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**UNIVERSITY POST OFFICE  
KUMASI, GHANA,  
WEST AFRICA.**

Date: July 04, 2021

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Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

*Readings: Ez 2:2-5; Ps 123:1-4; 2Cor 12:7-10; Mk 6:1-6*

**My Prophetic Role: Living and Speaking God's Word**

“The Lord be with you”.

Dear People of God, we celebrate with Holy Mother Church the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B. The readings of today throw lights on prophets, inviting us to reflect on our prophetic role in our homes, families, work place and communities. Ezekiel, Paul and Jesus appear in the three respective readings, manifesting their vocation as ambassadors and prophets of God. Ezekiel is asked by God to go and preach to the rebellious Israel. Paul, during his ministry experiences the power of Satan as he is afflicted by a “thorn in the flesh” while Jesus is met with misgivings and rejection by His own relations. However, none of them gave up; they had to carry out their task. We, the prophets of our time, cannot give up.

An important thing to recall about Biblical prophet is the fact that they are called to speak to others God's Word. Prophets must first of all be able to listen to what God is telling them in the depths of their hearts and then must preach what they have heard, without either changing or adding anything. They should not worry about the outcome of their mission: “Whether they listen or not, this tribe of rebels will know there is a prophet among them”. We tend to think of prophets as people who only predict the future. After all, everyone is interested in what is going to happen and many are those who claim to be able to tell us the future. There is a growing interest in horoscopes and psychic readings these days. Predicting the future was not the only role of prophets in the Bible. Their calling was to be God's agents; to be the conscience of the nation; to be attuned to evils that others ignore; and to alert the people to the spiritual sickness that was growing among them.

Prophets spoke about the abuse of the poor by the rich, the moral cancers that were eating away at the nation from disregard of the Commandments, and the blasphemy that occurred when religion became just window dressing rather than a serious commitment. They spoke of the impending disaster if all these continued to go on. They were moral doctors. Doctors do not primarily tell us the future. They do, however, tell us the truth that has a future. In a similar way prophets were the diagnosticians of the Israel's soul. Unlike the professional prophets who delivered their spiritual diagnosis for a living, much like the political commentators of our time, Biblical prophets were individually called by God to speak His Word. They were inspired by the Holy Spirit Who, as we profess in the Creed, has spoken through the prophets. They were given a message for Israel and also for all time. One thing about true prophets is that none of them was very popular. They criticized the ways things were, which never makes a person popular.

Prophets are expected to be focus on the task that God gives them. The prophet Ezekiel is told in our first reading that he will face the rejection of his message but his mission was to speak the truth despite apathy and resistance.

St Paul speaks about his mission of preaching God's Word despite his "thorn in the flesh". He may be speaking about a physical ailment of some kind that seriously debilitated him. We may also have a thorn in the flesh which is not necessarily a physical ailment but could be certain people or events in our life. St Paul teaches us that we do not have to be perfect to be instruments of God. Likewise, Jesus in the Gospel is misunderstood and is rejected by the people of his own hometown out of prejudice. They cannot go beyond knowing Him as "the carpenter, the Son of Mary, the brother of James and Joses and Jude and Simon". They question among themselves: "Where did the man get all this...?" But He went forward. If people close to us will not listen to us, that does not mean that nobody will listen to us. We should not give up speaking the truth.

These facts about the prophet's life are dear to us because as a Church, as a Parish, as Individual Christians, we are called by virtue of our Baptism to speak and live God's Word in the world around us. In our bit to fulfil our prophetic mission comes trials, doubts, misunderstandings and rejection. What if, like Ezekiel, we are not successful? Some claim that after 2000 years, the whole world should be Catholic or Christian. The internet seems to spread faster than the Gospel. But as we know the internet does not require a change of heart and life. Also, the preaching of the Gospel is never finished. Like parenting, it starts all over again with the birth of each baby. What if like St Paul we have our thorn in the flesh, a personal problem that we have to address? We cannot wait for our life to be perfect before we speak and live the truth of God. If we wait for our life to be perfect, we will wait forever. We are called to be faithful, not to be problem free people. What if, like Jesus, those closer to us do not listen to what we have to say? Probably those closest to us fail to see the truth of what we have to say because they are so close. We should never let their rejection keep us from our mission of speaking the truth to others.

