the minds of the Church leaders to think a head for the sustainability and relevance of the Church. Other key notable presentations were from Equity Bank, and Kido.

While addressing the Diocesan leaders after the summit, Bishop Luwalira thanked them for participating and positively contributing to the success of the summit.

He added that the summit was timely to focus us on the relevance of the Church in the new normal by embracing all the tools for evangelism. He appealed to all the participants to put in action the knowledge acquired from the summit and also share it with others for growth and development. He concluded by adding that we need to be more determined and committed to our calling than ever before.

The summit was attended by Diocesan Heads of Departments including Mission, Youth, Education, Children, Estates, Women's Desk, Training, Bishop's Research and Information Office and Fellowships represented included Mothers Union, Christian Men's Fellowship, Boys' and Girls' Brigade, Daughters of the King, Lay Readers' Fellowship, Sanyu Babies Home, Diocesan Head of Laity, Ven Canon Godfrey Buwembo, etc.

Christians Appreciate Clergy with a Land Title

Christians of St. Stephen's Church of Uganda Bukasa in Bbira Parish- Nateete Archdeaconry appreciated the good service of their clergy Ord. Abraham Nkata Kato with a land title during the ordination and thanks giving service held on 13th December 2020 at St. Peter's Church of Uganda Bukasa. The colorful service which was embraced by the Archdeacon of Nateete Ven. Canon Godfrey Buwembo attracted a big number of clergy, Lay Readers, relatives, friends and well wishers to Ord. Kato and family.

The land was also a gift to congratulate Ord. Kato upon his ordination which was recently held at St. Paul's Cathedral on 6th December 2020. The Christians thanked Ord. Kato for leading them well at a very young and spearheading the construction of modern Church. Christians also hailed him for being disciplined, humble, friendly and loving. Over Ug shs20m was contributed in cash and 20 plus in pledges for the construction of the new clergy house which is expected to be completed in a period of just 6 months.

Ven Canon Godfrey Buwembo thanked the Christians for such an amazing gift of land to the Clergy. He said the clergy receiving land as a gift is the first of its kind he has seen and appreciated the Christians of St. Stephen's Church for setting the standard. He appealed to Ord. Kato to continue serving God faithfully and leave the rest to Him. The guests were later hosted to a luncheon.
Every last Sunday in the month of October is dedicated to the Youth Ministry in the Diocese. All Youth in the Diocese engage in different activities such as community work, visiting and supporting the vulnerable and the voiceless in our society etc. This year’s Youth Sunday was unique in its way due to the massive effects caused by Covid-19 which restricted many activities to be done.

However, the youth from their respective Churches were well guided by the official communication from the Diocesan Youth Department supported by the Clergy and Lay Readers. This led to the implementation of activities in some Churches like online preaching of the gospel, visiting and supporting the needy, strengthening youth fellowships, blood donation etc.

In many Churches, the youth led services and preached on the Diocesan Sunday. The youth have also been vital in implementing the Government guidelines of preventing covid-19 since the opening of Churches such as registering of Christians, cleaning of Churches, sanitizing, spraying, enforcing use of masks and sensitizing the congregation on the dangers of covid-19.

We thank our Clergy and Lay Readers who on a regular basis guide the youth to live responsibly and as witnesses of Jesus Christ.

Boys’ and Girls’ Brigade Marks 137th Anniversary Day

Brigade was founded in 1883 in Scotland

Gayaza Youth donated Ug shs……to Sanyu Babies Home and also visited donated blood to Mengo Hospital Blood Bank

137th Anniversary day cake cutting

1st Mengo Band in a group photo with the Bp

Some members in the group photo

Bishop preaching during the service
Brigade Parade Skills Demonstration

**Brigade Parade** is for promoting and instilling discipline, team work, fitness, skills and entertainment etc. Brigade members performed a highly skilled parade before their Patron (Bishop), the Chief Guest Col. Naboth Mwesigwa and the General Secretary of Brigade in Uganda. BB&GB is premised on two pillars of Bible Study and Parade.

The Bishop and Chief host watch the parade skills demonstration

Uganda to Host Global Fellowship Council and Conference

The Boys' and Girls' Brigade of Uganda was chosen to host the Global Fellowship Council and Fellowship event to take place in 2022. This highly attended event happens every after four (4) years and over 70 countries are expected to send representatives to participate in the activities to take place.

The Secretary General of Brigade in Uganda Mr. Dantes Kashangire informed the officers of Brigade during the colourful celebrations of Brigade Founders Day on 27th October 2020 at Namirembe Diocese. He urged members to prepare well to host this very important event in the History of Brigade in Uganda.

