

SOROTI CATHOLIC DIOCESE
DEPARTMENT OF THE DOCTRINE OF FAITH

INTRODUCTION

The Department of the Doctrine of the Faith of Soroti Catholic Diocese will serve to guide the day to day planning and implementation of activities purposed to strengthen the doctrine of faith in the diocese in the next five years commencing 2020 to 2025.

The department of the Doctrine of the Faith derives its functions and responsibilities from the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, a body of the Apostolic See mandated to promote and safeguard the doctrine on the faith and morals in the Catholic Church. The department is therefore charged with the responsibility of helping the Bishop of Soroti Catholic Diocese to oversee the fidelity and morality of other commissions and departments of the diocese with regard to the Catholic doctrines.

BACKGROUND

The department of the Doctrine of the Faith of Soroti Catholic Diocese has been in existence for about 40 years but was not functioning effectively. It was only on the 20th September, 2019 that that a full time Diocesan Executive Secretary for the department was appointed. The activities of the department now fall under the Diocesan Pastoral Commission in accord with the ecclesiastical law and the Soroti Catholic Diocesan statutes.

Following the appointment of the full time Executive Secretary, the operational guidelines for the department were developed, presented to the Diocesan bishop, the Uganda Episcopal Conference Doctrinal Commission for discussion and approval.

The department identified persons and created the Diocesan Doctrinal Committee as follows:

1. Rev. Fr. Charles Osire as the Executive Secretary
2. Rev. Fr. Michael Omaria
3. Rev. Fr. Deogratias Oriangatum
4. Mr. Charles Ongwara
5. Rev Sr. Mary Gorreti Wabwire
6. Rev. Sr. Seraphine Amulen
7. Rev. Sr. Florence

In the guidelines of the department of the Doctrine of the Faith of the Uganda Episcopal Conference, the vision, mission, goal, core values, the mandate and objectives of the department are stated.

The department used the SWOT analysis format to discern the situation in which the Catholic Church is carrying out its, ethical and moral teaching in Uganda in order to inform the development of the department's strategic plan in Soroti Catholic Diocese.

MANDATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE DOCTRINE OF THE FAITH

1. To safeguard and promote the doctrine of the faith
2. To assist the Catholic Bishops of Uganda both collectively and individually to carry out their work in areas of the doctrinal, ethical and moral teaching of the Catholic Church

3. To collaborate with the representatives and commissions of the Uganda Episcopal Conference in carrying out the required consultations and studies by providing expert guidance on theological issues that confront the Catholic Church in Uganda
4. To address issues such as the relationship of the faith to the secular sciences, human values and health care
5. To support the Soroti Catholic Diocesan Bishop's efforts in the study and review of scripture and other translations of crucial theological, spiritual and pastoral significance.

KEY FUNCTIONS OF THE DOCTRINE DEPARTMENT

1. To assist the Uganda Episcopal Commission in its prophetic role
2. To identify, coordinate and engage the theological potentials in the Catholic Church in Uganda for the service of the church
3. To foster contextual theology and catechesis in Uganda
4. To study, monitor, evaluate and mitigate challenges to the Catholic and Christian doctrine and practice in Uganda
5. To research, study, analyze, translate and contextualize the magisterial, universal, regional and local teaching of the Catholic Church
6. To liaise with the censors in the diocese(s) and the Uganda Episcopal Conference in their task of ensuring the correct doctrine in Catholic theological teaching and publications
7. To ensure, through the relevant offices, that the Catholic doctrine in Uganda is in conformity with the Universal Church

THE CORE VALUES OF THE DEPARTMENT

- Respect for the dignity of the human person
- Authentic Roman Catholic doctrine of the faith
- Authentic Roman Catholic morality

THE VISION OF THE DEPARTMENT A community truly living according to the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church

THE MISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT To implement Christ's command to "evangelize all people" (Mtt. 28:19-20) according to Christian values.

SITUATION ANALYSIS

The situation analysis covers three aspects i.e. problem analysis (analysis of the key contemporary problematic issues related to the mission of the department); stakeholder analysis and the SWOT analysis.

STRATEGY OF THE DEPARTMENT

To guide and provide support to Soroti Catholic Diocese and other Catholic institutions in Uganda to enable them to effectively teach people the authentic catholic faith and to contribute to the protection of human dignity, human rights and morals while discerning ideologies that disfavor or oppose the Catholic faith and morals.

