

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER ANGLICAN CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE VETRY MEETING HELD ON 27TH AUGUST 2023 FOR THE PERIOD JAN 2022 – DEC 2022.

1.0 PREAMBLE

My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, to remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins. JAMES 5:19

The period under review was under the term of Rev Fr, Christian Kalitsi and also marked the 2nd year of the triennial of the current PCC.

2.0 CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

The Church was administered by the Parish Priest, Revd. Fr. Christian Kalitsi. He was assisted by Revd. Fr. John Banafoe (Priest-in-Charge, St. Barnabas, Ashalaja), Revd. (Mrs.) Mary Magdalene Aburam-Parker (Priest-in-Charge, St. Philip, Mataheko), the Priest Warden Mr. Reginald Ansah-Adjaye and the People's Warden the Late Mr. Robert Ankrah (demised Dec 22nd 2022). The Parish Administrator was Lay Pastor Chris Ashong. The period under review also saw the demise of our Office Clerk, the late Mr. Theophilus Okoe Mensah.

2.1 THE PARISH CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

The PCC consists of 26 Councilors.

Table 1. The list of PCC members

1. Revd. Fr. Christian K. Kalitsi	Parish Priest/Chairman
2. Revd. Fr. John Banafoe	Priest-In-Charge, St. Barnabas, Ashalaja
3. Revd. (Mrs.) Mary Magdalene Aburam-Parker	Priest-In-Charge, St. Philip, Mataheko
4. Mr. Reginald Ansah Adjaye	Priest Warden/Synod Representative/Member
5. Mr. Robert Ankrah	People's Warden/Member
6. Mr. Samuel Hammond	Synod Representative/Member
7. Ing. Calvin Bruce-Attuquayefio	Synod Representative/Member

8. Mr. Frederick Tackie-Yarboi	Synod Representative/Member
9. Mr. David Lawson-Addo	Synod Representative/Member
10. Lay Pastor Chris Ashong	Parish Administrator/Member
11. Mr. William Tackie-Yarboi	Secretary/Member**
12. Mrs. Deidre Makin-Tetteh	Assistant Secretary/Member
13. Mr. Francis Boye	Member
14. Prof. Albert A. Addo-Quaye	Member
15. Mr. Michael Phelps-Tay	Youth Coordinator/Member
16. Mr. Bonaventure Osei	Member
17. Mr. Benjamin Lartey	Member
18. Mr. Ernest Aryeetey	Member
19. Mr. Emmanuel Wilson	Member
20. Mrs. Augustina Ashie	Member
21. Mr. Jacob Ellis Aryee	Member
22. Mrs. Ellen Kemevor	Member
23. Mr. Nathaniel Quao	Member
24. Mr. George Okwabi	Member
25. Mr. Joseph Nii Clottiah Quaye	Synod Rep
26. Mr. Ernest Ashie	Member

The PCC met regularly on the third Sunday of every month. Between January 2022 and Dec 2022 there were substantive PCC meetings and intermittent Emergency meetings in which many decisions were taken and implemented in the interest of the church.

**In January 2022, Mr. William Tackie-Yarboi travelled overseas for further studies. The Council, therefore, appointed Mrs. Deidre Makin-Tetteh as the Secretary and Benjamin Lartey as the Assistant Secretary and serving to date.

2.2 STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE PARISH CHURCH COUNCIL

Some of the Standing Committees maintained its old members while others appointed new ones: The terms of reference and membership of these Committees were reviewed by the PCC. The Committees are as follows:

- a. Harvest and Fundraising
- b. Finance
- c. Education
- d. Welfare & Visitation
- e. Building, Projects and Maintenance
- f. Evangelism
- g. Band Management

Membership of the PCC Committees**Harvest and Fundraising Committee**

Ing. Calvin Bruce-Attuquayefio - Chairman
Mr. Joe Barima Agyekum Jnr. - Member
Mrs. Ellen Kemevor - Member
Prof. Albert A. Addo-Quaye - Member
Mr. Emmanuel Wilson - Member
Mr. Bonnaventure Osei - Member
Mrs. Augustina Ashie - Member
Wardens – Ex-officio Members

