

MEETINGS

- ◆ The **Lectors' Group** meets every Wednesday at 6.30pm prompt. Ga and Ewe readers are especially invited.
- ◆ **St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Society** meets every Wednesday at 6pm in the Music Room.
- ◆ **Immaculate Heart of Mary Choir** meets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7pm at 2nd floor Conference room. New members are invited.
- ◆ **St. Theresa Church Choir** meets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6:30pm in the Chapel.
- ◆ **St. Anthony's Guild** meets at 5:30pm on Tuesdays
- ◆ **Sacred Heart Confraternity** meets every 1st Sunday of the month after 2nd Mass
- ◆ **Catholic Women** will meet today after 2nd Mass.
- ◆ **Catholic Men Association** will meet today after 2nd Mass.
- ◆ All societal Vice Presidents will meet on Sunday 17th January, 2016 after 1st Mass at the conference room. Laity current co-members should make it a point and attend

MARRIAGE CORNER

2ND PUBLICATION

GROOM
Patrick Asante
Father: John Asante
Mother: Grace Asante

BRIDE
Rebecca Akua Amoakohene
Father: Joseph Amoakohene
Mother: Flora Attisogbi

GROOM
Samuel Addotei Brown
Father: Joseph K. Brown
Mother: Victoria Quarcoopome

BRIDE
Mary Eshun
Father: J. K. Andoh
Mother: Ama Ekuah

GROOM
Kweku Ayensu Agyemang
Father: Kwame A. Agyemang
Mother: Akosua B. Agyemang

BRIDE
Sybil Kodjoe
Father: Abraham Kodjoe
Mother: Catherine Bannerman

3RD PUBLICATION

GROOM
Godfrey Takyi Nyarko
Father: Addo Nyarko
Mother: Bissy Aidan

BRIDE
Lydia Amoafu
Father: Joseph Kwamina Amoafu
Mother: Mary Amoafu

GROOM
Vintus Chinedu Igbokwe
Father: Joseph Igbokwe
Mother: Grace Igbokwe

BRIDE
Uche Mary Anikwe
Father: Ogbowezi Anikwe
Mother: Mary Anikwe

Let's remember them in prayers

COMMERCIALS

- ◆ A parishioner is looking for a 2-bedroom self-contained around **North Kaneshie, Bubiashie, Kaneshie, Darkuman** and it environs.
Contact: 050-1255441
- ◆ Lady Cashier wanted for immediate employment (SSS Graduate). Must be living around **Lapaz, East Legon and its environs**

CHURCH AND COMPOUND CLEANING FOR SATURDAY JANUARY 2, IS BY CASU

HEALTH CORNER

FIBROIDS

Fibroids are abnormal growths that develop in or on a woman's womb. Sometimes, these tumors become quite large and cause severe abdominal pain and heavy periods. In other cases, they cause no signs or symptoms at all. The growths are typically benign (non-cancerous). The cause of fibroids is unknown.

What Causes Fibroids?

It is unclear why fibroids develop, but several factors may influence their formation.

Hormones: Estrogen and progesterone are the hormones produced by the ovaries. They cause the uterine lining to regenerate during each menstrual cycle and may stimulate the growth of fibroids.

Family History: Fibroids may run in the family. If your mother, sister, or grandmother has a history of this condition, you may develop it as well.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy increases the production of estrogen and progesterone in your body. Fibroids may develop and grow rapidly while you are pregnant.

Who Is at Risk for Fibroids?

Women are at greater risk for developing fibroids if they have one or more of the following risk factors:

- ◆ pregnancy
- ◆ a family history of fibroids
- ◆ being over the age of 30
- ◆ being of African American descent
- ◆ having a high body weight

What Are the Symptoms of Fibroids?

Your symptoms will depend on the location and size of the tumor(s) and how many tumors you have. If your tumor is very small, or if you are going through menopause, you may not have any symptoms. Fibroids may shrink during and after menopause.

Symptoms of fibroids may include:

- ◆ heavy bleeding between or during your periods that includes blood clots
- ◆ pain in the pelvis and/or lower back
- ◆ increased menstrual cramping
- ◆ increased urination
- ◆ pain during intercourse
- ◆ menstruation that lasts longer than usual
- ◆ pressure or fullness in your lower abdomen
- ◆ swelling or enlargement of the abdomen

MERRY CHRISTMAS & PROPEROUS NEW

ADDRESS

Nantu Link B872/7,
 Awudome Street
 P. O. Box 146, Kaneshie
 Accra.
Website:
 www.minibasilica.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Mornings (6:00am):
 Monday, Wednesday
 Thursday and Saturday.

