



SVD NEWSLETTER



A WORD FROM THE PROVINCIAL

Dear Confreres,

As I write these lines I am also preparing to go on leave. I will leave on 12 April. While on leave I will also take care of a medical with my right hand. I expect to return as good as new.

We offer our congratulations to Bishop Gabriel Kumordji on the occasion of his Episcopal ordination as Vicar Apostolic of the newly created Vicariate of Donkorkrom.

Bishop Bowers' 100th birthday celebrations on the 28th March and 5th April were both great. Our Generalate sent a beautiful congratulatory letter which was printed in the booklet published for the occasion.

Welcome to Ignatius Ayivor who has returned from his studies. We are happy to have another canon lawyer in our province. Welcome also to George Angmor and Andrews Obeng who specialized in giving thirty day retreats.

We thank all those who have contributed to the ongoing Guest House renovations. May I ask some who have forgotten to do their bit to please do so immediately. We are making all the rooms self-contained and also adding a new project of tiling the reading room, TV room, veranda and steps. That is why this appeal is repeated.

We all know that McCarthy Hill does not get water from the town, but when the water was blessed at the Easter Vigil the underground tank started overflowing! An Easter miracle in McCarthy Hill!

Your confrere,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'D. Mello'.

Thomas D'Mello SVD
Provincial

PROVINCE NEWS

Bp. Oliver Bowers Asks For More

Indeed, the dream of the good old bishop has been manifested as he celebrated his centenary birthday on the 28th of March 2010. The SVDs and the HDR sisters gathered in their numbers to celebrate this day with their confrere and founder respectively. This historic day marked an important moment not only in the life of Bishop Bowers but also a very decisive event in the history of the HDR sisters and the SVDs

However, contrary to the thinking of many that a centenary celebration is a befitting crowning of a life well lived as a religious, Bishop Bowers looks at his centenary celebration as *a beginning of another beginning* in his life. Interestingly, when the Provincial Superior, Fr. Thomas D'Mello called on him in his room shortly before the commencement of his centenary mass, Bishop Bowers true to his name as Oliver, he asked for more: "pray for me to live for another 100yrs" he told him. Yes! Oliver indeed asked for more!

A good number of SVDs and HDR sisters flocked Agomanya to celebrate this well deserved birthday with Bishop Bowers. Most Rev. Joseph Afrifah-Agyekum, Bishop of Koforidua diocese presided over the Mass.

Concelebrating were the Bishop elect for Donkorkrom, Very Rev. Fr. Gabriel Edoe Kumordji, SVD; Very Rev. Fr. Thomas D'Mello, SVD; Fr. Joshua Gariba, SVD; Fr. Fred Timp, SVD among others.

In his homily Bishop Afrifah-Agyekum urged all to be selfless and model their lives after that of Christ so that He will reward them with good health and a long life. He also read to the congregation the birthday messages received from the Holy Father and the Apostolic Nuncio.

The second part of the programme was nothing but a practical explication of "this is the day the Lord has made let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Franklin Desire Adzosii

DISTRICT NEWS

Accra District:

SVD House

Letting Go Of Resentment – A Prerequisite for a Healthy Community Life

Resentment can be defined as ill feeling: aggrieved feelings caused by a sense of having been badly treated. Philosopher [Robert C. Solomon](#) wrote extensively on the emotion of resentment and its negative effects on those who experience it. Solomon describes resentment as the means by which man clings to his self-respect, and as humanity at its lowest ebb.

It is plain that a life which includes deep resentment leads only to futility and unhappiness. To the precise extent that we permit these, do we squander the hour that might have been worthwhile. With

the Religious whose hope is the maintenance and growth of a spiritual experience this business of resentment is infinitely grave. We found that it is fatal. For when harbouring such feelings we shut ourselves off from the sunlight of the Holy Spirit who is supposed to be our guide.

