

OFFICE OF THE VOCATION'S DIRECTOR

Soroti Catholic Diocese

P.O. Box 650, Soroti- Uganda.

1.0 PREAMBLE AND MANDATE:

The Office of the Director of Vocations has been in existence since the creation of the Diocese in 1981. The first Bishop, Rt. Rev. Erasmus Desiderius Wandera, appointed several priests to run this office in a span of time. These included Rev. Frs. Dominic Akubu, Edmund Okella, John Eriau and Simon Peter Wankya. The second Bishop, Rt. Rev. Emmanuel Obbo, AJ, appointed Rev. Frs. Simon Peter Wankya, Mark Olukor, Frederick Obore and Samuel Okiria. The new Bishop, Rt. Rev. Joseph Eciru Oliach, appointed Rev. Frs. Frederick Obore and Samuel Okiria who are currently serving in the office.

The Office has the mandate of helping the Bishop, the Clergy and all Christians of the Diocese in promoting and fostering the vocation to the Sacred Ministerial Priesthood. It has both a divine and ecclesiastical mandate in response to the Lord's invitation to prayer and apostolic action that we may have labourers in his harvest (Matt 9: 37). In the mind of the Church, this divine responsibility majorly falls upon the Bishop and his priests who work closely as one in the priestly vocation. From among the priests, a few are chosen to constitute the Vocation's team to spearhead this noble task.

The Office also coordinates with the laity in their associations that foster vocations in the various parishes in the Diocese. They offer spiritual and material support especially to the seminarians from poor family backgrounds. These associations also help in providing clerical needs to the candidates for ordinations to the Diaconate and Priesthood.

And most centrally, the Office fosters closeness with the seminarians in the various stages of formation. These include aspirants who are admitted to the orientation/ propaedeutic year; seminarians in their Philosophical studies and formation; seminarians who complete the three years of Philosophical Studies and are admitted to the Pastoral Spiritual Year in one parish/ institution within the Diocese; and seminarians who, after the pastoral-spiritual year, are in the final phase of study and formation, that is, Theological Studies. We journey with each seminarian through sharing with him, his parents/benefactors and his close formators, and through joint review of his reports and file. This is a demanding task since it involves listening and understanding the aspirations of the young candidates. As for those who choose to step out or those who are asked to try another life, we support them with counsel for a better life outside the priestly vocation.

2.0 OFFICE/ SECRETARIAT.

The Office Secretariat is located in the Vocation's Office which is a section within the Diocesan Offices. The central person who runs the secretarial duties is the Assistant Vocation's Director. The Vocation's Director together with the Assistant perform the following duties at the secretariat:

- Receiving applications of aspirants and seminarians in the various stages of formation;
- Verifying their personal and academic documents;

- Acknowledging receipt and responding to the various applications, letters and emails from the candidates and or other persons who are in contact with the office;
- Preparing/ creating files for each individual seminarian;
- Sending the application letters to the houses of formation after careful considerations with the Bishop.
- Immediate and or monthly review of office documents and plans with the Vocation's Director;
- Organizing the annual Orientation Week for new aspirants and seminarians destined for Orientation/ Propaedeutic and Pastoral Spiritual Year;
- Preparing the candidates for medical examination and review in the various levels of formation as necessity demands;
- Preparation of appointment letters for the aspirants and seminarians destined for Orientation and Pastoral Spiritual Year;
- Coordinating with the Parish Priests/ formators who have candidates posted to their parishes/ institutions for Orientation and Pastoral Spiritual Year. In the process, evaluation reports of each candidate are processed by the responsible authorities;
- Coordinating with the executive body of the diocesan major seminarians especially during their annual get-together;
- Organizing familiarity visits to the homes of the aspirants and major seminarians to meet with their parents and relatives/ benefactors;
- Coordinating with the Rectors of the various houses of formation inasmuch as our diocesan seminarians are concerned;
- Scheduling visits to the houses of formation to meet with our diocesan seminarians and their formators;
- Preparing evaluation reports to be submitted to the Bishop's Office for candidates destined to ordinations;
- Coordinating with the Bishop's Office during the retreat for those to be installed to the various ministries and ordinations of Deacons and Priests;
- Presenting annual reports and workplans to the Bishop's Office.

3.0 2020 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & WORKPLAN.

**This annual schedule has been affected by the national lock down due to the Corona virus.*

Date	Event	Place	Contact
Wed. 01/01/2020.	Diocesan day for support of the major seminarians.	Parishes	Parish Priests
Fri. 10/01/2020.	Distribution of 2 nd Phase Appointment Letters for Seminarians on PSY & Orientation (<i>On Prayer Day of the Clergy & Religious</i>).	Vocation's Office	Vocation's Director/ Asst.
Mon. 13 – Fri. 31/01/2020.	Reception of Evaluations for Seminarians on PSY & Orientation.	Vocation's Office	Vocation's Office
Fri. 31/01/2020.	Reporting for 2 nd Phase for Seminarians on PSY & Orientation.	Vocation's Office	Vocation's Office
Mon. 24/02/2020.	Seminarians on PSY report to Comboni Spirituality Center Layibi for the 8 days' retreat.	Layibi, Gulu	National PSY Team
Mon. 02/03/2020.	Visiting the Seminarians on PSY &	Homes &	Vocation's

