

OUR LADY OF THE HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY

KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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UNIVERSITY POST OFFICE

KUMASI, GHANA

DATE: 18TH FEBRUARY, 2024

New Covenant: Remaining in the Ark, Place of Safety!

Dear People of God, we celebrate the First Sunday of Lent, Year B. The Season of Lent is a forty-day journey of drawing ourselves closer to God with Conversion and Repentance. Holy Mother Church exhorts her faithful to use Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving as our Lenten Observance. These Traditional Practices of Mercy will win us the compassion and mercy of God and revive our Christian life. They are a great help to remain within the ark which is the Church. Of all the Seasons of the Church's year, Lent happens to be the oldest and the most striking. The purple colour, the Ashes, fish on Fridays, Stations of Cross, and "giving up something for lent", all evoke powerful and common memories of the Christian life. Like Jesus in today's Gospel, Christians are invited into the desert, a place of encounter with God. In these forty days of Lent, we try to go back to basics, to breathe new life into our Christian identity; it is like a fresh start.

A fresh start is what Noah's story, in the first reading, is all about. It is not difficult for us to understand the fear that the ancients had of floods or deluge. It could destroy entire villages, towns, and civilizations. Whether sudden or gradual, rising water threatens to destroy everything in sight. Noah's story sees in human sinfulness the corruption of the whole of creation, of which people are a part. God's judgment therefore comes upon everyone and everything. Like the forty days of Lent, forty days of deluge was required to purify the earth. This is a powerful medicine! The flood is a terrifying and cataclysmic disaster, signifying not only divine punishment through water, but also an unleashing of the restraints placed upon the waters in creation, and a return to primordial chaos. Noah, however, was safe because he was in the ark that rode above the waters. After the rains stopped, he saw the rainbow sign. It was a sign of a new beginning and a sign to the entire human race of God's promise to bring salvation to those who repent and are faithful to Him. It is still spectacular to see a rainbow. It reminded the people of Israel that, whatever the weather or storms they experienced, God is faithful. The ark and the rainbow are two signs of God's salvation.

We still fear floodwaters. Nonetheless, there are other equally raging and rising waters that can destroy lives and families just as tragically. These include the waters of greed, lust, drugs, alcohol, gambling, betting, materialism, laziness, etc. We all have seen people with great prospects whose lives and families have been or are being destroyed by one or more of these. Like Noah's time, we too have been given an ark and a rainbow sign. The Church, the community of believers in which we have been baptized, like Noah's ark, floats over the waters as a place of safety. Our rainbow sign is the Good News and Eucharist: God's abiding sign to remain faithful to us in any storm, to help us stay on course above the difficult waters of life's challenges. The important question for us at the beginning of Lent is: are we still in the ark? Lent is about our fidelity: it is a time to revive our Christian life and see whether we are still in the ark or trying to swim the waters all by ourselves. At the beginning of Lent, we renew our response to the Covenant, the Pact of Love that God made with each of us at our Baptism. Imagine what good news it must have been to Noah, alone in a drowned world, when he learned that God's love had not abandoned, nor ever would abandon, the earth and its creatures.

It calls for reflection and examination of our Christian life. We can do this through the traditional practices of Lent: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. How often and when do we pray? Is our prayer life a mere recitation of prayers or we are truly in communion with God?

Is our prayer life only for emergencies or is it a daily practice? Lent is an opportune time to diagnose the health of our prayer life since our prayer life reflects our unique relationship with God. Truly, nobody can do our praying for us. Fast and Abstinence are superb practices during the Season of Lent: they are good for the body and the soul. Fasting and Abstinence purify the body and clarify the soul; raise our minds to God; render our hearts contrite and humble; scatter the clouds of concupiscence; quench the fire of lust; and kindle the true light of charity in us. What are we giving up for Lent? Fasting reveals our real weakness, it also makes us regain control over our bodies and our desires. During Lent, our reluctance to give up certain foods shows our self-indulgence, our weak will, and our need for spiritual strengthening of God's Grace. Fasting is thus a concrete barometer of our will-power! Giving up something – negative and un-Christian attitudes or foods – for Lent is not about the body, but is about the soul. The practice of Almsgiving or works of charity takes us out of the capsule of our private life to address the wider world of needs that surrounds us. It reminds us that we have a responsibility for our brethren. Our charity also helps to shape the kind of community and society in which we will live. We pray and we fast to give alms!

