

No Guns No Knives

It's a beautiful thing



NOTICE BOARD

UGANDAN YOUTH IN THE NEWS THIS MONTH FOR ALL THE WRONG REASONS

"Many young people today lack hope." This was part of the Pope's message (3rd col. 1st pg) to the youth on World Youth Day. Two Ugandan families in the UK, have suffered in different ways this month. While one family lost a son to thugs who murdered him, robbing him of a brilliant future, another family witnessed their son being arrested and he was convicted for violent robberies across London. More inside.



UMCC Advocates Love Peace and Friendship

Good Results

Many Ugandan children in Primary Secondary and University are waiting for their exam results and our prayers go out to them. They are the pillar of our society and the sacrifice they make to avoid the violent Bling Culture deserves the highest commendation, we UMCC parents are proud of you (or is it proud of ya).

NOTIFICATION

We would like to apologise to the visitors of our website. Due to technical issues the site has not been updated for a while, but everything is being done to resolve this. We cannot send email at the moment but once we can we will be sending you the latest newsletter.

eMail CONTACT:

ugandamartyrs@ugandamartyrs.org

Uganda Martyrs Catholic Community

UK AND THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Chaplain's message

Dear Friends in Christ,

As you well know, the wider church has just celebrated the 23rd World Youth Day, which events have just concluded last week in Sydney, Australia. The celebrations went on very well and Pope Benedict XVI said: "I am pleased to have this opportunity... to say what a wonderful experience this week has been. During these days we have been able to witness at first hand the joy that so many thousands of young people find in their faith, and we have been able to offer praise and thanksgiving to God for his goodness to us."

Today we thank God for the youth of our Uganda Martyrs' Catholic Community whom the Lord calls upon to choose the real treasure of the kingdom, of which Jesus speaks in parables. Like Solomon, the young people must admit that they are still "unskilled in leadership" and so need the guidance, counseling and support of their parents, guardians, teachers and religious leaders. If young people want to grow up into responsible adult Christians, they must seek the wisdom which stems from God's word so that they are equipped with discerning judgement and a wise heart. (1Kings 3:11-12).

However to arrive at this they must be ready to meet the radical demands of God's kingdom. The kingdom requires a positive acceptance. This means that the Christian must believe, belong and behave. So to acquire the treasure of the kingdom let us all remember that we must cultivate a desire for a heart that is docile to God's word. That is the secret of the wisdom of Solomon and the key to the eternal treasure. As the Pope said in Sydney last week, "In the power of the Spirit, may these young people make that vision a reality in the world of tomorrow."

Fr. Gerard M. Balinnya

Have a restful, sun-kissed summer break and may God bless you all.

27 JULY 2008

"In Faith We Grow"

MESSAGE OF POPE BENEDICT XVI ON WORLD YOUTH DAY 2008

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you on the Twenty-Third World Youth Day.

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you: and you will be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8). This is the theme of the Twenty-Third World Youth Day. How much our world needs a renewed outpouring of the Holy Spirit! There are still many who have not heard the Good News of Jesus Christ, while many others, have not recognized in this Good News the saving truth that alone can satisfy the deepest longings of their hearts. The Psalmist prays: "when you send forth your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth" (Ps 104:30). It is my firm belief that young people are called to be instruments of that renewal, communicating to their peers the joy they have experienced through knowing and following Christ, and sharing with others the love that the Spirit pours into their hearts, so that they too will be filled with hope and with thanksgiving for all the good things they have received from God.

Many young people today lack hope. They are perplexed by the questions that present themselves ever more urgently in a confusing world, and they are often uncertain which way to turn for answers. They see poverty and injustice and they long to find solutions. They are challenged by the arguments of those who deny the existence of God and they wonder how to respond. They struggle to find ways to live in greater harmony with one another.

Where can we look for answers? The Spirit points us towards the way that leads to life, to love and to truth; towards Jesus Christ. There is a saying attributed to Saint Augustine: "If you wish to remain young, seek Christ". In him we find the answers that we are seeking, we find the goals that are truly worth living for, we find the strength to pursue the path that will bring about a better world. Our hearts find no rest until they rest in the Lord.

My heart reaches out to all of you, including those who are sick or in difficulties of any kind. May God bless you all.

