OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY

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UNIVERSITY POST OFFICE KUMASI, GHANA

DATE: 17TH SEPTEMBER, 2023

Forgive Without Limit And Be Forgiven

Dear People of God, we celebrate the Twenty-Fourth Sunday Hence, asking how many times we should give a person this in Ordinary Time (A). The readings invite us to reflect on the opportunity depends on how many opportunities we have had. Lord's kindness and mercy, which propel us to be forgiving toward one another. We cannot celebrate the Lord of compassion and love, the Lord who died for us, and who lives to intercede for us unless each of us has forgiven the brother from the heart. Our forgiveness is to be without limit and so reflect Christ's eternal love.

Last Sunday, we were encouraged to seek ways of bringing about reconciliation. Today's Gospel shows the importance of forgiving each other. God forgives us without limits hence, we must not put limits on the forgiveness we offer to others. To the question, how often must a Christian forgive when someone sins against him, Jesus' answer was "not seven times", but "seventy times seven". He seems to suggest we count the number of times we can forgive. In reality, mathematical calculation is not the issue, and no need for calculators as well. We need to appreciate the symbolic value of the number seven (7). Matthew, a converted Jew, understood the symbolic use of numbers for his people and used them to convey the Christian message. It is a grave error to count the actual number of times we should forgive somebody. Seven is a perfect number: a combination of the totality of the created reality (4) and uncreated reality (3). Seven is the meeting of heaven and earth: divine and human. This gives a perfection that cannot be surpassed. Seven is a holy number; think of the seven petitions in the "Our Father", and seven seals in the Book of Revelation.

Jesus tells the story of a servant who is forgiven but refuses to forgive a fellow servant and is thus punished by his master to emphasize the need to forgive. For Him, true forgiveness comes from the heart and it is the pill for every ill. To forgive seventy times seven is to forgive without limit. When your spouse or sibling offends you; when your colleagues mock you; when your teacher or lecturer hurts you badly; when your parents or neighbours accuse you falsely; when people don't appreciate what you do but deliberately misunderstand you; when you are called names and castigated; when disappointed or betraved by loved ones: the Lord who is the great physician teaches that we should take a dosage of His pill called "Forgiveness" as often as such occasions arise. It is for selfhealing and the liberation of people from the tombs of our hearts

When Peter asks Jesus if it is enough to forgive seven times, he shows that he is willing to make a big effort. To forgive seven times is indeed a lot, but Jesus says real forgiveness should be a permanent attitude of the Christian heart and should come from the heart. It is a heart-to-heart transaction; one offered and received with one's whole heart. To forgive without counting goes beyond human understanding. We think it is reasonable to forgive somebody a few times. Beyond that, we risk being taken for a fool by all. Jesus does not want His disciples to put any limit on the forgiveness they have to offer and receive from each other. The Christian attitude ought to be "I forgive as often as the other person needs it and I do it from my heart". The measure we use will be measured out to us. Thus, forgiveness is an essential part of generosity. It takes a very generous person to forgive without keeping a record of the number of times.

Ironically, forgiveness is not a favour to those who offend us; it is an obligation we owe to our benevolent God and ourselves. How is it that, after receiving so much, we cannot from that abundance that we have received forgive? We all owe one another a debt of love and the more we forgive, the more we redeem our debt. To forgive means to give others a chance to start their lives anew. The first reading and the parable that follows Jesus' teaching on forgiveness provide us with reasons we ought to forgive without limits. Our Father in Heaven is our role model in this. In the parable, the Master's love is so great that he forgoes his rights: to sell the debtor and his entire family in order to redeem what he owed. Instead, he forgives him that huge debt knowing his servant would not be able to repay. Surprisingly, this person who has been forgiven so much is unwilling to forgive another who owes him a tiny amount. Although the second servant pleads with the same words that he had used, he remembers not his Master's goodness to him. He closes his heart and refuses to forgive his fellow's small debt. He claims his right and demands to have him thrown into prison until he pays it all. This obliged the Master to cancel the pardon he had earlier granted because that servant did not deserve it.

To have experienced fully the forgiveness that God gives freely is to share freely with others. This is expressed in the "Our Father" when we ask God to forgive us as we forgive others. Jesus also tells His disciples on a mission "freely you have received, freely give" (Mt 10:8). Forgiveness is a gift that should be shared freely rather than kept jealously for oneself. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which we encourage ourselves to make good use of, we experience this limitless forgiveness of our Father. For this reason, we are not afraid to confess our sins. But how tolerant and forgiving are we of the faults of those who live with us every day? We need to begin to prove that we are facing up to the challenge Jesus lays before us: to set no bounds to our love and mercy for others just as God sets none to His for us. To forgive is to be forgiven.

