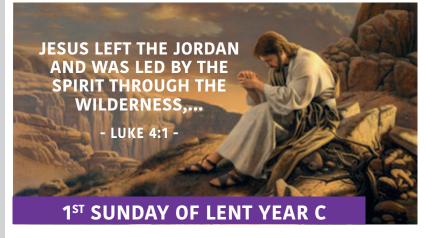
UNLOCK THE DOOR GOD'S FORGIVENESS AND MERCY THROUGH REPENTANCE

Fr. Joseph Kirumira Mpoza

As we begin the Holy Season of Lent, Jesus invites to unlock the doors of our hearts. We all have places in our hearts where we lock the doors. These are places where we store memories of shame, guilt, bad habits, addictions, issues where we do not know how to ask for help or aspects of our hearts that we are not willing to share with anyone not even with our closest friends. The Lord says, I stand at your door knocking, if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you (Rev. 3:20). Christ is calling you to a personal relationship with him. You have to make a personal choice to welcome him into your heart and life. Jesus in his mercy stands at the door of every heart. Jesus' call in a compassionate way goes to the person who is lukewarm in faith, one who is neither hot or cold, one who has become so indifferent or disconnected himself or herself from God. Jesus will not force his way into your life. He knocks gently waiting for you to respond. This is how Jesus reveals God's great mercy whereby he expresses his interest in sharing God's Grace with you patiently. He loves you so much so that he will never abandon you despite your weaknesses and failures. At some moment in your life Jesus will surprise you and enter through that locked door. Remember that after his resurrection Jesus did not wait for the locked doors to be opened. It was late that Sunday evening, and the disciples were together behind locked doors and Jesus came and stood among them and told them Peace be with you (John 20:19). Even if you lock him out Jesus will enter your locked room quietly to fill your heart with inner peace Despite your door being locked Jesus powerfully

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■ FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy 26:4-10

"The creed of the chosen people."

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the pannier from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first- fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given

me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God This is the word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 90:1-2.10-15. \$ v.15

Response: Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 10:8-13

"The creed of the Christian."

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes

Monday English | Tuesday Luganda | Wednesday English | Thursday Luganda | Friday English | Saturday Luganda

SUNDAY MASS PROGRAM: 07:00 a.m Luganda I 08:30 a.m English I 10:00 a.m English I 11:30 am Luganda | 1:00p.m English | 5:00p.m English

no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. This is the word of the Lord.

GOSPEL.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 4:1-13

"Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness and was tempted there." Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 1 will give you all this power and the

glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him. 'Scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again:

They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone/ But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test/

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

ESSOMO I

Okwatula okw'okukkiriza okw'eggwanga eddondobe.

Bye tusoma mu kitabo ky'Amateeka (26,4-10).

OKWEBUULIRIRA:

Zab. 90, 1-2, 10-11,12-13, 14-15 EKIDDIBWAMU: Ayi Mukama beera nange mu buyinike.

ESSOMO II

"Abakkiriza Kristu nga baatula hwe okukkiriza kwabwe."

Bye tusoma mu bbaluwa Paulo Omutume gye yawandiikira ab'e Roma (10,8-13)

EVANJIRI

"Mwoyo yamutwala mu ddungu n'akemebwa." Ebigambo by'Evanjiri ya Mukama waffe Yezu Kristu ebivudde mu Luka (4, 1-13)

PROGRAM FOR THE WAY OF THE CROSS ON FRIDAYS DURING LENT 2025

DATE	COMMUNITY ON DUTY	STATIONS OF THE CROSS
14TH FEB. 2025	St. Mbaaga & St. Gyaviira	By Cardinal John Henry New Man pg.134
21ST FEB. 2025	St. Balikuddembe & St. Atanansi	According to St. Alphonse Liguori pg.55
28TH FEB. 2025	St. John Mary Muzeyi & St. Matia Mulumba	Mary's way of the cross by Richard G. Furey
4TH APR. 2025	Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy	For the suffering people pg. 105
11TH APR. 2025	St. Kizito & St. Andrew Kaggwa	According to the Sisters of Adorers of the Precious Blood