Youth to engage in Commercial Farming

In an effort to contribute to unemployment among the young people, the Youth Department intends to engage youth in profitable farming on a large scale. 10 acres of land in Ljungo Parish- St. Peter's Church of Uganda Nankooonge have been given to the youth by the Diocese to promote this very important investment. Agriculture was categorized as an essential service during the lock down a clear indicator of its importance. The Diocese has a lot of unused land which is a target by many land grabbers and if this land is not put to good use, we risk losing it. Investing in agriculture through the youth is one way of protecting the land, contributing towards food security through increased food production, equipping young people with modern scientific farming skills and methods, source of reliable income to the Diocese, providing employment opportunities to the youth.

According to Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira, agriculture has a very big market since people eat every day. Take note that Namirembe has the two most populated districts in Uganda (Wakis and Kampa), well developed market centres such as Kasubi and fairly good road networks to facilitate food trade. The Diocese also has many schools, restaurants and hotels that can provide ready market for the program.

According to the Diocesan Youth Secretary, all issues to do with the availability of land for the program to start are done. A few technical issues are still being worked on and soon the program will kick off. We thank the Bishop and the Estates Department for the good work being done in supporting the realization of this program. The Diocese is to be supported by Operation Wealth Creation and also welcomes all the Development Partners interested in empowering young people for better livelihood.

Source, Youth Department
Brigade Members Urged Never to Abuse Uniform

The Chief Guest on the Brigade Founders Day celebrations appreciated the smartness of the Boys’ and Girls’ Brigade members. He said the Brigade Uniform is unique and special; it’s our identity and never abuse it in anyway. He added that uniform is for uniformity, team work, respect and service.

The Uniform should be highly protected from any abuse and misuse by members. Thirteen (13) Uniforms were given out to members from 13 companies.

Bishop meets Diocesan Youth Executive

Bishop Luwalira urged the youth leaders to draw lessons from the Covid-19 effects to the Church and creatively think a head for the continued progress of the Church of God. The Bishop said the challenging times of covid have revealed a lot as far as the Church progress is concerned.

He reminded the youth leaders that since the closure of Churches by the Government to mitigate the rapid spread of Covid, many people have been affected in so many ways. The Christians, Clergy, Lay Readers and the Diocesan workers etc have all struggled. He added that the youth being the majority in Church should come up with possible solutions on the sustainability of the Church in future. The Bishop gave many examples on how other religions started already to engage in income generating businesses such as transport, land and estates’ management, commercial farming, trade etc which has supported their sustainability. We need young people to be at the forefront of Church development.

The Diocesan Youth Secretary Mr. Lule Tefeero informed the Executive that the youth intend to start commercial farming programs to empower youth interested in farming, promote productive farming, as well as protecting Church land.

Be role models to the Youth

Mr. Lule Tefeero the Head of Youth Department in the Diocese urged the clergy to be role models and good example to the youth so as to influence transformation of their negative behaviors. Mr Lule made the remarks during the ordination retreat at Uganda Martyrs Seminary Namugongo on 3rd December 2020 where he spoke to the clergy on Successful Youth Ministry under the topic “Most demonstrations/strikes are led by the youth! What should the Church do to guide them?”

He said there’s need for the clergy to give youth time and understand their ways, interest, needs, expectations and challenges. When you don’t give them time, you will not understand them and most times you will be crushing. When young people feel neglected, their voice not heard, ignored, not wanted, not involved in decisions, just being used, and not given opportunity to serve, they will resort to demonstrations so that they get the attention of their leaders.

He also urged the clergy to be creative in ministry and develop programs which build young people spiritually, socially and economically. He said most of the youth events are celebrations which add little value to them. It is high time we focused on developing programs of value that address the challenges of this generation.

He urged the clergy to focus on discipleship, mentorship, strengthening youth fellowships, teaching the youth the church structure and systems, economic empowerment etc.

The ordination retreat was led by Ven Canon Isaac Membe Kijjambu.
Namirembe Youth SACCO continues to grow

According to the Diocesan Youth Secretary, the Sacco was seen as a collective pool of mobilizing financial resources to reduce poverty among the youth by providing reliable accessible financial services.

Who is a Canon and what are his/her responsibilities?

Recently in the last Diocesan Synod of this year, Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira named new Canons of St. Paul's Cathedral Namirembe. These are Ven Canon John Gitta Kavuma, Ven. Canon Isaac Membe Kijjambu, Ven Canon Godfrey Buwembo and Rev Canon Michael Wasswa.

Many of our Christian have struggled with understanding who is Canon and what’s his work. Below is a summarized explanation of the above.