We are encouraged by the protagonists in all three readings never to give up in situations of doubts. All our protagonists in question are empowered and sustained by the power of God working in them. Jesus was aware of His role as the prophet sent by His Father, regardless of the fact that He is rejected by the people of His own hometown. Paul experiences the power of Christ who assures him, "My grace is enough for you". And Ezekiel is assured that "whether they listen or not, this tribe of rebels will know there is a prophet among them". When we follow God's precepts and be His messengers, there will be moments of trial, misunderstanding and rejection in life. But we will always be strengthened and sustained by the plentiful grace of God. Let us remember that there are some statements we make in personal conversations with others when issues of Church, morality and faith arise. People speak with us who will never speak with a priest. We are possibly the only link to Christ and His Church they will have in their life. There is the example we give to our children, the seeds we plant by our example that may not sprout right away but will later on, just as the example of our parents has stayed with us in later life. By our Baptism, we are called and sent not only to grow in grace ourselves but also to carry God's Word into a new generation. May we never downplay our prophetic role!

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 Fruitful Week.

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Pray for Us.

14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**CHURCH NOTICES:**

**Weekday Masses and Readings are as follows:**

Monday, 05/07/21 – 6:30pm - Gen. 28:10-22a / Ps. 91:1-4 / Matt. 9:18-26 (Anthony Mary Zachariah)

Tuesday, 06/07/21- 6:30am/7:00pm – Gen. 32:23-33 / Ps. 16:1-3, 6-8, 15 / Matt. 9:32-38 (Maria Goretti)

Wednesday, 07/07/21 – 6:30am - Gen. 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a / Ps. 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19 / Matt. 10:1-7

Thursday, 08/07/21 – 7:00pm - Gen. 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5 / Ps. 105:16-21 / Matt. 10:7-15

Friday, 09/07/21 – 6:30am - Gen. 46:1-7, 28-30 / Ps. 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 / Matt. 10:16-23

(Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions)

Saturday, 10/07/21 – 7:00am - Gen. 49:29-32; 50:15-26a / Ps. 105:1-4, 6-7 / Matt. 10:24-33 (B. V. M.)

Please come early to go through the Safety Protocols.

**Next Sunday July 11, 2021 – 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (B): Usual 5 Masses.**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Amos 7:12-15

Res. Psalm – Ps. 85:9-14

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Eph. 1:3-14

Gospel – Mk. 6:7-13

**Benediction:** There will be Benediction this evening Sunday July 4, 2021 at 7.00pm. All parishioners are encouraged to be present to pray.

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

**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 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.

**Chaplaincy Cloth on Sale at a Reduced Price:** 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 own a cloth or is worn out should please rush to the Chaplaincy office to purchase.

**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 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.

**Sincere Thanks:** 1. Mrs. Doris Kumah and family are expressing their sincere appreciation to the Chaplain, Parish Welfare Committee, Frafra/Grushie Union/Christian Mothers and all parishioners who supported and sympathised with them during the funeral of Mad. Mary Dasumda. They ask for God's blessings for you.

## **COMMITTEES, GROUPS AND SOCIETIES**

**Pre-Harvest 2021 Launching:** The Harvest Committee is pre-launching the 2021 Harvest today Sunday July 4, 2021 at all Masses. Parishioners should please bear with us.

**Chaplaincy Accounts:** The Chaplaincy Audited Accounts will be presented next Sunday July 11, 2021 at all Masses. Parishioners should please take note.

**Launching of Harvest 2021:** The Harvest Committee will launch this year's Harvest on Sunday July 18, 2021 at all Masses. They will let us know the activities to be done during the harvest and the levies to be paid by individuals. Parishioners are to take note.

