

# 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**  
138 Gramont Ave.: 937-268-6391  
[www.stbenedictthemoorcatholicsschool.org](http://www.stbenedictthemoorcatholicsschool.org)

## PASTORAL STAFF & LEADERSHIP

**Pastor:** Fr. Francis Tandoh, C.S.Sp.  
[pastor@unitedinhope.org](mailto:pastor@unitedinhope.org)

**Deacons:** Kenneth Stewart (SA)  
Osagie Victor Obasuyi (SB)

**Music Ministers:**  
[SA]: Denise Jasek: [denisejasek@gmail.com](mailto:denisejasek@gmail.com)

## Parish Administrators:

[SA] Fran Delegato  
[SB] Janice Kwofie:

## Admin. Assistants:

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

## Regional Council President:

**Chair:** Joe Deviliz **Vice:** Roland Winburn

**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](mailto:admin@unitedinhope.org) or [info@unitedinhope.org](mailto:info@unitedinhope.org) on Monday

## Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

It is beautiful to observe a creative ritual at some weddings where the groom and bride come to the wedding ceremony, each holding a candle. At the ceremony they are asked to use their two candles and light a single candle. Afterwards, they blow off their candles to leave the single one burning. This creative rite is symbolic to show that they are no longer two but one. What is more, it is a sign of a break with past life, and embracing a new life, and a permanent decision to remain one.

Similarly, Elijah called on Elisha to make a permanent decision. Elijah came upon Elisha, as he was ploughing the field with twelve yoke of oxen. Elijah went over to him and threw his cloak on him. Elisha immediately got the message.

Throwing the cloak on Elisha meant that Elijah was passing over the mantle of authority upon him and calling him to take on a new responsibility to be a prophet. Elisha sought to go and say farewell to his father and mother. Without hesitation, Elisha accepted the new vocation by taking the yoke of oxen and slaughtered them and used the ploughing equipment to boil the flesh of the oxen and distributed it to the people to eat. Indeed, Elisha displayed a rare courage by not hesitating to break away from his past life and farming profession. He slaughtered the animals he used for farming and burnt the yoke of wood, which was his farming equipment. In doing so, he blocked the chances of reverting to farming in the near or distant future.

Like Elisha, Jesus demonstrated a dogged determination in making a resolute decision to accept the road of the cross. "When the days for his being taken up were fulfilled, he resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem." Even though Galilee was a more comfortable zone, Jesus decided to go to Jerusalem, a danger zone, where he would suffer grievously and die. There were several obstacles that were mounted to prevent Jesus from going to Jerusalem. These obstacles began even while he was an infant. First, there was an attempt to kill him by Herod soon after his birth (Matthew 2:13:16-18; Revelation 2:24). Second, before he set out for public ministry, Satan met him in the wilderness and attempted to make him be a sensational Gospel preacher by performing some cheap miracles instead of proclaiming the Good News of salvation (Matthew 4:1-11); third, one of his disciples made an attempt to stop Jesus from going to Jerusalem. When Jesus spoke to his disciples that the Son of Man must suffer, be rejected and killed, Peter took him aside to rebuke him and express his disapproval of the cross (Mark 8:31-32); More still, during his prayer in the garden of Gethsemane as the hour of the cross was fast approaching, Jesus naturally felt the urge to reject the cross, but his spirit was resolute to take up

the cross. He prayed: "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done" (Luke 22:42). Despite all odds and oppositions, Jesus resolutely went to Jerusalem to take up the cross.

The road to Jerusalem is that which all Disciples of Christ must follow. We often wish to remain permanently in some comfort zones, but we are called to leave our comfort zones when we are entrusted with some responsibilities or tasks. Sometimes, the movement from our comfort zones to any area of discomfort depends on our free choice as in the case of Elisha and Jesus. We exercise this freedom by making responsible choices. Often, we are confronted with the choice of either departing from our old ways of life or clinging to it.

The world is full of liberation movements and freedom fighters that use guns and bombs to fight for freedom. This is not the kind of freedom that Paul speaks about in his letter to the Galatians. The freedom that he proclaims is that which sets us free from the yoke of slavery to destructive habits and the freedom that enables us to serve one another through love; the freedom which the Apostle Paul proclaims is a life in the spirit that enables us to break free from the old, unredeemed, unrefined and raw self to embrace a new and transformed nature (Galatians 5:16-18).