Canon “Kavov” is a Greek word meaning straight measuring rod e.g a ruler you use to draw a straight line. In the past Canons formed the Cathedral Chapter which is the organ that governs the Cathedral. They resided at the Cathedral and had booths in the Cathedral chancel. The Namirembe Cathedral Constitution stipulates that Canons shall not exceed ten (10)

Their work is to assist the Bishop in guiding the Church in matters of Faith, Order and Doctrine. Bishop uses his discretion to declare one as a Canon. However he has to be a well versed clergy in matters of Faith, Order and Discipline. A man/woman of unquestionable Integrity.

Source, Office of the Diocesan Secretary

Attribute to Rev. Canon Nelson Kaweesa - Diocesan Secretary

Looking back at Rev. Canon Nelson Kaweesa’s Journey of Church Service

Church of Uganda especially Namirembe Diocese has lost to retirement one of the most decorated and long serving clergy Rev. Canon Nelson Kaweesa. This year, the humble Canon bid farewell to the Diocese in the last Diocesan Synod chaired by Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira in October and he thanked God who enabled him and his family to serve Him for so many years.

Many have known him as the Diocesan Secretary a position he has occupied since 1st January 1999, but he has also served in a number of responsibilities which makes him one of the most knowledgeable Clergy as far as Church history, doctrines, and Canons are concerned. In the capacity of the Diocesan Secretary, he has served under the leadership of the late Bishop Miseari Kawuma, the retired Bishop Samuel Balagade Ssekande, and the Rt. Rev Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira - current Bishop of Namirembe.


Among the current Clergy, is the only one to serve as the Archdeacon of three (3) Archdeaconries. On 1st January 1995- 31st December 1991 he served as the Archdeacon of Nateete and he later lead Kazo Archdeaconry from 1st January- 31st December 1998. He also served as the Ag. Archdeacon of Mengo from March to November 2001.

Canon has also been in charge of Bulange Church of Uganda from 1st January 2002- 31st December 2007. He was attached to St. Peter’s Church Ndeeba which was demolished this year from 1999- 2000. His currently in charge of St. Stephen’s Church Lungujja since 1st January 2008 to date.

Canon Kaweesa’s working experience clearly originates from a very humble start and background, in 1974 he worked as a receptionist as Normal Gallery, from 1979 to 1980, he was a teacher at Kololo High School. In
Looking back at Rev. Canon Nelson Kaweesa’s Journey of Church Service

1980-1983 Canon became the head teacher of Chwa II Memorial College Namugongo, a school under the Orthodox Church. He then became a teacher at Mengo Senior School (Afternoon Session) from 1981-1982. Though he was not muslim, Canon was also a teacher at Kawempe Muslim Secondary School from January-August 1984.

Due to his experience and exposure, Canon Kaweesa also served at the Provincial level. He was Chairman Provincial House of Clergy from 2006 to 2018. This is a very high profile position of leading all Clergy from all the Dioceses in the Province of the Church of Uganda. In 1996 to 2006, he was Secretary Provincial House of Clergy. Canon was also a member of the Provincial Assembly Standing Committee from 2002 to 2018.

He was Secretary to Provincial Assembly Verification/Appraisal Committee from 2002-2018. During his time he oversaw the verification of the following Dioceses; North Ankole, Kumi, West Lango proposed Diocese, Masindi Kitara, North Mbale (Appraisal), North Karamoja, East Ruwenzori, South Ankole, Central Busoga and North West Ankole.

Canon Kaweesa was also a member to the following Committees; The Provincial Appointments Committee from 2006 to 2018, Uganda Joint Christian Council, Uganda Christian University Council (1997-1999 and 2006-2016), Bishop Tucker Theological College Governing Council from 1996-1997, Provincial Commission for Theological Training and Ministerial Formation from 7th November 2006-2016.


Member Marriage Counseling Team (Marriagae Encounter 1986-2004), Bible Translator and Reviewer International Bible Society (1990 to date), Bible Translator and Reviewer Bible Society of Uganda 1991-2001, Member Mission For All (MIFA) 2nd August 2004- to date.

International and regional conferences, workshops, seminars and events attended

- Evangelism and Leadership Seminar- Haggai Institute- Maui Hawaii USA 18th April to 18th May 2008.
- Let a delegation of 25 Head teachers to Winchester Diocese UK 4th- 15th June 2001 to learn how the Church of England runs her schools.
- Bible Translation workshop, Brackenhurst Limuru, Kenya 1st- 9th September 1990.
- Led Diocesan delegation to the prefecture of Butare Rwanda to assist in the starting of an HIV Prevention and Aids Care Programme 16th -24th August 1999.
- Led Diocesan delegation to Kicukiro Kigali Rwanda to participate in Evangelism Seminar and also daily crusades in Amohoro stadium Kigali 3rd-10th September 2001.
- And so many others