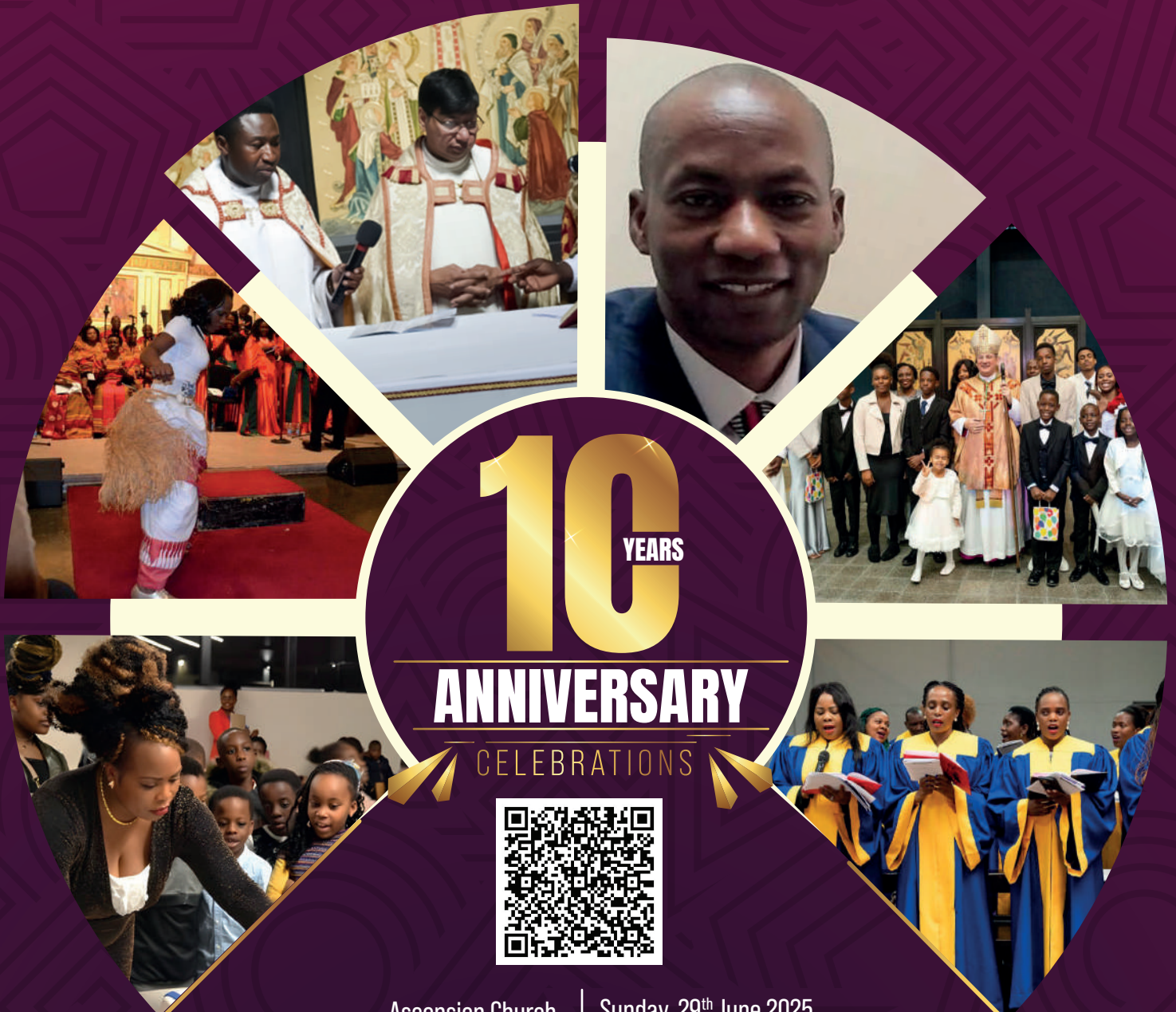




OKUSINZA E MANCHESTER

10TH ANNIVERSARY AND ORDINATION THANKSGIVING



10 YEARS

ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATIONS



Ascension Church,
Hulme

Sunday, 29th June 2025
Starting 2:00 pm

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OKUSINZA E MANCHESTER 10TH ANNIVERSARY AND ORDINATION THANKSGIVING

ORDER OF SERVICE

OLUYIMBA OLUYINGIRA/PROCESSIONAL HYMN

(Please Stand):

159 Mu maaso ga Yesu abalokole

Minister: Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **and also with you.**

WELCOME REMARKS

(By Revd. Enock Kiyaga Mayanja)

Omuweereza: Mukama abeere nammwe

Ffenna: **Abeere n'omwoyo gwo**

Omuweereza: Tusabe

Abaagalwa ennyo, tukungaanye wano mu maaso ga Katonda Ayinza byonna ne mu maaso g'ekibiina kyonna eky'omu ggulu okwewaayo eri Katonda, nga tuyita mu Yesu Kristo Mukama waffe, okusinja kwaffe n'okutendereza kwaffe era n'okwebaza kwaffe; okwatula ebyonoona byaffe, okusaba ku lwaffe ne ku lw'abalala. Tulyoke tweyongere okumanyira ddala mu mazima obukulu bw'okwagala kwa Katonda era twolese ebibala eby'ekisa kye mu bulamu bwaffe; era tusabe ku lw'abalala ebyo ebyetaagibwa ku lw'obulungi bwabwe. Kale tusiriikirire nga tujjukira nti Katonda ali naffe kaakano.

