

From Father Jordan

In the days of Spring you may recall a brief talk by Father Noel Ugoagwu, a missionary priest stationed in the South Sudan. With two fellow missionary priests, Father Noel ministers to 200,000 Catholics. He has a parish church quite small and mainly outside—and some 40 bush station extensions of the family. As a Nigerian priest of the religious order of the Missionaries of Saint Paul, he finds life is an unending challenge.



Imagine living in the sands! Very little grows in sand. Only dry dirt roads! When the rainy season starts, travel is next to impossible...that is, if you have any wheels! But as those who heard Father Noel speak know, this young man is truly a disciple of Jesus Christ. What enthusiasm, what energy, and what love for his parishioners! As I begin my pastorate at Saint Matthias, I wish you to join me in accepting Father Noel's parish as an adopted sister parish for Saint Matthias Parish. Soon I will have some photos of the parish for display. The parish name is: Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Parish Torit, Eastern Equatorial State, South Sudan.

Please know that sending anything to that address does not guarantee delivery to Father Noel. He has established a delivery station in a nearby African country. The safest and most secure delivery point is Father Noel's sister, one of our parishioners, Mrs. Juliette Chikere, 240-486-3572. If you care to send Father Noel a financial gift, make the check in his name, Noel Ugoagwu or his sister's name and send to her at 4305 Lintona Lane, Bowie, MD 20720-3576. Or you may drop off your donation at the parish office. Watch our parish website for pictorial updates from our adopted parish.

We sent a parishioners' gift of \$1007 in the spring and will have occasional "Helping Our Sister Parish" collections during this year. I know we are asked to support many requests. Charity is not always easy. But I know we can be generous.

Sixteenth Week of Ordinary Time

On the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time we are reminded that God has sown good seed, but, of course, an enemy has sown weeds in the same field. We are not supposed to go out there judgmentally pulling up weeds, but to leave judgment to God. The way the Kingdom of God grows is the way tiny seeds grow and the way yeast makes dough rise: it is surprising and slow and almost imperceptible. If we have ears, we ought to hear.

Wednesday is the Memorial of Saint Mary Magdalene. Friday is the Feast of Saint James, Apostle. Saturday is the Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The first readings this week are from the Book of the Prophet Micah. Later in the week we move to readings from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah, which will continue next week and into the week afterwards.

Taken from Creighton University's Online Ministries website: <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>. Used with permission.

Stewardship Report: Revenue

July 13 th	8,141.00
<i>Faith Direct:</i>	2,145.00
Total Offertory:	10,286.00
<i>Last Year:</i>	12,211.00
Poor Box:	140.00
Every Penny Counts	31.51

Welcome, Father Francis Arnou

Father Francis hails from Nigeria where he serves as pastor in Orauku in Anambra state. Please take time to introduce yourself to Father Francis and offer him your warm hospitality during his residence here at St. Matthias this summer.

Farewell, Father Alex

Father Alex will say his last Mass here at St. Matthias July 26th at 10:30 a.m. Please be sure to show your appreciation for celebrating Mass with us during his visit.

Mission Appeal

On August 2nd, Rev. Casimir Nyaki, C.S.Sp., will visit our parish to celebrate Sunday Masses and speak about the work of missionaries. This visit is part of a national program to visit churches in the Archdiocese to enlist support for worldwide mission work of the Church. Please respond generously to Father Nyaki's appeal.

Summer Stewardship: Please remember that your parish counts on your weekly sacrifice of treasure even when you're away from us on vacation. Please remember to mail your offertory envelope to the rectory before you go away on a well-deserved vacation, or drop it in the collection basket the week before you leave. Thank you for being a faithful steward.

Adopt-a-Student: We are looking for sponsors to help students in need attend the Academy of Saint Matthias. Each year, dozens of students come to the school with documented financial needs that we cannot meet. If you would like to "adopt a student" for the 2015-2016 year, please contact the principal, Mrs. Greer, agreer@stmatthias.org or 301-577-9412.

Stewardship Moment: In today's Gospel, Jesus had planned to slip away from the crowds for a few moments of peace and a little rest. When He saw the people gathered, however, He put His needs aside to meet the needs of others. Sometimes, as good stewards, we are called to do the same.

Looking Ahead

Mark your calendar: The Catholic Business Network of Prince George's County will hold their annual crab feast Saturday, Sept. 19th, from 4-7 pm at the Prince George's Council 2809 Knights of Columbus in College Park, MD. Visit cbnpg.org for details.

The Academy Raffle Winner



James Walters, the winner and the seller won \$350 for the June 13th drawing.

