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DATE: 19TH MARCH, 2023



UNIVERSITY POST OFFICE

KUMASI, GHANA

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - 20/03/23 - 6:30PM

2 Sam. 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 / Ps. 89:2-5, 27-29 / Rom 4:13.16- 18, 22 / Mt. 1:16, 18-21, 24a (St. Joseph, Husband of Blessed Virgin Mary)

TUESDAY – 21/03/23 6:30AM & 6:30PM

Ez. 47:1-9, 12 / Ps. 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 / Jn. 5:1-16

WEDNESDAY – 22/03/23 – 6:30AM

Is. 49:8-15./Ps. 145:8-9, 13-14, 17-18 / Jn. 5:17-30

THURSDAY – 23/03/23 – 7:00PM

Ex. 32:7-14./Ps. 106:19-23./Jn. 5:31-47 (Turibius De Mongrevejo)

FRIDAY 24/03/23 — 6:30AM

Wis. 2:1a, 12-22 / Ps 34:17-21, 23 / Jn. 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

SATURDAY – 25/03/23 — 7:00AM

Is. 7:10-14; 8:10 / Ps. 40:7-11 / Heb. 10:4-10 / Lk. 1:26-38 (The Annunciation of the Lord)

NEXT SUNDAY MARCH 26, 2023 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (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 – Ez 37:12-14

RES. PSALM - Ps.130:1-8

2ND READING – ROM 8:8-11

GOSPEL – JN 11:1-45

Jesus: True Light for the Believer

Dear People of God, we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year (A), traditionally known as *Laetare* Sunday, so-called from the first word of the antiphon at the *Introit* (Entrance Antiphon). *Laetare* (Rejoice), taken from the Latin translation of Is 66:10-11, sets a tone of joyful anticipation of the Easter mystery, as such the permitted use of Rose-Coloured vestments. Christ, the true Light, fills our hearts with the light of faith. The prophet Samuel does not see as God sees, in the choice of David, who is anointed with oil as king of Israel. As Jesus cures the blind man, so too are we brought from darkness into light through the grace of Baptism. As we walk in the darkness of this world, often assailed by fear and misgiving, Christ, the Shepherd-King, the second David, lights up our way for us and cures our congenital blindness as He leads us to His Kingdom.

The theme of blindness/sight and darkness/light so prominent in this week's readings continues the Lenten catechesis aimed at preparing us for renewal of Baptismal Promises and Easter Baptism. The Season is designated as a period of Purification and Enlightenment. Blindness, in this context, is not about the quality of our vision or the condition of our eyes; It is not about the darkness around us but rather, the darkness within us. How we see others, what we see in the world, and the way we see life is less about the objects of our seeing and more about ourselves. We do not see God, people, things, or circumstances as they are but as we are. Thus, until our eyes are opened by Christ, our seeing is really just a projection of ourselves onto the world. What we see and how we see manifest our inner world. They describe and point to the attachments, fears, and beliefs within us and keep us from seeing as God would have us see. We need Christ to open our eyes, lead us to spiritual sight, and to a deeper faith in Him, so that we may see as God sees.

The description of God's choice of David over his brothers in the first reading is a tale of human blindness; our inability to see spiritual truth as God sees it. David is portrayed as the least likely of his brothers to be chosen for greatness. It never even occurs to his father to present David to Samuel as a candidate for divine election. But God looks and sees into the heart and commands the prophet to anoint David, causing the Spirit of the Lord to rush and rest upon him. The gesture of anointing signifies both God's choice of David and his consecration for the mission, of shepherding God's people as king. The blindness of those around David to his potential for being an instrument of God's power is a symbol on many levels of how sin could blind us to God's will for us and the world.

The author of the second reading describes the reality of sin in functional terms as "a time when we were in darkness", capturing the desperate situation of the human race without Christ. Though the works of darkness are not mentioned explicitly, they are alluded to in suggestive language as "vain deeds", "shameful" and "condemned". We are exhorted to turn away from former sinful ways, unfruitful works of darkness, to follow the way of Christ. Christians can learn and live this way of life pleasing to the Lord because Christ has given us light. The fruits of Christ's saving light – goodness, right, and truth – eradicate the effects of a life lived in the dark-

ness.