Dear Students and Graduates, there is only one Christian attitude in dealing with those who offend us: that is forgiveness. No need to retaliate. In patiently dealing with those who hold opinions different from ours, we imitate our heavenly Father who is kind and merciful towards all. He forgives us without limits: we ought to forgive unlimitedly. Forgiveness is a personal choice, a decision of the heart to go against the natural instinct to pay back evil with evil. As we reflect on forgiveness without limit, let us deepen our knowledge and understanding of our faith through the Word of God and the Magisterial documents of the Church. The Catechism of the Catholic Church can be a starting point. Finish hard dear finalist and a fruitful vacation to the rest of us. Let your presence be felt in your home parishes; the Church needs you most! We continue to pray for our WASSCE candidates that God will keep them and crown their efforts with success. May God bless, protect, and keep us safe. Pax!

Please be reminded to stay well, healthy, and safe. Be not afraid to attend Mass. Remember to observe the safety protocols. Your life is dear to us!

Wednesday, 20/09/2023 - 6.30am 1 Tim. 3:14-16 / Ps. 111:1-6 / Lk. 17:31-35 (Andrew Kim Taegon

Thursday, 21/09/23 - 7:00pm

and Paul Chong Hasang)

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, 18/09/2023 - 6.30pm

1 Tim. 2:1-8 / Ps. 28:2, 7-9 / Lk.

Tuesday, 19/09/2023 - 6:30am

1 Tim. 3:1-13 / Ps. 101:1-3, 5-6 /

Lk. 7:11-17 (Januarius)

7:1-10

Eph. 4:1-7, 11-13 / Ps. 19:2-5 / Matt. 9:9-13 (St. Matthew)

Friday, 22/09/23 - 6.30am

1 Tim. 6:2c-12 / Ps. 49:6-10, 17-20 / Lk. 8:1-3

Saturday, 23/09/23 - 7.00am

1 Tim. 6:13-16 / Ps. 100:2-5 / Lk. 8:4-15 (Pius of Pietrelcina)

NEXT SUNDAY SEPTEM-BER 24, 2023 - 25TH **SUNDAY IN ORDINARY** TIME (CYCLE A)

7:00PM — VIGIL MASS

6.30AM - 1ST MASS

8.00AM - 2ND MASS

10.00AM - 3RD MASS

PLEASE ALL PARISHIONERS SHOULD TAKE NOTE

1ST READING - Isa, 55:6-9

RES. PSALM - PS. 145:2-3, 8-9. 17-18

2ND READING - Phil. 1:20c-24. 27a

GOSPEL - MATT. 20:1-16

PASTORAL TEAM

Chaplain: Rev. Fr. Dr. Anthony F. Naah – 0249999616 Assisting Priests: Rev. Fr. Dr. Victor Quagraine - 0207024221 Rev. Fr. Timothy Baghrmwin SJ—0277154777 Rev. Fr. Richard Antwi Boasiako — 0501154065 CHAPLAINCY MOMO PAY: 097655 CHAPLAINCY WEBSITE: www.knustcatholic.org

READINGS FOR THE DAY

1st Reading: Sir. 27:30-28:7 2nd Reading: Rom. 14:7-9

Gospel: Matt. 18:21-35



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FUN FACT

Saint John Chrysostom (349-407)was a monk who became bishop of Constantino ple and a Doctor of the Church. His name means "goldenmouthed". He was a powerful preacher and his homilies sometimes lasted two

hours!

General Notices

Sacrament of Reconciliation: There is Confession every Saturday at 6:00pm. All safety Protocols will be observed.

Aged/Homebound/Infirmed Parishioners: We are appealing to parishioners to furnish the Chaplaincy Office with the names and house addresses of sick, aged, homebound, and infirmed parishioners to enable our Catechists and Eucharistic Ministers visit and give them Commun-

Chaplaincy News Bulletin: Please, sign up to receive News Bulletin from the Chaplaincy. You can do so at the Covid-19 Registration Desk after Mass or send a WhatsApp message to this number: 0596036520. NB: You need to save the number to receive messages from the number on WhatsApp.