Ffenna Awamu (Essaala) Confession:

Ayi Katonda Kitaffe, twononye mu birowoozo ne mu bigambo, ne mu bikolwa. Tetukwagadde n'emitima gyaffe gyonna, tetwagadde baliraanwa baffe nga bwe tweyagala ffekka. Otusaasire, tukwegayiridde; otusonyiwe ebibi byaffe, era otuyambe okuwangula ebisobyo byaffe; ku bwa Yesu Kristo Mukama waffe. **AMIINA.**

Omuweereza yekka (Essaala)/Absolution:

Mukama ayinza byonna, era ow'ekisa ekingi, abasaasire mmwe, abasonyiwe ebibi byammwe byonna, abawe ebbanga okulongoosa obulamu bwammwe, era abawe ekisa n'essanyu eby'Omwoyo Omutukuvu. **AMIINA.**

Ayi Katonda ayinza byonna, ggwe amanyi emitima gy'abantu bonna n'ebigambo bye baagala, era atakisibwa byama byonna; tukuza eborowoozo eby'omu mitima gyaffe, ng'ossaamu Omwoyo wo Omutukuvu, tukwagalire ddala, tutendereze erinnya lyo ettukuvu nga bwe kitugwanira; ku bwa Yesu Kristo Mukama waffe; **AMIINA.**

AMATEEKA/THE LAW

Mukama waffe Yesu Kristo yagamba nti: Wulira Isirayiri, Mukama Katonda waffe, Mukama ye omu, era yagalanga Mukama Katonda wo n'omutima gwo gwonna, n'obulamu bwo bwonna, n'amagezi go gonna, n'amaanyi go gonna. Lino lye tteeka ery'oluberebereye. N'ery'okubiri lye lino nti: Yagalanga muliraanwa wo nga bwe weeyagala wekka. Tewali tteeka ddala erisinga ago obukulu. Mu mateeka gano gombi, amateeka gonna mwe gasinziira, era ne bannabbi:

Ffenna: Ayi Mukama, otusaasire, tukwegayiridde, owandiike amateeka go, ago gombi mu mitima gyaffe.

ESSAALA Y'OLUNAKU (COLLECT):

Ayi Katonda, akuuma bonna abakweyuna, so awatali ggwe, tewali kintu kya maanyi, tewali kitukuvu; otwongereko ekisa kyo; bw'obeera omukulu waffe n'omusaale waffe, tuyite bwe tutyo mu bintu ebiggwawo, oluvannyuma ebitaggwawo bireme okutubula; ekyo kituwe, Ayi Kitaffe ow'omu ggulu; ku bwa Yesu Kristo Mukama waffe. **AMIINA.**

READINGS

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10- Isaac Jakira

Oluyimba/Hymn :177 Yesu Mulokozi Wange

2nd Reading: Peter 2: 1-10 -Hosea Muyita

Zzabbuli (Psalm): 113 (To be sung)

Enjiri/Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-19- By Revd. Alex Mutyaba

Enjiri bw'eggwa ffenna (tuyimbe): *Tukwebaza Ayi Katonda, olw'enjiri yo eno entukuvu ey'ekitiibwa (Praise to you, O Christ)*

Oluyimba/Hymn (ffenna): I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

OKUBUULIRA/SERMON

(Revd Luke Maguire)

Ffenna nga tuyimiridde, twatule ENZIKIRIZA ya Niike mu ddoboozi ery'omwanguka nti (Nicene Creed):

NZIKIRIZA Katonda omu Kitaffe Ayinza byonna, Omutonzi w'eggulu n'ensi; era ow'ebintu byonna ebirabika n'ebitalabika. Era ne Mukama omu Yesu Kristo, Omwana eyazaalibwa oku yekka Katonda, eyazaalibwa Kitaawe ensi zonna nga tezinnabaawo, Katonda ava mu Katonda, Omusana oguwa mu Musana, Katonda ddala ava mu Katonda ddala. Eyazaalibwa, teyatondebwa, alina okubeera okumu ne Kitaffe; Ye yatonda ebintu byonna; Ye yava mu ggulu n'akka ku lwaffe abantu n'olw'obulokozi bwaffe, n'atwalira omubiri ku bw'Omwoyo Omutukuvu mu muwala atamanyi musajja Malyamu, n'afuuka omuntu, n'akomererwa ku musaalaba ku Mirembe gya Pontiyo Piraato ku lwaffe, n'attibwa, n'aziikibwa, olunaku olw'okusatu n'azuukira mu bafu, nga bwe kyawandiikibwa, n'agenda mu ggulu. Era atudde ku mukono ogwa ddyo ogwa Katonda Kitaffe. Era alivaayo okukomawo n'ekitiibwa, okusala omusango gw'abalamu n'abafu; Obwakabaka bwe tebuliggwawo.

Era nzikiriza Omwoyo Omutukuvu, Mukama era Omugabi w'obulamu; ava mu Kitaffe ne mu Mwana, asinzibwa, atenderezabwa awamu ne Kitaffe n'Omwana; eyayogerera mu Bannabbi. Nzikiriza n'Ekkanisa emu ey'abantu bonna era ebuna wonna ey'Abatume. Njatala okubatizibwa okumu okuggyako ebibi, era nsuubira okuzuukira kw'abafu, n'obulamu obw'emirembe egigenda okujja. **AMIINA.**

OKWEGAYIRIRA (INTERCESSIONS)

By Rev. Ritah Namakula

Response after each prayer:

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

To conclude intercessions, *Revd. Muyita to come forward for a special prayer and laying of hands by clergy.*

The Grace:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all; now and forever. AMEN

THE PEACE

(Fr. Azariah France-Williams)

We are the body of Christ, in the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OKUGABA/OFFERTORY & OKWEBAZA/THANKSGIVING

*Oluyimba nga tuwaayo ebirabo (ffenna) –
Tweyanzizza Ssebo*

*Oluyimba nga twebaza /Thanksgiving (ffenna) –
Bolingbo Bwa Nzambe*

EBY'OKUSSA EKIMU OKUTUKUVU/HOLY COMMUNION

(Fr. Azariah France-Williams)

Prayer of Preparation for The Table

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation: Through your goodness, We have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation: Through your goodness, we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of Salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

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Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of the Blessed Mary and all the saints, may praise and glorify you forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, forever and ever. **Amen.**

We keep a moment of quiet if we are able.

