



OCTOBER 2019 (YEAR C)

# ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

Monthly News Bulletin

P. O. BOX 1865, Osu- Accra

## *Welcome To Our Parish*

### **MASS SCHEDULES**

Morning Mass: Monday - Friday 6:30am  
Sunday Mass: 8:00am

### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION**

Saturdays at 5:30pm - 6:30pm or by  
appointment.

### **COMMUNION TO THE SICK**

Please ensure the parish office is informed of  
a parishioner's ill health. Arrangements will  
be made for a home or hospital visit.

### **BAPTISM**

Dates are communicated by announcements  
during Sunday Mass.

### **HOLY MATRIMONY**

Wedding arrangements should be made with  
the Parish or Associate Priest. Please contact  
the Parish office at least six months prior  
to wedding.

Counselling takes place twice a year:  
January - June  
July- December

### **PARISH PRIEST**

Very Rev. Fr. Daniel Mawuli Tettetdji  
0243 044 431

### **ASSOCIATE PARISH PRIEST**

Rev. Fr. Prince E. Adelaayitar  
0262 154 881

### **ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY**

Esther  
Tel: 0505 256 484 / 0302 798 781

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Mondays 8:00am - 12:00pm  
Tuesday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm

### **ST. JAMES MINI MART**

Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00am - 7:00pm  
Sundays 6:30am - 2:00pm



## IN THIS EDITION

- **Pastor's Column**
- **Reflections**
- **Relationship Tips**

*Very Rev. Fr. Prince Adelaayitar*

And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name. [Luke 1:46-49]

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. By God's grace another Marian month is upon us. The community is organising an opportunity to encounter our Lady in the recitation of the Holy Rosary.

Current scholarship traces the development of the Rosary to the High Middle Ages period. The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.

The feast was introduced by Pope St. Pius V (1504-1572) in the year 1571 to commemorate the miraculous victory of the Christian forces in the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. The Pope attributed more to the "arms" of the Rosary than the power of cannons and the valour of the soldiers who fought there.

The roster for the rosary month is below. Each parishioner is to make a date with Our Lady. Petitions can be placed in the poor and needy box. On the 31st of the month the Marian Festival will be celebrated in honour of our Lady.

There will be the usual teaching on the second Sunday of the month on The Cult of the Saints. The youth will also celebrate their Mass on the last Friday of the month. The side attraction is the craft night.

Wishing you a fulfilling time with Our Lady.

***But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night you will have to give up your life; then who will get all these things you have kept for yourself?' [Luke 12:20]***

This version from the Good News gives many people a completely different interpretation of this verse than they are used to. A true Christian, that is a real follower of Christ, would have said that with so much harvest which cannot be contained in his own barns, he would either give away the old stored crops [Luke 12:17], and then fill the barn anew with the new crops or he would rather give away the new crop to the poor and needy. We may say his selfishness cost him his life but that may not be the case. The thing is that one never knows when the giver of life has planned for one's life to end and to give account of his sojourn on earth. How many times have we heard people say to others that they will see them tomorrow only for them to die suddenly the same day or night. We do not own our days and therefore tomorrow is not guaranteed to any individual which is why it is a mockery to believe that we have control over our lives and years.

True, we have free will, but that is for the choices we make daily, not on the length of our lives. That is predestined. However, we can choose to store our treasures/possessions here on earth or in Heaven. Let us be aware that God does not forbid riches. What He abhors is when we worship the possessions instead of Him.

The choice the 'rich fool' had was to be selfish or to share his wealth with others less fortunate than himself. He opted to hoard what he had and to build a bigger barn to add the new harvest to it. He did not reckon with the Lord of the harvest who cannot be outdone in generosity. Jesus, our Lord, shared His Holy Immortal, Inviisble Father with us; encouraging us to refer to Him as Abba, Father! Our God is love and loves us no matter how sinful we have been but we must want to go to Him with remorse and contrition and He will not only forgive but embrace us.

Refer to Matthew 19:21, "Once a man came to Jesus, 'Teacher,' he asked..." Jesus knowing the heart of the rich young man offered him eternity with so much love. However, he first had to get rid of his earthly treasures in order to possess Heaven. But this was too much for the rich man who had many possessions to let go and follow Jesus. In Mark 10:21, ***"Jesus looked straight at him with love and said, 'You need only one thing. Go and sell all you have and give the money to the poor, and you will have riches in heaven; then come and follow me.'"*** We, quite like the young rich man, believe that if we give all to God, we will be completely dispossessed, not reckoning with the generosity of our God, who when Solomon asked for Wisdom gave him so much more. ***"It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. [Wisdom]... Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honour all your life; no other king shall compare with you."*** [1 Kings 3:10-13].

As we continue reading in Mark 10:23 - 30 Jesus tells us that whatever we give to Him, through His Church or His children, we will be rewarded up to a hundredfold. What then stops us from giving up our earthly treasures to ensure eternity. Ask some millionaires if their money alone gives them good health, peace, Joy and happiness. No! That is not a given.

Let us always pray with an eternal perspective for God to help us not to consider what we sacrifice but rather what we gain from Him. May we truly give our lives for Him and His glory in order to spend eternity rejoicing in our salvation.