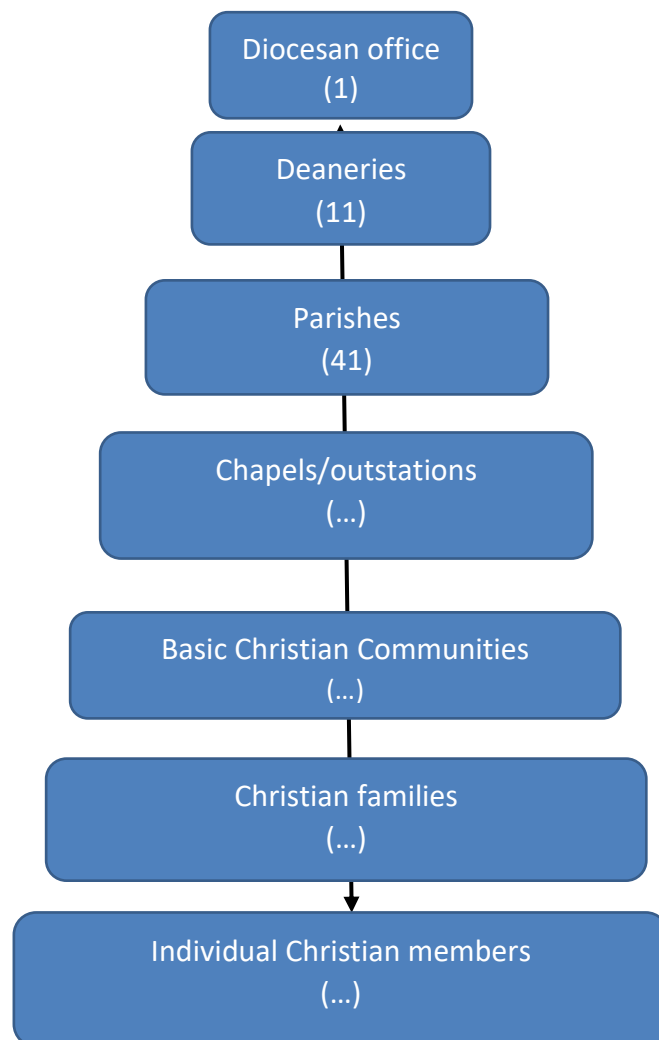
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT

- To plan and take the necessary measures to strengthen the department of the Doctrine of Faith
- To enable effective operations in all its prescribed functions so as to be able to accomplish its mission

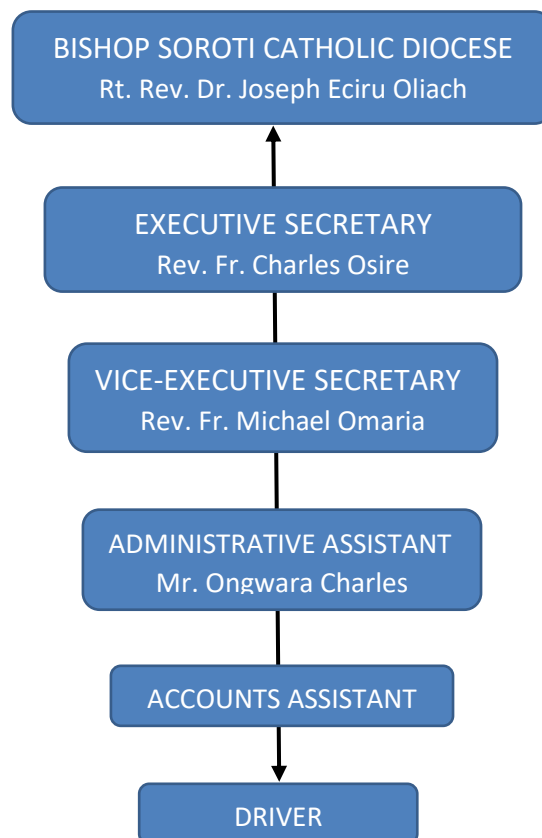
- To enable the Catholic Bishop of Soroti Catholic Diocese to monitor and provide guidance and support to the doctrinal department and committees to ensure that they function effectively
- To regularly study, monitor and evaluate external challenges to the Catholic Doctrine and the evangelization mission of the Catholic Church and take action where required
- To develop a concept and use it to liaise and work with the key catholic church organizations or institutions and fora dealing with doctrinal, ethical and moral issues in ensuring that Catholic doctrine in the diocese is in conformity with the teachings of the Universal Church
- To liaise with ecumenical and interfaith fora/groups in discussing and taking required actions to ensure mutual understanding, respect and cooperation in enhancing religious, doctrinal, ethical and moral values

THE DOCTRINE OF FAITH DEPARTMENT STRUCTURE

The operations of the department shall be set at diocesan, deanery, parish, zones, out station, Basic Christian Community, Christian families and individual Christian members.



THE DEPARTMENT OF THE DOCTRINE OF FAITH ORGANOGRAM



WORK PLAN 2020

1. Organize the Soroti Catholic Diocese Doctrine of Faith department
 - Securing office space
 - Constituting the Soroti Catholic Diocesan Doctrinal Committee
 - Identifying and inducting the deanery and parish doctrinal committees
2. Train the doctrinal teams at diocesan, denary and parish levels
3. Review the catechesis in Catholic founded schools
4. Visit Catechetical Training Centres to induct catechists
5. Review and compile rites and rituals in Ateso and Kumam
6. Take full census of the catholic population in Soroti catholic Diocese
7. Embark of some part translations
8. Collaborate with the national and diocesan teams through seminars and meetings