In the Gospel today, Jesus heals a man born blind and gradually leads him to recover his spiritual sight: to recognize Jesus as a prophet and finally as the Anointed One, the Lord. The man journeys from lack of sight, through sight, to insight, and faith. He is contrasted with the religious leaders, his neighbours, his family, and those who had seen him begging; these see very well with their eyes but are spiritually blind and in greater need of healing. They were born with vision but refused to believe and could not see who Jesus really is. They saw Jesus as an opposition: while they moved into hostility toward Him, which is darkness, the cured man saw Jesus as a Saviour, moved toward faith, into the light. Through faith, the Light of Christ, we are given the capacity to see the Christ-centred meaning of events in our life. Lent helps us to care for and grow in our faith. Faith in God is very much like sight, and like spiritual and physical sights, are gifts from God. Just as only those who have been deprived of sight can appreciate what it means to see, so those who have been without belief can appreciate the grace and gift of faith when given to them.

There is a lot of irony in the text, and through it, listeners are obligated to ask themselves who is blind and who can see. The figure of the man blind from birth is a fitting image of the human condition of sin. St John tells the story of the man's cure by Jesus in a way that reveals who it is that is truly blind: those who stubbornly refuse to accept Jesus as the Light of the world. Let us use the second half of Lent to deepen the gift of our Catholic faith through prayer, to learn about it through study, to display it in our relationships with others, to strengthen it by gathering with the Church for worship, so we can proclaim it at Easter and live it the rest of the year, all our life. For the man cured by Jesus, all he knew was that he was born blind and now he can see. This simple truth was enough for him to withstand the specious arguments to explain it away, the threats against his life and his family, and all efforts to get him to deny what happened to him. He remained steadfast in the Light and faith and saw who Jesus really is. Such is our individual calling.

Dear Students, Lent invites us to deepen our faith in Jesus Christ, our Light. We gather in Church, to pray, study, and profess our faith in the Light so that we can gain physical and spiritual sights to live and see as God sees. This, I must say, is the way to remain Catholic on campus with a balanced Spiritual and Academic life. Only God can heal our blindness. He does it through the Mass. We cannot afford to miss this opportunity. Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2022. Ayekoo! May God bless, protect, and keep us safe for the rest of the Semester. Pax!

Please be reminded to stay well, healthy, and safe. Be not afraid to attend Mass. Remember to observe all the safety protocols. Get vaccinated if you are not. Your life is dear to us.

Have a Fruitful and Blessed Week!

God bless and keep you safe.

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Pray for Us.

PASTORAL TEAM

Chaplain: Rev. Fr. Dr. Anthony F. Naah – 02499999616
 Assisting Priests: Rev. Fr. Dr. Victor Quagraine 0207024221
 Rev. Fr. Timothy Baghrmwin SJ—0277154777
 Rev. Fr. Richard Antwi Boasiako — 0501154065
 CHAPLAINCY MOMO PAY: 097655

READINGS FOR THE DAY

1st Reading: 1 Sam. 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

2nd Reading: Eph. 5:8-14

Gospel: Jn. 9:1-41



General Notices

Night of Hymns: The IMCS Pax Romana Choir - KNUST Local presents Night of Hymns 2023 with the theme, “*El Amor, La Escencia*” meaning, “*Love, the Essence*”. The program comes off today Sunday 19, 2023 at 5:00pm at the Chaplaincy. Parishioners are encouraged to attend.

Students’ Acies: The Queen of Angels Students’ Continuum, Kumasi will be having its Acies function on Saturday March 25, 2023 at 10:00am at the Chaplaincy with the theme, “*Renewal of Fealty and Consecration to Our Lady; a solemn willingness to serve as a student Apostolate.*” All Student Legionaries are entreated to attend.

Kassena – Nankana Retreat and Mass: all Kassena – Nankana Catholics within the Archdiocese are being invited to a retreat on Saturday 25, 2023 at the St. Mary’s Grotto, Buoho at 9:30am and Holy Mass on Sunday 26, 2023 at the St. Peter’s Cathedral Basilica, Roman Hill at 10:00am. All members are entreated to attend.

