

PASTORAL REGION ONE

United in Faith, Hope and Service to the Community
Rev Francis Tandoh, C.S. Sp, Pastor



St. Augustine Church (SA)
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St. Benedict the Moor Church (SB)
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St. Benedict the Moor Catholic School
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PASTORAL STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Fr. Francis Tandoh, C.S.Sp.
pastor@unitedinhope.org

Deacon: Kenneth Stewart (SA)

Music Ministers:
[SA]: Denise Jasek: denisejasek@gmail.com
[SB] Myrtle Miliner

Parish Administrators:

[SA] Fran Delegato
[SB] Janice Kwofie: admin@unitedinhope.org

Admin. Assistants:

[SA] Sylvia Hess
[SB] Susan Smith, office Volunteer

Regional Council Presidents:

Chair: Ken Marcellus **Vice:** Joe Deviliz

Prayer Chains, Sacrament of the Sick 937-268-6697
Weddings, RCIA/RCIC Call the offices 937-268-6697

Baptisms: Do you need your child Baptized Please call
the Parish Office at 937 268 6697

Deacon Ken Stewart & Victor Obasuyi instructors

Regional Confessions: Saturdays 4pm or by appointment

Send your Bulletin Announcements to: admin@unitedinhope.org or info@unitedinhope.org on Monday

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Discipleship that costs

The readings of today especially the gospel explains that the basis of our faith is in acceptance of Jesus as the Christ the son of the Living God. The Christ who through His sufferings, death and resurrection saves us from sin. If we are to have a share in His suffering and experience the grace of His death and resurrection, we must follow Him daily denying our selves and taking up our cross.

I made up this Joke “Deny your [Bible](#), Take up your phone, and follow-on Instagram or Facebook”. Funny it may sound but this reflects the attitude of many Christians today. Over the years many have captioned this homily “the cost of discipleship” But I choose to caption it the discipleship that costs”. A disciple is a follower or a student who is learning from his master or I choose this more appropriate definition for this homily, a disciple is a person who disciplines himself or herself in the teachings and practices of another. In the Christian context, we are all disciples of Christ. There can never be a true disciple without discipline. Every disciple of Christ must be ready to follow in the discipline of their Master. We need faith and discipline to be true disciples of Christ. Faith because we need to believe in the one, we follow. We need to recognize who He is as Peter did and discipline because we must follow the rules- ‘deny’ ‘take up’ and ‘follow’.

People follow too many things today- Instagram, for one. Many boosts of having many followers on the social media while they themselves have no one to follow. You follow many celebrities and friends online but hardly follow Christ and His ways. You give thumbs up and likes to those you follow on social media but does not like anything about the gospel. You spend many hours watching those you follow on social media but gets bored reading the bible or the homilies we send to you or listening to the gospel preached in Church.

Too many things materially or financially speaking may be costly but the more costly is following as a disciple. It costs nothing monetary but it cost a lot. Many do not follow Christ because he speaks of denial of oneself as the first discipline for His followers.

Self-denial is an act of letting go of the self as with altruistic abstinence – the willingness to forgo personal pleasures or undergo personal trials in the pursuit of the increased good of another In the first reading of today from the third suffering servant song of Isaiah

aspects of Christ’s own life and mission is foreshadowed. Christ’s life is one of radical obedience and conformity to God’s will. How could Christ have done this if He didn’t deny His Royalty and Kingly prestige to die as a servant. This is exactly what he calls us to do. But this is very hard for us because we are naturally selfish, it is grace that makes the difference in our lives. James without mincing words in the second reading highlights aspects of self-denial in respect to our Faith in Christ. James explains how our Faith in Jesus, the Messiah, should help us to alleviate the sufferings of others by our works of mercy, both corporal and spiritual. Hence F *AITH WITHOUT GOOD WORKS IS DEAD AND WITHOUT SELF DENIAL, GOOD WORK IS IMPOSSIBLE.*

Peter ran headlong into trouble in denying himself in the gospel passage. Peter doesn’t want Jesus to go to Jerusalem to suffer and to die. He wants the Messiah according to his wishes. He wants Jesus to arrive triumphantly in Jerusalem and restore Israel. In Peter’s agenda, there is no room for a suffering Messiah who cares diligently for the poor and the oppressed.

