



Sr Muzaale (left) assisting Judith Kobusingye, who gave birth on December 25 at St Francis Hospital in Kampala

OVER 70 BORN IN KAMPALA ON CHRISTMAS DAY

**By Farooq Kasule
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At least 73 babies were born on Christmas Day at the five major hospitals around Kampala.

The *New Vision* team established that the 73 were born in Kawempe National Referral Hospital, St Francis Hospital Nsambya, Mengo Hospital, Rubaga Hospital and International Hospital Kampala (IHK).

The Kawempe Hospital executive director, Dr Emmanuel Byaruhanga, said of the babies born at the facility, 25 were male and 31 female.

"We thank God that we didn't register any death. I, therefore, thank the health workers and the staff for the job well done," he said.

Dr Byaruhanga said 32 were normal deliveries while 22 were caesarean sections.

"We received 71 admissions on Christmas Day and we had 54 deliveries resulting in the birth of 56 babies with two sets of twins. Some didn't deliver for one reason or the other," he said.

The Kawempe Hospital boss said they also had eight operations for other pregnancy-related complications and six abortions.

Kawempe Hospital is a specialised public hospital focused on providing high-quality healthcare for mothers. It is a major facility for maternal and newborn services in the country.

NSAMBYA HOSPITAL

At about 11:35am on Christmas Day, 26-year-old Emmanuella Godwin, from Anambra state in Nigeria, gave birth to a bouncing baby boy at St Francis Hospital Nsambya in Kampala.

"It feels good knowing that on my birthday, I get another surprise of a baby. I had expected to give birth on January 1," she said, while lying down in one of the wards on Friday early morning.

Eight mothers gave birth at St Francis Hospital, Nsambya. Four produced girls while two brought forth boys.

Susan Aleto, a 39-year-old mother from Kalaki district, was also all smiles after giving birth to her fifth child at St Francis Hospital Nsambya.

For Joyce Nabagala, the scan had showed that she would give birth in January, not on December 25.

Sr Anne Muzaale, the manager of Mother Kevin wing at St Francis Hospital Nsambya, encouraged mothers to do daily checkups to avoid post-birth complications.

MENGÖ, RUBAGA, IHK

At Mengo Hospital, four babies were born on Christmas Day. Among these, three were girls. At Rubaga Hospital, three babies were born; two girls and a boy.

Maria Nakabura, a 25-year-old mother of two, said having a baby on such a day is beautiful.

At IHK, only two babies were born.