Let us pray as our Saviour taught us:

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

The priest breaks the bread, saying:
We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

We sing the Agnus Dei together, to the tune of Michael Row the Boat Ashore

Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God, you bear our sin,
Lord, have mercy,
this world's sin you take away,
Lord, forgive us all.**

**Lamb of God, you bear our sin,
Lord, have mercy,
this world's sin you take away,
Lord, forgive us all.**

**Lamb of God, you bear our sin
grant us peace, Lord,
Lamb of God, you bear our sin,
grant us peace, O Lord.**

We are invited to meet Christ in the Eucharist

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are all who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

We receive the sacrament.

Ennyimba nga tusembera (ffenna)/Communion hymns

- 1. Omusaayi gwo gumala***
- 2. Katonda Musumba Wange***
- 3. Just as I am***

After Communion, a prayer may be offered.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the Body and Blood of your son, Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

EBIRANGO/NOTICES & Anniversary Song

OMUKISA/ THE BLESSING

Revd. Canon Falak Sher

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Oluyimba Olusembayo/Recessional Hymn – Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Organ Postlude: Abaweereza, Abayimbi n'Abajaguza beetegeka okufuna ebifaananyi eby'awamu (Photo opportunity)

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FR. AZARIAH FRANCE-WILLIAMS



God is good...

I have served as the Rector of Ascension Church Hulme for a little over five years, during which I have had the honour of observing and, in small ways, helping to shape your journey toward this significant milestone of ten years.

Growing up, I remember a call-and-response ritual in churches. The preacher would declare, "God is good," to which the congregation would reply, "All the time." The preacher would then affirm, "And all the time," and the congregation would respond, "God is good!"

This is the spirit I cherish within the diverse services and gatherings at Ascension. The statement "God is good" is vividly reflected in the people who meet monthly as part of the Luganda Fellowship, where they share and proclaim God's goodness through worship, word, and witness.

Personally, I have been blessed to notice how effectively the culture equips both clergy and laity to discover and develop their gifts.

Recently, during a confirmation service I participated in alongside the Bishop of Middleton, I was struck by the younger generation's remarkable ability to articulate and demonstrate a lived faith in all they do.

It is no surprise that many individuals are stepping into leadership roles within the Anglican Church when the culture is so empowering. Those

who do not seek church leadership still embody their Christian faith and values, serving as excellent stewards of their resources. Ascension leadership is particularly grateful for the number of PCC members who have joined us through the Luganda Fellowship. They share a commonality: each possesses compassionate intelligence, a can-do spirit, meticulous attention to detail, and the ability to work exceptionally well in teams.

I hesitate to single out individuals for praise, as I believe that collectively, you have created a powerful place of shelter that encompasses so many. Each one of you deserves recognition, and I would quickly run out of words if I attempted to name everyone.

As you contemplate the next ten years, what messages have you been receiving from God? As you continue to grow stronger, where will you focus your strength, and on whose behalf? What steps can you take to make space for underrepresented voices and choices? There is a significant amount of 'social action' which is pastoral; I believe this next era will emphasise 'social justice', which is prophetic. So let us say it together: "God is good..."

MESSAGE FROM OUR FORMER RECTOR

FR. FALAK SHER



Dear Revd Enock

Congratulations to Okusinza E Manchester Fellowship

Ten years ago, I planted the seed with faith that the Luganda community would bear fruit. I am delighted to see the growth and stability of the Luganda community in Ascension over the past ten years. I enjoyed worshipping with you, having fellowship, and serving you as your Parish priest. I give thanks to God, who has sustained and produced leaders from this congregation, such as Revd Enock, Isaac, John Alex, and others who join the PCC and choir. You will be in my prayers, especially those whom I have baptised, married and confirmed. I wish you all a happy 10th Anniversary.

Fr Falak Sher
Rector, The Church of the Ascension, Lower Broughton



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OKUSINZA MU LUGANDA E MANCHESTER LAUNCHED

The Day it all began

Sunday, 26th April 2015, stands as a historic and spirit-filled moment in the life of our community. It was on that day, within the walls of Ascension Church, Hulme, that a vision long held in many hearts finally came to life—a Luganda-speaking service in Manchester, rooted in faith, culture, and unity.

The idea for Okusinza e Manchester was jointly conceived by Omulangira Dickson Wasajja (RIP) and Omukungu Enock Kiyaga Mayanja. Recognising the absence of worship in our mother tongue and the deep spiritual and cultural need within the Ugandan diaspora, the two visionaries reached out. They formed a dedicated team of community members to bring this dream to reality. That founding team included:

Omubuulizi Isaac Jakira, Mrs. Pross Nankinga, Mr. Ssonko Lutaaya, Omukade Fredrick Kakaire,

Ms. Happy Ganzi, Mr. Milton Nume, Mr. Ronald Wampamba, Mrs. Betty JJjemba, Mr. Dennis Jjemba and Mr. Edward Kayemba.

Together, this group laid the foundation for a fellowship that would not only foster worship in Luganda but also encourage community cohesion and inspire the younger generation born in the UK to connect with their heritage.