READINGS AND SAINTS OF THE WEEK: 11 th MARCH - 15 TH MARCH, 2025							
MON 10 th MAR	TUES 11 th MAR	WED 12 th MAR	THUR 13 th MAR	FRI 16 th MAR	SAT 15 th MAR		
ST. VICTOR	ST. CONSTATINE	ST. INNOCENT	ST. RODERICK	ST. ZACHARIA	ST. MATILDA		
Lev 19:1-2, 11-18	Isaiah 55:10-11	Jonah 3:1-10	Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25	Ezekiel 18:21-28	Deuteronomy 26:16-19		
Mat 25:31-46	Matthew 6:7-15	Luke 11:29-32	Matthew 7:7-12	Matthew 5:20-26	Matthew 5:43-48		

and miraculously enters. Jesus by his divine nature and authority is not bound by human limitations. His entry through the locked doors is a powerful expression of his ability to enter into the most isolated, most wounded, and most sinful places of your heart. He wants to offer you peace and healing. Although Jesus has the ability to enter our locked doors and even though no barrier or no lock can keep Jesus out of our life, you need to unlock the door your heart and

soul personally during this Holy Season. Confession and repentance are the keys we use to open the doors of souls for Jesus Christ.

You can personally unlock the door of God's mercy to obtain inner peace and healing through repentance. Repentance is not just about feeling sorry for your sins. It is a complete turning away from sin and making a decision to turn back to God with all one's heart. It sig-

nifies a change of direction and a desire to restore the broken relationship with God. Repentance is a change of mind; a change in one's way of thinking. Psalm 32 expresses the importance of confession in the life of a Christian. Its' content captures the journey of repentance, forgiveness, reconciliation and it teaches us about the grace of God in dealing with human sin. Psalm 32 reveals the pain of hidden sins. It brings out the joy of confession demonstrated through

ARTICLE

the transformative power of acknowledging sin before God. It is a pity that some of us come to confessions but still hide our sins. David prayed this psalm as a penitential psalm after committing a sin with Bathsheba. "One day, late in the afternoon, David got up from his nap and went to the palace roof. As he walked about up on the roof top, he saw a woman having bath. She was very beautiful. So, he sent messengers to find out who she was, and learnt that she was Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite. David sent messengers to fetch her, and they brought her to him and made love to her. After returning home she discovered that she was pregnant (2 Samuel: 11: 1-28). One sin led to more sins. While going through the experience of his sins David in Psalm 32 highlighted the consequences of unconfessed sin. He describes the physical, emotional and spiritual torment of hiding sins from God. "When I did not confess my sins, when I kept silent, my bones wasted away, I was worn out crying all day long. Day and night you punished me LORD, my strength was completely drained as moisture is dried up by the summer heat (Psalm 32: 3-4). David describes the burden of the unconfessed sin. We note that silence which signifies that the refusal to confess sins leads to spiritual decay. The weight of guilt manifests physically as if God's hand were pressing down upon him. The idea of bones wasting away brings out the deep sense of alienation from God and the emotional exhaustion that comes from attempting to live with unresolved guilt.

Later on, David shares joy he received after confessing his sins. David Said, I have sinned against the Lord and Nathan replied, the Lord forgives you, you will not die (2 Samuel: 12:13). David then shifts from the burden of unconfessed sin to the joy that comes with confession and repentance; "Then I confessed my sins to you, I did not hide my sins, I did not conceal my wrongdoings, I decided to confess them to you and you forgave all my sins (Psalm 32:5). David illustrates the theological truth that Confession is a key to experiencing God's forgiveness. The act of confession and the acknowledging of sin before God