Lent presents us with a theme of covenant and its renewal, offering us a meditation on God's commitment to His relationship with humanity and the created world. For us Christians, a new Covenant is given to us in Christ: we are made part of this covenant at Baptism. Baptism, as an agent of destruction and bringer of salvation, like the waters of the flood, destroyed our old person, freed us from sin, and brought us to new life, a new beginning: putting an end to sin, of hate, thievery, cheating, deception, drunkenness, adultery, and debauchery, and begins a new life according to the Spirit. The Waters of Baptism bring salvation and forgiveness through the death of Christ. The Lord's Covenant with us, like that of a faithful spouse, is for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and health. Can we say this of our response to God? Many a time we drift from the Lord, look for love in the wrong places, and are inevitably disappointed. Lent is indeed a God-given-time, His patience and a season of grace, in which prayer, fasting, and acts of charity become the way of assessing and reviving our fidelity to God, to regain our place in the ark of His Church and live our lives under His rainbow sign. The Lord is forever committed and faithful to us. How committed and faithful are we to Him? Lent opens the door for us to enter the ark once again. From within the ark, we behold the rainbow sign of the Good News and Eucharist telling us that we are never alone.

Dear students make activities at the Chaplaincy an essential part of your Campus Life. Never forget how and why you are here. Let us remain in the Ark, the Church, a Place of Safety, to enrich and transform our hearts as we reflect, pray, fast, and give during this season. God bless you. 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.

Have a Fruitful and Spirit-Filled Season of Lent!

God bless and keep you safe.

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Pray for Us.

PASTORAL TEAM

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

READINGS FOR THE DAY

1st Reading: Gen 9:8-15
2nd Reading: 1Pt 3:18-22
Gospel: Mk 1:12-15

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, 19/02/2024 – 6:30PM

LEV. 19:1-2, 11-18 / Ps. 19:8-10, 15 / MATT. 25:231-46

TUESDAY, 20/02/2024 - 6:30AM/6:30PM

Isa. 55:10-11 / Ps. 34:4-7, 16-19 / Matt. 6:7-17

WEDNESDAY, 21/02/2024- 6:30AM

Jon. 3:1-10 / Ps. 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 / Lk. 11:29-32 (Peter Damian)

THURSDAY, 22/02/2024 - 7:00PM

1 Pt. 5:1-4 / Ps. 23:1-6 / Matt. 16:13-19 (The Chair of Peter)

FRIDAY, 23/02/2024 - 6:30AM

Ez. 18:21-28 / Ps. 130:1-8 / Matt. 5:20-26 (Polycarp)

SATURDAY, 24/02/2024 - 7.00AM

Deut. 26:16-19 / Ps. 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 / Matt. 5:43-48

NEXT SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2024 – 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT(CYCLE B)

7:00PM — VIGIL MASS

6.30AM – 1ST MASS

8.00AM – 2ND MASS

10.00AM – 3RD MASS

PLEASE ALL PARISHIONERS SHOULD TAKE NOTE

1ST READING – GEN. 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18

RESP. PSALM – Ps. 116:10, 15-19

2ND READING – ROM. 8:31B-34

GOSPEL – Mk. 9:2-10



General Notices

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Lent Fact

Lent is a significant religious observance in the Christian calendar. It serves as a period of preparation and reflection leading up to Easter Sunday, the most important day in Christianity.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: There is Confession every Saturday at 6:00pm.

Stations of The Cross: There will be Stations of the Cross on all Fridays of the period of Lent at 1.00pm and 7.00pm. Parishioners should please take note and avail themselves to journey with the Lord throughout the period.

Lenten Prayer Session: The Catholic Chaplaincy is organising an hour of Prayer Session during this year's Lenten season. Theme: *"Let Your Hearts Be Broken, not Your Garments Be Torn"*– (Joel 2:13). This will start from Wednesday February 14, 2024 and will end on Tuesday March 12, 2024. This will take place at the Main Chapel from 5.00pm to 6.00pm each day. Parishioners/groups/societies are encouraged to be part of this spiritual exercise.

Notice of Sunday Announcements: Kindly note that all announcements to be made at Mass on Sunday should reach the Chaplaincy Office latest by noon on Friday. This is to aid in the proper dissemination of information. Parishioners are to kindly take note.