From the Vatican, 4 July 2008

Abridged

UMCC DAY News

Chairman's Message to the June 2008 Newsletter

Dear Friends in Christ,

Robert Mukiibi

Chairman - UMCC

UMCC NEWS ROUND

What Are Your Kids Up To

UMCC launched its Knife and Gun campaign early this year, however, we are not yet aware of the impact of the campaign or how far reaching it is. UMCC will continue to raise awareness in and also bring any relevant news to the community.

Sadly, the Ugandan community has lost yet another shining star to the vicious wave of criminality blighting UK streets. On the 11th of July 2008 at about 08:30pm Yusuf Miro was stabbed to death. A young man, the hope of many who knew him and for others who got to know about him after his life was cut short, had a future of great hope and promise. Studying criminology at Middlesex University, Miro is described as gentle, hard working and friendly.

Youth are concerned about what is going on. Trawling through the Internet, many youth groups are seeking answers to this sad trend of events. Sadly, the youth engaged in criminal activity and those walking around armed with knives and guns also have their own networks.

For those of us old enough, recall the saying "tell me your friends and I will tell you who you are". As a parent get to know your children and their friends. Today, the streets of London are paved with knives and guns not with gold. They are littered with body parts of gun and knife victims.

Lwanga, of Canning Town, East London, enters a world record as the first armed robber to be convicted using SmartWater technology. Ali Lwanga, 21 of Baron Walk E16 was found guilty with other youths. They were seen in a stolen Renault while Lwanga directed operations from a Vauxhall Astra with one youth. Lwanga escaped but was then spotted on January 17 discarding dye-stained clothing in a wheelie bin near his home. When arrested, Lwanga was found with dyed cash hidden under his mattress. He armed and trained boys (kadogo) aged 14, 15, and two aged 16. The child robbers even drove getaway cars. He bought the kids Big Macs from McDonalds as payment while he kept the £100,000 loot. Lwanga has been likened to the villain Fagin, in Charles Dickens's *Oliver Twist*, who ran a gang of child pickpockets. Detective Chief Inspector Gary Donnison from the Met's Flying Squad said: 'Lwanga was a very dangerous, ruthless Fagin-type character, employing young men to carry out the thefts on his behalf. SmartWater is a staining liquid only visible under UV light. There is an Ali Lwanga who is 18 and played or still plays for City Reserves. This could be one or two different people.



It is Trendy to be Catholic

16th July 2008 Youth Day



An Australian TV commentator said it used not to be "trendy" to be a Catholic in Sydney, but now "it's become cool again". World Youth Day 2008 in Sydney was a triumph for the Catholic Church and its 81-year-old head, Pope Benedict XVI. About 400,000 people attended a final Mass on Sunday (July 20), briefly making the pilgrims' destination bigger than the nation's capital, Canberra. Some baffled journalists described it as a Catholic Woodstock. The world has moved in an unexpected direction. WYD, the biggest youth event in history, is a repudiation of the materialism and secularism of the baby-boomers.

The Vatican and Sydney's Cardinal George Pell had planned this event as a catechesis, a teachable moment, a festival of Catholic culture, teaching and prayer. For pilgrims who came



early, dioceses around the country organised talks on controversial topics like Catholic views on sexuality, bioethics, faith and reason. During the days leading up to the

climactic Mass, young people were queuing up for the Catholic sacrament of Reconciliation, or Confession, and to spend time in prayer in churches before the Eucharist. WYD Sydney youth were singing hymns or praying the Rosary if they were not kicking a football or skylarking. Some carried huge banners saying, "We love our German Shepherd". This is in reference to our Pope Benedict XVI.

A group calling itself the No to Pope Coalition – a collection of drag queens, homosexuals, atheists and lesbian Raelians – showered passing pilgrims with condoms but the stunt provoked only laughter and pained perplexity. And in true catholic spirit "They've all got their own opinions," remarked an 18-year-old New Zealand girl. "We've got our own beliefs and we're not going to change it because of them."

A group of 52 Ugandan youth, led by Tororo Archbishop Dennis Kiwanuka Lote, travelled to Australia for the World Youth Day (WYD08) celebrations presided over by Pope Benedict XVI. They were among other pilgrims from all over the world who had travelled to attend the main event of the 2008 convention.

We at UMCC are also proud of our own children young and teen for their examples of Christianity and faith.