opens the door for God's grace. God's mercy to floods into the heart and life of the repentant sinner. The burden of sin is lifted and the guilt is forgiven. When David explicitly says, I did not hide my sins from you, he underscores the fact that confession is not about excusing sin but it is about honestly and truthfully making a determination to confront sin in the presence a Holy God. Confession is not simply saying words about our sins or simply mentioning a list of our sins. It is more than that, it is about a transformation of the heart and total turning back to the Lord. When such total transformation of heart is fully realized then we experience the joy of being forgiven. David reflects on those whose sins are forgiven, "Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, who wrong doings are pardoned. Happy is the one whom the Lord does not accuse of doing wrong and who is free from all deceit (Psalm 32:1-2). Forgiveness is freely given by God. Due to His great love for humankind God in His mercy does not count sins against the sinner. He chooses to forgive all the time, this why the Psalmist beautifully expresses the God's abundant mercy when he says, "If you Lord kept a record of our sins, who could escape being condemned, no one would survive (Psalm 130:3). There is a great contrast between human sinfulness and God's forgiving nature. The weight of human guilt is too great to survive God's justice. However, the Psalmist offers a profound statement of hope expressing the essential truth of God's Mercy realized in his readiness to forgive. Let us remember that not many of us will have a golden chance Like the Good Thief had on the day his crucifixion. David emphasizes the urgency of confession and repentance," Let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found (Psalm 32:6) he urges immediate action. Do not wait until disaster strikes, but to come to God for confession now while his Mercy is available. God's Mercy is abundant but it must be received in the present moment during this season of Lent. Forgiveness from God brings joy and peace that come from knowing that one is in the right relationship with God thus having a great feeling of a deep lasting peace within our hearts.

THE NICENE CREED

et us stand now and profess our fait h - I beleve in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth . .. sound familiar? If you're a Catholic, you could probabl y recite the

rest of that from memory, couldn't you? But what are those words we say at every Mass? It's called the Nicene Creed, and it is a synopsis of the things that we, as Christians believe.

The original Nicene Creed was issued in 325 A.D. It was written to clear up a number of heresies going around at that time, particularly Arianism, which denied the divinity of Christ. But that's not the same thing we say at Mass on Sunday. The Nicene Creed we still recite today came from the Council of Constantinople in 381. The council fathers there added to the Nicene Creed more about the person of Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Church, baptism, the resurrection and eternal life.

So, if you're ever asked what you believe as a Christian, you can give a complete answer in about sixty seconds... with the Nicene Creed!

FOR FURTHER STUDY: CCC 199 - 1065: note the whole creed has been broken phrase by phrase

Celebrating St. Joseph: Whispers of Silent Strength

As we reflect on the life of St. Joseph, we're invited to reflect on the power of silent strength and its profound impact on unseen acts of love and devotion.

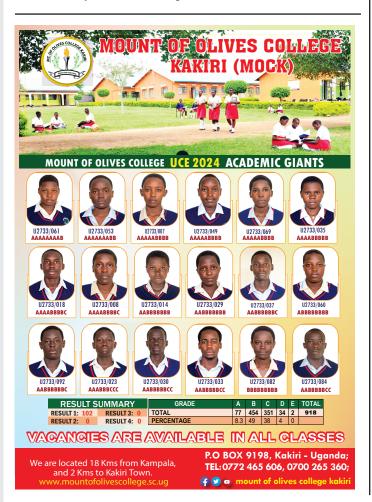
Upcoming Celebration: You're cordially invited to join us for the feast of St. Joseph on Wednesday, 19th March, at 6:00 pm, with a special Mass at St. Charles Lwanga Catholic Church.

Join the Spiritual Journey: Whether you're deeply devoted to St. Joseph or just discovering his significance, this celebration offers a valuable opportunity to enhance your spiritual journey and embrace the blessings of his intercession.

Devotional Prayers and Novena

- Devotional prayers: Every 1st Wed of the month, 6-7 pm
- 9-day novena to St. Joseph: Starts today, recited at 7 am and 1 pm Mass
- Visit our information desk outside, under the tent, to learn more about St. Joseph's life and devotion. Explore opportunities to get involved and deepen your spiritual connection.