Because of the consequences they carry, resentful feelings are dangerous to live with and need to be dealt with. Resentment is an obstacle to the restoration of equal moral relations among persons, and must be handled and expunged via introspection and forgiveness.

One of the results of resentment is “pay back time” where we try to use our positions of influence or authority to play the game of “retaliation”. Driven by a hundred forms of fear, self-delusion, self seeking and self-pity, we step on the toes of our fellows in our various communities and they retaliate. Sometimes they hurt us seemingly without provocation, but we invariably find that at sometime in the past we have made decisions based on self which later placed us in a position to be hurt. That is why it pays to be simple and fair all the time and avoid harbouring resentments.

To further compound these negative effects; resentment often functions in a downward spiral. Resentful feelings cut off communication between the resentful person and the persons he or she feels wronged them, which can result in future miscommunications and the development of further resentful feelings.

Resentment truly is the “number-one offender”. I was enlightened to this fact only six months ago. I can laugh at myself now. And I wonder, “How could we think that we are okay with an individual and yet, feel a stab of annoyance or anger at the mention of his or her name?” How could we think everything is alright? I also found it strange that most of the resentment that festered concerns people we care about, admire and loved. Resentment with others is the “sticking point” in our growth even though we may deny it. Most often, there is nothing that we can do to change what people said and did to us, we could only change ourselves.

Yes! Sometimes in our various communities our personalities may be like oil and water; they do not mix well. But we must not fail to see the symbiotic relationship of the oil and the water. The oil needs the water to support it just as the water needs the oil to demonstrate its ability to hold something on its surface. So while resentment is the number-one offender, it can also be our best teacher. Most of us have learned this painfully (the way we always seem to learn) that forgiving with words is not enough for our peace of mind. We must forgive entirely, with our heart and our soul, not just with the mind.

In the state of resentment our character defects were hidden behind all those hurts and injustices we had saved up through the years and which we regularly brought out and relived with all the original emotions. We accumulated any and every new hurt real or imagined. In fact, we took a kind of perverse pleasure from feeling sadness and self-pity. As every time that something went wrong in our lives or we failed to live up to some responsibility, we took out the list of abuses we have suffered and use it as an excuse. Hence, we become very adept at hiding our guilt behind these real or imagined hurts.

The problem with blaming our frustration and failures on what others did to us is that it keeps us small. We stay a little boy trapped in a man’s body – a self-centered, selfish little boy who expects people to live up to his fantasies of them and gets hurt when they don’t cater to his every want and whim.

Psychologist James J. Messina recommends five steps to facing and resolving resentful feelings. (1) Identify the source of the resentful feelings and what it is the person did to evoke these feelings, (2) develop a new way of looking at past, present and future life, including how resentment has affected life and how letting go of resentment can improve the future, (3) write a letter to the source of the resentment, listing offenses and explaining the circumstances, then forgive and let go of the offenses (but do not send the letter), (4) visualize a future without the negative impact of resentment, and (5) if resentful feelings still linger, return to Step 1 and begin again.

In short, forgiveness, fraternal confrontation and goodwill are the best substitute for resentment if we want growth and maturity; if we want to see our communities become a home. Yet, forgiveness is a decision – forgive with your heart, not just with words.

Franklin Adzosii

Tema - Battor:

Rev. Fr. Justin Toda, SVD ends his Journey with Good Memories



Rev. Fr. Justin Toda, SVD ended his journey from this material world in order to go back to His maker on the final funeral ceremony celebrated for him in Asutuare and Nsawam on 11th – 12th March 2010.

His funeral began when his body was received in the chapel of St. John Vianney Parish of Asutuare from St. Martin De Porres Hospital, Agomanya on Thursday – 11th March 2010 at 7:30 p.m. Fr. Thomas D’ Mello, SVD, the Provincial Superior, received Fr. Justin’s remains by sprinkling of holy water, incensation and placing of white pall on the coffin.

