

## **MARY HEALTH OF THE SICK-BUHABHUGALI SHRINE, A FRUIT OF 150 YEARS OF EVANGELIZATION IN TANZANIA.**

The Church in Tanzania knows, the Tanzanians know, but the Universal Church may not know that at the end of last year in 2018 the Catholic Church in Tanzania celebrated a jubilee of 150 years of Evangelization.

The celebrations were organized in each group and parish in the dioceses as a preparation for the national celebration that took place in Bagamoyo on November 2-4, 2018.

The local Church in Kigoma received this occasion of celebrating 150 years of evangelization with a thanksgiving heart. The Bishop, together with the priests, encouraged all the faithful to use this opportunity to perform both spiritual and corporal works of mercy so that the faith of each one may be revived.

With this revival of the faith in mind, the Church of Tanzania began praying a special prayer for the Jubilee of 150 years of evangelization last year, while the local Church in Kigoma made a plan of preparing a special place where faithful could go to meet with God in prayer, celebrate the Holy Mass and other sacraments without forgetting the catechetical instructions and teachings of the Catholic faith that would be given from this place. This place, specifically for this noble mission, would be a diocesan shrine.

The dream of the Church of Kigoma came true on October 27, 2018 when Mary Health of the Sick Buhabhugali Shrine was completed and the dedication was done by His Grace Most Rev Paul Ruzoka, the Archbishop of Tabora Archdiocese. In that Holy Mass and inaugural event, all the bishops from the dioceses in Tabora metropolitan participated. This means that the Church in Kahama, Tabora, Mpanda, Sumbawanga and Kigoma shared the same joy of having a diocesan pilgrim center built at the top of Kitwe mountain in Kigoma.

The heart of His Excellency Bishop Joseph R. Mlola, ALCP/OSS, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Kigoma was filled with immense joy to see that his heart's desire had finally come true.

Buhabhugali Shrine remains, and will remain, a fruit of 150 years of evangelization in Kigoma and Tanzania all together.

**Presented by Rt. Rev. Joseph R. Mlola, ALCP/OSS, the Bishop of Kigoma Diocese**