Dues (Membership) Cards and Registration: All parishioners who do not have themselves Dues Cards and all those who have not registered should see the Catethe Chaplaincy Office to do so. Please take

Chaplaincy Momo Pay: The Chaplaincy has acquired a Merchant Sim. Parishioners are advised to make payments of Harvest Levy, Chapel Fund Contributions, etc. through the Merchant ID: 097655 to enjoy less

Collection of Baptismal Cards: The Chaplaincy Office wishes to remind parishioners (Parents and Guardians) who have their children and wards Baptismal Cards at the office to please come and pick them.

Security Consciousness: Parishioners are being informed to be security conscious when we come to church. Groups/Societies should try to educate their members to be alert but not to create any fear in them. We encourage all parishioners to alert the Ushers of any unwanted behaviour. "Say something when you see something"

Chaplaincy Cloth on Sale: The Chaplaincy Office has a large quantity of the Chaplain-

chists after Mass to help you or come to cy Cloth on sale. Please, visit the Chaplaincy Office for yours.

> **Use of Washrooms**: We entreat parishioners; both children and adults, to put the washrooms to order and clean after use in order not to inconvenience the next user.

> Playing and learning how to play the Organ: The Chaplaincy is calling on parishioners who know how to play the organ and those who want to learn how to play it to write their names at the Chaplaincy Office for the next steps to be taken.

Committees, Groups & Societies

Laity Council: 1. Submission of 2022 Laity Week Evaluation Questionnaire: Laity Council is expecting all Groups and Societies to submit the 2022 Laity Week Questionnaires which were sent to them. Groups.

St. Maria Goretti Youth Choir 30th Anniversary Celebration - Thanksgiving: St. Maria Goretti Youth Choir is climaxing their anniversary with thanksgiving today Sunday September 17, 2023. This will be followed by Refreshment.

Harvest Committee: Representatives to 2023 Harvest Committee: 1. We are calling on all groups and societies to nominate their representatives and to encourage them to attend the 2023 Harvest Committee Meetings.

2. Payment of 2023 Harvest Levies: The Harvest Committee is encouraging all parishioners to pay their 2023 Harvest Levies.

3. Harvest Committee Meeting: Members are invited to meeting on Tuesday September 19, 2023 at 5.30pm at the Chaplaincy to discuss: (i) matters arising from previous meeting (ii) Upcoming Children and Youth Harvest and Activities and (ii) A.O.B.

Harvest 2023 Levies

Senior Members/Business Men & Women — Ghc 500.00

Senior Staff - Ghc 300.00

Junior Staff/House Wife Ghc 150.00

Tertiary Students-Univ./Poly. /Post Sec.- Ghc 50.00

Senior High/Tech. Schools - Ghc 30.00

Junior High/Prim. /Kindergarten Ghc 20.00

Charismatic Renewal (Local): 1. Members are being reminded that today Sunday September 17, 2023, there will be Prayer Meeting at the Chaplaincy here at the usual meeting place. Members are encouraged to be present and on time.

2. Life in the Spirit Seminar (L.S.S.): Groups and Societies who would like to organise Life in the Spirit Seminar (LSS) for their members should kindly contact P.E.T./Mr. Isaac Dwirah Jnr. on 0244090802.

Catholic Women Association (CWA): The Catholic Women Association is inviting new members to join them. Interested parishioners are to meet with the President after Mass.

Health Committee: The Chaplaincy Health Committee informs parishioners of its existence and also entreat us to channel our health needs and concerns to the Committee through the contact number 0241133879 (WhatsApp Number) for consideration. These needs and concerns may help the Committee to plan its programme of activities for the year and subsequent years.

Chaplaincy Public Relations Committee: The Chaplaincy Public Relations Committee would like to inform parishioners that we are live on social media. Find and connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube. You can also send us a mail on knustcatholicchaplaincy@gmail.com.

Sacred Heart of Jesus and Rosary Confraternity: 1. Parishioners who wish to join the Confraternity are warmly welcome so that we all pray together. 2. The Executives and members of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Confraternity welcome all members of the Students Wing of the Confraternity back to school. Fresh students of Pax are invited to join the Confraternity.

Legion of Mary: The Legion of Mary, Twi and English Praesidia, Virgin Most Powerful and Our Lady of Holy Rosary, meet this and every Wednesday and Thursday at 5.30pm respectively. New and old members are warmly welcome.

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Youth Corner	Pax Corner
Youth Mass comes off this and every Thursday at 7pm .	
All Chaplaincy youth should endeayour to attend.	

Funeral Announcements & Invitations

Sincere Thanks

1. The family of the late Oheneyere Akosua Afrakoma (a.k.a. Mrs. Comfort Martha Boateng) are expressing their sincere thanks to the Chaplain, Parish Welfare Committee, Christian Mothers' Association and parishioners for your support and sympathy during their bereavement. They pray for God's blessings for you all.