- · Mbanawe Stephen of Kitala son of Tadeo Rwakaisho and Tuhirirwe Priscilla of Ibumba,rubanga,rukungiri wishes to marry Doreen Mary Immaculate Kobusingye of Nsooba daughter of Matovu Daniel and Asiimwe Catherine of Kyebando -kampala
- Mugisha Innocent of Najjera son of John Bwomezi and Late Kasigwa Federensi of Kitonzi Lc11, kitagwenda wishes to marry **Atuhereza Privah** of Najjera daughter of Byaruhanga Disan and Kellen Byaruhanga of Mukora Kyabugimbi Igara
- Mugabe Benedict of Kyanja son of Samuel Nsenga and Beatrice Tumusiime of Kvebando Kisalosalo wishes to marry **Faith** Samuel of Kyanja daughter of Samuel Macha and Dinatu Samuel Daisou of 7 Yakowa Street Narayi Kaduna
- Taremwa Seti of Kijwa Zone son of Baniga Augustine and Korutindo Modesta of Ntungamo Nkinga Mitooma wishes to marry **Rwabulindore Lynna** of Bukasa daughter of Hon.rwaburindore Tarsis and Rwaburindore Nancy of Bisheshe Ibanda
- Mukasa Henry of Kyebando Nsooba son of Edward Ssali and Betty Birabwa of Kansanga-kyadondo wishes to marry Kackline Atuheire of Kyebando Nsooba daughter of Tuhirirwe Gregory and Mugisha Christine of Bugarama
- Tashobya Shem of Ntungamo son of Stephen Tashobya and Dr.catherine Tashobya of Ntungamo wishes to marry Aryasingura Celia of Ntinda daughter of John Fisher Kanyemibwa and Susan Kanyemibwa of Ntungamo



24/02/2025 -02/03/2025	Amount	
Tithe	33,364,000	\$ 823
Sunday Offertory	9,466,500	\$ 120
Week Day Offertory	6,673,200	
Marriage Stole Fees	560,000	
Baptism Stole Fees	50,000	
Catechism Stole Fees	330,000	
Thanksgiving	657,000	
Scroll Sales	194,000	
Devotional Candles - Box	592,100	
Liturgy Booklets	10,000	
Rent- Plot 82 Muteesa II Rd	2,000,000	
Grotto Box	1,348,900	
Choirs	20,000	
Sacred Heart of Jesus		\$ 100
St. Jude Devotion.	20,000	
Women's Guild	3,398,000	
Good Samaritan Boxes	528,100	
Adoration Chapel box	268,200	
Men's guild	225,000	
Procure Items	2,246,500	

- · We have celebrated the first Sunday of lent. Next Sunday 16th March 2025 will be our Good Samaritan Sunday. The team will be under the tent to receive all donations.
- We thank the Legionaries for leading Adoration last Thursday. Next Thursday 13th March 2025 members of Nyina wa Jambo will lead adoration at 5pm.
- On 14th March 2025, St. Gyaviira and St. Mbaaga will lead the way of the cross at 6pm.
- · Priests will begin Lenten pastoral visits in our communities. These visits will begin on 12th March 2025 at 5pm with St. Gyaviira and St. Matia Mulumba. Leaders are reminded to pick the priests in time.
- We shall have Penitential service on 14th March 2025 in preparation for our pilgrimage to Munyonyo on 15th March 2025 to go through the Holy door. During the service, we shall have spiritual guidance and confessions to enable us to attain indulgence. All those who intend to attend this pilgrimage are required to register with the office with ugx. 10,000/= that will be used for transport.
- The Divine Mercy devotion leaders intend to strengthen the pillars of prayer during this Lenten period. They therefore invite those who can and wish to host the Image of Divine Mercy in their homes to register with your community leaders. Please be informed that this program begun on 6th March 2025.
- We shall begin the novena to St. Joseph tomorrow Monday 10th March 2025 which will lead us to the feast of St. Joseph Husband of Mary on 19th March 2025.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION