

THE LORD IS ON YOUR SIDE

Ps 124:2-8

Indeed, if the Lord has not been on our side... Sit back and reflect on the year 2019. If the Lord had not been on your side... It may not have been your best year, you probably had a lot of challenges, but if the Lord had not been on your side would you have made it this far?

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6

**Merry
Christmas
& HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Do not be afraid to face life. This New Year has a lot of promises for us. Make it a point to start each day of this New Year with a prayer. Trust God and everything will be fine.

HAVE A BLESSED AND FRUITFUL 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GRATEFUL HEARTS 2019

A Thanksgiving Encounter With The Lord

Date: TODAY, 29 December, 2019

Venue: Church premises

Time: 6pm

Speaker: Rev. Fr. Bright Fummeyi

BRILERS FOR SALE

at a selling price of 50 cedis only. Interested buyers should kindly call 0240971540.

welcome

**We are happy to have you worship with us.
Wishing you God's abundant blessings!**

Below is the link to the Church Membership Online Registration:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdVgPnZtu4xBensaO0tHI4m4tJsVjLyooj3VQgUxHyH9b5yIg/viewform>



WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

ST. DOMINIC PARISH, TAIFA-NORTH
OUR LADY OF FATIMA (Outstation), Mr. Adjei

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Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Joseph Arthur (0244 570 358)
Assistant Parish Priests: Rev. Fr. Courage Dogbey (0546 980 789)
Rev. Fr. Mark Mandela Anyigbah (0506 119 969)
Resident Priest: Rev. Fr. Samuel Akoto Mensah (0549 255 746)



December 29, 2019
No. 191205

HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY: YEAR A

THEME: MY FAMILY, A HOLY FAMILY

1st Reading: Sir 3: 2-6. 12-14; Ps 128: 1-2. 3. 4-5;

2nd Reading: Col 3: 12-21;

Gospel: Mt 2: 13-15.19-23

NEXT SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULES

- St. Dominic: 8am
- Our Lady of Fatima: 7am

REFLECTION

'Glory to God in the highest and peace to people of goodwill', was the song sang by the angels to the shepherds. The new born prince of peace, Emmanuel, God has come to dwell among us; Christmas.

God found a home amongst us in the Holy Family, Joseph, Mary and Jesus. The Holy Family of Nazareth, is a model for our families. We call them "The Holy Family not because they did not have problems. Just as every family has to face problems and overcome them, they also experienced same. Their many crosses come to mind as we read the Scriptures: the conception of Jesus; the flight to Egypt as refugees because Jesus' life was in danger due to Herod; losing Jesus for three days; the death of Joseph.

The Holy Family suffering the greatest pain of all families, the pain of bereavement and separation through death. Not a very pleasant experience for any family, no matter how Holy. The saddest moment of all came when Mary watched her son die on the cross. What kept The Holy Family together and sane throughout all of these trials and crosses? The answer is 'Love for each other and God'. Jesus' love for Mary and Mary's love for Jesus, and the

love of both of them for God the Father. What holds our families together also in times of difficulty is love and forgiveness.

I believe that the greatest threat facing families now is simply that we do not spend enough time together. We are so busy working, or socializing, or watching TV or staying glued to our mobile phones that we have less and less time for each other. What a pity! Spending time together with the family is a way of showing our family that we love them. When we love our family we want to sacrifice ourselves by spending time with them, and all the more so when we realize that by not spending time with them we are depriving them of our love and hurting them.

Just as the holy family survived all its crises through love for each other and faith in God, let us pray that our families will conquer all difficulties through love for each other and faith in God.

Merry Christmas 🎄🎁🎅
PEACE AND LOVE!!!
By: Fr. Joseph Arthur

The Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph

The devotion to the Holy Family was born in Bethlehem, together with the Baby Jesus. The shepherds went to adore the Child and, at the same time, they gave honor to His family. Later, in a similar way, the three wise men came from the East to adore and give honor to the newborn King with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh that would be safeguarded by His family.

We can go further to affirm that in a certain sense Christ, Himself, was the first devotee of His family. He showed His devotion to His mother and foster father by submitting Himself, with infinite humility, to the duty of filial obedience towards them. Today's celebration demonstrates Christ's humility and obedience with respect to the fourth commandment, whilst also highlighting the loving care that His parents exercised in His keeping.

Almost intuitively, one can recognize that the mysterious, exemplary, guardianship enacted by Joseph was conducted firstly, in a yet more intimate way, by Mary. Consequently, the liturgical feast of the Holy Family speaks to us of the fond and loving care that we must render to the Body of Christ. We can understand this in a mystical sense, as guardians of the Church, and also in the Eucharistic sense. Mary and Joseph took great care of Jesus' physical body. Following their example, we can and must take great care of His Mystical Body, the Church, and the Eucharist which He has entrusted to us. If Mary was, in some way, 'the first tabernacle in history' (John Paul II *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, n. 55) then we the Tabernacle in which Our Lord chose to reside in person, in His Real Presence, was also entrusted to us. We can learn from Mary and Joseph! What would they ever have overlooked in the care of Jesus' physical body? Is there something, therefore, that we can withhold for the right and adoring care of His Eucharistic Body? No amount of attention, no sane act of love and adoring respect will ever be too much! On the contrary, our adoration and respect will always be inferior to the great gift that comes to us in the Holy Eucharist.

Looking at the Holy Family, we see the love, the protection, and the diligent care that they gave to the Redeemer. We cannot fail to feel uneasiness, perhaps a shameful thought, for the times in which we have not rendered the appropriate care and attention to the Blessed Eucharist. We can only ask for forgiveness and do penance for all the sacrilegious acts and the lack of respect that are committed in front of the Blessed Eucharist. We can only ask the Lord, through the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth, for a greater love for their Son Incarnate, who has decided to remain here on earth with us every day until the end of time.



COLLECT PRAYER: *O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.*

.....
Let us imitate the Holy Family in our Christian families, and our family will be a cell and a prefiguration of the heavenly family. Say a prayer dedicating your family to the Holy Family. Also pray for all families and for our country to uphold the sanctity of the marriage bond which is under attack.

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MASS SCHEDULES & SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, 30 th December 2019: Christmas Weekday	
<i>1 Jn 2: 12-17; Ps 96: 7-8a. 8b-9. 10; Lk 2: 36-40</i>	BCC @ 7pm
Tuesday, 31 st December 2019: Christmas Weekday/ Sylvester I	
<i>1 Jn 2: 18-21; Ps 96: 1-2. 11-12. 13; Jn 1: 1-18</i>	Mass @ 9pm
Wednesday, 1st January 2020: SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (Octave of Christmas)	
<i>Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3. 5. 6. 8 (2a); Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21</i>	Mas @ 8am
Thursday, 2 nd January 2020: Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen	
<i>1 Jn 2: 22-28; Ps 98: 1. 2-3ab. 3cd-4; Jn 1: 19-28</i>	Mass @ 6am
Friday, 3 rd January 2020: Christmas Weekday / The Most Holy Name of Jesus	
<i>1 Jn 2: 29-3:6; Ps 98: 1. 3cd-4. 5-6; Jn 1: 29-34</i>	Rosary Prayers @ 6:30pm Mass @ 7pm
Saturday, 4 th January 2020: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	
<i>1 Jn 3: 7-10; Ps 98: 1. 7-8. 9; Jn 1: 35-42</i>	Morning Mass @ 6:30am - Clean-up after Mass
SUNDAY, 5TH JANUARY 2020: EPIPHANY OF THE LORD Solemnity	
<i>Is 60: 1-6; Ps 72: 1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3: 2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2: 1-12</i>	One Mass @ 8am - Offertory by Parishioners

MONTHLY & WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION: Saturdays, 5:30 pm OR by appointment with a priest

HOLY HOUR (ADORATION): Every First Thursday of the month @ 7 pm

ONE MASS: Every First Sunday of the month @ 8am

TIME IN HIS PRESENCE: Every Second Sunday of the month @ 6 pm

NIGERIAN MASS: Every Last Thursday of the month @ 6:30 pm

INFANT BAPTISM: Every Last Friday of the month @ 6:30 pm

OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Mass schedule

Wednesday, 1st January 2020

- Rosary Prayers @ **6:30am**
- Mass @ **7am**

Sunday, 5th January 2020

- Rosary Prayers @ **6:30am**
- Mass @ **7am**