

Museveni tips Christians on farming

JINJA

By Vision Reporter

President Yoweri Museveni has urged Christians to embrace commercial agriculture as the sure way to provide them enough income for family and church.

"If only each family in Jinja Diocese could contribute sh1m, enough funds would be raised for the church projects. Each family would be wealthy, the church would be provided for and the Government would also benefit," he said.

The President made the remarks during the Golden Jubilee celebrations for Jinja Catholic Diocese on Sunday.

The ceremony was attended by hundreds of Christians and the celebrations were held under the theme: *Remain in my Love*.

The President said the diocese was established at the time he was around and thanked God for the gift of life that has enabled him to witness all these developments.

He told Christians that at the time, the country was in turmoil and ministers such as Mathias Ngobi, Grace Ibingira, Dr Emmanuel Lumu, Balaki Kirya and George Magezi were arrested. He said in the subsequent regimes, prelates such as Janani Luwum and Fr Clement Kigundu were extra-



(Left to right) President Museveni greeting Archbishop Michael Blume, Bishop Charles Wamika, Archbishop Emmanuel Obbo and Archbishop Cyprian Kizito Lwanga

judicially killed.

The President added that these vices were all stopped by the National Resistance Movement (NRM) when it came to power in 1986. He said there is now freedom in the country including that of worship, where believers of different religious denominations can come together for functions such as the one of the Golden Jubilee in Jinja.

While welcoming the President and the congregation

BETWEEN THE LINES:

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to the ceremony, the host Bishop Charles Martin Wamika, disclosed that plans are under way to establish a radio station that would mobilise not only the faithful, but all Ugandans in the diocese on how to eradicate poverty, promote health and other pertinent issues affecting society.

To this effect, a fundraising drive was conducted towards the construction of the radio station. The secretary general of the NRM, Justine Kasule



President Museveni greeting FDC's Salaamu Musumba

Lumumba, auctioned the President's portrait at over sh60m in cash and pledges, while the prime minister of Busoga kingdom, Muvawala Sekere, auctioned the portrait of the first bishop of Jinja Diocese, Joseph Willigers, at over sh40m.

President Museveni contributed sh50m in cash and pledged sh380m.

Earlier, the main celebrant, Archbishop Michael August Blume, Apostolic Nuncio to Uganda, urged Christians to co-operate in the mission entrusted to the clergy of "witnessing to the gospel in search of the lost sheep".

"Be missionary disciples who have the duty to renew the church in the next 50 years as

Pope Francis says — to go out of the comfort zones to bring back the lost sheep," he told the congregation.

Blume also asked the faithful to value Christian marriage and ensure that their families become truly domestic churches.

Archbishop Cyprian Kizito Lwanga of Kampala Archdiocese urged Christians to cherish unity and truth as well as promote peace right from their homes to the diocesan level.

"You find lies everywhere, even at home. A husband lies to the wife and vice-versa. Even children tell lies. Tell the truth and the truth will set you free," he said.



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