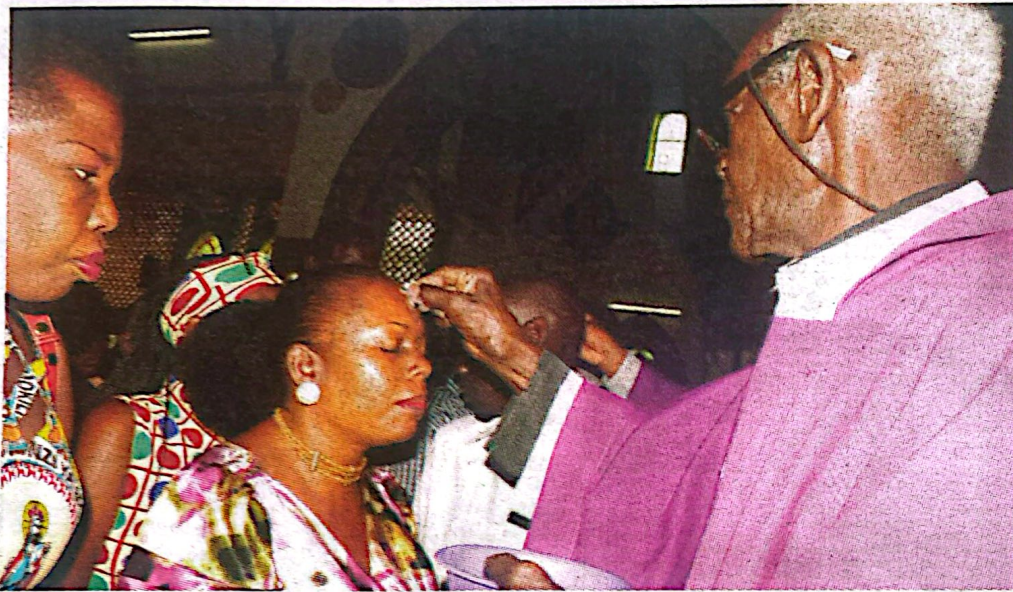


of office commencing on the day of his election November which even comes before that of the President, was not featured.

He said he had already...

Lent starts with call for peace, repentance



Msgr Joseph Mugambe (R) touches with ash the head of a faithful to mark the start of the Lent period at Christ The King Church in Kampala yesterday. PHOTO BY ALEX ESAGALA.

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KAMPALA. The Lent period began yesterday with the marking of Ash Wednesday, the start of 40-days of fasting and repentance.

Christians all over the world gathered in prayer at their various places of worship to mark the start of the period Jesus Christ spent in the desert fasting before he was crucified to save mankind.

Ashes were smeared on the

foreheads of the believers to symbolise their weakness and mortality, as well as their sinfulness.

In Kampala, Msgr Gerald Kalumba, the Parish priest at Christ The King Church, asked Ugandans to reflect on their ill

deeds, repent and do what will ensure the country has peaceful elections despite the rising tensions.

"It is interesting that the Lent month is coinciding with the moment of elections and tensions are likely to build up. If the holy celebrations that begin today dwell deep into the hearts of Ugandans, it will help us to have peaceful elections with good motives that will focus on bringing about peace in our country. The way we live gives the image of our country," Msgr Kalumba said.

He added: "You should prepare to celebrate success of Christ over death because it motivates us to do things with good manners so that we can also be successful. Let us humble ourselves to be advised by Christ. He came into our lives so that we can change."

Christians urged

Standing on a well-decorated altar, with candles burning on either side of the raised altar, Fr John Fidelis Kibombo, who led Mass at St Peter's Church Nsambya, urged Christians to pray and fast but also be strengthened by the Holy Spirit and practice acts of mercy during the month of Lent.

"The Lord expects us to help those who have doubt in the name of the Lord because some people are ignorant. But when you help someone to re-discover the Lord, don't brag about it. The Lord will reward you for that," Kibombo highlighted.

The fasting month of Lent lasts for 40 days, until Easter Sunday celebrations.

UGANDA DECIDES 2016 today's campaign LOCATIONS



Museveni	Mukono
Baryamureeba	Kampala
Mbabazi	Lira
Mabirizi/Kyalya	Mityana, Kiboga, Sironko, Nakaseke & Manafwa

Bwanika	Napak, Moroto & Nakapiripiti
Besigye	Kampala
Biraaro	Bushenyi & Sheema