

STRENGTHS – HEAT MAPPED UGANDA ORTHODOX CHURCH

24 – ORTHODOX FAITH - Orthodoxy.; Sound Theology: Rich and profound Orthodox theology preserved and practiced.; worldwide Orthodox Church.; Orthodoxy —true theology, liturgical, beautiful esthetics and traditions.; Strong Doctrine; Spiritual and Doctrinal Stability: Rooted in early Christian traditions, offering deep theological grounding.; Strong liturgical and sacramental life grounded in ancient Orthodox tradition; Spiritual heritage: Rich Orthodox traditions and liturgy.; Rich Orthodox theology and tradition preserved but not practiced.; Loyal and spiritually grounded faithful who revere Orthodox traditions; Strong Apostolic Tradition - Deep roots in Orthodox spirituality, sacraments, and liturgical life connecting the faithful to the global Orthodox Church; Strong foundation in Orthodox faith and liturgical practice; In full communion with the Holy Patriarchate of Alexandria and the worldwide Orthodox Church.; Liturgical worship: meaningful and beautiful worship services.; International Orthodox Network: - Support from the Greek Orthodox Church and broader Orthodox world. -Partnerships for missionary work, education, and funding.; International connections: Support from global Orthodox community.; A church with apostolic succession and mother of churches; Available Doctrines and Norms; Historical and cultural significance: her rich heritage attracts a broader audience;. We are considered as one of the original Churches of Christ according to the theological studies; Strong foundation in the divine teachings and practices of the early church and the Holy Fathers; Canonical recognition and stable hierarchical structure which preserves leadership continuity; strong ethical foundations; established traditions and liturgical practices.

23 – CHURCH PROPERTIES / SCHOOLS / HOSPITALS- Church owned assets and properties (existing and missions).; Availability of Land belonging to the Church as an asset of production; It has permanent structures and land.; We have church institutions like schools, hospitals which can help to improve the wellbeing of the clergy and their monthly salaries but poorly managed and getting little money out of them and others no money at all.; Existing Orthodox schools and health facilities as service centers; Church-owned land available for development (schools, hospitals, agriculture); The Church owns some assets like; land, buildings, and a few established projects like schools and health centers but most of these are mismanaged, underutilized, un-resourced and therefore unproductive to the Church.; Fairly build schools and healthy centers.; Land, on which our churches, schools and healthy centers sit.; Social Services Delivery: - Schools, clinics, and health centers (e.g., Namungoona Orthodox Hospital). - Support for orphans, women, and vulnerable populations.; We have land where development can easily be done in most parishes and most of it currently idle.; Ownership of schools at all levels(primaty, secondary, advanced secondary);The Church still has some property like pieces of land and facilities like Holy Cross Hospital- despite its mismanagement; The work so far done in Education: 8 secondary Schools, and good number of primary schools;. Health Care and Social Outreach: A hospital and several health centers should a good starting point in pursuing our goals. ;Availability of chunks of land owned by the church; Some church infrastructure already in place. The Diocese has the most at least permanent Hospital in a capital city and a good number of clinic countrywide; Established Institutions:Social and development contribution through the operation of health centers, a full-service hospital (Holy Cross Orthodox Mission Hospital), Orthodox founded Schools (Chwa ii Memorial College), vocational programs and charitable initiatives. These foster goodwill and create channels for community engagement and evangelism.; Infrastructure eg schools.; schools is already in place.; Physical Infrastructure: Church-owned land, buildings, and equipment in place.

17 – COMMITTED & EDUCATED CLERGY & LAITY - committed laity and clergy; Highly educated professional in different fields; We have teams of committed Orthodox parishioners who are always available in times of need; We have a team of committed young people and women; We have well learned parishioners who can support the Church to develop in different disciplines; Educated members of the church; Committed clergy and elders who are spiritually mature; Presence of theologians and professionals in different fields; It has well educated believers; Respected Clergy and Intellectual Leadership.; Committed Leadership - The Metropolitan and clergy provide spiritual guidance, pastoral care, and efforts toward evangelism and education offering distinct church identity, unique spiritual path, an alternative to westernized forms of Christianity which keeps changing form

and content anytime.; A sizeable number of educated clergy and theologians; A large number of educated lay persons in various fields(working outside of the church with varied expertise; Christians love their church; Professionals' willingness to provide pro bono or voluntary technical support to the Church;. Growing community: Dedicated faithful and potential for growth.; Core Faithful: A dedicated base of believers committed to the Church's mission.

13 – GOVERNMENTAL / OFFICIAL RECOGNITION / RELATIONS - Good state relations with the Government of Uganda.; Government recognition and partnership; Government Recognition; Recognition by the government;The church's presence is felt in political and economic spheres with its historical relationship with the state but we just seat back, look and watch; It is known in the country; Although minority in terms of numbers, the Orthodox church enjoys recognition and respect by the state, other religious denominations and the public.; The Ugandan Orthodox Church is one of the Legally recognized Religious Faiths in Uganda; Recognition by the state; Recognition by development partners on board and supporting the Church; Support and Recognition by the Synod in Africa; Visible Presence: Recognized and respected in many public, religious, and civic spaces.; Global Communion: Full communion with the Holy Patriarchate of Alexandria.