## ROSTER FOR MONTH OF THE ROSARY – OCTOBER 2019

**VENUE: ST. JAMES PARISH**

**TIME: 6.00 PM**

Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Tuesday 1st Oct. ST. ANTHONY'S GUILD	Wednesday 2nd Oct. MARSHALLANS	Thursday 3rd Oct. CHARISMATIC RENEWAL	Friday 4th Oct. SACRED HEART	Saturday 5th Oct PRIVATE ROSARY
Sunday 6th Oct. FAMILY ROSARY TIME	Monday 7th Oct. CHRISTIAN MOTHERS	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct. ST THERESA'S	Wednesday 9th Oct. MAIN CHOIR	Thursday 10th Oct. YOUTH CHOIR	Friday 11th Oct. YCW	Saturday 12th Oct PRIVATE ROSARY
Sunday 13th Oct. The Family Rosary LAITY WEEK BEGINS	Monday 14th Oct. KNIGHTS OF ST JOHN	Tuesday 15th Oct. MONDAY BORNES	Wednesday 16th Oct TUESDAY BORNES	Thursday 17th Oct. WEDNESDAY BORNES	Friday 18th Oct. THURSDAY BORNES	Saturday 19th Oct PRIVATE ROSARY
Sunday 20th Oct. THE FAMILY ROSARY .....WEEK	Monday 21st Oct. FRIDAY BORNES	Tuesday 22nd Oct. SATURDAY BORNES	Wednesday 23rd SUNDAY BORNES	Thursday 24th Oct. KNOLTA	Friday 25th Oct CASU	Saturday 26th Oct. PRIVATE ROSARY
Sun 27th Oct. FAMILY ROSARY .....WEEK	Monday 28th Oct LITURGICAL COMMITTEE	Tuesday 29th Oct LEGION OF MARY	Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct PPC	Thur 31st Oct MARIAN FESTIVAL YOUTH/CHILDREN		

## Part 1

## RELATIONSHIP TIPS FOR HIM

©Isaac Asare Dampsey (IAD)

## WOMEN NEED RESPECT TOO

I haven't written about relationships or marriage in a while but I have something on my chest I need to get out to my brothers (Men); particularly those who are married and those who intend to marry. I am writing these based on some observations I have made in recent times.

I am not an authority on the subject of marriage neither do I profess to know it all but I believe what I am going to share is relevant.

Brothers, first of all women, and wives for that matter, need respect too and they should be respected as such.

I cringe whenever I see a husband disrespect the wife. I recently witnessed a man tell the partner to shut up and I couldn't believe it. It is normal to have disagreements or have what I term 'love fights' with your wife or partner but I don't think it is right to disrespect her. Disrespect could be in the form of the attitude we show, words we use, the tone of voice we employ, our body language, the actions we take etc.

If you are one of those men who think that the man is the head of the home and thus all others are subjects to him, please reorient your thinking. God created the man and woman in His image and so if you respect God then you will respect your spouse irrespective of gender because he/she was created in God's image. The Christian man must know better.

Notice I used the word phrase "women and wives for that matter need respect TOO". Emphasis is on TOO. That is because the Bible commands wives to respect their husbands. In his famous teaching on marriage in Ephesians 5, Paul urged men to love their wives as Christ loved the church and the wives to submit to their husbands and also respect them. Someone summarized it this way, that women run on love and men run on respect and that is true. A man or husband wants to be respected. It causes his spirit man to be alive and opens his love tank but in the same vein the woman or wife needs to be respected as well. She wants to feel valued and appreciated.

It is possible that you live with a very disrespectful woman, one who talks to you anyhow etc., one who probably used to respect you but no longer does, because say you lost your job or circumstances changed etc. That can be painful, brother, I know, but you see the Bible says it takes wisdom to build a home, so even in the midst of all that; difficult as it is, respect her as your wife - you teach her wisdom by doing that.

Mutual respect is the foundation for any healthy relationship, so, brothers while we expect our wives and partners to respect us, let us aim to do same, in order to build a good relationship. She needs respect too.

## YOUR WIFE NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT AT HOME

Women are wonderful creatures. They are strong. They are more than "superman". What they do sometimes amazes me. Right from childhood they will begin to take care of the home (some of them ...lol) all the way through marriage, then they will get pregnant for nine months and only they can tell what they go through.

It doesn't end there though. After child birth, they begin a whole new cycle of loving and taking care of baby and husband etc, and, oh I forgot that she has work, that she cooks, cleans, feeds, runs errands at day and .....at night. That is a lot of work, don't you think? That can be crushing to a woman who has no help at home.

Times have changed, brothers. We live in an era where for many couples both husband and wife are busy with work etc and yet the home and the family needs to be taken care of. Leaving everything to the woman can be dangerous. Why? Because she can burn out and the consequences of that may not be healthy for the marriage.

