

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: 10TH MARCH, 2024

God's Unconditional Love for Us: Christ Lifted Up!

Dear People of God, we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year B), also known as *Laetare* Sunday. Mother Church bids us to rejoice with her, reminding us that the Lenten Season is not a time of grief, but a joyful anticipation of the Easter Mystery. The readings invite us to reflect on God's love for us and our faith. This love is shown in His mercy that redeems and sanctifies us even when our sins condemn us. God never gives up on us; He always seeks to save us. God's love is expressed when Christ is lifted up so that everyone who believes in Him will be saved. The Crucifix is a perennial reminder of the love of God, Christ's love and human response with belief.

Our sins make us exiles of God's Kingdom. But just as God sent Cyrus, the King of Persia, to bring His people back from Babylon, so in His great love He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to bring us back to the new Jerusalem "to live the good life as from the beginning He had meant us to live it". God's love is manifested in His generous mercy in giving up His only Son for our healing and redemption. When Israelites broke the covenant and chose darkness in preference to light, they were punished with exile, slavery, and the destruction of their Temple, the centre of national religious devotion. Cyrus of Persia, a rare and outstanding Old Testament example of divine election outside of Israel, is seen as God's chosen instrument of restoration. The Book of Chronicles tells Israel's history in terms of the people's covenant relationship with God. Their infidelities are seen as the cause of divine punishment in Israel's national disasters, and the repeal of their misfortunes is due to divine mercy. This is evident in their exceeding unfaithfulness and rebellion against the God who gave them life: they added infidelity upon infidelity; following and practising all the abominations of the nations; they polluted the house of the Lord which He had hallowed in Jerusalem; they mocked the messengers of God; despised God's Word and warnings; and scoffed at His prophets. Israel's story is the story of every generation and every life. Their attitudes lead them into exile, slavery. God did not withdraw His love for them: took the new initiative to rebuild and restore His people.

The love of God for His people goes beyond their sins and rebellion: God always seeks to bring healing, redemption and new life. For Israel, God chose the Persian King Cyrus as an agent of salvation. For the sake of His love and mercy for His people, not counting their sins against them, God uses new initiatives in His plan of salvation. Out of love, He pardons and raises up those who are unfaithful, those who love the darkness rather than the light. Similarly, St Paul talks in the second reading about divine favour in the faith of Christian believers that originates from the eternal election of God. This divine favour, the saving plan of God, is fulfilled in Christ Jesus. For Paul, when we were dead in our transgressions, God brought us to life with Christ. He knew this from experience. He persecuted the Church; arrested and imprisoned Christians. Then out of nowhere on the road to Damascus, the Risen Christ appeared to him. With that, his life was changed. Though he did nothing to deserve it, salvation was now his in Jesus Christ. He sees Christ as the way to salvation, forgiveness and a new life for humanity. Christ has become the bridge between our sins and God's healing. All is grace, and grace is the basis of new life in Christ.

In the Gospel, the "world", sometimes presented as enemy territory, is presented as the special focus of God's loving care and concern. Yet, it is clear that the world needs healing that only the Saviour's death can provide. The image of Jesus "lifted up" on the Cross is compared with the bronze serpent that was the conduit of divine healing in the wilderness, when Israelites were dying of the poisonous bite of the serpent. The episode, detailed in Nu 21:4-9, shows that the attack of the serpents was an act of divine judgment, which provoked repentance and God's response with healing. (The serpent on a staff is a symbol of the medical profession). St John also highlights the merciful kindness of God. One must look upon the Crucified Son with faith to receive the abundance promised. The poison of sin affects the world and us, and we cannot expel sin on our own. We need something powerful enough to pull it out of us, absorb it and eliminate it. Jesus says, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life". Jesus on the Cross, like that bronze serpent, brings healing to us. He draws out the venom of sin in our lives and replaces it with the grace of new life. This is only possible if we believe and choose to love and live in the light.