Faith Formation

If you have any questions regarding Faith Formation, please contact Catherine Tolnay at 301-459-4814 X205. Please note that Catherine will be out of the office July 20th—31st.

Faith Formation Registration: Parents of children who do not attend a Catholic School are encouraged to register them for Faith Formation classes (grades K-8) which will begin in September. The registration forms are in the pamphlet racks in the vestibule of the Church. We look forward to helping you teach your children about our faith.

Items of Note

For information about the Pope's upcoming visit, please contact St. Matthew's Cathedral at www.stmatthewscathedral.org.



Parish Library: We plan to open a library in the Hughes Center for the use of parishioners. This library will contain books on religion and the church as well as history, biographies, science, even some novels. We need bookcases. If you have bookcases (preferably 6 feet tall x 3 feet wide) you would care to donate, we would be very grateful. Cash donations to buy bookcases would also be welcome. If you can help, please contact Toni Webster at maryantoniawebster@gmail.com.

Parish Directory: Work on the parish directory continues, and we still need some group pictures. The groups whose photos are needed are: Greeters, Ushers, Parish Council, Finance Council, Eucharistic Ministers, Filipino Choir, African Choir, Altar Society, and Liturgical Dance. Group chairpersons are asked to either arrange to have group photos taken at the Hughes Center the week of July 20-23, from 9am—3pm, **or** submit a recent group photo to Arlene Taylor at atay1459@comcast.net for inclusion in the directory. Please call Arlene Taylor 301-459-5549 or Debbie Self 301-577-4201 to schedule an appointment or if you have any questions. **Deadline for all pictures is July 23rd.**

Summer 2015 Theology on Tap: Theology on Tap is back on the Catholic Information Center rooftop this summer. All young adults (college age to late 30s) are invited to the rooftop of the CIC (1501 K Street NW) on Tuesday nights for happy hour and inspiring TED-style Theology on TAP talks. The next talk will be July 21st on the topic of friendships. Happy hour is 6pm --7pm followed by the talk and Q/A from 7pm—8pm. For more information, visit DCCatholic@adw.org.

Save the Date—Maryland Catholic Women's Conference: The 2015 Maryland Catholic Women's Conference will be held on **October 10th—11th**, at Mount Saint Mary's University in Emmitsburg. The cost for the conference is \$80. Scholarships are available for those who need financial help to attend. For more information, please visit www.marylandcatholicwomen.com or call Jeanne at 443-324-8487.



Mass Intentions for the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Monday, July 20

8:30 am Reverend John P. Kinter
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Confessions
8:00 pm Benediction

Tuesday, July 21: St. Lawrence of Brindisi

8:30 am Pat Makowski (Living)

Wednesday, July 22: St. Mary Magdalene

8:30 am Macaulay & Mary Nzefili (Living) Anniversary

Thursday, July 23: St. Bridget, Religious

8:30 am Catherine Palazzo

Friday, July 24: St. James the Apostle

8:30 am Louis Stinnett

The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, July 26:

8:00 am Ben Self
10:30 am Adamma Ugoh
6:00 pm Norma Florimbio (Living)

Readings for the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

1st Reading: 2 Kings 4:42 - 44

2nd Reading: Ephesians 4:1 - 6

Gospel: John 6: 1 - 15

Please pray for the sick and homebound in our parish, our neighbors, family, and friends:

Mary Ajayi; Margie Baker; Melvin and Elaine Brooks; Muriel Brown; Shawn Brown; Yvonne Brown; Yvette Butler; Hazel Campbell; Sylvia Conte; Al Craig; Ronnie Davis; Gali Galicinao; Patricia Garner; Brendan George; Emma Graham; Francis Greenfield; Wonema Hammer; Salome Ihejirika; Dorothy Johnson; Pamela Jones; Jack Jordan; Kay Kaderabek; John and Joan Kodak; Janice Lipa; Anthony Long; Ed Mahlin, Jr.; Katherine Mahlin; Joe Makowski; John Murray; Carole New; Bernice Nnannah; Molly Onwukwe; Raphael Onyewu; Joe Owens; William Pinchback; Marion Prout; Martin Reedy; Nicole Riley; Pablo Rocha; Lisseth Salvador; Lucille Strenge; Marian Thomas; Kay Villemi; Krystal Williams; John and Sam Zanin; Eugene Zehner and Mary Ann Zehner.

May God's healing grace be theirs.

For our military serving overseas protect them from all harm.

For all the faithful departed, especially Richard Nkematabong, may they rest in peace.



Celebrant Mass Schedule for Sunday, July 26th

8:00 am Father Milt
10:30 am Father Alex
6:00 pm Father Francis