ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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UNIVERSITY POST OFFICE KUMASI, GHANA, WEST AFRICA.

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Readings: Job 38:1,8-11; Ps 107:23-26,28-31; 2Cor 5:14-17; Mk 4:35-41

Storm is Over: Trusting Jesus, That is All!

"The Lord be with you".

Dear People of God, we join Holy Mother the Church to celebrate the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B. The Liturgical readings for this weekend are a call to trust in the power of the Lord at all times. In the midst of adversity, we are reminded on the need to trust in the saving presence of God, who triumphs over the waters of the sea. In times of storms and distress, we are encouraged to turn to the Lord in faith, to Him whom even the wind and the sea obey.

There are so many storms in life that rock us and even threaten to throw us out of the boat of life. Job, in our first reading, faced some of these storms in his lifetime. But today God reminds us that He is in control of the world. This same control is exercised by Jesus when He calms the raging storm. Such scenarios call to mind moments when we lost control and had nowhere to go. The joyful message for us today is that God never loses control or sleeps. He is always with us and, even when the storms of life rage, we need not be afraid, for His presence is there. His presence gives us confidence to row the boat of our life, trusting in the loving protection of God. Our God will not let us perish because He died and rose for our sake that we might live.

The incident of the storm on the lake is recounted by all the Gospels. The early Church saw in it an insightful meaning for every generation of Christians. The sea has always had a strong fascination for people; inspiring wonder, curiosity, fear, awe, thrills and challenge. It evokes the mysterious, uncontrollable and primitive force of nature. In the Scriptures, it has the same meaning. The sea stands for brute power of chaos, hostile, which God restrains in Genesis, splits in two in Exodus, limits in the Book of Proverbs and controls in the Book of Job as read today. Lastly, in the Book of Revelation, as the New Jerusalem of God's peace descends from heaven, we are told that there will be "no more sea". Today's Gospel account goes beyond Jesus' power over weather disturbances. The Church Fathers and many commentators of old have seen this storm as representing the many kinds of storms that the Church faces from without and within. It also stands for the personal storms we might face in our life. We are familiar with the image of the storm possibly because it is universal and terrifying an experience. There are surely storms we experience on the outside. But there are also storms on the inside, such as anxiety, depression, and loss. These are dangerous kind of storms in that no matter what may be going on in one's life, a clear mind and untroubled soul can enable him/her to weather any storm. On the other hand, even when everything around us is going on well, turmoil and confusion within us can make everything we do seem pointless, meaningless, and trivial.

Our readings offer us some guidelines for handling personal storms. The Book of Job reminds us that storms do have limits. However intense it might be, a storm will pass. The Lord knows the limits of our tolerance. To any possible storm, the Lord says as in Job, "thus far shall you come and no further". God has the control. Sometimes we have to wait out the storm. It is vital at such times that we do not change the routine of our prayers. Difficult times are not times to distance ourselves from prayer and the Church. Those are the exact times when we need to remain close in prayer. Even if the prayer seems not to invigorate or nourish, we need to keep our hands on the wheel. Our prayer life gives us the stability need in any turbulence. Likewise, the storm is not a time to change direction. We must avoid, if possible, making any critical, serious, life-changing decisions, during times of deep anxiety or loss. In the storm is not the right time to make a career or vocational change, to write a letter to our employer, to break away from a relationship, or to rearrange our finances. These life changing decisions are best made when calm returns.

A storm is more than clouds, wind and rain. It is a natural cleansing that eliminates weak trees and makes room for new growth. It changes the landscape for a new day. Through faith we can see the storms in our life as times when things seem to be breaking apart but are in fact breaking open. Personal tragedy can lead us to new life with God. Physical loss can be a moment of spiritual gain. Illness can lead to spiritual renewal. St Paul, in our second reading, is not calling us to pretend the difficulties we face are not there but to see them more deeply with the eyes of Christ. For him Christians may be perplexed but not driven to despair, are renewed within even as the body deteriorates, walk by faith not by sight, and see situations with the eyes of Christ. Storms have great transforming power. Just as a landscape is not the same after a storm, so we are changed by the storms of our life. Through faith, we can be changed for the better.

