



**November 2024**

Dear 'Strivers'

Greetings from the Alumni Executive,

As the year winds down, we take a moment to reflect on an eventful and poignant last quarter of 2024. It has been a season of both deep loss and heartfelt connection as we bid farewell to our beloved Father Grimes, who passed away peacefully on September 4th.

### **Celebrating Father Grimes' Legacy**

Father Grimes touched countless lives with his kindness, wisdom, and unwavering faith. His passing was met with an outpouring of love, and we were privileged to celebrate his life with a truly remarkable farewell.



The 6 funeral services were a testament to Father Grimes' impact:

### **Liverpool Mass:**

The journey began in Liverpool, where over 200 people gathered to pay their respects. Heartfelt tributes and shared memories filled the space with warmth and gratitude.



**Namasagali college Alumni Association (NCAA)** Executive Board 2023-2026

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**STRIVE REGARDLESS**

### National Theatre Tribute:

From Liverpool, his body was brought to the National Theatre, a place symbolic of his love for art, culture, and community. The service there was a blend of solemn reflection and joyous celebration of his life. Mukulu's production (Let your living water flow) was deeply moving, and even included a call to start thinking about a "Father Grimes" movie. (I wish I had a clearer photo)



### Jinja Lubaga Cathedral:

Following the National Theatre, the procession continued to Jinja Lubaga Catholic Church, where hundreds gathered to celebrate his life.



## Final Farewell at Namasagali College:

In a deeply emotional moment, Father Grimes' body was brought to his final resting place at Namasagali College. The streets were lined with community members, young and old, welcoming him home. His body was laid in the Namasagali chapel for a final night vigil, where the community sang church songs and honored the man they called **Sabataka**.



On **Saturday, September 28th**, Father Grimes was laid to rest in a memorable celebration attended by people from all walks of life. His long-serving support staff, led by Mr. Gaira, along with his secretary Ms Monica, school cooks, gardeners, Askaris to mention but a few surround his coffin to bid him a final farewell. The final poignant moment was Mr Kiwanuka his long serving driver, driving the hearse from the main field to the graveside, where Fr. Grimes was finally laid to rest.



We extend heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to this fitting farewell.



## Ongoing Projects and Updates:

**Father Grimes Office; Iconic block.** Phase 2 should have started in September but we had to pause on this due to the death of Father Grimes. We have completed the substructure and that cost was **55,999,365**. (Demolition costs, Materials for building/labour, Geotech investigations, Architecture drawings )



Phase 2 (Super Structure) should be starting soon. This will cost us 111,242,100. We need to start fundraising for this.

**Mausoleum Project:** We are working on a Mausoleum to honour Father Grimes, with construction expected to begin soon.



**School Generator:** Class 83' 89 Donated a Generator to the School. Very much appreciated.

**Boys Toilets:** New boys toilets were started by the school. Thanks to class 82'88 who helped with the completion of the project.

**Sweet Potato Project:** Our alumni-funded potato project is progressing well, with harvesting expected around May 2025.

**Fundraising and Events:** Unfortunately, we had to cancel the fundraising walk/run which was scheduled for October 12th due to Father Grimes' passing.

**AGM:** Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for Sunday, January 12th, 2025, and we hope to see many of you there. The invite and Agenda will be sent to you in due course.

**Alumni Obituaries:** We mourn the loss of alumni members, including Arthur Sajjabi, Monica Mutekanga, Michael Otim, Teddy Lyn Kisitu. Carol Ocama May their souls rest in eternal peace.

**Financial Snapshot:**

A quick overview of our current finances: September 2023 – October 2024

410 Alumni have subscribed so far. Which equals to approximately UGX **20,500,000**

College Projects: UGX **39,032,830**

Alumni Events/Expenses: UGX **14,322,000**

Fr. Grimes Iconic Office Block: UGX **55,999,365** **Total cost is approximately 257Million**

Alumni Mabugo Collection: UGX **140,492,241**

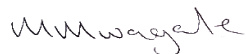
Funeral Costs from Alumni Collection: UGX **53,120,000**

Additionally, other expenses, including repatriation of Father Grimes' body, (plus 2 tickets to escort Father) Payment for Aplus, food at the funeral etc were covered by UGX 100 million donated by the government. A full financial report of the Alumni funds will be shared at the AGM.

**Looking Ahead**

As we approach the end of the year, let us hold onto the values Father Grimes embodied: love, service, and togetherness.

May his memory continue to guide us in the times ahead.



Maureen Mwagale (**Mama Alumni**)  
Chair Namasagali College Alumni Association