

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 coming may find us rejoicing in His presence and welcoming the light of his truth.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS PROGRAM SCHEDULE

♦ **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.

COMMERCIALS

♦ Property for sale (residential) at Adisadel, Cape Coast.

Plot size 0.208 Acre (0.084 Hectare). **Please contact: 0279-366956.**

♦ Registered properties for sale: McCarthy Hill Spintex Tema Community 2 & 5 Kasoa, blue cross Michael Camp **Contact: 0546-332775**

Need Door step services of Commissioner for Oath, **Contact :0546-332775**

FRENCH ACADEMY

Do you want to Read, Speak, Write and Understand basic French in no time for both adults and children then contact 0571- 124080/ 0557-916595



ST. THERESA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Purity & Love

WEEKLY BULLETIN

3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

16TH 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
Website: www.minibasilia.com

What do we remember each week of Advent?

<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Week 1 Hope</p> </div> <p>Reminds us... Jesus is coming</p> <p>Bible verse Romans 15: 12-13</p> <p>Bible verse Luke 2:10</p> <p>Reminds us... The joy at the coming birth of Jesus</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Week 3 Joy</p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Week 2 Faith</p> </div> <p>Reminds us... To prepare the way of the Lord</p> <p>Bible verse Luke 3:4-6</p> <p>Bible verse Luke 2:14</p> <p>Reminds us... "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace for those he favours"</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Week 4 Peace</p> </div>
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REFLECTION: HAPPINESS

If there is something that all men seek, *it is joy, happiness.* All our actions and deeds are geared towards joy: we hope that through our choices we may find happiness. However, we can testify how often our choices do not bring us the joy we yearn for.

Today's readings call our attention to this deep yearning within us, *Joy.* The Lord invites us to be joyful and also to reflect on the source of our joy. Where does our joy come from? *It is to be found with the presence of Christ in our midst.*

We rejoice first of all because God is with us: He is among us and it is His presence that gives us joy. Here again we rely on our experience to appreciate why joy comes from His presence. Think of the joy we have with the presence of a loved one; the immediate sight of the person gives us a sense of peace and happiness, even when we are experiencing some challenges. This is the reason why we seek out a best friend, a brother, a lover whenever we are in trouble; because we know and believe that the presence of this person is what can comfort us.

The second reason why we are invited to be joyful is because the Lord Himself rejoices over us, in spite of our failing, and weakness. Just as God is the source of our joy, in a certain way we can say that we are also the cause of Joy for the Lord. Simply put, we are joyful because the Lord rejoices in us. There is nothing that gives joy to a servant, a student, a subordinate, a son than when he realizes his master, teacher, boss or his father is happy with him.

Joy is the character of a Christian, and perhaps if we are failing to evangelize others it is because they don't see this joyful character in us. We make the Christian life always look gloomy and burdensome forgetting that it is the joy of the Gospel (the good news) that attracts people.

May God give us Strength always.

**RESTORATION !!! RESTORATION !!!
RESTORATION 2019 !!!**

**FROM WEDNESDAY, 23RD TO FRIDAY, 25TH
JANUARY, 2019.**

WATCH THIS SPACE !!!



**READINGS FOR TODAY
SUNDAY DECEMBER 16, 2018.**

1ST READING: ZEPHANIA 3:14-18
A savior is promised to Israel.

RESPONSORIAL: ISAIAH 12:2-6

CRY OUT WITH JOY AND GLADNESS: FOR AMONG YOU IS THE GREAT AND HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL.

2ND READING : PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7
Rejoice always because the Lord is near .

GOSPEL: LUKE 3:10-18
John the Baptist teaches the path of repentance and announces Christ.

COLLECTION FOR SUNDAY DECEMBER 9, 2018.

MAIN COLLECTION	GH¢ 4,551.00
NUGDPA COLLECTION	GH¢ 2,357.00
THANKSGIVING	GH¢ 1,511.00
TOTAL	GH¢ 8,419.00

COMPOUND CLEANING SCHEDULE

DATE	SOCIETY
Sat. 22nd Dec.	KNOLTA & AYC
Sat. 29th Dec.	COSRA

OFFERTORY & BIDDING PRAYER SCHEDULE

DATE	1ST MASS	2ND MASS
SUN. 16th Dec.	Christian Mothers Association	St. Theresa of the Child Jesus
SUN. 23rd Dec.	Anchor of Hope Society	Knights & Ladies of Marshall
SUN. 30th Dec.	PPC, PYC, Laity Council, Catholic Women Council	Perpetual Help Confraternity.

MARRIAGE CORNER

2ND TIME

Groom: John Doni Kofie
Father: Kofie Sange John
Mother: Dora Afi

Bride: Juliet Sungdumba
Father: Edward Sungdumba
Mother: Theresa Bukari

2ND TIME

Groom: Shali Akwetey Otoo-Kati
Father: Giles Kati
Mother: Sharon Otoo

Bride: Frances Amonoo McCarthy
Father: Peter McCarthy
Mother: Agnes McCarthy

3RD TIME

Groom: Robert Abayi Atia
Father: Atia Alpha
Mother: Alantome Alpha

Bride: Patricia A. Alambirigo
Father: Alambirigo Akolko
Mother: Ayampoka Nyaaba

3RD TIME

Groom: Frederick Kwame Boakye
Father: Francis K. Boakye
Mother: Agnes Quansah

Bride: Asantewaa Ama Agyapong
Father: Paul K. Nkrumah
Mother: Josephine A. Adjei

Let us keep them in our prayers

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECEASED: Mrs. Felicity Kang Kunfaa, mother of Charles Putier Kunfaa who is a parishioner and member of COSRA. Funeral Arrangements are as follows:

Wake Keeping: Friday, 21st December, 2018 at Gengenkpe, Nandom from 8pm to 10pm.

Burial Mass: 10 am. Interment at the family Cemetery

Thanksgiving Mass: Sunday, 23rd December, 2018 at Gengenkpe Catholic Church, Gengenkpe-Nandom at 10am.

DECEASED: Mrs. Christiana Vierrah, a Parishioner. Funeral Arrangements are as follows:

Wake-Keeping: Thursday, 3rd January, 2019 at the Residence, Manye lane near the Prince of Prince School, Kaneshie.

Burial Mass: Friday, 4th January, 2019 at St. Theresa Catholic Church, Kaneshie at 8am.

Thanksgiving Mass: Sunday 6th January, 2019 at St. Theresa Catholic Church, Kaneshie at 9.30am.

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

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.

PPC CORNER

There will be PPC elections today, Sunday 16th December, 2018 at 10:00am in the Executive Conference Room.

END OF YEAR THANKSGIVING

MEGA KOFI AND AMA THANKSGIVING.

Are you ready for the end of year Kofi and Ama competition? 14 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.

MARRIAGE SCHOOL COUNSELLING

All Parishioners are being reminded that the next session of **Marriage counselling (January—June)** is open for registration.

Kindly contact the Parish Office for forms.

The cost is **25Ghc per person.**

ADEHYEMMA CHOIR COMPETITION

The Catholic Adehyemma Choir is participating in an on-going Gospel Reality Programme on Atinka TV. Eviction is on every Sunday and they need our support to keep them in the competition.

Please let us all help to support them by texting **Catholic Adehyemma Choir** to the short code **1762** via all networks.