	Orientation in their homes and meeting with their parents.	Parishes	Office
Sun. 03 – Fri. 08/05/2020.	Orientation Week for aspirants and seminarians on PSY.	St. Peter's Seminary	Vocation's Office
	Reception of 2 nd phase evaluation reports for aspirants and seminarians on PSY.		
Fri. 26/06/2020.	PSM appointment of continuing seminarians to parishes/ institutions.	Places of appointment	Vocation's Office
Wed. 01/07/2020.	1 st phase reporting of aspirants and seminarians on PSY.	Places of appointment	Vocation's Office
Sun. 02 – Sat. 08/08/2020.	Annual fraternity of the seminarians.	Msgr. Eneku Village	SOMSA executive
Sat. 08/08/2020.	Installations	St. Peter's Seminary	Bishop's Office
Sun. 09 – Fri. 14/08/2020.	Retreat of candidates for Ordinations	***	Bishop's Office
Sat. 15/08/2020.	Ordinations	Toroma Parish	Bishop's Office
Mon. 21– Fri. 25/09/2020.	PSY Orientation	Layibi, Gulu	National PSY Team
Mon. 14– Fri. 18/12/2020.	Visiting the continuing Seminarians in their homes and meeting with their parents.	Homes & Parishes	Vocation's Office

4.0 LIST OF SEMINARIANS, FORMATION YEAR 2020.

S/n	Name	Home Parish	Placement	Level
1	Dn. EBULU Richard	Amuria	Kinyamasika	Theology IV
2	Dn. ECODU Gilbert	Toroma	Ggaba	Theology IV
3	Dn. EGONU Felix	Madera	Kinyamasika	Theology IV
4	Dn. OGWANG John Michael	Acumet	Kinyamasika	Theology IV
5	ELEKU Paul	Amuria	Ggaba	Theology IV
6	OPIO Geoffrey	Ochero	St. Peter's Sem.	Pastoral Work
7	EJONU John	Gweri	Kinyamasika	Theology III
8	OPOLOT Paul	Apopong	Ggaba	Theology III
9	TINKAMANYIRE Mathew	Cathedral	Kinyamasika	Theology III
10	ANYUTU Edmund	Lwala	Ggaba	Theology II
11	ERAU Simon	Katine	Kinyamasika	Theology II
12	OPIO Peter	Gweri	Ggaba	Theology II
13	AKILENG Gabriel	Mukongoro	Ggaba	Theology I
14	ELADU Cuthbert	Wera	Kinyamasika	Theology I
15	MALINGA Joseph	Ngora	Kinyamasika	Theology I
16	OSUKU James	Madera	Kinyamasika	Theology I
17	OTIM Pius	Wera	Ggaba	Theology I
18	OUMEN Bosco	Ongutoi	Ggaba	Theology I
19	OYII Dominic	Gweri	Ggaba	Theology I
20	AJOKET Marcel	Koloin	Kaberamaido	PSY
21	AJOKET Paschal	Koloin	Orungo	PSY
22	EKWARU Stephen	Atatur	Lwala	PSY
23	ETUKOIT Emmanuel	Ongutoi	Mukongoro	PSY

24	EWANGE Deogracious	Gweri	Obalanga	PSY
25	OJANGOLE Emmanuel Ochom	Atutur	Kogelak	PSY
26	ONGODIA Gerald Emmanuel	Kidetok	Kaberamaido	PSY
27	OPOLOT Bernard	Ngora	Magoro	PSY
28	ORIOKOT Elijah	Anyara	Kyere	PSY
29	OSIRE Paul	Atutur	Madera	PSY
30	ANYOU Arthur Claudio	Cathedral	Katigondo	Philosophy III
31	EBINU Samuel	Katine	Alokolum	Philosophy III
32	EGILI Denis	Katine	Alokolum	Philosophy III
33	OBIRAI Samuel Denis	Madera	Alokolum	Philosophy III
34	OGULO Bosco	Usuk	Katigondo	Philosophy III
35	OKAKI Moses	Olio	Katigondo	Philosophy III
36	OLUPOT Didimos	Kumi	Katigondo	Philosophy III
37	OTUKENE Marvin	Lwala	Alokolum	Philosophy III
38	ALIU Simon Peter	Wera	Alokolum	Philosophy II
39	EMURON Joseph	Koloin	Katigondo	Philosophy II
40	KABILA Lowrence	Orungo	Katigondo	Philosophy II
41	ODEKE Deogracious	Kobuin	Katigondo	Philosophy II
42	OMONGOT Cassian	Toroma	Alokolum	Philosophy II
43	ARIKU Emmanuel	Kidetok	Katigondo	Philosophy I
44	EDIU Jonah	Olio	Katigondo	Philosophy I
45	MOOKA Lazarus	Ngora	Katigondo	Philosophy I
46	OBOTE Raymond	Katine	Alokolum	Philosophy I
47	OKELLO James	Toroma	Alokolum	Philosophy I
48	OKOMAN Charles	Kidetok	Alokolum	Philosophy I
49	OMODING Emmanuel	Kumi	Alokolum	Philosophy I
50	OPIO Paul	Kyere	Amuria	Orientation