The MC, Fr. John Newman Tettehfiio, invited Fr. Nicholas Lassey to welcome those who came and participated on that day of wake keeping. He said, we are here to mourn; to show our final respect; and to pray for our beloved departed brothers and sisters especially Fr. Justin. As he sympathetically welcomed all, he also encouraged all to pray earnestly, appealing to God for His divine mercy. Fr. Benjamin Adusei, SVD led the vigil service. After the short vigil, Fr. Thomas led the celebration of the wake keeping Mass that night. In his sharing, Fr. Andrew Anumu Quaye – Foli, SVD, the homilist, told the assembly that, “Fr. Justin is now with his Maker, teaching Him different languages and singing Him Ghanaian songs.” He said this in connection with his tribute to Fr. Justin: a man who loved to speak and sing the language and lived the culture of the people God has entrusted to his care; a good, hospitable, generous, joyful pastor, confrere and friend. He continued that Fr. Justin’s death was a good death. He died while praying. He died while leading the youth for their retreat on the mountain of Asutuare. He died while contemplating the 11th station of the cross. There is no death more meaningful and beautiful than a missionary who died in action. He made a shortcut road his transfiguration. With much affection he concluded by quoting the text Fr. Justin sent to many confreres shortly before he died: ***“The sun glorifies the Lord by shining, the birds by singing, the flowers by flourishing and the rivers by flowing to the sea. May you glorify him today by smiling; loving, forgiving and being generous to those you meet.”*** The filling past ceremony followed immediately after the Mass. The priests and religious came first. They were followed by the different societies of the church and then the rest of the sympathizers. There were more than 40 priests, around 60 religious brothers and sisters and about a thousand laity in attendance.

On the following day Friday, 12th March 2010 at 5:00 a.m. Fr. Justin’s remains were brought to the Divine Word Catholic conference Center (DWCCC) at Adoagyiri-Nsawam for Burial Mass. Accompanied by the parishioners and many priests and religious, the body arrived at 7:00 a.m. As soon as it arrived, the filling past continued in the chapel of the DWCCC. This was to give chance to those who were not able to come for the wake keeping at Asutuare. At 10 a.m. the burial Mass commenced. Fr. Thomas D’ Mello, SVD welcomed the assembly with a sentimental thought because of the sad nature of gathering. The main celebrant, Most Rev. Charles Gabriel

Palmer Buckle, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Accra, expressed his condolence to all especially Sr. Juliana Toda, PRR (Daughters of our Lady of the Rosary), the youngest sister of Fr. Justin. He thanked the Toda family for offering Fr. Justin for the Ghana mission and more specifically to the Archdiocese of Accra. He lamented to lose one of his jubilant priests and appealed to pray for more vocations so that more and more Fr. Justin Toda will rise.

In his homily, Fr. Joshua Gariba, SVD confirmed what Fr. Andrew Quaye – Foli said in the wake keeping Mass. He commented that Fr. Justin was a man of God and a man of the people. He has left with a good tribute. His passing on the mountain is the passing of life. He carried his mission courageously. The “love and enthusiasm that make the missionary” is clearly shown in his smiles, concern, and service to God. He has a good bonding with the people. As the book of Wisdom attested, “But the souls of the just is in the hand of God... they are in peace” (Wis. 3:1 – 3), Fr. Justin is in the hand of God. He got his vocation with the Lord, he lived his vocation with the Lord and he died in this vocation with the Lord. As the Lord said; “There is no greater love than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” (Jn 15:13), there is no doubt Fr. Justin died a good death! Hence, he left a quality life for us. Yes, though we are sad to lose him, we are consoled because of our faith that he is now in the hand of God. He concluded.

