

of commu-
papyrus that were blocking the water

of water and environment warned

where downpours will occur within this period.

rainwater downhill and construction of floodways (man-made channels to divert floodwater) are necessary.

vices and enforce laws against dumping waste in drainage channels," he said.

BY RAJAB MUKOMBOZI

MBARARA. Ankole Diocese has initiated a process of selecting a new bishop to replace the Most Rev Sheldon Mwesigwa, who is set to retire next year (2027).

The process commenced on Thursday March 26, with the election of a 15-member search committee during the diocese's 27th synod meeting held at their headquarters in Ruharo, Mbarara City.

The committee is headed by senior lawyer and the diocesan chancellor, Mr Francis Butagira. Additional members are Rev Sarah Abareba, Rev Patrick Atuhaire, Rev Aggrey Aijuka, Rev Canon Stephen Tuyasingura, Venerable Yonah Byaruhanga and Canon John Kaganzi.

Ankole Diocese starts search for new bishop

Others are Mr Nathan Mugume, Mr Martin Kananura, Canon Gloria Kakyuliza, Dr Jeninah Mwesigye, Ms Winnie Atwiine, Mr Aston Perplex, Ms Darison Owomugasho and Ms Doreen Desire Ninsiima.

Bishop Mwesigwa expressed confidence in the selected committee to play an exemplary role in selecting a competent bishop who is ready to serve.

"It was not just selected but comprises of individuals of good character and high integrity," he said yesterday after the selection of the committee.

Bishop Mwesigwa will conclude his service as the Ankole Diocese Bishop with pastoral visits in the diocese.

REV SELDON MWESIGWA

Ordained the 5th Bishop of Ankole Diocese on October 7, 2010, replacing the late George Tibesigwa, Bishop Mwesigwa, is scheduled to retire on September 27, 2027.

"This is to bid farewell to Christians across the diocese. Next year, I will meet different diocese committees to stocktake and assess our achievements. Some other bishops are retiring, so we will engage in other activities like in-

stallation of new ones," he said.

Rev Eric Noel, the principal of Uganda Bible Institute, also expressed confidence in the elected committee, saying it consists of people with good reputation.

"We appreciate the current bishop for steering the diocese to greater achievements in spiritual growth and social-economic transformation," Rev Noel said.

Mr Herbert Batungira of Kisenyi Church of Uganda in Mbarara City, said he was confident that they would get a good bishop who will give the diocese a good, strategic direction.

Speaking about the outgoing bishop's

achievements, Mr Moses Arinda, a resident of Rugando in Rwampara District said he rallied the church to participate in the government anti-poverty programmes. "The projects the church has initiated on its land like coffee growing, and poverty eradication sensitisation programmes have helped communities to engage in income generating projects," Mr Arinda.

The synod meeting also hosted the nominations for diocese committee leaders such as education, health, household and community transformation, and evangelism and mission.

Ankole Diocese, established in 1967, is one of the dioceses under the Church of Uganda. It is located in south western Uganda and covers the districts of Mbarara, Isingiro, Rwampara and Mbarara City.