Finally, we come to the undisputed truth that Christ is with us in the boat of life. When we are deluged by life, we are tempted to say with the apostles, "Lord, don't you care?" We can most times understand storms happening to others but not to ourselves. Let us be assured that in all our storms, Christ is not just beside us in our boat but is within us. It is Christ inside us who makes us new creation that nothing can overwhelm or destroy. Many great saints experienced the dark nights of inner storms but with Christ, they came to a new morning. We await that great moment when "the sea will be no more"; when Jesus will rebuke our troubling wind and say to the sea of our life, "Quiet! Be still!" That moment is close at hand for God's power is at work. Until then, we can trust the Christ within us to keep us strong and bring us safely through every storm. He will surely show us the morning. Your storm is about ending if not already over. Trusting Jesus, that is all!

We love, appreciate, cherish and celebrate our dearly beloved Fathers as today marks Father's Day. We thank you for who and what you are for us in life. God richly bless all you responsible fathers. Happy and Blessed Father's Day!

Please, remember to stay well, healthy and safe. Be not afraid to attend Mass. Wear your nose mask and observe all the safety protocols. Your life is dear to us. God bless and keep you safe.

Have a Blessed and Joyful Week.

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Pray for Us.

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CHURCH NOTICES:

Weekday Masses and Readings are as follows:

Monday, 21/06/21 – 6:30pm - Gen. 12:1-9 / Ps. 33:12-13, 18-20, 22 / Matt. 7:1-5 (Aloysius Gonzaga)

Tuesday, 22/06/21- 6:30am/7:00pm -Gen. 13:2, 5-18 / Ps. 14:2-5 / Matt. 7:6, 12-14 (Paulinus of Nola, John

Fisher and Thomas More)

Wednesday, 23/06/21 – 6:30am - Gen. 15:1-12, 17-18 / Ps. 105:1-4, 6-9 / Matt. 7:15-20

Thursday, 24/06/21 – 7:00pm - Isa. 49:1-6 / Ps. 139:1-3, 13-15 / Acts 13:22-26 / Lk. 1:57-66, 80 (The

Nativity of John the Baptist)

Friday, 25/06/21 – 6:30am - Gen. 17:1, 9-10, 15-22 / Ps. 128:1-5/ Matt. 8:1-4

Saturday, 26/06/21 – 7:00am - Gen. 18:1-15 / Ps. Lk 1:46-50, 53-55 / Matt. 8:5-17

Please come early to go through the Safety Protocols.

Next Sunday June 27, 2021 – 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B): Usual 5 Masses.

1st Reading – Wis. 1:13-15; 2:23-24

Res. Psalm – Ps. 30:2, 4-6, 11-13

2nd Reading – 2 Cor. 8:7, 9, 13-15

Gospel – Mk. 5:21-43

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

<u>Chaplaincy News Bulletin</u>: 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.

<u>NB</u>: You need to save the number to receive messages from the number on WhatsApp.

<u>Dues (Membership) Cards and Registration</u>: All parishioners who haven't got 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.

<u>Chaplaincy Cloth on Sale at a Reduced Price</u>: We have a large quantity of the Chaplaincy's Cloth on sale at a reduced price which now goes for Six Ghana Cedis (GH6.00) per a yard. Parishioners/Students who do not have or whose are old should please rush to the Chaplaincy Office for theirs.

<u>Chaplaincy Momo Pay</u>: 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 charges.

Reverting to the old System of taking Collection: The Chaplaincy, has from Sunday June 6, 2021, reverted to the old system of taking collection within the Mass. Please all parishioners should take note.

<u>One Parish Tree Planting Project</u>: The Catholic Archdiocese of Kumasi – Research and Innovations Committee (RICE) presents One Parish Tree Planting Project – 5th Anniversary of Laudato Si.