After the Mass Most Rev. Vincent Sowah Boi-Nai, SVD led the final commendation. As soon as the body of Fr. Justin reached the grave yard for priests and religious, Rev. Fr. Victor Leones, SVD administered the concluding Rites for burial. Before departure, on behalf of the SVD Provincial and his council and the SVD celebration committee, Fr. Dionisio Nellas, SVD thanked all who came for their sympathy. He gave special thanks to Most Rev. Charles Gabriel Palmer Buckle, the Archbishop of Accra, Most Rev. Vincent Sowah Boi-Nai, the Bishop of Yendi and three Vicar Generals: Fr. Francis Adoboli of Accra, Monsgr. Francis Tsum Barima of Koforidua and Fr. Tomy Kanjiramalayil, SVD of Yendi for their unconditional support. In attendance, there were 100 Priests, more than 100 religious brothers and sisters and about 800 laity.

As the crowd departed, Fr. Justin remained alive in their memory because they remembered the charity he had done for the Lord in the persons around him: “Whatsoever you do to the least of my brethren you did it to me...come you have my Father’s blessing! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world.” (Mt. 25:31-46)

Afram Plains:

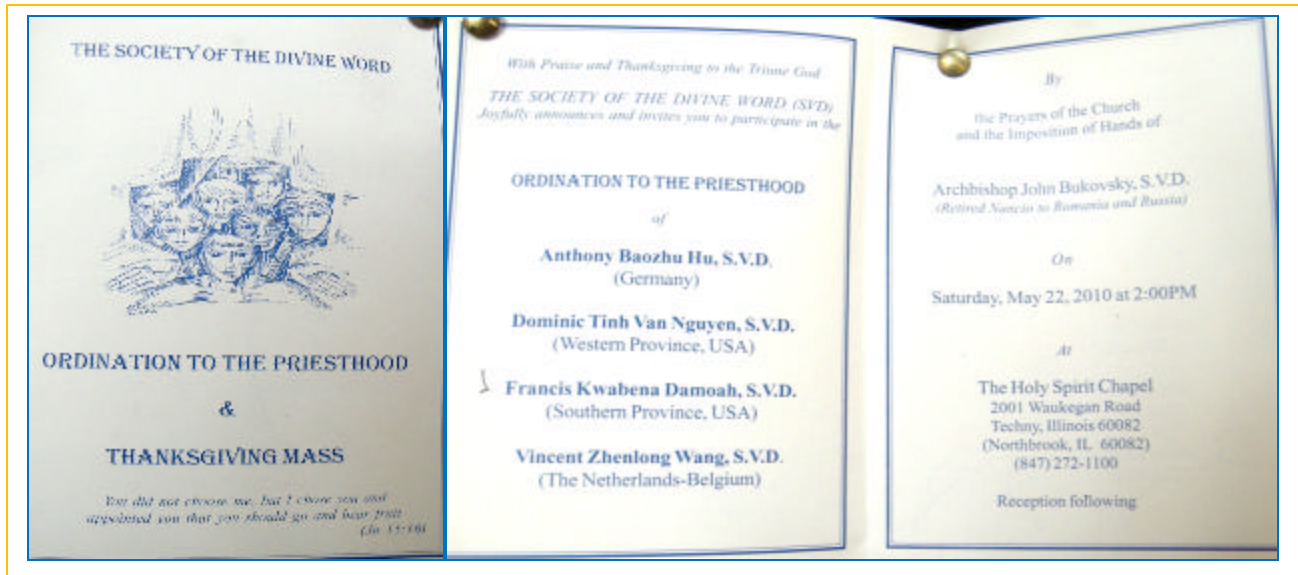
Episcopal Ordination of Monsgr. Gabriel Kumordji, SVD: 17th April 2010



FROM THE MISSION OUTSIDE GHANA

Techny Illinois

Rev. Francis Kwabenah Damoah and Classmates' Ordination: 22nd May 2010



ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Arrivals:

Fr. Francisco Gonzales: 7th February 2010 from Divine Word Parish, Nairobi - Kayole, Kenya for the funeral of Fr. Justin Toda. *Fr. Francisco, welcome to Ghana. Akwaaba!*