If you are a Christian man reading this think of helping your wife at home. It may not be the big things. Maybe, you are not the kind who can cook, scrub, or wash, but you can help in other areas. You can, for instance, help her with the grocery or help with dishes after she cooks. At best put them in the dishwasher if you have one. Call the plumber to fix the leakage. Take out the garbage bag when it is full. Pick the children from school. Chat her up in the kitchen when she is cooking, put things back where you picked them (that can annoy the very organised woman). Pick her up after evening school. It could even be taking the car for the oil change. It could be feeding or playing with the baby while she takes a nap.

What else can you do? There is so much you can do brother and you know it. You are the one married to her. Anything that will lift a burden off her shoulder is appreciated. When you don't know, ask. I believe in conversations, talk is good. Engage her. Don't assume my friend Sena will tell you. Don't assume she is ok. Don't assume she doesn't need help. Talk to her and find out what you can help with.

You see when we do these things the love grows. It does not grow cold. Instead it helps build the bond between you and your wife and allows things to flow. You know what I mean don't you? Good man!

Your wife needs your support at home my Christian brother.

#### DON'T ABANDON HER

So why have you abandoned her? Why have you stopped calling, texting and flirting with her like you used to before the marriage?

Why is it that you don't seem to care about the things that concern her any longer? You no longer call when you travel. When you do, you are in a hurry to go. You are so lively and funky with the women at your office and church but you turn dumb in the presence of your wife.

It is possible that you may be dealing with your own issues and have become emotionally distant, but, have you told her about your challenges? Have you told her about what you are going through?

Brother, don't abandon your wife. Pay attention to her emotional needs. Converse with her. Listen to her. You are all she has, so when she comes home with that concern, she expects a listening ear. Don't be too quick to offer solutions. Just pay attention to what she has to say until she asks for help. Keep in touch when you are away and when you do spend more time with her.

Additionally, show her affection. Tell her how much you love and appreciate her as your wife and don't stop saying it. A woman would love to hear that you love her all the time but you must mean what you say. Hug her, cuddle her. Send her a flower or a small gift

when there is no special occasion. Stick a romantic note by the dressing mirror. Text her to let her know you are thinking of her. Take her along on that trip.

Lastly, be honest and transparent. Don't lie. Real women hate lies. Be honest about your feelings...just watch the way you say it. Don't lie even about small things, like when she asks about the food she cooked or what she is wearing. Lying can break your woman and cause a wound. If she can't trust you, your relationship is on a downhill slide.

Marriage is hard work and the Christian brother who wishes to have a good and healthy marriage should not abandon his wife and her emotional needs.

Don't abandon her brother! Don't! It's a recipe for disaster.

#### PROTECT HER

Dear brother, cover her with your wings as the head of the family. Protect her. Don't expose her to attacks from family and other relations. Secure her boundaries and ensure she feels protected. Don't forget you two are now united as one as a result of your marriage. By protecting her, you protect the marriage.

#### HELP HER IMPROVE

When you notice something she lacks, you can help her improve with love. It could be a skill, something about her, or her way of doing things. Notice I said with love, it's important that she feels you want her well and empowered and not because you don't appreciate who she is. Your approach can motivate her or kill her spirit.

In a conversation recently with a lady, she told me how her husband encouraged her to join Toastmasters - a public speaking and leadership club. He did all the enquiries and signed her up. The husband himself is not a member of the club but attends most social gatherings of the club in a bid to support the wife. Why did he do that? I suspect he realised that his wife needed to improve in that area. Good husband!

Helping shouldn't just be limited to skills. It could be how she dresses or her make up, for example.

Maybe, she wasn't the makeup type when you got married but now you admire the makeup of the women at your office and church and wish 'Babe' adds some polish to her face. Suggest it nicely, get her the kits, better still take her out for a makeover and see her reaction and you can take it from there. Don't force it. Only suggest, because that may not also be her style and if she has to change, it may take some time.

Perhaps you don't like the way she dresses. You wish she could dress like the women in your office. The question you should answer, brother, is this: does she wear the same dresses as those women in your office? See, get her some of those dresses and you will notice what a damsel you have. Your wife can be as beautiful as, and even more beautiful than, those women if you would lovingly help her improve in that area.

The list can go on and on.

What if you say it or suggest it and she is not interested? Be patient with the process, will be my advice. Change takes time. Sowing the seed to harvest time is a long journey. Be patient.

Brothers! The truth of the matter is that the grass is not greener on the other side, so it is always better to take care of what you have.

You can make yours better. Help her improve.



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**WEEKDAY ACTIVITIES**

**Mondays**

Bible sharing (6:15pm - 7:30pm)  
Youth Choir (7:00pm - 9:00pm)

**Tuesdays**

St. Anthony's Guild (6:30pm - 7:30pm)

**Wednesdays**

Church Choir (6:30pm - 8:30pm)

**Thursdays**

Youth Choir (7:00pm - 9:00pm)  
Charismatic Renewal (6:30pm - 7:30pm)

**Fridays**

Church Choir (6:30pm - 8:30pm)  
Sacred heart Confraternity (6:30pm - 7:30pm)



**Eucharistic Adoration**

Thursday preceding the first Friday of the month.

**Day born groups**

Last Sunday of the month after Mass or by announcement.

**Faith Bookshop**

Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 7:30pm  
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Sundays 9:30am - 1:30pm

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