Finance Committee

Mr. Joseph Nii Clottiah Quaye – Chairman
Revd. Fr. Christian Kalitsi – Parish Priest
Mr. Samuel Hammond – Member
Lay Pastor Chris Ashong – Member
Mr, Emmanuel Ashie Robertson – Member
Mr. Francis Boye – Member
Church Wardens

Education Committee

Prof. Albert A. Addo-Quaye - Chairman
Mrs. Ellen Kemevor – Member
Mr. Leslie Nikoi - Member
Mrs. Perpetua Tackie-Yarboi - Member
Mr. Samuel Alfred Boye – Member

Welfare and Visitation Committee

Mr. Francis Boye – Chairman
Mr. John Odoi – Member
Mrs. Rita Hammond - Member
Ms. Mercy Abrokwah - Member
Ms. Lydia Adotey - Member
Ms. Charity Kotey - Member
Mr. Godwin Mingle - Member
Mr. Alfred Aryee - Member
Ms. Alberta Quaynor - Member
Ms. Vivian Ankrah - Member
Ms. Joyce Collison – Member

Building, Projects and Maintenance Committee

Mr. Joe Barimah Agyekum, Jnr - Chairman
Mr. Kenneth King Kabutey - Member
Mr. Samuel Hammond - Member
Major (Rtd.) Mrs. Diana Quaynor - Member
Mrs. Ellen Kemevor – Member
Mr. George Okwabi - Member
Wardens -Ex-Officio

Evangelism Committee

Lay Pastor Chris Ashong – Chairman
Lay Pastor Comfort Lydia Sowah- Member
Lay Pastor Sophia McKenzie - Member
Lay Pastor Comfort Abossey - Member

Lay Pastor Wilhelmina Okwabi - Member
Mr. Bonnaventure Osei - Member
Mr. Norbert Blankson-Darku – Member
Mr. Moses Mingle - Member
Mr. Isaac Ashong - Member
Ms. Sandra Pappoe - Member
Mr. Joseph Nii Clottiah Quaye - Member

Band Management Committee

Ing. Calvin Bruce-Attuquayefio - Chairman
Mr. Alfred Obeng - Member
Mr. Solomon Clottey - Member
Mr. Bernard Biltmore Kumi - Member
Mr. Joseph Obeng - Member
Mr. Norbert Blankson-Darku - Member
Mrs. Caroline Oku - Member
Miss Cordelia Ivy Sackey – Member
Wardens – Ex-officio

During the period, the Terms and Reference of the various committees were revised to reflect the growing and realistic needs of the parish. This was done to enable the committees work and reflect the realities of the day to achieve the various objectives and vision as enshrined in our Diocesan constitution

Achievements

During the period under review, the various committees of the church through the co-operation and benevolence of parishioners achieved several feats. Some of them include but not limited to

- Continuation of the Mission House project
- Streamlining of Evangelism activities
- Support in achieving harvest targets

2.3 LIAISON OFFICERS

Table 2. The List of Appointed Liaison Officers for the 2021-2024 Triennial Period

GUILD	LIAISON OFFICER
Church Choir	Mr. Bonnaventure Osei
Men's Fellowship	Mr. Ernest Aryeetey
Mothers Union	Mr. Ernest Ashie
Women's Fellowship	Mrs. Deidre Makin-Tetteh
Guild of the Good Shepherd	Mr. Frederick Tackie-Yarboi
Guild of the Servants of the Sanctuary	Mr. George Okwabi
Sunday School	Mr. David Lawson-Addo
St Mary the Virgin	Mr. Benjamin Lartey
Anglican Young People's Association (AYPA)	Mrs. Augustina Ashie
Prayer Warriors	Mr. Nathaniel Quao
Guild of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	Prof. Albert A. Addo-Quaye

2.3 SERVICE ORIENTED CHURCH OFFICIALS

The various church service-oriented groups have also contributed to the efforts of the church. These include Vergers, Lay Pastors, Lay Readers, Chalice Assistants, Choirmaster and Choristers, Sides Persons, Children's Service Teachers (6:15 & 9am Congregations), The Angelic Voices and the Audio-Visual Team.