The first service was a joyful and powerful occasion, led by **Venerable Danny Kajumba, Revd. Nathan Ntege, and the host priest, Revd. Canon Falak Sher.** It was the beginning of something sacred and lasting.

From the outset, the ministry was lay-led, with **Omubuulizi Isaac Jakira** taking on the role of spiritual leader. We give heartfelt thanks for his unwavering service and dedication, as he

continues to serve faithfully to this day. We also remain grateful for the many visiting clergy from the UK and Uganda who supported us, encouraged us, and helped sustain the service through the years.

Now, ten years on, we reflect with deep gratitude and joy. Month after month, on the last Sunday, we have gathered to:

- Worship God – feeding the spirit
- Share knowledge and uplift one another – feeding the mind
- Fellowship over a hot Ugandan meal (ekimere) – feeding the body

It has always been our conviction that no one should ever leave God's house hungry, in any way. Today, as we mark a decade of God's faithfulness,

we rejoice in how far we have come. We give thanks for the ordination of Revd. John Alex Muyita, the second minister to emerge from this fellowship, following in the footsteps of Revd. Enock Kiyaga Mayanja, ordained three years ago.

As you journey through these photos—snapshots of that historic launch—you will see faces full of hope, joy, and faith. They are a testament to what God can do when people come together in His name.

To God be the glory, great things He has done. Webale nnyo, and happy 10th anniversary!



From Left to Right: Rev. Nathan Ntege, Father Salak Sher and Ven. Ren. Danny Kajumba



**Omubaka Ronald Lutaaya (Centre)
with his deputies, Enock Mayanja
Kiyaga (left) and Robert Mukiibi**



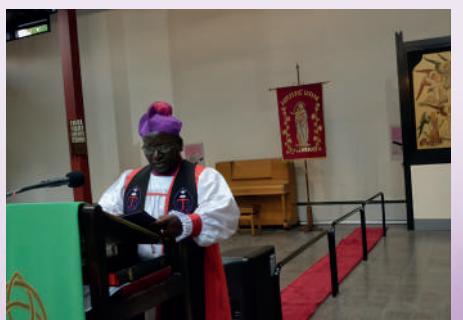
MILESTONES OF FAITH, “MOMENTS THAT MARKED OUR JOURNEY”

MINISTERS OF THE WORD: A DECADE OF SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

Over the past ten years, Okusinza e Manchester has been richly blessed by the ministry of numerous clergy from the UK, Uganda, and beyond. These faithful servants of God have journeyed with us in worship, sacrament, and pastoral care, laying foundations, nurturing growth, and standing with us through seasons of joy and sorrow.

We honour and give heartfelt thanks to the following men and women of God—and many others not mentioned by name—who have faithfully ministered to us over the past 10 years.





MEET OUR NEW ORDAINED MINISTER

REVD. JOHN ALEX MUYITA



and youth guidance. He has played key roles in the strategic direction of church life, serving on Parish Councils (PCCs) and Programme Boards for Growing Faith, where his passion for Christian formation and intergenerational ministry has been evident.

John's dedication to faith is matched by his deep **pursuit of education and social transformation**. He holds a Master of Research in Educational Research with a special focus on Education and Social Justice from the University of Lancaster, UK, and a Master of Arts in Public Administration and Management from Makerere University in Kampala. His academic journey began with a Diploma in Secondary Education from Kyambogo University, laying a solid foundation for his lifelong vocation as an educator, followed by a Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences.

Professionally, John is a seasoned educator and school leader, widely respected for his expertise in Economics and Entrepreneurship education. Beyond the classroom, he has contributed to curriculum development and the publication of learning materials, supporting the educational advancement of countless young people. His career has also included impactful roles in the NGO and charity sector, where he worked with influential organisations such as The AIDS Information Centre (AIC), World Vision International, and Hospice Africa.

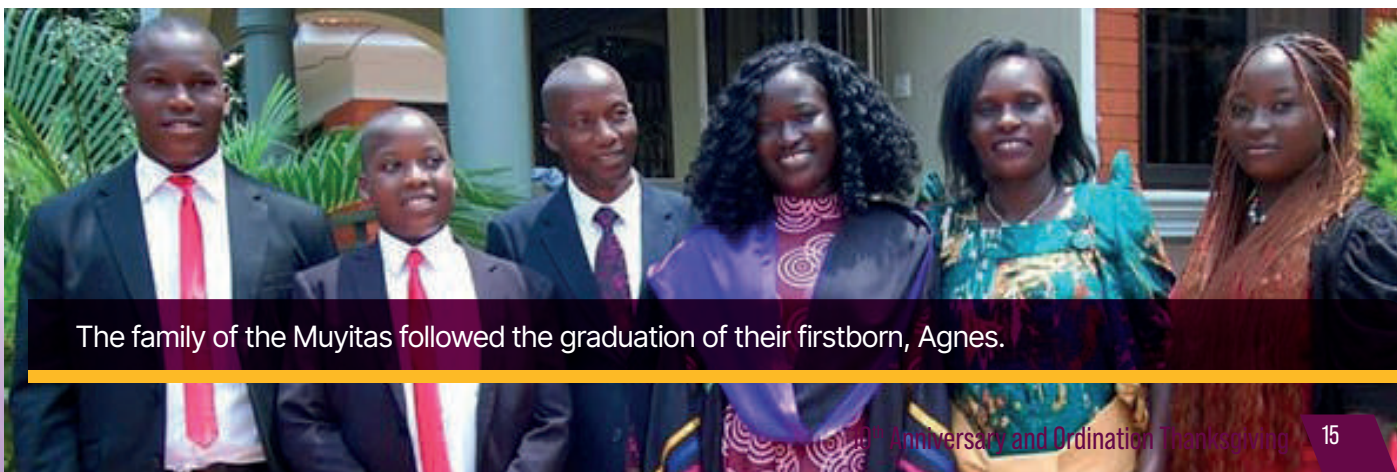
Whether in Uganda or the UK, in churches, classrooms, boardrooms, or during pastoral visits, John Alex Muyita has remained a man of unwavering faith, wisdom, and service. His journey continues to inspire all who encounter him, reminding us that when grace, education, and a heart for people come together, transformation is not only possible but also inevitable.