Announcements and Stories



We celebrate Holy Mass every last Sunday of the month. Our next 4 events will be on these dates:

PLEASE CHECK WITH EXECUTIVE FOR NEW CALENDAR

At

**3.00pm @ St Gabriel's Parish Church
15 St John's Villas, Upper Holloway, off Holloway
Road N19 3EE.**

Every occasion is followed by a grand reception at:
**St Gabriel's Community Centre, 19 Hatchard Road London,
N19 4NG.**

Nearest Underground: **Archway – Northern Line**
All Buses to: **Archway**

**Come for thanksgiving, prayer and praise in the Ugandan
context of Faith!**

Please contact:

Robert Mukibi 07961 434 834
Fr. Gerard Balinnya 07946 256 363

*A small token contribution towards the days' receptions will be
collected from attendees. Thank you.*

Ugandans and Friends
You Are All Very Welcome
www.ugandamartyrs.org

WINDSOR FELLOWSHIP, BBC & SUTTON TRUST
UMCC encourages parents to get in touch with the following organisations. Ugandan children who have joined any of these organisations have gone on to earn good grades up to University. Some of these organisations also help with getting work.

National Black Boys Can Association

The Parents of Black Children Conference Season, June-Nov 2008 was launched on Saturday 7 June by Dawn Butler MP. Other speakers included Dr Cheron Byfield from Excell3, Martin Glynn - Author and Andre Anderson, member of the National Black Boys Can Youth Council.

Windsor Fellowship

The I have a dream... programme offers highly motivated A-Level students from Black and Asian minority ethnic backgrounds an intensive 4 week placement with Deutsche Bank during the summer and personal development training from the Fellowship.

Sutton Trust

Sutton Trust Summer Schools offer an opportunity to try University life for over 800 young people every year. The programme consists of lectures, seminars and tutorials but also various social activities. The programme started in 1997 at Oxford and the Trust has subsequently expanded it to Bristol, Cambridge, Nottingham and St Andrews Universities.

The Lambeth Conference 2008

A quarter of the world's Anglican bishops boycotted on Wednesday a once-in-a-decade gathering of church leaders in a row over gay clergy. 230 of the 880 bishops in the Anglican worldwide communion stayed away from the Lambeth conference in the city of Canterbury, spiritual home of the deeply divided church. Bishops from Nigeria, Kenya and Uganda, were among those did not attend the conference. Liberal and conservative clergy have been brought to the brink of schism over the ordination in 2003 of Gene Robinson in New Hampshire, the first openly gay bishop in the church's 450-year history. Conservative Anglican leaders staged their own conference in Jerusalem last month at which they pledged to form a council of bishops to provide an alternative to churches who they say are preaching a "false gospel" of sexual immorality. The Global Anglican Future Conference (GAFCON) said member churches would continue sponsoring breakaway conservative parishes in the liberal western member countries and called for a separate conservative province in North America....

Catholics and the US Presidential Race

53% of Americans may vote for John McCain the Republican Presidential candidate and 20% Barack Obama the Democratic Presidential candidate.

Conquering HIV AIDS Through ABC

By Hilary White

KAMPALA, Uganda, July 11, 2008 (LifeSiteNews.com)

"We understand that casual sex is dear to you, but staying alive is dear to us. Listen to African wisdom, and we will show you how to prevent AIDS." said Sam L. Ruteikara. Ruteikara is the co-chair of Uganda's National AIDS-Prevention Committee. The Catholic Church has made Uganda the lowest HIV infected nation in Africa, without condoms and not condoning fornication thanks to the "ABC" method (Abstinence, Being faithful and Condom). The Ugandan success story is one of the most impressive in the fight against AIDS. Between 1989 and 1995, the number of men having three or more sexual partners in a year dropped from 15 to three per cent and HIV rates plunged from 21 percent in 1991 to 6 percent in 2002. Ruteikara concluded, "Telling men and women to keep sex sacred -- to save sex for marriage and then remain faithful -- is telling them to love one another deeply with their whole hearts. Most HIV infections in Africa are spread by sex outside of marriage: casual sex and infidelity. The solution is faithful love."

Did you know, and for some, down memory lane
Homily: explains a passage of scripture and gives practical applications. Sermon: develops a point of doctrine or morals in a systematic way. Catechumen: One who is not baptized and is preparing for full initiation at the Easter Vigil through baptism, confirmation and Eucharist.
Bus Nr 6 Port Bell Road 1957
Kampala Muluungi!