Sr. Juliana Toda, PRR (Daughters of our Lady of the Rosary): 7th February 2010 from Divine Word Parish, Nairobi - Kayole, Kenya for the funeral of Fr. Justin Toda. She is the youngest sister of the late Fr. Justin Toda. *Sr. Julie, welcome to Ghana and have our sincerest condolence to you.*

Fr. Fernando Reis, SVD: 20th March 2010 from Argentina on his way to Togo. *Fr. Fernando, von arrivé!*

Fr. Ignatius Ayivor: 23rd March 2010 from his Canon Law studies in the Philippines. *Ignatius, welcome back to Ghana. Woe zor!*

Frs.: George Angmor and Andrews Obeng: 30th March 2010 from a spiritual course in Steyl, Holland. *George and Andy, welcome back. Nye hee. Akwaaba!*

Departures:

Fr. Francisco Gonzales and Sr. Juliana Toda, PRR: 7th March 2010 back to Kenya for their parish ministry. *Fr. Francisco and Sr. Juliana, Have a memorable journey!*

Fr. Fernando Reis, SVD: 21th March 2010 to Togo. *Fr. Fernando, von voyage!*

SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES

Spirituality - AJSC

The 2010 Steyl Retreat Travellers.

It has become a reality within the SVD and the SSps that 30 day retreats (the Ignatian Exercises) are undertaken by our members in the various provinces and at the different levels of our religious life. Oftentimes, this has been taken at the Jesuit or other retreat centres. For some years now in Ghana, we have been undertaking this exercise chiefly during the novitiate. That was when I had my own first experience of this extended retreat.

Our superiors in both Generalates, in conjunction with the Arnold Janssen Spirituality Centre at our Motherhouse, Steyl, realized that with the ever growing participation in these extended retreats, we could appropriate it even more by enriching it with the spiritual heritage of our own Arnoldus family – St. Arnold and that of all the founding generation (St. Joseph Freinademetz, Bl. Mother Helena Stollenwerk and Bl. Mother Josepha etc.) This resulted in the organization of the first retreat/workshop for directors of thirty day retreats for the SSps and SVD together. This has just ended in Steyl. In the parlance of our heritage, it was felt more appropriate to call this exercise “a retreat journey,” especially, with the recognition of the fact that the length could be more than 30 days. At the same time, rather going by the parlance of “weeks” in the Ignatian exercise, we have “phases or stages,” of which we had four.

This retreat was thus aimed primarily at the members of our own Arnoldus family. It was clearly outlined for directors of thirty-day retreats. It was meant to be an experiential and learning programme, and that participants would return to their various provinces to be involved in this ministry of giving guided retreats based upon our own SVD-SSps or Arnoldus family heritage. We must recall that retreat work was dear to the heart of our founder at the mission house in St. Michael. Hundreds of priests, religious and the laity partook of the retreats organized there. During the Mission Cross ceremonies when he sent out missionaries to the missions, he would always tell them in addition, to remember to preach retreats and to do so very often. These were the same words that our programme ended with at the tomb of St Arnold in the lower chapel, commissioning us to make those words come to reality in us as we return to our various ministries and provinces.

The retreat/workshop came off February 12 – March 28, 2010. There were 12 SSps participants from provinces/missions in the Philippines, Indonesia, India, South Africa, Brazil, Mexico, Ukraine and China. The 11 SVDs came from Slovakia, Indonesia, Philippines, India, Poland, China, the USA, and of course, Ghana, of which Andrews Obeng and myself were privileged to be in the group! One SVD participant from DR Congo could not make it due to problems with visa. The facilitators numbered six – three each of SSps and SVD: Milagros Sandoval (PHS), Ines Setiono (JAV), Anita Kolodziejczyk (GER), Peter McHugh (GER), Renato Gnatta (GER), and Antonio Bon Pates (ROM). One of the interesting things about the group was that after the list had been prepared, six people including one SVD, emerged as new provincial/regional leaders. Many of the participants were novice mistresses and masters. Yet another curious thing was that the group included not less than some six participants with their former Formators! And this also included the facilitating team! My own prefect in CFC-Kenya, John Serrao, was present with me.

