## **UGANDA MARTYRS' DAY CELEBRATION 2023**

Uganda Martyrs Day is celebrated on June 3<sup>rd</sup> every year. The celebrations attract many pilgrims to the two sites of the Catholic and Anglican Communion where the Martyrs were executed.

Around 1885- 1887 Mwanga the Kabaka or King of Buganda sentenced to death all the pages at his court that refused to renounce their Christian faith. The Martyrs also refused to succumb to the homosexual tendencies of the king.

These 22 young men of the Catholic faith and the 23 from the Anglican faith were sentenced to death by burning them at stake on the fire at Namugongo the official execution site. The 22 Catholic Martyrs were beatified in 1922 and canonized on October 18<sup>th</sup> 1964 by Pope Paul VI

This former place of horror and execution has been turned into a holy place for pilgrimage of the faithful from all corners of the globe. The many faithful that trek this journey of faith, young and old to Namugongo and other Martyrs' Shrines in Uganda every year make a big part of the Evangelization to whoever sees them.



Uganda has hosed three Popes:

Pope Paul V - 1969

Pope Paul II – 1993

Pope Francis - 2015

Let us emulate this heroic action of faith of our Ancestors in the faith.

Uganda Martyrs pray for us and for our nation.



National Celebration June 3rd at the Namugongo Shrine



Martyrdom Celebrated May 31st at St. Noa Mawaggali Shrine