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

Stations of The Cross: There will be Stations of the Cross on all Fridays of the Lenten period at 1.00pm and 7:00pm. Parishioners should please take note and avail themselves to journey with the Lord throughout the period of Lent.

Lenten Prayer Session: The Catholic Chaplaincy is organising an hour of Prayer Session during this year’s Lenten season with the theme: “*The Word of God is the Source of our Life*”– (Jn. 1:1). This started on Monday February 27, 2023 and will end on Wednesday March 15, 2023 at the Klaver Hall of the Parish Centre from 5.00pm to 6.00pm each day. Parishioners/groups/societies are encouraged to be part of this spiritual exercise.

Reception of the Marian Statue: The Archdiocesan Marian Statue is at the Chaplaincy here. Groups, societies and individual parishioners are being entreated to come and pray and present their intentions before our Mother Mary.

Sick/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 Communion.

Covid-19 Protocols: We plead and encourage all parishioners to please continue to wear the “**NOSE MASKS**” while in church for Liturgical Celebrations. All are encouraged to continue to observe the other Covid-19 Protocols.

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 Catechists after Mass to help you or come to the Chaplaincy Office to do so. Please take note.

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 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.

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**”

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.

FUN FACT

Three popes were under the age of 25. The last was Pope Gregory V, who was 24 when elected in 996.

Committees, Groups & Societies

Charismatic Renewal (Local): The C.C.R. – Local members are being reminded that today Sunday March 19, 2023, there will be prayer meeting at the usual meeting place. Members are encouraged to be present and on time.

Dagaaba Union: All Dagaaba Union members are reminded of their meeting today Sunday March 19 2023 immediately after the 10:00 am Mass. All members are expected to be at the meeting.

Twi Catechism: It is announced to parishioners that Twi Catechism for all the Sacraments – Baptism, 1st Communion and Confirmation for year 2023 is on Tuesdays and Wednesdays i.e. from February 7, 2023 at the Chaplaincy. Time: 5.00pm to 6.00pm. Interested parishioners should please take note and register before it is too late.

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.

Marriage Banns



Youth Corner

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

All Chaplaincy youth should endeavour to attend.

Pax Corner

Student Mass comes off every **Tuesday at 6:30pm**

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

Funeral Announcements & Invitation

Funeral Announcement: 1. We announce the death of Mr. Dominic Owusu Afriyie (a.k.a. Doak). The one-week observation will be held next Sunday March 26, 2023 at New Amakom M/A/ School from 6.00am to 6.00pm. Parishioners are invited to mourn with the bereaved family.

2. Prof Justice Sir Dennis Adjei, a parishioner and a member of Knights of St. John International announces the funeral of his wife Supt. (Mrs.) Mary Magdalene Baffoe Adjei, also a parishioner and a member of Knights of St. John International as follows: lying in state on Saturday March 25, 2023 at 4:00am at the Chaplaincy, burial Mass follows at 8:00am, final funeral rites at the KNUST Poolside from 1:00pm to 6:00pm, interment at Fiema-Nkoranza, Bono East Region, thanksgiving Mass on Sunday March 26, 2023 at the Chaplaincy at 8:00am, family gathering at the KNUST Poolside from 1:00pm to 6:00pm. Parishioners are invited to mourn with the bereaved family.

3. We announce the death of Sir Knight Nana Opoku Asiri Boateng II (a.k.a. Mr. James Brenya Boateng), a parishioner and father of Mad. Agnes Boateng, a former parishioner and Sunday school teacher. The funeral rites as follows: : laying in state on Thursday March 30, 2023 at Atasenmango Old Town near the Police Station, burial rites follows at 10:00am, private burial, funeral rites on Saturday April 1, 2023 at Atasenmango School Park from 1:00pm to 6:00pm, thanksgiving mass on Sunday April 2, 2023 at the St. Theresah Catholic Church, Atasenmango at 8:30am, final funeral rites at the Atasenmango School Park from 1:00pm to 6:00pm. Parishioners are invited to mourn with the bereaved family.