After the initial three days of orientation, we immediately immersed ourselves into the retreat journey. Pilgrimages were incorporated into the programme at the end of each phase that saw us visit Goch – birthplace of St. Arnold; Isum – birthplace of Mother Josepha; Kevelaer, an old and important shrine of Our Lady, Comforter of the Afflicted which was frequented by these two founding generation members in their own time. The other places visited on the next break were the convent of the SSps in Wahlwiller and then the home and church of Mother Helena in Rollesbroich. During the third break, we made a trip to Sankt Augustine, where the provincialate of the German province is located, as well as the theologate for our seminarians, including Albert Pongo and Joseph Frimpong from Ghana who are about to complete their studies this year! We also met there, Fr. Peter Claver Narh, who had completed his theology there and is now assigned to a parish nearby. We also saw the Missionprokur there, Steyler Bank, the China and Monumenta Serica, as well as the Anthropos centre.

At the beginning of the programme, the winter weather seemed aggressively punitive to most of us (with a coldness that pierced to our bones). We got used to it (slowly though). Like a baby in the womb, our heated rooms in the buildings provided welcome protective warmth. As a result, some of us hardly went outside, especially, during the first three weeks of the programme. At the same time though, the snowy scenery was a sight to relish and an aid to contemplate on nature. All in all, the experience of us all on the retreat was a positive one that brought us mostly to a deeper or more personal relationship with the three persons of the Triune God. Renewed and empowered, especially, by the one week workshop in the last week, we became determined on returning to become better ministers in retreat work as well as in our own various apostolates and communities. Our Pink/Adoration sisters were united with us on this journey, especially as we visited their motherhouse in Steyl on the morning of the day we began the retreat and they constantly kept us in their prayers.

It was great on this trip to meet some former missionaries to Ghana and relive some good old memories. They included Anthony Gelinck who had been in Ghana for 35 years, Renato Gnatta from Brazil and now a new member of the AJSC in Steyl who was in Ghana for 3 years. Others include Bros. Peter Uffelen and Willie who met us briefly; as well as Sr. Anna Elizabeth, SSpS (alias Ama Oforiwaa). I also ascertained that there were a number of participants who had earlier dreamt of mission in Ghana and other parts of Africa but whose dreams are yet to be realized – if it is God’s will. And when we took the opportunity to teach the Ghanaian song “*Da Na Se*,” what a surprise it was that many, especially the SSpS, already knew it (at least the tune) although they have never been to Ghana! They had learnt it from missionaries to Ghana! So did it remind me of a similar experience in the Philippines three years ago when a woman sung this song for me from her memory of it from her elementary school missionary teacher who had been in Ghana!

The above taste for Ghana and Africa was excited even more, when on the last but one day, in a general communal Mass at which Andy Obeng was the homilist, he richly flavoured his beautiful sermon with African sayings and stories that excited all even more. In our little ways, we also had an impact upon the programme. We are grateful to our superiors both on the generalate and provincial level for this opportunity had. Our thanks also goes to all who helped us in diverse ways – (Straathof, in the securing of our visas after the initial refusal) etc. Thanks to friendships and lessons gained. Thanks to the wonderful facilitating team of Peter McHugh & co. Thanks too to the Triune God!

George C. Angmor

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

Congratulations to Bishop Joseph Oliver Bowers, SVD for his 100th birthday: 28th March. We are inspired of your dedication, commitment and faithfulness to priestly and religious life. May God be praised, loved and adored all the days of our life.

Congratulations to Bishop Gabriel Kumordji, SVD on his Episcopal ordination: 17th April 2010. God richly bless you!