THE STORY OF JOHN ALEX MUYITA

Born and raised in the heart of what is today known as Namutumba District in Uganda, John Alex Muyita's life has been shaped by faith, service, and a deep commitment to the well-being of others. From his earliest days, he showed signs of a servant heart—one that would go on to make a lasting impact across continents.

For over two decades, John has shared life's journey with his beloved wife, **Dr. Annet Nakaganda Muyita**. Their marriage is not only a testimony to enduring love but also a reflection of God's grace. Together, they have been blessed with **four children—two daughters, namely Agnes and Beatrice and two sons, Elijah and Hosea**, who form the heartbeat of their family.

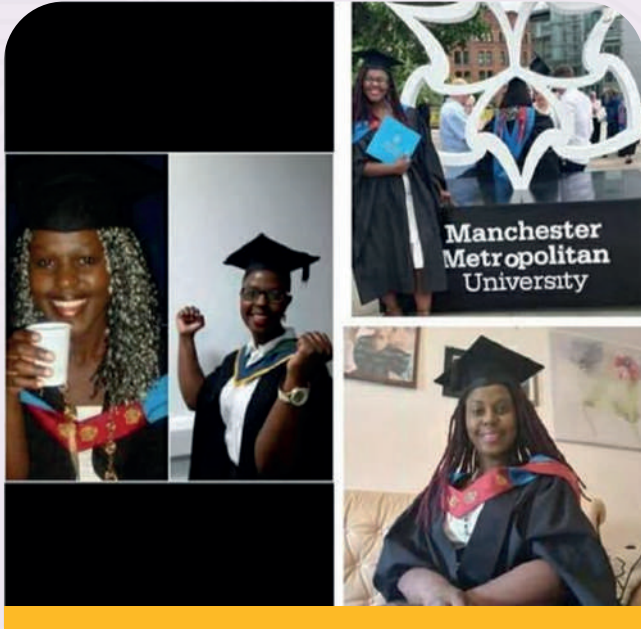
John's life has been marked by consistent and generous **voluntary service within the Anglican Church**, both in **Uganda** and the **United Kingdom**. His contributions span a broad spectrum, including his service as a **Lay Preacher, Leader of Prayer and Pastoral Care Teams, Synod Representative (Manchester Diocese), Chairperson of the Fathers' Union**, and a counsellor offering spiritual, marital,



The family of the Muyitas followed the graduation of their firstborn, Agnes.

PERSONAL TESTIMONIES: “GOD HAS BEEN GOOD!”

STORIES OF GOD’S FAITHFULNESS FROM OUR MEMBERS



Nnalongo Ritah Munyagwa’s story (Obujulizi)

I told myself, ‘I will not let anyone write my story; I will.’ In 2015, I faced the most difficult time in my life. I had put my master’s on hold not once but twice. The third time, I had to do it in three years, and I was paying my tuition. With three children all under 10, I had to persevere.

It was also during this time that we lost our fourth brother (The youngest of the twelve children, and who followed me). I was a walking time bomb. I lost myself. I never knew who I was anymore.

Sadly, due to various reasons, I graduated but without my pin to practice as a child protection social worker. This was painful. Life was tough. I had no energy left in me to appeal

this decision. I was exhausted.

I graduated a year after Okusinza mu Luganda e Manchester had started.

As I juggled through life, I decided to go back to university to pursue another third degree (BSC Nursing). There were no Master’s at the time. As a single mother, I used to sit quietly in church every last Sunday of the month, most people never knew what I was going through as a person.

I had lost all I had worked hard for. I was broken and lost. I started my third degree in 2017. I graduated in 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I began my journey as a Nurse. I struggled with my student debts as well as taking care of my three children as a single mother. I was surviving by God’s mercy. It’s now ten years celebrating Okusinza mu Luganda e Manchester.

Over the past ten years, I have pursued another profession, and I am a mother to twins who are now twenty years old, as well as a twelve-year-old daughter. I am a married woman. I have gained lifetime friendships. I had been driving a second-hand car for all those years, but now I was the first person to drive my new Audi (2024).

I am a competent Cardiac ICU Nurse. I give God all the glory.

Well done to each and every one who has supported the Okusinza mu Luganda e Manchester. You can never go wrong when you serve the Almighty God.

In addition to my testimony, may you please include that I have survived COVID-19 three times. In addition, I exposed my little daughter to COVID-19 in 2020, and we ended up in the ICU. She was there for two weeks and had to learn to walk again, as COVID affects your bones. But we thank God almighty, she has now been discharged so far from all specialities (Rheumatology, Respiratory, cardiology, physiotherapy, ophthalmology, and just being monitored annually in the PIMS CLINIC)

@Nnalongo Ritah M.



Liz Kasemiire

Dear beloved friends,

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone for the incredible support, love, and kindness you have shown me throughout my time as a member of Okusinza Manchester.

Your presence in my life has meant more than words can express, especially during the most challenging periods -the loss of my beloved sister Flavia Amooti Mbabazi and my dear mother. In those painful moments, your prayers, messages, visits, financial support and comforting words were a source of great strength and peace. You walked me through my grief, and I will always be grateful for the

compassion and understanding you showed. Being part of Okusinza Manchester has been a true blessing. It has shaped me in more ways than I could have imagined, helping me grow personally, deepening my faith and strengthening me socially.