Lent is not a time to just sympathize with the Cross of Jesus but to embrace it: to begin once more to follow Jesus with our life. It is not the gazing but the faithful following that brings healing and new life. We can sing, meditate, lament the sufferings of Jesus, or celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus; we can do many beautiful things to honour Jesus. But are we ready to follow Jesus, to open our lives to His teaching, His truth, and His forgiveness, as it comes to us through His Church? Christians are urged to take the step of Repentance, to change how we live. We have a cure for the deep illness and rebellion of the soul that we call sin. Left to itself, sin is toxic: it kills us spiritually. The cure is the Cross of Jesus Christ, God's love for us. We could put that Cross on a wall; build a beautiful shrine around it; or wear it as jewellery. If we do only that, it will not do us much good, unless we embrace Jesus and follow His teaching in our life. As we reflect on the Crucifix, it shows us the horror of sin as well as the gift of God's love and the curing forgiveness that can be ours if we follow Jesus. Whatsoever the burdens in our soul, the one verse that can make a difference in our life is: "God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life". This is the perennial truth of what redemption is all about for our troubled world and for each of us whom God so loves and seeks to heal. Imitate God in His love for the world and us!

Dear students, as we reflect, pray, fast, and give during this Season of Lent, let us also embrace the Cross of Christ, God's love for us. 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 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 – 0249999616
Assisting Priests: Rev. Fr. Dr. Victor Quagrainie - 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: 2Chr 36:14-16

2nd Reading: Eph 2:4-10

Gospel: Jn 3:14-21



MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, 11/03/2024 – 6:30PM

ISA. 65:17-21 / Ps. 30:2, 4-6, 11-13 / Jn. 4:43-54

TUESDAY, 12/03/2024 - 6:30AM/6:30PM

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

WEDNESDAY, 13/03/2024- 6:30AM

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

THURSDAY, 14/03/2024 - 7:00PM

Ex. 32:7-14 / Ps. 106:19-23 / Jn. 5:31-47

FRIDAY, 15/03/2024 - 6:30AM

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

SATURDAY, 16/03/2024 - 7.00AM

Jer. 11:18-20 / Ps. 7:2-3, 9-12 / Jn. 7:40-53

NEXT SUNDAY MARCH 17, 2024 – 5TH 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 – JER. 31:31-34

RESP. PSALM – Ps. 51:3-4, 12-15

2ND READING – HEB. 5:7-9

GOSPEL – JN. 12:20-33

General Notices

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.

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 infirmed 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: The Chaplaincy has acquired a Merchant Sim. Parishioners are advised to make payments of Harvest Levy, Chapel Fund Contribu-

tions, 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.



Lent Fact

Purple is the liturgical color associated with Lent. It is a symbol of penance, humility, and mourning. The use of purple vestments, paraments, and decorations in churches during Lent underscores the somber and reflective nature of this season.

Committees, Groups & Societies

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.

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.

Asawase Deanery Youth Camp: The Asawase Deanery Youth Council wishes to inform all the Youth in the Asawase Deanery of the upcoming Deanery Youth Camp at St Marcellin Champagnat School at Buokrom which starts from Wednesday, April 17, 2024 to Sunday, April 21, 2024. Interested peo-

ple (Youth) should register either at the Chaplaincy Office or with their societal leaders.

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

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.

TwI Catechism: It is announced for the information of parishioners that TwI 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 Con-

fraternity:

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).

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.

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



Mr. Joseph Osei-Tutu, son of Mr. Emmanuel Kwaku Bugyei and Mad. Mercy Nyarko, born at Kokofu-Asaaman, used to reside at Oforikrom, now residing at Domeabra and **Ms. Grace Naab**, daughter of Mr. Sylvester Naab and Mad. Alice Naab, born in Kumasi, used to reside at Heman, now residing at Domeabra. **(1st Announcement)**

2. Mr. Stephen Lassong Binandam, son of Mr. Lassong Ndegma and Mad. Mabinku Lassong, born at Saboba, residing in Kumasi and **Ms. Millicent N-Yokuni Ngmal Bini**, daughter of Mr. Upel- N-Yokuni and Mad. Nyoja Yajabrum, born at Saboba, residing at Tamale. **(1st Announcement)**

Youth Corner

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

All Chaplaincy youth should endeavour to attend.

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. Night of Hymns'24: Pax Choir comes again with Night of Hymns, and this year promises to be exceptional. Join us today Sunday, the 10th of March, 2024 at exactly 5:00pm. Be prepared to grace us with your presence as we sing hymns to our God. N.O.H. 2024. Come let us sing a hymn to God.

Funeral Announcement

Sincere Thanks

Mrs. Theresa Amissah Cudjoe and Family are expressing their sincere thanks to the Chaplain, Parish Welfare Committee and parishioners for your support and sympathy during the funeral of their mother and in-law in Takoradi. They pray that the good and gracious Lord blesses you all.

1. 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.

2. 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).

3. 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.

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

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

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. Insurance Company: 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.

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.

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.

1. House for Rent: 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. 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.