

the areas of Rock the victims.

deal in perishable goods

fuel and other goods in South Sudan.

Alliance, said the drivers had parked their vehicles since

matter with a lot of urgency since it has caused loss of revenue.

By Juliet Anna Lukwago

Joint meetings between security forces and the organisers of this year's Martyrs' Day celebrations have kicked off with the Police asking all churches countrywide to register pilgrims as they set off for Namugongo in Wakiso district.

Speaking during a joint meeting at the Uganda Episcopal Conference (UEC) headquarters in Nsambya, Kampala recently, Assistant Commissioner of Police Christopher Baruhagare assured the pilgrims of protection as they prepare to celebrate the Martyrs' Day celebrations on June 3.

"The Police all over the country will be on duty to streamline the movement of pilgrims. We request the pilgrims to register with your diocese, parish and churches before you start moving.

"Police officers will be available to escort pilgrims from one stop-over to another," he said.

Baruhagare was flanked by UEC secretary general Msgr John Baptist Kauta and the leadership of the Catholic Diocese of Kasese, which is organising this year's Martyrs' Day celebrations for the Catholic church.

The Catholic Church celebrations will be held under the theme: *Christ*

Police ask churches to register pilgrims ahead of Martyrs' Day

PHOTO BY JULIET ANNA LUKWAGO



Assistant Commissioner of Police Baruhagare speaks during a joint Martyrs' Day preparatory meeting at the Uganda Episcopal Conference headquarters in Nsambya, Kampala last Thursday

is Alive In Me And You.

In his message, Baruhagare appealed to the pilgrims to be each other's keepers during the journey to

and from Namugongo.

"Make sure that you know each other and the people you move with. Team leaders should make sure they

do roll calls at every stop-over," he said.

He, however, requested parents to leave their children behind.

ABOUT THE MARTYRS

The annual celebration is in honour of the martyrdom of 45 Christian martyrs who were killed on the orders of Kabaka Mwanga between 1885 and 1887. Twenty of the martyrs were Catholics, while 23 were Anglicans.

The Catholic martyrs were beatified on June 6, 1920 and canonised on October 18, 1964 by Pope Paul VI.

Apart from the 22 who were killed in Buganda, Christians also celebrate the martyrdom of Daudi Okello and Jildo Irwa, who were killed at Paimol in present-day Agago district in 1915.

HEALTH

Meanwhile, Dr Rogers Mugisha, who is in charge of the Martyrs' Day health committee, said 138 health workers will be available to help the pilgrims from May 24, up to June 3.

ENVIRONMENT

As part of the commemoration activities, Kasese Diocese in partnership with Caritas Uganda will plant one million trees across all the 19 Catholic dioceses across Uganda.