Through our fellowship, I've learned the true power of unity, love, and shared faith. I've come to see that church is not just about gathering, but about truly doing life together- lifting one another, sharing in both joy and sorrow, and walking in purpose side by side.

Thank you once again for standing with me, encouraging me, and reminding me of the beauty of belonging. I truly hope we shall continue to commune in this spirit, supporting, growing, and uplifting one another in love and faith.

May God bless you all abundantly for the warmth and solidarity shared

With sincere appreciation, **Liz Kasemiire**

Testimony: A Journey of Faith and Fellowship

Ms. Carol Ssentamu

As we mark 10 years of Okusinza e Manchester, I join the wider community in giving thanks to God for this incredible milestone. I'm Carol Ssentamu, and I would like to share a personal reflection on what this fellowship has meant to me.

We all know that Okusinza e Manchester is more than just a monthly service. It's a space where we come together to worship, socialise, support one another, and build lasting friendships. Through this ministry, we experience the presence of God not only in prayers and songs but also in the love and care we share with one another.

One moment that remains especially meaningful to me is from over three years ago, when I lost my mother after a short illness. I was alone in the house, shocked and completely stranded, when the news of her passing reached me. In that moment of despair, I called Revd. Enock Kiyaga, who was then an ordinand, and my sister Evelyn Ssonko.

To my amazement, within the blink of an eye, my

home was full of people—members of the Okusinza family who dropped everything to come and stand with me. A vigil service was held in her honour, and I also received financial support through "mabugo". The overwhelming love, presence, and practical help I received from the fellowship and wider community gave me the strength and confidence I needed to embark on what was a long and emotionally challenging journey to Uganda for the funeral.

When I look back now, I do so with deep gratitude for the blessings I have received, for the people who have walked alongside me, and for the faithful witness of this ministry over the past decade.

As we celebrate these 10 years, I pray that Okusinza e Manchester will continue to be a source of light, love, and comfort for many more people in the years to come.



Mrs. Jane Kizito aka Jane Da Chef

I AM JANE DE Chef, Gospel PROMOTER UK. I have lived in Rochdale Manchester for over 20 years. I was always scared to socialise with people as I was too shy and It was also hard to socialise with people that I am used to, but Okusinza e Manchester changed my life. I got to meet people who could speak the same language; we prayed together, shared our traditional meals, and shared stories. I felt like being back home in Uganda because of socialising with people who speak Luganda, my mother tongue gave me confidence. It also made me feel less stressed and lonely, as I don't have any family members in the UK, so Okusinza mu Luganda is my family in the UK. I love you all in Jesus' name. Thank you so much for the Love and support towards my gospel music ministry. May God bless you all.



Mr and Mrs Jackson and Jane Kizito

By Mr & Mrs Kizito (Rochdale)

As many of you know, the devil often wages war against holy marriage. But through it all, we were not alone. When we embarked on the journey towards our wedding, Okusinza mu Luganda stood with us faithfully in prayer. What followed was nothing short of a miracle. We saw overwhelming support—physically, emotionally, and even financially—from the fellowship and the wider Ugandan community in Manchester.

The love we received carried us through every challenge. The presence of so many people who celebrated with us and stood in our corner played a massive part in the success of our wedding. It was more than just a ceremony—it was a testimony of what happens when God's people stand together.

We can never stop thanking the people of Okusinza mu Luganda and the broader Ugandan community in Manchester. We are truly grateful that God used you all as vessels of love and strength.

Today, by His grace, we are officially Mr & Mrs Kizito, and we give all the glory to God.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you, and may God richly bless you all.

A JOYFUL SOUND WITH CHOIRS IN MANCHESTER AND LONDON

A Joyful Sound: When Okusinza mu Luganda e **Waterloo Choir** Visited **Manchester**
June 2017 – A Day to Remember



When the choir from **St. Jude and Aidan Thornton Heath** visited **Okusinza e Manchester**





United in Song: Joint Christmas Carols at St John's Church, Waterloo

One of the most cherished moments in the life of Okusinza e Manchester was the special occasion when we joined hands with our brothers and sisters from Okusinza mu Luganda e Waterloo for a Joint Christmas Carol Service at St John's Church, Waterloo in London in December 2017.



Joint Christmas Carols between
**Okusinja e Manchester and
Okutendereza mu Luganda e
Greenwich December 2018**



A Joyful Return: Christmas Carols at St Alfege Church, Greenwich

Okusinja e Manchester Reunites with Okusinja mu Luganda e London After the Pandemic Pause. The COVID-19 pandemic brought numerous disruptions to worship and fellowship worldwide. For Okusinja e Manchester, it meant a prolonged, unplanned pause in our in-person joint events with our brothers and sisters in London. For a few years, the joyful Christmas gatherings we had once cherished became silent memories held in prayer and longing.

But by the grace of God, in December 2024, we made a joyful return to St Alfege Church in Greenwich to once again lift our voices in joint Christmas carols with Okusinja mu Luganda e London.



MILESTONES OF FAITH: **BAPTISMS AND CONFIRMATIONS**

A timeline picture highlighting significant events, including first services, baptisms, confirmations, ordinations, partnerships, anniversaries, outreach activities, and recognitions.

The Baptism of Leona Maxine Jakira and Myra Sarah Jakira



Over the past decade, *Okusinza e Manchester* has celebrated two Confirmation services—precious milestones in our community's spiritual journey.

The first was held in July 2018, presided over by Bishop Mark, during which two people were baptised and fourteen confirmed in the Christian faith.