Inspirational Quotes for Living: Are you down hearted, living to find your purpose and excited about life? Look no further. Grab your copy of Books on Quotes by Prof. Marian Asantewah Nkansah to add colour and flavour to your life. Copies are at the Sales Desk for GH¢30.00.

Mist Blower Machines: A parishioner is selling Mist Blower Machines at affordable prices. It is used perfectly for plant spraying and fumigation. Interested parishioners should contact this number: 0558212546 (Maame Nyarko).

Admission 1. Catholic Technical Institute (CTI):

The Catholic Technical Institute located at Buokrom Estate is admitting fresh students both full time and part time for the following NABPTEX Programme: (a) Air-Condition and Refrigeration (b) Architectural Designing Technology (c) Auto Body Works (d) Auto Mobile Engineering (e) Building Construction Technology (f) Carpentry & Joinery (g) Catering (h) Electronic Engineering Technology (i) Fashion & Design Technology (j) Mechanical Engineering Technology (k) Plumbing & Gas Technology and (l) Welding & Metal Fabrication. Call on these numbers for help: 0209342299/ 0322070702 / 0245024615 / 0244051857.

Our Lady of Apostles School: Our Lady of Apostles School located at Ahinsan-Estate wishes to inform parishioners that admission for 2023/2024 Academic Year is open. The admission is from Creche through BS7 (J.H.S 1). Registration for admission Exams end on Thursday 21st September, 2023. Visit the school's office to pick up forms for your wards/children. The admission Exams will commence on 23rd September, 2023 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm . For more information, please call the following numbers 0557448207/0579330000.

<u>Honey for Sale</u>: A parishioner has some Pure Honey for sale. Contact: 0240776529.

<u>Job Opportunity</u>: : 1. A woman between the ages of forty (40) and fifty-five (55) is wanted to take care of an old woman at Ayigya. Interested person should call 0558522551 or 0208115349.

- **2.** A parishioner is looking for a female to work as a house help. Please interested persons should contact her on 0202027360 / 0208198270 for help.
- **3.** A vocational school leaver is needed for employment with a Food Service Company. She must live around KNUST, be pleasant and ready to work for long hours. Interested persons must call 0244759985.
- 4. Louisville Drinking Water: Louisville Drinking Water is looking for a fulltime truck and tricycle drivers to work approximately 48 hours a week, should have at least two years driving experience, required to have a Class 'C' Driver's License, excellent driving skills and must be at least 18 years old. Interested persons should send their applications and CV to the Manager, Louisville Drinking Water, situated at St. Louis Senior High School, Oduom. They also need sales girls/woman. Contact the following numbers: 0244805779 / 0204020362.

<u>Seeking for Job</u>: A parishioner who has the qualification of a Professional Teacher is searching for a private/government school or even individuals to teach in and around Kotei. Interested persons/institutions can contact 0206744951 or 0595421091.

House for Rent: 1. A Two-Bedroom apartment with bath, toilet, and kitchen at Nahiniso, closer to Kotei is ready for renting. Interested person should call 0547402059.

- **2.** A one bedroom and a small room (boys' quarters|) at Fumesua, near Noda Hotel is ready for renting. Interested person should call 0277712314 for help.
- **3.** A 3-bedroom including a master bedroom is ready for accommodation at Apirade, near the Church of Pentecost. Interested persons should please call 0240428478 for help.
- **4.** A 3-bedroom flat with a borehole water facility is available for rent at Appiadu. Interested persons should contact 0243049675.

Rent Accommodation: A parishioner is in need of a two-bedroom apartment around Maxima, Ayigya, Bomso, Ayeduase, Kotei, or Deduako. Please call on 0504741374 to help.

<u>Vegetables on Sale</u>: 100% Organic (no chemical) Vegetables are available at the Sisters of St. Louis Self-Reliant Project for the needy. Enjoy healthy vegetables and support the needy.

Venue – St. Louis Senior High School, behind the School Chapel. Contact 0244784394

Luxx Laundry Services: Luxx Laundry Services is equipped with modern machines such as washing machines and dryers that are efficient and provide excellent results. They offer their partners (Management, Staff and Students) the comfort of receiving their laundry the same day of collection, free pick-up and delivery service in and around KNUST. Location: Luxx Laundry Services is located at the Second Floor of the KNUST Jubilee Mall @ the Commercial Area and is open 24 hours. Contact them no: 0322067232 or 0501652923 for hassle-free laundry services. Absolute Quality every time.