<u>Chapel Fund Collection</u>: Today Sunday June 20, 2021 is the third Sunday of the month. We are taking a 2nd Collection in support of our Chapel Building. Parishioners should please take note and bear with us.

- <u>Sincere Thanks</u>: 1. Mrs. Grace Tawiah, her children and family are expressing their sincere thanks to the Chaplain, Parish Welfare Committee, various Groups and Societies and parishioners for your prayer, support and generous donations during their bereavement. They ask for God's special blessings for you all.
- 2. The Family of Mr. Octavio Debuo Yirtiere wish to express their sincere appreciation to the Chaplain, Parish Welfare Committee, Dagaaba Union, St. Peter's Choir, Dagaaba Christian Mothers' Assoc., various groups and societies and all parishioners for your kind support and generous donations in the period of their bereavement. They pray that the good Lord will continue to bless you.
- **3.** Mad. Christiana Anaya wishes to express her sincere thanks to the entire Church and Frafra/Grushie Union for your prayers and support during her daughter's marriage ceremony. She prays that the good Lord will bless and give you tenfold of what you spent.
- **4.** Mad. Patricia Gyamfi wishes to express her immense gratitude to the Chaplain, Parish Welfare Committee, and parishioners for joining her to honour her late mother a befitting funeral at Sunyani. She is also thankful for your special donation and asks for God's blessing for you.

COMMITTEES, GROUPS AND SOCIETIES

<u>Pax Romana</u> – 1. <u>Catechism for Students</u>: All students who want to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, 1^{st} Communion and Confirmation are been informed that classes have resumed at Room 5 at the Baffoe Complex this and every Sunday at 4:00pm.

- **2.** <u>Life in the Spirit Seminar (LSS)</u>: All students who would want to be enrolled in the Life in the Spirit Seminar are being informed that it has commenced on this Saturday and Sunday at 4:00pm at the Sarpong Hall.
- 3. <u>Pax Week 2021</u>: It is a week purposely planned to help Pax members grow and flourish. This is started on from Monday June 14, 2021 and ending today Sunday June 20, 2021 with the **Theme:** "A Chosen Generation". Activity for today Sunday June 20, 2021 is: 'Pax Trade Fair'.

<u>Request for Support – Daughters of the Most Holy Trinity (FST)</u>: The FST Sisters of the Catholic Archdiocese of Kumasi are requesting parishioners to support them with used (or new) clothing, food stuff, stationary, and / or funds to support their Rural Outreach to aid their tradition of reaching out regularly to rural communities. As we know 'the harvest is rich but the labourers are few' so we need more labourers to support

them wholeheartedly to make a meaningful impact in the lives of needy people. Your support in this matter will be very much appreciated. For more enquiries, please, call on this number -0244976656.

<u>Sunday School Classes</u>: Parishioners (Parents/Guardians) are being informed that Sunday School Classes have resumed. However, only children from the Pre-Communion Class (age 7-9) to the Confirmation Class are admitted. Children in the Nursery Class are not starting now due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. You should also take note that Catechumens who were prepared for last year will be allowed to receive the 1st Communion. All new entrants would have to wait for the next period. Parents must ensure that their children wear their Nose Masks and come with water bottles, if possible. Please bear with us.

<u>Twi Catechism – 1st Communion and Confirmation Classes</u>: All parishioners who were attending 1st Communion and Confirmation Classes last year and had to stop due to the Covid-19 Pandemic are all expected to resume classes this and every Tuesday at 5.00pm. Please take note.

<u>Charismatic Renewal (Local)</u>: Members of the Local CCR are being informed of their usual meeting. Please take note.

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

<u>Sacred Heart of Jesus and Rosary Confraternity</u>: All members are informed that Church has resumed. Parishioners who wish to join the Confraternity are warmly welcome so that we all pray together.

<u>Legion of Mary</u>: The Legion of Mary Praesidium has resumed their meetings for both Twi and English on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 6:00pm and 5:00pm respectively. Both new and old members are warmly welcome.

