

ADVENT SEASON MESSAGE

Advent is the beginning of a new liturgical year. “Advent” is from the Latin word “Adventus” for “coming”, and is associated with the four weeks of preparation for Christmas. Advent always contains four Sundays, beginning on the Sunday nearest to the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle, (November 30) and continuing until December 24. It blends together a Penitential spirit, a liturgical theme of the preparation for the Second and Final coming of the Lord, called the Parousia, and a joyful theme of getting ready for the Bethlehem event

Since the 900s Advent has been considered the beginning of the Church year. The traditional colour of Advent is **Purple** or **Violet** which symbolizes the penitential spirit.

The Catechism stresses the two fold meaning of the coming: When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Saviors first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming.

Advent preparation has been the use of the Advent wreath. The wreath is a circle, which has no beginning or end: so we call to mind how our lives, here and now, participate in the eternity of God’s plan of salvation and how we hope to share eternal life in the Kingdom of Heaven. The wreath is made of fresh plant material, because Christ came to give us new life through His passion, death, and resurrection.

Three Candles are **Purple**, symbolizing Penance, preparation and sacrifice: **The Pink candle** symbolizes the same but highlights the third Sunday of Advent, **Gaudete Sunday**, when we rejoice because our preparation is now half-way finished.

In all, during Advent we strive to fulfill the opening prayer for the Mass of the First Sunday of Advent: Father in Heaven, increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of His

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- ♦ **Saturday 8th December: Feast of Immaculate Conception and Advent Recollection 8am.** In attendance will be Harp of David Music Ministry and Mass Choir. Speaker: Rev. Fr. Hilary Agbenosi.
 - ♦ **Friday, 14th December: Appreciation Night:** a night where Parishioners come together express their gratitude to God Almighty for His grace, love and protection throughout the year. Rosary begins at **6pm**. Speaker: Rev. Fr. Courage Dogbey. Harp of David Music Ministry to lead.
 - ♦ **Monday, 24th December: Carol Service and Vigil Mass at 7pm.** Offertory and bidding prayers by: Catholic Men Association, Catholic Women Association, Marshallan Association and St. John International. In attendance will be Harp of David and Mass Choir.
 - ♦ **Tuesday, 25th December: The Nativity of the Lord.** Christmas Day there will be One Mass Concurrently in the Parish Hall and Chapel at **7.30 am**.
- Parish Hall:** COSRA, STHEYA, Children of Mary CASU, In attendance is AYC and Francophone. Offertory and Bidding Prayers: same groups above.
- Chapel:** All other Parishioners, **Offertory and bidding prayers by:** Ewe Union, Northern Society, Akan Kuo, Ebiemo & Nigerian Community. In attendance is Immaculate Heart of Mary Choir and St. Theresa choir.
 - ♦ **Sunday, 30th December: Holy Family Feast.** Usual Three Masses. There will be no French Mass.
 - ♦ **Monday, 31st December: New Year’s Eve.** Vigil Mass starts at **8pm**. Bidding Prayers by Lectors & Communicators. Offertory by All Societies. In attendance will be Harp of David and Mass Choir.
 - ♦ **Tuesday, 1st January 2019: Solemnity of Mary Mother of God** (special intentions for widows and widowers and founding members. New year Mass at **9am**. Offertory and Bidding Prayers by Christian Mothers Association. In attendance will be Mass Choir.

SPECIAL INVITATION- POWER EMPOWERMENT

The Power Empowerment humbly invites all to witness the Grand Launch and Exhibition of Arts & Crafts of its Humanitarian group that seeks to train mobility Challenged women who sit and beg by the roadside in bead making trade.

The ultimate aim of this initiative is to equip them with a skill and make them financially independent. **Come, Encourage and Cheer these talented physically challenged women .**



ST. THERESA’S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Purity & Love

WEEKLY BULLETIN

1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

2ND DECEMBER, 2018.

POPE’S PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 2018.

EVANGELIZATION- IN THE SERVICE AND TRANSMISSION OF FAITH THAT PEOPLE, WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THE SERVICE AND TRANSMISSION OF FAITH, MAY FIND, IN THEIR DIALOGUE WITH CULTURE, A LANGUAGE SUITED TO THE CONDITIONS OF THE PRESENT TIME.