10 – HIERARCHS & CHURCH LEADERSHIP - Local Bishop: Presence of a resident bishop rooted in the local context.; The Archbishop is a committed Christian and Loves the Lord, but majority of the people he leads are not.; Excellent servant-leader Hierarchs.; There are resident and native bishops who understand the local context, although most times, they identify themselves with and implement Greek culture and practices even when these are not appealing to the local context.; Having local bishops with development-focussed outlook; Visionary Church leadership now engaging in long-term strategic planning; Potential to establish internal leadership development programs; Strategic Planning: A 10-year strategic plan (2018–2028) for Uganda Orthodox Church; The Secretary General is hard working and sacrificing to serve his Church; Human Resource: For any organization this resource is extremely important and this diocese has a better number of, at least, teachable HR.

9 – HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE / REPUTATION - Historical Significance - One of the earliest established Orthodox centers in East Africa, offering authenticity and continuity in faith with unique history of emerging organically through traditional missionary effort.;; Historical Legacy; Internal identity (shared experience and shared struggle) and external perception of progressive social values.; A church with great historical personalities; Indigenous Leadership and Cultural Connection: I find it a blessing that local ancestors spearheading the search and introduction of the faith in Uganda.; Strong Background: Deep theological and cultural heritage rooted in early African; Admirable History: A legacy of resilience, sacrifice, and Orthodoxy in Uganda.; Historical Legacy and deep roots that anchor the church in indigenous leadership and spiritual heritage; Recognition of the Orthodox Church in Uganda as a defender of human rights and freedoms.

8 – CULTURAL INTEGRATION & ADAPTABILITY - Cultural Respect: -Integration of Ugandan languages and customs into worship.- Promotes cultural dignity and identity; Flexibility and responsiveness to the linguistic and cultural needs of the communities and parishioners.; Pride in being the Base of Orthodoxy in the East and Central African Region (ability to provide Lessons to other Countries on how to spread Orthodoxy in communities); Rich history of the church's propagation by Ugandan natives;.Cultural Integration - Use of local languages and traditions in worship enhances accessibility and inclusivity within Ugandan communities.; Resilience; Cultural relevance: Contextualizing Orthodox faith in Ugandan culture;. We are considered as Church whose missionary journey emanated from Ugandans themselves so it is not foreign.

7 – YOUTH - An increasing number of educated youths within the Orthodox community; Youth and Lay Involvement - Active participation of youth in choirs, Sunday schools, and catechism fosters future leaders in the Church.; - Youth leadership programs, catechism, and skills development. Youth Engagement - Active). - Youth leadership programs, catechism, and skills development;. Youth

engagement; A large number of youths in the church; We have functional programs for example the youth, education, health etc.

6 - REPUTATION & SERVICE - It does not have a bad history in the country. It did not participate in the religious wars; Community service: serving the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized.; Recognized as a Traditional Faith Borne in by Ugandan Clergy men; A church with a good reputation and unconnected to exploitation; Missionary spirit; Community and loyalty: community driven nature of the church leads to loyalty.

4 – CLERGY - Native Clergy: Indigenous priests who understand the culture and language.; Native clergy who understands the local context and culture, but majority lack theological training.; Leadership and Clerical Integrity - Respected local and international clergy. - Emphasis on moral leadership and ethical conduct.

4 – MOTHERS/ WOMEN PROGRAMS - Active platforms like the Orthodox Church Mothers Union (OCMU); Women Engagement platforms like the Orthodox Church Mothers Union (OCMU Strong orthodox mothers union top to grassroots; We have functional programs for example the women's program.

3 – ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE - Robust Structures; National administrative structure that's easy to penetrate and engage.; It has structures from national to grassroots.

3 – PARISHES - We have quite a number of parishes and parish priests in the country.; A Resilient congregation: A good number of people have endured turbulence and uncertainty over years. This is some ground.; Community-Centered Structures: Strong parish system that builds cohesion and local ownership.

3 – COMMUNITY SERVICES & PHILANTHROPY - Community Engagement Potential; Community presence; High spirit of voluntarism among the human resources.

2 – INTERFAITH INITIATIVES - Active participation in national Interfaith platforms such as the Inter – Religious Council of Uganda, Uganda Joint Christian Council. This inclusion enhances protection of religious freedoms and mutual respect among diverse religious traditions in Uganda.; Active in interfaith cooperation.

2 – MONASTERIES - We have functional monasteries managed by committed nuns where different activities are taking place including running orphanages among other things.; Growing Monastic Presence - Monasteries like All Saints Monastery, St. Catherine, St Mary of Egypt and St Paraskevi serve as spiritual hubs, inspiring vocations and providing retreats for prayer and formation.

ONE-OFFS

- ~ Availability of liturgical service books;
- ~ Availability of a good number of translated hymns buildings constructed.;
- ~Enthusiastic Missionary Connection: Strong missionary ties both locally and abroad.;
- ~Its humbleness is its strength.;
- ~Peace and Unity;
- ~Hope and joy: sharing Christ's love and message.;
- ~ financial stability in certain areas;