COMING EVENTS

1. 16 June AJST Workshop and retreat
2. 27 June SVD Retreat
3. 18 July First Vows

INFORMATION

Renovation on Progress

Dear Confreres,

The renovations on the SVD Guest House have started. The first, second, and third floors are undergoing a transformation. The ground floor however is basically untouched and will remain untouched. The kitchen, dining room and office are still open. You can come and collect your mail from the boxes in the office. If you are in town for business and want to join us for lunch or supper you are welcome, provided you give us a call at least two hours ahead of time. At present the cook is not making extra food unless we know someone is coming. You can call the house number: 021-227714. If there is no answer, call Fred Timp at 024-281-8833, or Franklin at 024-966-5096. You can also take a look at the progress being made.

Fred Timp, SVD
Province Secretary

30 - day Retreat

Our Novices successfully completed their 30 - day retreat on 24th March 2010. They are expressing their thanks for your prayer.

REMEMBERING OUR DEAD

Mr. John Ohene Akuffo, elder brother of the father of Bro. John Akuffo. He died on 23rd February 2010. Funeral Mass and burial: 24th April 2010 at Kwahu Tafo. The details of the funeral are still to be announced. A short background: As Bro. John's father died when he was very young he was raised by Mr. John Ohene Akuffo, after whom he is named.

Mrs. Flaviana Academia, aunt of Fr. Dionisio Nellas. She died on 27th March 2010 at the age of 86. Funeral Mass and burial: 2nd April 2010.

May their souls and the souls of our faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace!

WISE SAYINGS FROM THE FOUNDING GENERATION

"Divine Heart of Jesus, destroy in us all pride and give us true humility." - St. Arnold Janssen

"I am alone in the midst of a completely pagan people. Deo gratias. But what will I do here, what can I build? Dear God, you build, otherwise, I will build in vain; you do battle, you stand watch, otherwise I will watch in vain! May the harvest indeed be great..." - St Joseph Freinademetz

“The Holy Spirit, ‘Father of the Congregation.’ Is the driving force of mission” - Blessed Josefa Hendrina Stenmanns

“Divine Heart of Jesus, take from us all lack of charity and give us true love for each other.” - St. Arnold Janssen

JOKES ONLY

Patience

A lawyer’s wife was complaining to him about their home. *“We need furniture, draperies, carpets and everything,”* she insisted.

“Yes dear we will have them sooner or later,” he assured her. *“You see I am working on a divorce case for a woman now whose husband has plenty of money. Just as soon as I finish breaking up their home, we can fix up ours.”*

Place Your Bets

Two men about to take a southbound train became impatient at the delay after two hours waiting. To while the time away, the first man proposed that if he who could not answer his own question, he would pay for the other’s train ticket.

“Agreed” said the second man. “You shoot the first question”

First man: *Do you see those dogs down in the field? How do they dig holes without leaving any dirt around?*

Second man: *Nothing doing. That’s your question, answer it.*

First man: *They started digging from the bottom.*

Second man: *How in hell can they start digging from the bottom?*

First man: *That is your question. Answer it.*

The second man paid for tickets.

Pig

Father (reproving his son and heir for greediness): *Jimmy, you are a pig. Do you know what a pig is?*

Jimmy: *Yes, father. A pig is a hog’s little boy.*

WORTH REMEMBERING

April

3	Patrick Moroney	Birthday	25	Marcus Hipolito	Feastday
7	Kimathi Mburugu James	Birthday	25	Marek Kowalik	Feastday
9	Andrews Obeng	Birthday			
10	Marek Dabrowski	Birthday	26	Gregory Kubowicz	Birthday
17	Stephen Osei Asante	Birthday	26	David K. Tengey	Birthday
19	Alex Awuah Osei	Birthday			
21	Konrad Dreyer	Feastday			