More recently, in October 2024, we rejoiced as six were baptised and sixteen confirmed, affirming their faith in Christ before family, friends, and the wider fellowship.

See the highlights in the following pictures.



BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION SERVICE OCTOBER 2024



CELEBRATING LOVE AND COMMITMENT

Over the last decade, we thank God for the two marriage blessings held at Okusinja e Manchester, as well as the many relationships and marriages that began within our fellowship and later blossomed into weddings in Uganda.

These unions have been joyfully supported by both the church and wider community, reflecting the deep bonds formed through worship and fellowship.

See the pictorial highlights below.

Mr and Mrs Cliff and Esther Kyobe





Mr and Mrs Richard and Florence Davies



A MINISTRY OF MERCY IN A TIME OF CRISIS

Okusinza e Manchester's COVID-19 Response

During the difficult and uncertain days of the COVID-19 pandemic, Okusinza e Manchester sought to be a sign of God's love and mercy amid widespread hardship and fear.

By God's grace, and with support through emergency funding, the fellowship was able to provide boxes of essential supplies, including matooke, sugar, and hand sanitiser, to members of the wider community across Manchester, regardless of faith or background. At a time when such items were scarce, this ministry offered not only physical relief but spiritual encouragement.

We give heartfelt thanks to Ms Samalie Waiswa, who kindly offered her home as the central depot for all supplies. Her generosity and hospitality enabled this outreach to function effectively and reach many in need.

The fellowship also made a concerted effort to support the most vulnerable, ensuring that regular deliveries of necessities were made to those who were unable to provide for themselves during the lockdown.

To every volunteer who gave of their time and energy to serve others—organising, packing, delivering, praying—thank you. You demonstrated true Christian charity in action. May the Lord reward you richly for your faithful service.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." – Matthew 25:40



STANDING TOGETHER IN TIMES OF LOSS

Over the past decade, Okusinza e Manchester has been a pillar of support for bereaved members of both the fellowship and the wider community during times of loss.

Whenever a loved one passes away, the Luganda Service in Manchester takes a leading role in providing pastoral care, organising vigils, and mobilising resources, including mabugo (condolence contributions), to assist grieving families.

In particular, the fellowship has been instrumental in supporting efforts to repatriate the deceased to Uganda, a crucial cultural and spiritual tradition for many who wish to have their loved ones laid to rest in their ancestral homeland.

It is also worth noting that Okusinza e Manchester continues to host numerous prayer vigils in the homes of bereaved families, offering spiritual comfort, solidarity, and a chance for the community to come together in both sorrow and hope.

See some of the related pictorial highlights below.





A JOYFUL WITNESS: OKUSINZA E MANCHESTER WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Vibrant, Committed, and Full of Grace



The Okusinza e Manchester Women's Fellowship is among the most vibrant and active ministries within the Luganda Service.

Each year, during the month of March, the women joyfully take the lead in organising a special Women's and Mothering Sunday Service. On this occasion, they take full responsibility for every aspect of the worship—leading the service, preaching, reading scripture, stewarding, cooking, and serving food.

In a beautiful gesture of appreciation, the women often prepare thoughtful gifts for all the men in the congregation.

This celebration is made even more memorable by their lively and heartfelt entertainment, which may include drama skits, singing, acting, and a variety of creative presentations. It has become one of the most anticipated and well-loved services of the year.

The photographs below capture some of these joyful and inspiring moments.







OKUSINZA E MANCHESTER MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Honouring Men and Fathers in Service



The Okusinja e Manchester Men's Fellowship is a dedicated and growing ministry that plays a vital role in the life of our Luganda Service. Under the steady leadership of **Mr John Joel Sekiwu**, the fellowship continues to bring men together in faith, fellowship, and service.

Each September, the men take centre stage as we celebrate **Men's and Fathers' Sunday**—a highlight in our church calendar. On this special occasion, the men lead the entire service, including preaching, intercession, readings, and stewardship. They also prepare and serve the meal, ensuring the congregation is well nourished both spiritually and physically.

True to form, the men often surprise the women with **gifts and tokens of appreciation**, in a spirit of love and unity. The day is also marked by **music, humour, drama**, and words of encouragement—offering not only a meaningful worship experience but a joyful celebration of fatherhood, mentorship, and faith in action.

The photographs below capture some of these powerful and uplifting moments.



OKUSINZA E MANCHESTER

MOMENTS THROUGH THE YEARS

A Glimpse into Our Journey

Here are a few treasured snapshots—random yet meaningful moments—captured over the past decade of fellowship, worship, and community life.

Each picture tells a story of joy, unity, and God's enduring faithfulness.









OKUSINZA E MANCHESTER FELLOWSHIP

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"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give...
for God loves a cheerful giver."— 2 Corinthians 9:7



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Supporting Clergy:

Fr. Azariah France-Williams- Rector Ascension Church Hulme
Revd Canon Falak Sher- Rector Church of the Ascension, Lower Broughton
Revd. Luke Maquire- Rector All Saints Church Stretford
Revd. Sydwel Isaac- St. Martin Castleton & St. Aidan Sudden with All Souls Heywood
Revd. Duke O'Baka Torto- Christ Church Healey (Rochdale) and St Ann's, Belfield
Revd. Canon Amos Kasibante- Leeds
Revd. Stephen Nshimye- (Okutendereza mu Luganda)- St. Alfege Church Greenwich London
Revd. Sam Bisaso Sekitoleko- Grimsby
Revd. Alex Mutyaba-Okusinza mu Luganda e Waterloo
Revd. Ritah Namakula- St John's Church Herpenden
Revd. Enock Kiyaga Mayanja-All Saints Church Stretford and Okusinza E Manchester
Omubuulizi Isaac Jakira-Lay Minister Okusinza, E Manchester

A Word of Thanks TO THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE (OKWEBAZA)

On behalf of Okusinza e Manchester Fellowship, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the entire Organising Committee for the Tenth Anniversary Celebrations and the Thanksgiving for the Ordination of Revd. John Alex Muyita. Your dedication, creativity, and tireless commitment have made this milestone celebration a truly memorable occasion.