These persons have continued in their tireless service to the church and have therefore pushed the vision of the church a step forward. We congratulate them for their selfless devotion to duty. It is the PCC's prayer that they will continue to diligently labour in the Lord's vineyard.

3.0 CHURCH MEMBERSHIP/ATTENDANCE

The average attendance to Sunday services for the period stood at 300 persons. Over the period there were also;

Activity	Data
Baptism	23
Death	10
Confirmation	13
Marriage	3

Our average attendance stands as explained in Table 3. Church attendance improved as the COVID pandemic eased and members were getting back into routine of attendance. There was however the issue of late attendance to Mass and guild meetings. The PCC looks forward to an improvement in the coming year.

Parishioners are encouraged to come and join other brethren to fellowship and spread the Gospel to win more souls for Christ. The breakdown of church membership was as follows:

Table 3. Church Membership

Our average church attendance over the period stood as below

SERVICE	6.15AM CONGREGATION	9AM CONGREGATION
Adult Male	49	98
Adult Female	66	121
Children Male	22	32
Children Female	29	35

The PCC has noted that outdate of our membership register. In line with this, we will start a re-registration exercise In September this year to remedy the situation.

3.1 CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday Services - Two services or mass are celebrated on Sundays. The 1st Service was celebrated from 6:15 am to 9:00 am and the 2nd Service from 9:00 am to 12 pm.

Week-day Services - These masses were held on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and where devoutly celebrated, but attendance was low. Parishioners are therefore encouraged to attend the above masses with family and friends.

Children Service - The Children Service has evolved and grown in number over the years. The year under review is no exception. This achievement was through efforts of our dedicated Sunday School teachers (Both 6.15am and 9am). Council congratulates them and urges them to strive for excellence in their duties in the coming year.

Some events held by the Sunday School

1. 2022 Christmas eve carols and drama
2. Mothering Sunday -March 2022
3. Diocesan children's rally -June 2022

These activities were fully funded by the church, patrons, parents and guardians. The Mothers Union also sponsored Mothering Sunday activities.

The Sunday school comprises three (3) classes. They are Action (55), Lemaire (30) and Timothy (35) totaling One hundred and twenty (120).

Some of the challenges the Sunday faced during the period under review were the following;

- a. Poor attendance to church services
- b. Irregular attendance to church services especially within the Timothy class
- c. Impact of secular and social media on the children
- d. Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on some of the activities
- e. Lack of proper rooms for Sunday services and storage of teaching aids and materials.

3.2 **BIBLE STUDIES**

The 2022 Bible Studies saw tremendous growth in numbers and involvement of parishioners to which we thank the Lord. It has become much more interesting and engaging. On most occasions' parishioners studied in their various classes. There were however a few occasions when the entire church constituted one class.

Challenges

Some parishioners still come in late and thereby distract the various classes. All Parishioners are encouraged to come to Bible Studies early.

4.0 **CHURCH ACTIVITIES**

The period under review saw the following general activities of the Church. The theme for the adopted for year 2022 is **God's Treasured Possession (Exodus 19:5)**

- a. **Lenten Season/Easter Celebration**
- b. **Quarterly Revivals**

- c. **Festival of Answered Prayers:**
- d. **Advent, Christmas and New Year Activities**

4.3 2022 Activities of the Evangelism Committee

Some of the activities held by the POWM included

- **Beginning of Year Fast**
- **Spiritual Emphasis 2022**
- **Festival of Answered Prayers**
- **November to Remember**

The year under review recorded a lot of testimonies and miracles. It is our prayer that the coming years will bring greater and more powerful encounters.