Evenings (6:30pm):
 Tuesday & Friday

SUNDAY MASSES

1st Mass 7:00am
 2nd Mass 9:30am
 Youth Mass 7:30am
 French Mass 9:30am

OFFICE HOURS / CONTACTS

Monday-Saturday: 8am-8pm
 Sunday: 9am-2pm

Office Lines: 0302227027, 0302257357,
 0504-187661
Cell: 0248-630404, 0246-858376
E-mail: officesttheresa2014@gmail.com



ST. THERESA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Purity & Love

WEEKLY BULLETIN

FEAST OF HOLY FAMILY

SUNDAY DECEMBER 27, 2015



FIRST READING: SIRACH 3:2-6, 12-14

In the first reading, Sirach, gives us his idea of the ideal family with all the responsibilities, honors and benefits that are bestowed on each member.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO FEAR THE LORD AND WALK IN HIS WAYS

2ND READING: COLOSSIANS 3:12-21

Paul gives us his thoughts on the ideal family life which should be just as true today as it was then.

GOSPEL: LUKE 2:41-52

This is the familiar story of Mary and Joseph being separated from Jesus who, at the age of approximately twelve years, remains in the temple after celebrating the feast of Passover.

PRIEST

V. REV. FR. JOHANNES MINTAH-MENSAH: **0208-115860**

GA RURAL RECTORATE

REV. FR. CHRISTOPHER SACKEY: **0243-969866**
 REV. FR. ALPHONSE BULLORO: **0208-513145**

CONFESSION: SATURDAY 5:00 PM—7:00PM // INFANT BAPTISM: 3RD SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

BASIC CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY (BCC): Every Thursday at 6:30pm
HOLY HOUR: Every Thursday preceding first Friday of the month at 6:30 pm
EXPOSITION AND ADORATION: Every first Friday of the month from 6:00am—6:00pm
GROTTO DEVOTION: First Saturday of every month at OLA, New Achimota at 2:30PM
ARE YOU SICK OR BEREAVED? CONTACT THE FOLLOWING: 0302227027/0208159454
New Parishioners: You are warmly welcome to St. Theresa Catholic Church, please see a Priest or call the Parish office on 0302227027/0504-187661

THE BOY JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

When Jesus was twelve years old, he joined his parents up to Jerusalem for the annual feast of Passover. The parents lost him on their way home. They supposed Jesus to be in the company of his peers. After a day's journey, they realized that he was not in the group, back to the festival arena they found him after three days in the temple. Mary did not hesitate to express her anxiety. "My child, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been worried look for you.

However Jesus returned to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. Though Jesus is God, yet he took his place as an obedient child in this simple Jewish family. We have every opportunity to love our family in the day-to-day aspects of life.

THE FEAST OF HOLY FAMILY

Unity of purpose achieves lots in all things and especially in family life. Many husbands feel weak agreeing with their wives, or picking clues from their counsels, or engaging them in decision-making, or helping in household chores, or taking care of the children but blame them for all their woes; some wives won't support their husbands, and would shift attention and love from husband to children and blame husbands for all their problems. These days many parents try hard to dictate to their children and force them to do as they require, without giving chance for their children to grow to their full potential as God has endowed them; children do not want to bow to the authority of parents and would not want to entertain their parents' intervention in many aspects of their life. But do we achieve anything with this sort of family disintegration?

Children are gifts from God; wives who are yet to receive this gift can find hope and consolation per prayer that in this year, they will be rewriting their stories with joyful testimonies like Hannah's. Those already gifted with children should understand this truth that children need God just as they need weaning, feeding and being provided for. It is unfortunate that this essential need (for God) has seen so much neglect in many households, allowing children to wander about during church/worship hours. When parents fail in this all-important responsibility, they fail to help the Church of God grow in numbers and also deny children of the best and only necessary thing they could ever get in the world. But will not God hold us accountable?

Let us learn from the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph: let families take care of our young ones and hold them by the hand to God's presence everyday; when our young seem to wander away from us, let us in a spirit of understanding and mercy bring them back to our side. Let us remember that we cannot live with the absence of Jesus amongst us for even a day; therefore, no matter the pains it would entail, let us be courageous and not grow weary of pursuing the roads that lead to finding Jesus and committing him to stay in through love, forgiveness, tolerance, fidelity, a sense of responsibility, mutual respect and trust, etc.?