In our own world, we get caught like Peter. We do not often deny ourselves in order to put the other first. Our agendas and our schedules come first in our daily lives. Our plans and our needs are more important than the others. *Once our plans are set we don’t want to change them. If we do, we upset the status quo. We can’t upset others, because if we upset others then we aren’t being Christian.*

The greatest enemies in the spiritual life are the ‘Self’. When we conquer the self of its selfish desires then following Christ becomes easy. Taking up our cross as Christ took His becomes even much more easier. Your cross could be any suffering you have to endure for Christ’s sake, to be a faithful follower or disciple. Do not forget that the cross is a symbol of victory, so do not give it up. Don’t drop it, face it with faith and courage, God will always provide the strength and fortitude, He will never allow the weight of your cross to bring you down. ” *If God sends you many sufferings it is a sign that He has great plans for you, and certainly wants to make you a saint.* ” St. Ignatius of Loyola Let us, therefore, ask God in this mass and today to strengthen our resolutions to be His faithful followers. To give us the grace to recognise Him in every challenge of life and follow him with perseverance. We pray too for the grace of self-denial so that we may

St. Augustine & St. Benedict the Moor Churches: Pastoral Region One September 12, 2021

care more for others in works of charity and to make heaven at the end of this earthly life.

St. Benedict 15th Anniversary Timeline

Special Anniversary Mass 26 September 2021
Virtual Event & End of Silent Auction (22 or 23 Oct)

Reminder for Bible Study this coming week September 8 at St Benedict 7pm

NOTE: Below is the connection information either online or via telephone.

Hangouts Meet joining info

<https://meet.google.com/hpy-pmvp-fvt>

Or dial: +1 402-921-2290 PIN: 708 666 706#

First time using Meet? [Learn more](#)

Reminder

St Augustine Rosary in person September 8 at 6:30pm.

REGION ONE LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

[SA] St. Augustine [SB] St. Benedict

Sept 11 4pm [SB] Regional Confessions
4:30pm [SB] Regional Parishioners
Sept 12 8:30am [SA] David Dupps
10:30am [SB] Trina Lewis



Charitable Opportunity

The Knights of Peter Claver, Council #353 would like to make a commitment to our church and community this Thanksgiving and Christmas season. We would like your assistance with food or monetary donations for turkeys. Starting September through December, we will be collecting non-perishable's food items for Thanksgiving baskets. You can bring your items and place them in the containers in the main entrance of the church.

COMMENT ON DRAFT "FAMILIES OF PARISHES"

Make sure your voice is heard! Beacons of Light, the archdiocese-wide pastoral planning process currently underway, will result in all parishes being grouped into "Families" under the leadership of one pastor. A draft of this plan will be shared for public comment **October 1-20** at www.BeaconsAOC.org. Do not miss this opportunity to provide your input to this important initiative which will shape the future of our archdiocese.

YOUR STEWARSHIP THANK YOU

ST. AUGUSTINE WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sept 5: collection \$1120.00, Education \$65.00, Svdp \$15.00, Assumption \$10.00, Missions \$611.00

ST. BENEDICT WEEKLY COLLECTION
Sept 5: Collection \$4,615, Maint. \$712, Missions 664, Sch \$295



ST. AUGUSTINE MINISTERS SCHEDULE

September 12	Emily Jacobs
September 19	JoAnne Vincent
September 26	Randy Klotz

ST. BENEDICT MINISTER'S SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER 12TH – TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reader – Jim Lorow
2nd Reader – Sharon Hairston
Petitions - Victor O'Basuyi
Extraordinary Ministers – Mary O'Basuyi, Emmett Orr, Derek Arnold

SEPTEMBER 19TH – TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reader – Danielle Kenny
2nd Reader – Judy Baker
Petitions – Deacon Ken
Extraordinary Ministers – Deacon Ken, Victor O'Basuyi, Susan Smith

Thank You

Thank you to all of you for your continuous prayer for my recovery. Your prayers are still needed.

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