4.4 Outstation Activities

1. St. Philip Anglican Church, Mataheko

The Congregation was placed under St. Joseph the Worker Anglican Church in October 2018. Revd. Fr. Christian Kalitsi assisted by Revd. Fr. John Banafoe visited St. Philip on rotational basis to conduct Sunday mass. Revd. (Mrs.) Mary Magdalene Aburam-Parker took over as Priest -in- Charge of the Congregation from 1st November 2021.

Activities

Revd. Aburam-Parker introduced a Spiritual Programme dubbed “**OIL FOR THE MONTH**” on the 1st December 2021. It has successfully been held on the first Tuesday of every month between 8:00 am-10:00 am.

Nominal Roll

The Congregation has forty (40) members. The breakdown is as follows:

Adults (Mainly Female) – 30

Youth/Children- 10

2. St. Barnabas Anglican Church, Ashalaja

Revd. Fr. John Banafoe took over the congregation as a Priest-in- Charge from 1st October 2021 and has continued till date. Revd. Fr. John Banafoe, acknowledging the fact that Ministry revolves around people, and the call to make disciples of Christ is ever great, the Priest-in-Charge has undertaken different means to do evangelism with the aim of attracting people to hear the good news. One of the recent ways is the use of sports.

Recognizing that he lives in a community where sports is highly appreciated, he has taken advantage of this zealous love for sports to reach out to the young people in the community.

Similarly, knowing that music, as well as preaching, is a powerful tool which put the word of God into the hearts of Christians and non-believers alike for effective Christian formation and growth, he has formed a choir for the Church. In view of this, he has donated his keyboard to the congregation.

With regards to infrastructure, one of its members, Mr. Lomotey sponsored the building of a wall that covers where the altar is positioned. Archdeacon and his family also sponsored the church with the fencing of the church with a wire mesh.

Revd. Fr. Abraham Leo Lartey passed on to glory on Sunday 21st August 2022.

Nominal Roll

The congregation which has a membership of 70 is made up as follows:

Adults- 38

Youth/Children- 30

4.5 Guilds Reports

The various guild and associations of the church continued with their various activities during the period under review. There is however a general decline in the attendance and participation of members in their activities. This owes to several factors which include

- Ageing of members and this inability to attend evening meetings
- Non commitment from some members
- Schooling and other educational activities

Average membership and attendance data of the various guilds are as represented below;

Guild	Average Membership	Average Attendance to meetings	Death during the period	New Membership	Average attendance to church
Guild of the Blessed Virgin Mary	48	15	1	1	18
Guild of the Good Shepherd	56	10	4	3	12
Women’s Fellowship	41	18	1	8	18

Men’s Fellowship	20	10	4	2	15
Mothers Union					
Sacred Heart of Jesus	49	20	-	8	25
AYPA	80	20	3	-	50
Servers Guild					
Angelic Voices	19	10	-	2	15

6.0 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

6.1 Completion of Mission House Project

The major project which the church is currently undertaking is the completion of the Mission House Project. Council is very grateful for all donations made towards this project by parishioners and is still open to further support. May the good Lord bless us all.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

Supplement 52 - Sweet sacrament divine.

All thanks to the Almighty God for bringing us to a faithful end.

On behalf of the PCC, I would like to thank all clergy who visited our Parish during the year under review especially the Rt. Revd. Dr. Daniel Sylvanus Mensah Torto the Bishop of Accra, all Bishops from the Anglican Communion, parishioners and all well-wishers for their immense support.

The clergy has soul winning as one of their highlights for 2022 and as council we pray and entreat all and sundry to join the train in tackling this great assignment.

Thirdly, as a church we pray that our businesses will expand, and financial doors opened unto us so that we will not only meet and even exceed our 2022 Harvest target.

Our families will be protected, and more marriages will be solemnized and blessed with children who will be baptized.

Last but not the least, may we yearn to spend more time in God’s presence because when we pray, God will listen.

May the good Lord bless us all and hear our corporate and individual prayers.

**MRS. DEIDRE MAKIN-TETTEH
(SECRETARY)**

**REV'D FR. CHRISTIAN K. KALITSI
(PARISH PRIEST)**