Marriage and Family Life Committee: Parishioners are to take note that there are three (3) Main Marriage Counselling sections. The first session began on Monday January 15, 2024, the second session will be from May 6, 2024 and the third session from September 9, 2024 all at 5.00pm. All would-be couples who have registered and those yet to register should kindly take note.

Harvest Committee: Harvest Committee members are expressing their sincere appreciation to individual parishioners, groups and societies for your contributions towards the 2023 Harvest so far. They will be presenting the update to us.

Knights and Ladies of Blessed Sacrament (KLBS – Mass Servers): The Knights and Ladies of Blessed Sacrament are inviting new members to join them. Meetings are held on Saturdays at the Chaplaincy at 3.00pm. interested parishioners are to take note.

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

Chaplaincy News Bulletin: Please, sign up to receive News Bulletin from the Chaplaincy. (0596036520)

Dues (Membership) Cards and Registration: All parishioners who do not have themselves Dues Cards and all those who have not registered should see the Catechists after Mass to help you or come to the Chaplaincy Office to do so. Please take note.

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

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.

Sunday School Teacher: We invite parishioners and students who want to be Sunday School Teachers to see any of the

Sunday School Teachers. Note that you have to be a baptized and confirmed Catholic.

Committees, Groups & Societies

Charismatic Renewal (Local): Members are being reminded of their usual meeting

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.

Twí Catechism: It is announced for the information of parishioners that Twí Catechism for all the Sacraments will be on every Tuesday and Wednesday at the Chaplaincy. Time: 5.00pm to 6.00pm. Please, take note.

Sacred Heart of Jesus and Rosary Confraternity:

1. Students/ Parishioners who wish to join the confraternity should please contact **Maa Joe on 0554023363** or interested members are invited to give their names to Mr. Lambert Nakpi (the Sacristan).

Retreat! Retreat!! Retreat!!! – Sacred Heart of Jesus and Rosary Confraternity:

ty: There is going to be a Deanery Retreat of Sacred Heart of Jesus and Rosary Confraternity to be hosted by our Chaplaincy Group at the Chaplaincy here on Saturday, February 24, 2024 at 8.00am. All members of the Confraternity are to take note and all parishioners are also invited to this spiritual program.

Legion of Mary: The Legion of Mary, Twí 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.

Sunday School (Children's Liturgy): All parents who have their children/wards at the Sunday School (Children's Liturgy) are to call on the following numbers to be added to the Sunday School (Children's Liturgy) P.T.A. WhatsApp Page: 0202629253 – Kyere Yeboah Emmanuel, 0207609053 – Bernadette Agbavor or join through the following link: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/IKd2LJdxOSm8ppy6Eup43Q>

Marriage Banns



Pax Corner

1. Students' Mass – Students Mass – This and every Tuesday at 6.30pm. Please, all students should take note.

2. Students' Catechism – Students Catechism – This and every Saturday at Room 7 of the Dr. R.P. Baffour Complex at exactly 4.00pm. Students who would want to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, 1st Communion and Confirmation should be part of the Class.

3. ITI-CCR National Conference 2024: The ITI-CCR National Conference is an annual conference organised for all Tertiary Students across the country. This year, it is hosted at UCC but hosted in the Ndoum School of Business from 1st to 3rd March, 2024 and we are all called to participate to be fruitful in our Christian lives. Theme: **“Be Fruitful”** (Jn.15:4-8 & Gal.5:22-25). Rate: GH¢200.00 (this includes transportation, registration, feeding, accommodation, etc.). A google form has been shared on the various Pax Subgroups pages, kindly tap on it or contact any of the CCR Service Team members to register.

Night Of Hymns'24: Pax Choir comes again with Night of Hymns, and this year promises to be exceptional. Join us as we countdown to the 10th of March, 2024 at exactly 5:30pm. Be prepared to grace us with presence as we sing hymns to our God. N.O.H. 2024.... Come let us sing a hymn to God.

Youth Corner

Youth Mass comes off this and every **Thursday** at **7pm**.

All Chaplaincy youth should endeavour to attend.

