

'My Path in Ministry'

Revd Elizabeth Katumba

By God's grace, I became the first African Chaplain of Gayaza High school in 1994. This outstanding girls' school was founded by the Church Missionary Society (CMS) in 1905.

From 1997–1999 I served as the Education Secretary for Namirembe Diocese. During this time we were able to establish a data-base for all our Church Founded Schools.

At the beginning of the new Century, my husband, Henry, and I were posted to Mombasa Diocese in Kenya as Missionaries. Henry became Principal of the Bishop Hannington Institute of Theology and Development while I served as the Administrator for the Anglican Church of Kenya's Mombasa Cathedral. My experience during this time included the opportunity to organise the Cathedral's centenary celebrations.

After four years of service in Kenya, we returned to Uganda and I was posted to Mengo Senior School. For the last 13 years I have served there as Teacher, Chaplain, Counsellor and Administrator. Mengo Senior School was the first Missionary School, established in 1895. It now has four thousand students plus 152 staff members, not mentioning parents and guardians.

I am proud to say that it is the best Day School in Uganda. It offers a complete education for the complete person: this includes academic studies, vocational training, technical studies, co-curricular activities, spiritual nourishment, life skills, etc. Each year we have had a Biblical Theme to guide us: examples have included Galatians 6:9, Philippians 4:13 and Daniel 11:32. In my ministry it was wonderful to see God touch people's lives in the Sunday Services, Bible Study Fellowships, through preaching God's Word at Assembly, Morning Glory and Devotion time in the Headmaster's office every Wednesday, and so many others.

This ministry also opened opportunities for our children to know and serve God more. Counsel Jonathan Mwesigwa is now a member of the Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fellowship, Eng. Emmanuel Kabugo a member of the Christian Youth Fellowship at All Saints Cathedral, Kampala, Tamale Daniel Jeremiah became the 1st Chapel Prefect and has also been the technical person connecting the musical Instruments. Our two daughters Maria Allen Ntongo and Namuli Sarah Mirembe have been pioneer Sunday School Teachers in the School and Sarah is now ministering in the Church & Children's Church in Berlin.

I believe that God has used all these experiences as part of His preparing me for my future Ministry as a Bishop's wife.

Revd Elizabeth Katumba is a priest in the Church of Uganda and the wife of Bishop Henry Katumba-Tamale, the Bishop of West Buganda Diocese.