We are deeply grateful to all those listed below, as well as the many others who may not be named but who have contributed in various ways—through financial donations, time, skills, hospitality, and prayers. Every act of kindness and support has played a vital role in the success of this celebration.

May the Lord richly reward your generosity and bless you abundantly for the part you have played in this chapter of our shared journey. Your service has been a powerful witness to the unity, faith, and love that define our fellowship.

"God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them." — Hebrews 6:10

With sincere thanks,

Okusinza e Manchester Leadership Team

- 1- Ms. Carol Ssentamu
- 2- Mr. John Joel Sekiwu
- 3- Mrs. Robinah Katimbo
- 4- Mr. Allan Ssemenda
- 5- Mr. Jaffer Kasule-Gava
- 6- Mr. Cliff Kyobe Ssenyonjo
- 7- Mrs. Esther Kyobe
- 8- Hajat Nulu Nakitto
- 9- Mr. Jackson Kizito
- 10- Mrs. Betty Mwanjaazi
- 11- Mrs. Brenda Mutesasira
- 12- Ms. Samalie Waiswa
- 13- Pastor David Lumu

- 14- Nnalongo Ritah Munyagwa
- 15- Mr. Godfrey Ntubiro
- 16- Mr. Robert Muyombya
- 17- Mrs. Margaret Mubiru
- 18- Mr. Vincent Magombe
- 19- Mr. Joas Sseruga aka Manzi
- 20- Ms. Gloria Nassana
- 21- Mr. Godfrey Ntubiro
- 22- Mrs. Slyvia Bateeze
- 23- Mrs. Yvette Jakira
- 24- Mrs. Milly Mukisa
- 25- Senga Harriet Nakatenda
- 26- Omubuulizi Isaac Jakira
- 27- Revd. Enock Kiyaga Mayanja



Revd. John Alex Muyita

Exodus 28.41

And you shall put them on Aaron your brother and his sons with him; and you shall anoint them and ordain them and consecrate them, that they may serve Me as priests.

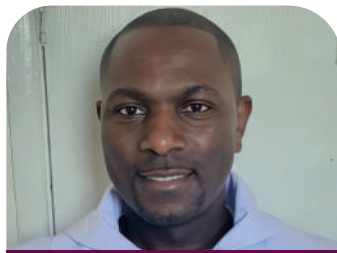
OKUSINZA E MANCHESTER LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE



Revd. Enock Kiyaga Mayanja
Priest



Revd. John Alex Muyita
Deacon



Omubuulizi Isaac Jakira
Lay Minister



Ms. Samalie Waiswa
Secretary/Treasurer



Ms. Caroline Katusiime
Asst. Secretary



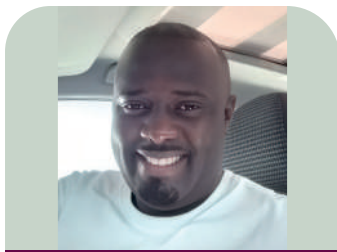
Mr. Cliff Kyobe Ssenyonjo
Welfare Officer



Mr. Joas Sserugga aka Manzi
Asst. Welfare Officer



Mrs. Brenda Mutesaasira
Youth Leader



Mr. Lameck Mutesaasira
Youth Minister



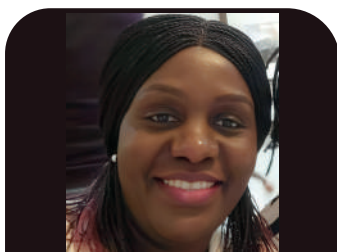
Mr. John Joel Sekiwa
Leader Men's Fellowship



Mr. Godfrey Ntubiro
Music Director



Mrs. Esther Kyolaba Kyobe
Choir Leader



Mrs. Lydia Kiyaga
Choir Trainer



Mwami Jackson Kizito
Mukebezi/Steward



Mrs. Robinah Katimbo
Mukebezi/Steward

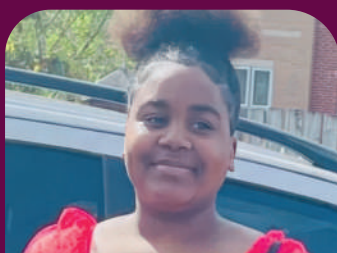


Mrs. Nnalongo Rebecca Lusiisa
Mukebezi/Steward

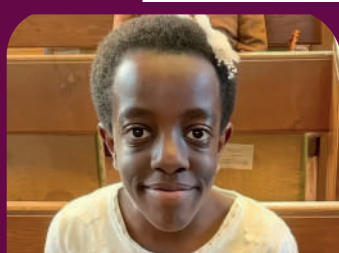


Mrs. Betty Mwanjaazi
Mukebezi/Steward

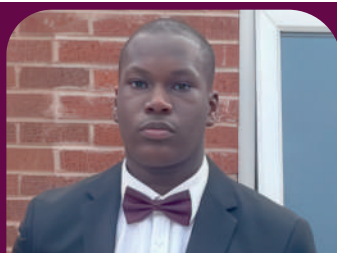
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Blessing Rukengwa
Sunday School Assistant



Evelyn Nalwoga Kiyaga
Sunday School Asst. and Projectionist



Elijah Muyita
Projectionist and Sound Technician



Hosea Muyita
Crucifer and sound Technician



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