

PASTORAL REGION ONE

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



St. Augustine Church (SA)
6939 Weaver Road (Church)
Germantown OH 45327
937-855-2289
csaintaugustine@woh.rr.com

St. Benedict the Moor Church (SB)
519 Liscum Dr.
Dayton, OH 45427
937-268-6697
info@unitedinhope.org

St. Benedict the Moor Catholic School
138 Gramont Ave.: 937-268-6391
www.stbenedictthemoorcatholicsschool.org

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. Assistants:

[SA] Sylvia Hess

[SB] Susan Smith, office Volunteer

Regional Council President:

Chair: 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

Feast of the Epiphany



THE THREE WISE MEN

Epiphany of the Lord is an important feast that comes shortly after Christmas, in the early days of January. The word Epiphany comes from Greek verb *epiphainesthai*, to appear and *epiphaneia*, which means manifestation (usually associated with a divine being). Thus, Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus to the outside world.

Epiphany also means a wonderful discovery or a great revelation. It is a remembrance of the coming of the Magi or the three Wise Men to the infant Jesus at Bethlehem. Generally, Epiphany is the manifestation of the infant Jesus to the gentile world, or to all non-Jews.

The Three Wise Men came from Persia, the present-day Iran and their religion was Zoroastrianism. Many years before the birth of Christ, the book of Psalms prophesied that “The kings of Tharsis and the islands shall offer presents; the kings of the Arabians and of Saba shall bring him gifts: and all the kings of the earth shall adore him”; (Psalm 71:10). Some ancient pictures depict these men in three colors – black, brown, and white, to represent the different races of the world and to express the universality of the gentiles or non-Jews, as well as the all-embracing mission of Jesus.

The story of the Wise men and their visit to the infant Jesus is very instructive. First, these Wise Men were experts in astrology and in the interpretation of dreams. They were also known as Magi, which is the plural form of the Latin word *Magus*, which means a Magician. It is interesting to see how their knowledge of astrology assisted them in tracing where Jesus was born. However, this natural skill was insufficient as they lost their way. This was why they went to the palace of Herod to make enquiries. The scribes and priests had to refer to the Holy Book to recall that a

savior was to be born in Bethlehem. Therefore, it was not only the stars, but also the light of the Word of God that led them to the stable where the child was born. The action of the Scribes and Priests in consulting the word of God goes to show that Jesus the Word of God made flesh is the way through which all those who are lost can find the right way. The Wise Men were knowledgeable people as their title suggests, but they were not omniscient and so their Natural endowment was not enough to bring them to God. This is to say that supernatural grace supplements natural knowledge in leading people towards God.

Secondly, we notice that these Wise Men were not Jews and yet they came to worship him. This is another sign that Jesus, the prince of Peace came to break the barriers of race, tribe, or religion. These Three Wise men were pagans who came to the land of the Jews to worship the Messiah. Does this story not speak loudly to our world of today where there are serious conflicts between Islam, Judaism and Christianity? These conflicts that exist between these three religions are a cause for concern. The East and West can look up to the three wise men as bridge.

ARISE AND SHINE: Epiphany is also known as the feast of light to reflect the coming of the infant Jesus, light of the world. The prophet Isaiah asked his people to take advantage of this light by rising and shining. He says, “Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you” (Isaiah 60:1). Similarly, Jesus instructs his disciples, “Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and give glory to your father in heaven” ([Mat. 5:16](#)). To Arise and Shine means you are to bloom wherever you are planted. To arise and shine also means that you can be better than who you are today and you can go further than where you are today.

We are called to arise from our weakness, to arise from our negative thoughts, to arise from our sin, to arise from darkness into the wonderful light that has come, to arise from our fears, to arise from our mediocrity and soar higher like eagles. To arise and take the place where God has prepared for us and to be in the position where God has placed us. There is a need to take the dust out of the gold to enable it shine more brightly.

BY: Fr. Gerald M. Musa

St. Augustine & St. Benedict the Moor Churches: Pastoral Region One January 2, 2022

Reminder

St Augustine Rosary is in person every Wednesday at 6:30pm.

REGION ONE LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

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

[SB] Confessions by appointment
Jan 1 10:30pm [SB] Regional Parishioners
Jan 2 8:30am [SA] Alma & Don Emerick,
Jan 2 10:30am [SB] Wilbert Anderson, Jr

Maintenance

St Benedict the Moor Catholic School is looking for a handyman to serve as a part time Maintenance person interested people should send their applications to jkwofie@stbenedictdayton.org or sajares@yahoo.org

Religion Teacher

St. Benedict the Moor Catholic is in search for a Religion Teacher. Interested and Qualified persons should send their applications to jkwofie@stbenedictdayton.org or sajares@yahoo.org

YOUR STEWARSHIP THANK YOU

ST. AUGUSTINE WEEKLY COLLECTION
Dec. 19: Collection \$2,688.00, Cath Ed \$144.00, SVdP \$20, Capital Imp \$50

ST. BENEDICT WEEKLY COLLECTION
Dec 26: Collection \$2,722, Maint. \$220, Sch 40, Dec 24 \$1464



ST. AUGUSTINE MINISTERS SCHEDULE

Jan 2 Randy
Jan 9 Fran
Jan 16 Emily
Jan 23 JoAnne
Jan 30 Patrick

ST. BENEDICT MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

JANUARY 2ND – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

1st Reader – Camille Brown or Youth

2nd Reader – Mary O'Basuyi or Youth

Petitions – Victor O'Basuyi

Extraordinary Ministers – Victor O'Basuyi, Susan Smith, Janice Allen

JANUARY 9TH – THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

1st Reader – Jim Lorow

2nd Reader – Sharon Hairston

Petitions – Rita Ellicott

Extraordinary Ministers – Emmett Orr, Carolyn Day, Tracy Henderson

Prayer Garden Bench at St. Augustine

We are collecting plastic for a second bench for the Marian Garden. Please bring the plastic to church and give it to Marie or Randy Klotz.

Acceptable plastic is grocery bags, case over wrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, salt bags, product wrap, retail bags, air pillow cushions, bubble wrap, plastic shipping envelopes, and cereal box liners. Bread bags, Ziploc bags, and produce bags are acceptable if they are clean and dry.

Confirmation/First Communion Registration

Is your child or grandchild in the seventh or Eighth grade then it is time for him/her to receive classes for confirmation or is the one in second grade or above and has not receive First Communion? Please call 937-268-6697 or 937-855-2289. **There will be Class every Sunday after Mass beginning January 9**

RCIA

There will be RCIA class on January 9, 2021 at 9:30am

Change in Dial in Number for Rosary

New Dial-In Number: 6677701427

Access Code: 55613



POPE FRANCIS WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU! -

The Holy Father is asking for as many of the baptized as possible to participate in archdiocese-wide meetings taking place in January and February 2022, to discuss how we can collectively better advance the message of salvation. Please consider participating in one these meetings. To learn more and to sign up, please visit www.catholicaoc.org/synod.

THANK YOU

We would like to recognize all those who contributed in making our Christmas Celebration and decoration a wonderful one either with their Time, Talents, and Treasure. Thank you so much and pray that God richly blesses you.

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