Funeral Announcement

Funeral Invitation: Mrs. Hariet Wilson, a parishioner and member of the Local CCR and Christian Mothers' Association is inviting parishioners to the final funeral of her father Opanyin John Otoo (a.k.a. Loco Fall Down) as follows: laying in state on Saturday, February 24, 2024 at his residence H/No. NN106 (New Nsuta), Obuasi at 4.00am, burial Mass at St. Thomas Catholic Cathedral at 8.00am, burial follows, final funeral rites at J.J. Presby School, near Obuasi Sports Stadium from 1.00pm to 6.00pm, thanksgiving Mass on Sunday, February 25, 2024, family gathering from 1.00pm to 6.00pm. Parishioners are invited to mourn with the bereaved family. **NB:** Please, all those who would want to attend the funeral should please register at the Chaplaincy Office and pay GH¢50.00 as T & T to and from Obuasi before close of Friday, February 23, 2024. The departure time is 11.00am prompt. **(Mrs. Hariet Wilson to be introduced)**

Sincere Thanks

1. The Afful Family wish to express their sincere thanks to the Chaplain and all parishioners who sympathised with them during the final funeral of their beloved Dr. Ebo Kwegyir-Afful. They pray that God will continue to shower you with His blessings.

2. The Loglo Family are expressing their sincere thanks to the Chaplain, Parish Welfare Committee, Knights and Ladies of Marshall, Mass Servers, Catechists, Youth Choir, and all parishioners for your sympathy and support during the funeral of their beloved Sir. Kt. Aloysius Kodjo Loglo. They ask for God's blessings for you.

3. Mr. & Mrs. Okyere Abayie are expressing their sincere appreciation to the Chaplain, Marriage and Family Life Committee, Youth Choir, Catechists, Mass Servers, Ushers, Lectors and all those who supported them during their Holy Matrimony. They pray for God's blessings for you all.

1. Calendars from Catholic Standard: We have on sale Calendars from the Catholic Standard @ Fifteen Ghana Cedis (GH¢ 15.00) per a copy. Please, visit the Sales Desk and get your copy.

2. Sale of Books – 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.

3. 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).

4. Vegetables on Sale: 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.

5. Honey for Sale: A parishioner has some Pure Honey for sale. Contact: 0240776529.

6. Banana Bread: Healthy Banana Bread with seeds and nuts available for sale and delivery as well. Contact – 0243750444.

<u>Harvest 2023 Levies</u>		<u>GH¢</u>
Senior Members/Business Men & Women	-	500.00
Senior Staff	-	300.00
Junior Staff/House Wife	-	150.00
Tertiary Students-Univ./Poly./Post Sec.	-	50.00
Senior High/Tech. Schools	-	30.00
Junior High/Prim./Kindergarten	-	20.00

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 at the Commercial Area and is open 24 hours. Contact them no: 0322067232 or 0501652923 for hassle-free laundry services. Absolute Quality every time.

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.

2. Blessed Trinity Leadership Academy: The FST Sisters of the Archdiocese of Kumasi would like to inform all Catholics (parishioners) that their school, Blessed Trinity Leadership Academy, located at Akokoamong in the Ejisu Municipality is enrolling pupils from the Creche to Basic 9 (JHS 3). They have Day and Boarding facilities and buses that convey the students in the morning to school and in the afternoon to their various destinations. Parishioners are to send their children to the school to be well trained and rooted in the Catholic faith. For further information, please contact (1) the Headmistress – Sr. Theresa Arthur on:0248149391, (2) the Assistant Head – Sir George on 0248505726, and (3) the Secretary – Madam Benedicta on 0247186619.

Job Opportunity: : **1.** A parishioner is looking for a female to work as a house help. Please interested persons should contact her on 0202027360 / 0208198270 for help.

2. 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.

3. 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: 0204020362.

4. A leading General Insurance Company seeks to recruit interested persons as Insurance Sales and Marketing Executives to help drive the Company's sales. The Job location will be Kumasi.

Job Summary: The Insurance Sales and Marketing Executive will sell Vehicle, Home and other types of non-life insurance policies.

Sales experience will be an added advantage.

Education and Experience: Bachelor's Degree or HND.

Sales experience will be an added advantage. Interested applicants should call 0559190821 / 0501392199.

Seeking for Job: 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 may 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 3-bedroom flat with a borehole water facility is available for rent at Appiadu. Interested persons should contact 0243049675.

3. A 3-bedroom flat with kitchen, bath and toilet rooms is ready for occupation at Ayeduase New Site, opposite Rhema Salvation Ministry on the KNUST-Ayeduase Road, suitable for 3 students. Interested persons can call 0244416770 / 0502693796.

4. There is A 2-Bedroom flat for rent at the Affordable Housing Unit at Asokore Mampong. Please, contact Atta Poku on 0246415027 / 0502781310.

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.