**Parish Council & Leaders Retreat:** There will be a Parish Council/Leaders Retreat at the Chaplaincy on Friday July 23, 2021 at exactly 6.30pm. Presidents and Secretaries of various groups and societies are expected to avail themselves for this all-important program as stated.

**Parish Evaluation:** There will be an Evaluation of Parish Activities done in the year 2020 at the Chaplaincy on Sunday July 25, 2021 at 10.00am which will involve all groups and societies. Various groups and societies are therefore to pick up Evaluation Report Forms from the Chaplaincy Office and submit them before Sunday July 25, 2021. Please take note.

**Pax Romana – 1. Life in the Spirit Seminar (LSS):** 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.

**2. Mass for Students:** There is Mass for Students every Tuesday at 6.30pm. Come and be blessed. Come with another person.

**3. Pax Choir KNUST Presents Night of Hymns 2021:** This year's Night of Hymns is in celebration of Thirty-Five (35) years as a choir. The theme is: "**MIRABILE GRATIAM, AMAZING GRACE**". This comes off on Sunday July 18, 2021 at the Chaplaincy at 5.30pm. All parishioners are invited.

**4. Praisydram 2021:** Pax C.C.R. will be organising a Praisydram at St. Joseph Park, Ayeduase on Saturday July 24, 2021 at 4.00pm. Parishioners are invited to this program and also to support them financially.

**Youth Empowerment Program (YEP):** Tertiary students who want to be enrolled into the Youth Empowerment

Program for the next Academic Year should pick and submit forms from the Chaplaincy Office from Monday June 28, 2021 to Monday July 12, 2021 between the hours 8.00am and 5.00pm each working day.

**Request for Support – Daughters of the Most Holy Trinity (FST):** 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.

**Sunday School Classes:** 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**Two Catechism – 1<sup>st</sup> Communion and Confirmation Classes:** All parishioners who were attending 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**Joint Meeting – Local CCR and Students CCR:** There is going to be a joint meeting of both the Local and the Students Charismatic Renewal today Sunday July 4, 2021 at 3.30pm. All concerned are expected to be present and on time.

**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.

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

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

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

**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 GHC30.00.

**Job Opportunity:** 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. Central University, Kumasi Campus:** There is a vacancy for a Security Personnel at the Central University, Kumasi Campus. Interested persons should please contact the Co-Ordinator on 0244662487.

**4. Wings for Life Academy:** Wings for Life Academy, located at First Eye Avenue 32E, Kumasi, is looking for interested Psychology, Education, Social Work Students or Post National Service Personnel who are hardworking, passionate about children with special needs, responsible and intelligent, seeking to make extra income on their own to be provided with training from international Experts to help make a difference to children with the following disorders: Autism, Asperger, ADHA and Persuasive Developmental Disorder (PDD/PDD-NOS). Interested persons should please, sent their Application and CV to: [wflaghana@gmail.com](mailto:wflaghana@gmail.com) or call Ms. Philo on: 0240050758.

**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.

3. A parishioner needs an accommodation around KNUST Campus – Emena, Apemso, Kotei, Boadi, Ayeduase, Kentinkrono, Ayigya, Maxima, Bomso, Susanso, Oduom, Gyinyase, etc. to rent. Please, call on 0545174080 to help.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2021. For further enquiry, please contact: 0244416770 / 0502693796.

**Sale of Peanut Butter:** 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.

**MARRIAGE BANNES:** Mr. Emmanuel Aboagye, son of Mr. Anthony Akwasi Aboagye and Mad. Mary Amankwa, born in Kumasi, residing at Kotei-Twumduase and Ms. Lois Ohemaa Twum-Barimah, daughter of Mr. Anthony Twum-Barimah and Mad. Lovia Omang-Agyei, born in Kumasi, residing in Jamesburg, New Jersey. (2<sup>nd</sup> Announcement)

**Funeral Announcement:** A parishioner Mr Josephat Betanyoung is announcing the death of his father Mr William Betanyoung also a parishioner and a member of the Ushering Ministry. The One Week Observation will be on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 at Offinso Boaman from 6:00am to 6:00pm. All parishioners are invited to mourn with the bereaved family.