We all long and wish to embrace a new and transformed life, but we are often caught in the traps of procrastination and hesitation when we are in a valley of decision. The Prophet Joel says, "Thousands and thousands are waiting in the valley of decision" (Joel 3:14). Jesus encountered some three people who demonstrated three practical facts about decision-making. The first person made a decision out of his free will to follow Jesus, but Jesus simply told him "Foxes have dens and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head" (Luke 9:58). Jesus wanted him to be aware of the implication of his decision and to make him realize that discipleship is not a bed of roses.

Jesus personally invited the second person, saying, "Follow me." This person replied: "Let me go first and bury my father. Jesus answered him, "Let the dead bury the dead.

But you go and proclaim the kingdom." This is to say that the proclamation of the kingdom is an urgent duty that leaves no room for procrastination. Procrastination is another name for unnecessary delay. Procrastination kills time and self-motivation. It makes us delay that which we can do today to an unending tomorrow.

## St. Augustine & St. Benedict the Moor Churches: Pastoral Region One June 26, 2022

The third person decided to follow Jesus but requested to go and say farewell to his family at home. Jesus responded: "No one who sets his hand on to the plough and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God" (cf. Luke 9:57-62). Jesus wanted this third person to understand that discipleship requires a firm decision for commitment and fidelity.

An English proverb says, time and tide wait for no one. When we are to make some hard and difficult decisions, we often say, "I have no time today," or "Not now." The scriptures gently reminds us, "Behold, now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2). "Today, if you hear his voice, harden not your hearts" (Hebrews 3:15).

In making lasting decisions we need to take time to pray. The Book of Proverbs advises: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your paths (Proverbs 3:5-6). In our moments of confusion, we could seek for wise counsel before making important decisions. We also need to put in efforts to make enough inquiries and seek for necessary information to help us make an 'informed-decision.' Lastly, when it is convenient we could carefully examine the different options available before making a wise choice or decision.



### REGION ONE LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

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

June 25 3:45p[SB] Confessions

June 25 4:30pm [SB] Regional Parishioners

June 26 8:30am [SA] Kathy Bowers for good health

June 26 10:30am [SB] for deceased Parishioner

### YOUR STEWARSHIP THANK YOU

#### **ST. AUGUSTINE WEEKLY COLLECTION**

June 19: Collection: \$ 923.00, St. Vincent's \$5, Education \$50

#### **ST. BENEDICT WEEKLY COLLECTION**

June 19: Collection: \$2,604, Maintenance \$5, Up to date Capital Campaign, \$48,195.00



### **ST. AUGUSTINE MINISTERS SCHEDULE**

June 26 Randy Klotz

July 3 Fran Delegado

10 Tim Pfeifer  
17 Randy Klotz  
24 Patrick Barnett  
31 JoAnne Vincent

### **ST. BENEDICT MINISTERS SCHEDULE**

JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup> – THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reader – Janet Harden

2nd Reader – Michael Stitts

Petitions – Victor O'Basuyi

Extraordinary Ministers – Victor O'Basuyi, Mary O'Basuyi, Carolyn Day

### **Reminder**

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

**St Benedict** Bible Study Every Wednesday at 7 PM on Google meeting <https://meet.google.com/hpy-pmvp-fvt>  
**Or dial: +1 402-921-2290 PIN: 708 666 706#**

Started book of Kings on June 1,

### **Change in Dial-in Number for Rosary**

New Dial-In Number: 6677701427

Access Code: 556136

Rosary time is every Monday at 11am. Join your church family in praying for the community and each other.



### **Pray for our sick and Shut-Ins**

Mae Wilkinson, Kenneth Bronston, I Helen Spanish, Pat bell, Betty Jones, Susie Roberts, Angelina Matin, Nancy Green, Mary Dudley, Priscilla Moon, Annena Younger, Keno Hampton, Sherman Mosley, Juanita Newell, Robert Florence, Rita Ellicott, Loure Hayes, Renee' Raisch, Don Hoog and Ray Metzger.

### **Nursing Homes**

Eddie Weaver

Mary Scott

Roberta Hickman

Heartland of Kettering

### **What is God's mission for you?**

A day of discernment hosted by the seminarians of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati for high school men (incoming sophomores to outgoing seniors). Mass, Adoration, talks, food, sports & games Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Sacred Heart of Jesus McCartyville catholicaco.org/vocations Questions? Email: [vocations@catholicaoc.org](mailto:vocations@catholicaoc.org)



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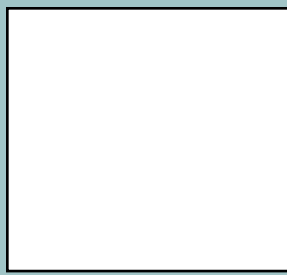
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