23	George Angmor	Feastday
25	Lutwin Dollwet	Birthday
25	Marek Dabrowski	Feastday
23	George Makonzo	Feastday

28	Joseph Bowers	Birthday
29	Thomas D' Mello	Birthday

Apr.	Our departed confreres	Year
9	Theodore v. Eijndthoven	2000
15	Adolf Noser	1981
18	Cletus Hodapp	1967
20	Harold Lauck	1990
26	Joseph Skorupka	1982

May 2009

1	Joseph Addai	Feastday
1	Cyprian Kuupol	Birthday
1	Kingsley Sagru-Larr	Feastday
1	Panabang	Feastday
1	Ziem Albert	Birthday
2	Davordzie Gideon	Feastday
3	Franciszek Kowal	Birthday
3	Jojo Monoth	Feastday
4	Francis Allah	Birthday
4	James Anane	Feastday
4	Sylvain-Franck Tettekpoé,	Birthday
5	Joshua Gariba	Birthday
5	Alexander Chandy	Birthday
6	Martin Tetteh	Birthday
7	Matthias Felber`	Birthday
8	Lawrence Muthee	Birthday
8	Stanislaw Gergont	Feastday
9	Grzegorz Kubowicz	Feastday
9	George Makonzo	Birthday
9	Samuel Aboo	Birthday
10	Bruno Yirzie	Birthday
10	Samuel Yaw Adu	Birthday
12	Julius Keeke	Feastday
13	Agyapong Eugene	Feastday

14	Matthias Helms	Feastday
14	Matthias Yaadar	Feastday
14	Mathias King	Feastday
15	Denis K. Yaou	Birthday
15	Victor Samuel Kusaga	Birthday
17	Paul Ayitey	Birthday
18	Michael Tangente	Birthday
18	Mariusz Pacula	Birthday
19	Djiba Youta Joseph	Birthday
20	Bernard Assenyoh	Birthday
21	John Ohene Akuffo	Birthday
22	Emil Setsoafia	Birthday
22	Emmanuel Anyomi	Feastday
23	Joachim Zok	Birthday
25	Boniface Issaka	Birthday
26	Wladyslaw Madziar	Birthday
22	Dzokpe Komla Emile	Feastday
28	Augustine Tsofi	Birthday
30	Frank Quainoo	Birthday
31	Frank Quainoo	Feastday

May	Our departed confreres	Year
5	Dennis Asiamah	2007
14	John McKillip	1979
25	Fr. Otto Welter	2003
27	George Wilson	1985
31	Alphonse Elsbernd	1997

Liturgy Corner

Liturgy of the Word

The liturgy of the word celebrates a special presence of God to his people today.

When the Scripture are read in the Church, God himself speaks to this people, and it is Christ, present in his word, who proclaims the Gospel.

The readings should be listened to with respect; they are the principal element of the liturgy. In the biblical readings God's word is addressed to all people of every era and is understandable in itself, but a homily, as a living explanation of the word, increases its effectiveness and is an integral part of the service (General Introduction of the Roman Missal, no; 9)

The assembled people prepared by the celebration of the introductory rites, now listen to God's word. Their attitude is not simply that of an historian looking for information about past events, but more of that of children eager to listen to their parents so that their life may be more deeply formed.

The Scriptures are revered by Jews and Christians alike as a treasure to be cherished and applied to life. They are not a book of past facts, but the focal point of an event – God entering their life today. The Jewish people consider the word of God as food. We read in Ezekiel, “The word of God came to me, and I ate it” (Ez 15:16).

Jesus is the fulfillment of God's word, of God's promises. He is the “Word of God” and the “Bread of Life.” Jesus boldly proclaimed that he had come to fulfill the old covenant. And Jesus' followers interpreted this life and ministry as a fulfillment of what God had promised Israel. The early Church, at first by word of mouth and later in written form, has passed on this fulfillment of God's word in Jesus in a special way in the writings of the New Testament. *(To be continued...)*

Pius Agyeman, SVD

He broke the bread...



With that ..., they recognized him.
(Lk. 24:30-31)