DAILY READINGS FROM DECEMBER 28, 2015 — JANUARY 2, 2016

Mon Dec. 28	(FEAST OF HOLY INNOCENT, MARTYRS) 1 Jn. 1:5-2:2; Ps. 124:2-3, 4-5, 7-8; Mt. 2:13-18
Tue Dec. 29	1 Jn. 2:3-11; Ps. 96:1-2, 2-3, 5-6; Lk. 2:22-35
Wed Dec. 30	1 Jn. 2:12-17; Ps. 96:7-8, 8-9, 10; Lk. 2:36-40
Thurs Dec. 31	(NEW YEAR EVE) 1 Jn. 2:18-21; Ps. 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn. 1:1-18
Fri Jan. 1	(SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER) Nm. 6:22-27; Ps. 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal. 4:4-7; Lk. 2:16-21
Sat Jan. 2	1 Jn. 2:22-28; Ps. 98:1, 2-3, 3-4; Jn. 1:19-28

OFFERTORY FOR LAST SUNDAY DECEMBER 20, 2015

MAIN COLLECTION	GH	4,768.30
WELFARE	GH	2,022.00
TOTAL	GH	6,790.30

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (NEXT SUNDAY)

FIRST READING:	ISAIAH 60:1-6
RESPONSORIAL	PSALM 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
SECOND READING:	EPHESIANS 3:2-3, 5-6
GOSPEL:	MATTHEW 2:112

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL & OFFERTORY PRESENTATION

NEXT SUNDAY (JAN. 3, 2015)

1ST MASS: ST. THERESA CHURCH CHOIR

2ND MASS: STHEYA

LET'S PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SICK AND AGED PARISHIONERS

MR. ANDREW BAAH	MR. FRANCIS BAFFOE
MRS. CECILIA SENAYA	MR. JOHN ASANTE
MRS. GRACE MAHAMA	MR. JOSEPH ANOWIE
MAD. CHRISTIANA ERBYNN	MR. ATHANASIUS EDDOH
MR. ANTHONY INTERKUDZI	MAD. MARY NEEQUAYE
MAD. PHILOMENA ATANLEY	MRS. AGNES COCH
MR. ANTHONY ODURO	MR. NEEQUAYE-AMON
MRS. GEORGINA TAYLOR	MR. EDWARD ABOAGYE
MRS. PAULINA ADDOTEVI AKUE	MRS. KOBIFORDAH
MAD. ROSEMOND SEDDOH	MRS. SEDAY AFAGBEJI
MRS. AGNES DE-GRAFT	MAD. ESTHER AMOAH
MR. ANTHONY KYEI-MENSAH	MR. JOHN EKOW AFFUL
MRS. M. DEKOLADENU	MRS. MARY ASANTE
MRS. JUSTINA JACKSON	MR. J. R. MALM
MRS. REJOICE AMOAH	

DUES

As the year 2015 draws to a close, parishioners who have not paid their dues are reminded to do so.

CHURCH DUES

Dues for 2015 are as follows:		
Age 0 – Junior High School	=	GHC 6.00
Senior High School & Tertiary	=	GHC 12.00
Adults & Workers	=	GHC24.00
Dues Card	=	GHC1.00

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

DATE	PROGRAMME	TIME
Sun. 27th Dec. 2015	Feast of Holy Family & Children's Party ♦ Blessing of families	All Masses
Thurs 31st Dec. 2015	31st Watch Night Service ♦ Mass Choir	8:00pm
Fri. 1st Jan. 2016	Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother In attendance: Angelic Youth Choir	9:00AM
Sun.3rd Jan. 2016	EPIPHANY	ONE MASS @ 8:00

THE HOLY FAMILY

Marriage is too often conceived as the sacrament which unites a man and a woman to form a couple. In reality, marriage establishes a family, and its purpose is to increase the number of the elect, through the bodily and spiritual fecundity of the Christian spouses.

- Every marriage intends children. Although Mary and Joseph were not united in a carnal way, their marriage is a true marriage: an indissoluble, exclusive union, wholly subordinated to the child. Mary and Joseph are united only in order to bring Jesus into the world, to protect and raise him. They have only one child, but he contains the whole of mankind, even as Isaac, an only child, fulfilled the promise made to Abraham of a countless progeny.
- The purpose of every marriage is to establish a Christian family. The Holy Family observed the religious laws of Israel; it went in pilgrimage to Jerusalem every year with other Jewish families (Lk. 2:41). Jesus saddens and amazes his father and his mother because to their will and company he prefers "to be in his Father's house". Thus it may happen that God's will obliges the family to make disconcerting sacrifices. Yet every Christian family must live in harmony and in prayer, which are the pledges of joy and union.
- "He remained obedient to them." Jesus was God. And through the fullness of grace Mary stood above Joseph. Nevertheless — if we except the event in the Temple — Joseph remained the head of the family; he took the initiative (as when the Holy Family fled to Egypt), and in Nazareth Jesus obeyed his parents.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: "If you knew the gift of God!" You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind. We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

PPC CORNER

- ♦ Next PPC meeting is 10th January, 2016

JUBILEE CORNER

Jubilee celebration update:

- ♦ Jubilee float/Health Walk on 2nd Jan. 2016



- ♦ Jubilee T-Shirts on sale @GHC 30 & 20 (Adults & Children)
- ♦ Restoration 2016: **Wednesday Jan. 27th—29th, 2016**