PARISH PRIEST

Rev. Fr. Michael Owusu-Ofori
0302 257 357

GA RURAL RECTORATE

Rev. Fr. Christopher Sackey
0243-969866

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Rev. Fr. Winfred Charles Lwanga Tawiah Jr.
0302 257 357

GA ODUMASE RECTORATE

Rev. Fr. Pascal Ankamah
0243-345240

SUNDAY MASS

1st Mass: 7.00am
Youth Mass: 7.30am
2nd Mass: 9.30am
French Mass: 10.00am

WEEK DAY MASS

Monday, Wednesday
Thursday 6 am
Saturday 6.30 am
Tuesday & Friday 6.30 pm

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday-Saturday: 8am-5pm, Sunday: 9am-2pm
Telephone: 030-2257357/ 050-0005252
E-mail: officesttheresa2014@gmail.com
Facebook: St. Theresa’s Catholic Church
P. O. Box KN 146. Kaneshie- Accra

Week 1 Hope
Reminds us... Jesus is coming
Bible verse Romans 15: 12-13
Bible verse Luke 2:10

Week 2 Faith
Reminds us... To prepare the way of the Lord
Bible verse Luke 3:4-6
Bible verse Luke 2:14

Week 3 Joy
Reminds us... The joy at the coming birth of Jesus

Week 4 Peace
Reminds us... "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace for those he favours"

What do we remember each week of Advent?

KANESHIE DEANERY CATHOLIC YOUTH COUNCIL
IN COLLABORATION WITH
COSRA
Presents:
PRAYER SESSION

THEME:
"BUT THOSE WHO HOPE IN THE LORD WILL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH..... THEY WILL WALK AND NOT TIRE". (ISAIAH 40:31)

DATE: SUNDAY 2ND DECEMBER, 2018
VENUE: ST. THERESA'S PARISH, KANESHIE
TIME: 3:00PM PROMPT
SPEAKER:
REV. FR. DANIEL ATTIPOE

REFLECTION: STAY AWAKE

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of the new liturgical year. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: *the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus*. The key themes of the Advent season are *watchful waiting, preparation, and justice*.

Today's Gospel is taken from the last chapter before the passion narrative in which Jesus is teaching in the Temple. We hear Jesus speak to His disciples about the need for *Vigilance and Prayer* as they wait for the coming of the Son of Man in glory. This passage marks the conclusion of a lengthy dialogue in which Jesus predicts the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, warns about the persecution and tribulations to follow, and identifies the signs that will signal the coming of the Son of Man in glory.

The community for whom Luke wrote his Gospel may have believed that they were already experiencing some of the events Jesus described. At the time, many Christians interpreted this event as an indication that Jesus' second coming was near.

Though Jesus predicts a time of destruction and fear, Jesus indicates that others will be frightened; *Jesus' disciples are not to fear, but are to stand tall*. Yet Jesus does not promise deliverance from anxiety or tribulations. He encourages His disciples to pray for strength. The early Christian communities did not find consolation in the promise of a utopia, nor should we. Instead, we find in our Christian faith the means by which we witness to God's unfailing love for us in all circumstances.

Jesus' predictions about the end times may sound dire, but in the next paragraph Luke tells us that people woke early to listen to Jesus' teaching in the Temple area. In His person and in His message, those who heard Jesus found strength and consolation.

Like the first Christians, we may encounter events and circumstances that could lead us to despair. Through prayer, however, we find strength and consolation in Jesus' words and in His continuing presence with us to endure all things and to witness to the action of God in our world.

May God give us Strength always.

RESTORATION 2019! RESTORATION 2019!

WATCH OUT!!! COMING SOON!!!



**READINGS FOR TODAY
SUNDAY DECEMBER 2, 2018.**

1ST READING: JEREMIAH 33:14-16
The Lord will fulfill his promises to Israel and Judah

RESPONSORIAL: PSALM 25:4-5,8-9,10,14

TO YOU, O LORD, I LIFT MY SOUL.