Funeral Invitation: 1. Mrs Linda Arkor Darko a parishioner and a Sunday School Teacher invites parishioners to the funeral of her father Krontihene Nana Joseph Kwabena Ankamah Okra (a.k.a. Agya Koo). The funeral rites as follows: Friday 24th March, 2023: family gathering- Asuokor, Bono Region), Saturday 25th March, 2023: final funeral rites- Asuokor, Bono Region, Sunday 26th March, 2023: thanksgiving service at the Roman Catholic Church and after which the funeral rites will continue- Asuokor, Bono. Parishioners are invited to mourn with the bereaved family. Dress code (funeral rites): Red & Black, thanksgiving: White & Black **(Mrs Linda Darko to be introduced)**

2. Mrs. Agnes Afriyie, a parishioner and her children Mr. Stephen Afriyie and Mrs. Mary Kuntworbe also parishioners and members of Movement of Christian Workers (M.C.W.), Our Lady's Choir and Theresian International respectively announce the death of their husband and father Mr Paul Kwame Afriyie. The one week observation will be on Thursday, 23rd March 2023 at Fumesua Krontihene's house with GPS address AE-0459-6159. Parishioners are invited to mourn with the bereaved family.

3. Dr. Godfred Owusu Boateng, a parishioner, is inviting parishioners to the funeral of his mother Obaapanin Christiana Gyebi (a.k.a. Auntie Christie/Cabbage Hema) as follows: lying in state on Saturday March 25, 2023 at H/No. AK.14 at 4.00am, burial service at the funeral grounds at 8.30am, burial follows, funeral rites at the funeral grounds from 12.00noon to 6.00pm, final funeral rites on Sunday March 26, 2023 from 12noon to 6.00pm, thanksgiving service on Sunday April 2, 2023 at Jubilee International Church, Nkawkaw Branch – Accra Town, near Topway Hotel at 8.00am – **all at Adjamesu, off Kumasi-Obuasi Rd.** Parishioners are invited to mourn with the bereaved family. **(Dr. Godfred Owusu Boateng to be introduced)**

Sincere Thanks

1. The family of Mrs. Mary Martin are expressing their sincere appreciation to the Chaplain, Parish Welfare Committee, St. Cecilia's Guild, St. Theresa of the Child Jesus and parishioners for sympathising with them during the burial and funeral of their mother and relative Mrs. Mary Martin. They pray that the good Lord blesses you all.

2. Mad. Lydia Ampontuah is expressing her sincere appreciation to the Chaplain, Parish Welfare Committee, St. Theresa of the Child Jesus and parishioners for sympathising with her during her bereavement. She prays that the good Lord blesses you.

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.

Admission – 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 Grace (OLAG) S.H.S., Mampong – 2023 Entrance Examination: Our Lady of Grace Senior High School, a Private Catholic Senior High School located at Mampong (15kms away from Kumasi) within the Catholic Diocese of Konongo-Mampong is inviting students for 2023 Entrance Examination. Please, for full details, visit the Notice Board and read for yourselves.

Job Opportunity: 1. Someone is looking for a lady between the ages of 19 and 25 to work with in Bread Baking Business. She will be given an accommodation and also teach her how to go about the bread making. She is also looking for a lady who knows how to fold bread as well as one to sell the bread and again looking for a male to help in removing the bread from the oven. The workplace is at Oduom. Interested parishioners should call 0546437159 or 0241294858 for help.

2. 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 contact 0558522551 or 0208115349

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 can contact 0206744951 or 0595421091.

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.

Rooms 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.

Fianke Renewable & Organics Ltd.: One of the safest ways to avoid the hospitals is by eating organic vegetables. Let's provide you, home vegetable gardens in containers with 10 to 12 different vegetable crops for your household. We will assist you to your first harvest for as long as you wish. Call us on 0559492181. Take your health at heart.

Augen's Farm: Broilers available for sale – Augen's Farm, located at Ahinsan Estate, adjacent Good Shepherd School is selling live chickens, cutting and dressing. Parishioners should call on 0553708034 or 0232143509 for help.

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