<u>Dagaaba Union Meeting</u>: All the Dagaaba Union members will be meeting today Sunday June 20, 2021 immediately after the 10.30am Mass. All members are entreated to be present at the meeting.

<u>House Wiring, CCTV Camera & Solar Installations etc.</u>: Do you need a quality work done in the field of House Wiring, CCTV Camera and Solar installations? Please, contact 0246103830 for enquires.

<u>Inspirational Quotes For Living</u>: 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 GHC30.00.

<u>Job Opportunity</u>: 1. A parishioner is in need of Live-In Domestic staff, male and female. Interested persons should please call on the following numbers: 024427633 and 0203085867

- **2. Holy Family School** at Ahensan Estate, near the Ahensan Youth Centre and behind the Mc Kenzie Hospital is looking for Care Givers, Teachers and Cleaners. Interested persons should kindly leave their application letters at the school premises or the Chaplaincy Office and also call any of these numbers: 0208168643 / 0209488403.
- **3.** There is a vacancy for a Security Personnel at the Central University, Kumasi Campus. Interested persons should please contact the Co-Ordinator on 0244662487.

- **Rent Accommodation:** 1. A parishioner needs a single room apartment around Bomso, Maxima, The Cabin and Sussanso. Please, call to help him/her on 0248588860.
- **2.** A parishioner is in need of a single room accommodation to rent for occupation. Please, call and help him on: 0548991681 / 0553605278. Thank you.

House for Rent: A 3 Bedroom Flat with hall, kitchen, toilet, bathroom, spacious frontage veranda overlooking Phimady Pub located at Ayeduase New Site on the Main Road opposite Rhema Salvation Ministry is available for Rent from 1st July, 2021. For further enquiry, please contact: 0244416770 / 0502693796.

<u>Sale of Peanut Butter</u>: Thy Grace Natural Peanut Butter has in stock unadulterated butter (groundnuts paste) ideal for soup and bread-spread. For domestic and commercial (schools, restaurants, canteens, chop bars, food joints eateries) needs, contact the following for delivery: 0244158635 / 0244077147.

<u>MARRIAGE BANNS</u>: 1. Mr. Eric Akyen Ampah, son of Mr. Eric E. Ampah and Mrs. Cynthia Ampah, born at Aburi, used to reside at Akyem-Asafo, now residing at Amakom – Kumasi and Ms. Marian Essel, daughter of Mr. Dominic Otomfo Essel and Mrs. Rose Otomfo Essel, born at KNUST – Kumasi, residing at Adarko-Jachie. (3rd Announcement – To be Introduced).

<u>Funeral Announcement</u>: 1. We announce the funeral of Mad. Mary Dasumda, a parishioner and member of the Frafra/Grushie Union and also the mother of Mrs. Doris Kumah, also a parishioner as follows: wake-keeping on Friday June 25, 2021 at Ayigya School park, burial Mass at the Chaplaincy, burial follows, final funeral rites at the Ayigya School park from 1.00pm to 6.00pm, thanksgiving Mass on Sunday June 27, 2021 at the Chaplaincy. Parishioners are invited to mourn with the bereaved family. (Mrs. Doris Kumah and siblings to be introduced).

2. We announce the death of Mr. Bruno Pelepele, a parishioner and member of the Dagaaba Union and also the husband of Mrs. Felicia Pelepele, also a parishioner, member of the Dagaaba Union and Dagaaba Christian Mothers' Association. The one-week will be held on Tuesday June 22, 2021 at Ayeduase near Papa Jato's House. Parishioners are invited to mourn with the bereaved family.

Funeral Invitation: Ms. Elizabeth Akosua Boatemaa, a parishioner and member of the Non-Aligned Movement announces the death of her husband Mr. Victor Akwasi Acheampong. The one-week observation will be held on Tuesday June 22, 2021 at Ayeduase, opposite Rako School from 1.00pm to 6.00pm. All parishioners are invited to mourn with Ms. Boatemaa and the family.