2ND READING : 1 THESSALONIANS 3:12-4:2
Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be holy and to please God.

GOSPEL: LUKE 21:25-28,34-36
Jesus teaches his disciples to be vigilant so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes in glory.

COLLECTION FOR SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2018.

MAIN COLLECTION	GH¢ 4,920.90
THANKSGIVING/ TITHES	GH¢ 1,295.00
WELFARE	GH¢ 2,374.00
TOTAL	GH¢ 8,589.90

COMPOUND CLEANING SCHEDULE

DATE	SOCIETY
Sat. 8th Dec.	STHEYA
Sat. 15th Dec.	Welcomers' & CASU
Sat. 22nd Dec.	KNOLTA & AYC
Sat. 29th Dec.	COSRA

OFFERTORY & BIDDING PRAYER SCHEDULE

DATE	1ST MASS	2ND MASS
SUN. 2nd Dec.	St. Francis of Assisi Nigerian Community	Sacred Heart of Jesus Confraternity.
SUN. 9th Dec.	STHEYA	St. Gabriel's Guild
SUN. 16th Dec.	Christian Mothers Association	St. Theresa of the Child Jesus
SUN. 23rd Dec.	Anchor of Hope Society	Knights & Ladies of Marshall

MARRIAGE CORNER

1ST TIME

Groom: Robert Abayi Atia **Bride: Patricia A. Alambirigo**
Father: Atia Alpha **Father: Alambirigo Akolko**
Mother: Alantome Alpha **Mother: Ayampoka Nyaaba**

1ST TIME

Groom: Frederick Kwame Boakye **Bride: Asantewaa Ama Agyapong**
Father: Francis K. Boakye **Father: Paul K. Nkrumah**
Mother: Agnes Quansah **Mother: Josephine A. Adjei**

Let us keep them in our prayers

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECEASED: Madam Justine Amoah-Larbi, a Parishioner..
Funeral arrangements are as follows:

Requiem Mass: Friday, 18th January, 2019 at St. Theresa Catholic Church, Kaneshie at 7pm, followed by wake keeping. Attire is black.

Burial: Saturday, 19th January, 2019 at Kpando in the Volta Region.
Funeral rites continues at St. Theresa Parish grounds at 12pm. Attire is Black.

Thanksgiving Mass: Sunday, 20th January, 2019 at St. Theresa Catholic Church, Kaneshie at 9.30am. Attire Black and White.

All are cordially invited to mourn with the family

END OF YEAR THANKSGIVING

MEGA KOFI AND AMA THANKSGIVING.

Are you ready for the end of year Kofi and Ama competition? 28 Days to Go!!!!

Can you believe it is December already? Where did the year go? How great is our God?

The Theme for this years Kofi & Ama Thanksgiving is **"NOT UNTO US O LORD, NOT UNTO US, BUT TO YOUR NAME GIVE GLORY"** Psalm 115:1

Who will the champions be? Come prepared to win on Sunday the 30th of December, 2018.

INFANT BAPTISM

♦ **Friday 7th December is a public holiday.**
There will be infant Baptism at 6.30am followed by Mass at 7am.

PPC CORNER

♦ There will a meeting for all current and incoming PPC members.

Date: Monday 10th December, 2018

Time: 6.30pm.

Venue: Executive Conference Room.

♦ **PPC Elections:**

Date: Sunday 16th December, 2018 at

Time: 10:00am.

Venue: Executive Conference Room.

BREAKFAST MEETING FOR ALL MEN AND FATHERS

KNOLTA ASPIRANTS- MEETING

Rev. Fr. Michael Owusu-Ofori will meet all aspirants of the Knights and Ladies of the Altar (KNOLTA) together with their Parents on Sunday **9th December at 1pm** in the Chapel.

WELFARE COMMITTEE CALLING

The Welfare Committee will have a meeting on Wednesday the 5th of December at 6pm in the old Parish office. All Societal Representatives are to take note and attend this important meeting.

Agenda: Re-constitution of the Welfare Committee.

FRENCH ACADEMY

Do you want to Read, Speak, Write and Understand basic French in no time for both adults and children then contact 0571124080/0579916595