



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ACCRA



SOME MAJOR ACTIVITIES FOR 2024

Theme : “Helping Children to Seek Christ; From Discovery to Discipleship”.
John 12:21 “We wish to see Jesus”.

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Some Major ACTIVITIES FOR 2024

THEME FOR 2024:
"Helping Children to Seek Christ: From Discovery to Discipleship"
John 12:21 - "We wish to see Jesus."

The chosen theme for 2024 resonates deeply with the urgent call made by the Ghana Catholic Bishops' Conference to foster the growth of the Catholic Church. At its heart lies a vital focus on the children apostolate, a fundamental pillar for the church's growth and vitality.

With a firm commitment to the nurturing and guidance of the youngest members of our community, our pastoral priority for 2024 centers on the spiritual development and growth of children within the archdiocese. Recognizing them as the bedrock of our future Church, our collective efforts will be dedicated to directing attention and resources towards cultivating a personal and deeper connection with Christ among

our younger generation.

This theme encapsulates our dedication to creating an environment where children not only discover the presence of Jesus but embark on a transformative journey of discipleship. It is a call to action, urging us to channel our energies towards the spiritual well-being of our children, ensuring that they become active participants in the vibrant tapestry of our faith community.

As we embark on this collective mission, may our endeavors be guided by the heartfelt aspiration expressed in John 12:21 "We wish to see Jesus." Through our concerted efforts, let us illuminate the path for our children, helping them seek, discover, and embrace the transformative love and teachings of Christ.

Framework for Empowering Children: From Discovery to Discipleship

This plan, centered around the theme "Helping Children to seek Christ: From Discovery to Discipleship," encapsulates a framework to empower our children as active followers of Jesus within the contemporary world. It provides a comprehensive roadmap comprising three distinct goals, each emphasizing vital aspects integral to a child's spiritual, emotional, mental, and communal development.

While this plan offers structured objectives and indicators, we encourage each parish to embrace flexibility and adaptability. Tailor and customize these outlined priorities to align with the unique needs, resources, and dynamics of your parish community. Let this plan serve as a foundational guide, allowing for creative implementation and innovation

that resonates with the specific essence and ethos of your parish.

Goal #1: Empowering Children as Followers of Jesus in Today's World

Priority Areas:

1. *Spiritual Education*
2. *Moral Guidance and Character Building*
3. *Service and Outreach*

Objectives:

1. Provide age-appropriate biblical teachings through engaging children's services.
2. Instill moral values like kindness, compassion, and empathy through storytelling, role-playing, and interactive activities.
3. Engage children in community service projects, connecting teachings to real-world contexts (e.g., visiting the sick and aged).

Achievement Indicators:

1. Increased Sunday school/Children's service attendance and participation.
2. Observable improvements in behavior reflecting moral values and virtues.
3. Successful completion of service projects, garnering positive parish feedback.

Goal #2: Engaging Children in Active Participation within the Catholic Faith Community**Priority Areas:**

1. *Involvement in Liturgical Celebrations*
2. *Participation in Youth Ministries*
3. *Development of Strong Interpersonal Bonds within the Community*

Objectives:

1. Encourage active participation in liturgical roles suitable for children such as serving, reading, singing and ushering.
2. Establish tailored youth ministries, fostering a sense of belonging.
3. Organize events to strengthen connections among children, families, and the parish community.

Achievement Indicators:

1. Increased children's involvement in liturgical roles.
2. Growth in youth ministry attendance and engagement.
3. Positive feedback and expressions of connectedness from children and families.

**Goal #3: Nurturing Holistic Growth in
Children within the Parish Setting**

Priority Areas:

1. *Physical, Emotional, and Mental Well-being*
2. *Educational Enrichment*
3. *Support for Families*

Objectives:

1. Promote physical well-being through sports and address emotional/mental health via counseling.
2. Offer educational programs and mentorship for academic development.
3. Provide support resources for families to nurture a wholesome environment.

Achievement Indicators:

1. Increased participation and positive feedback on well-being activities.
2. Improved academic performance and engagement in educational programs.
3. Enhanced sense of support and connection reported by parish families.

DATE		ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC TO	VENUE	ACTION BY (RESPONSIBLE)
2024 January	4 th	Diaconate Ordination		St. Kizito, Nima	Liturgical Comm. & Vocations Director
	18 th – 25 th	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity	All Parishes	All Parishes	Convenor for Ecumenism
	21 st	Lay leadership forum		Holy Spirit, Cathedral	Laity Council
	21 st	Sunday of the Word of God	All Parishes	All Parishes	Dept. of Biblical Apostolate & Evangelization
	27 th	Town Hall Meeting	Deaneries	A Church in a deanery	JPCs-Deanery/Archdiocese
	27 th	Conference of Archdiocesan MFLC Counsellors (Marriage Facilitators)	All MFLC Counsellors in Accra	Christ the King Parish, Cantonments	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life

DATE		ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC TO	VENUE	ACTION BY (RESPONSIBLE)
January	30 th	Seminar for Priests	Priests (1-5 years of ordination)	Holy Spirit, Cathedral	Pastoral Centre
2024 February	1 st	Town Hall meeting- Solar Energy	Priests, PPC Chairpersons & Chairpersons of Project Committees of Parishes/Churches	Holy Spirit, Cathedral	Development Office & Caritas & Estate Office
	3 rd	Day of Consecrated Life	All religious	St. Ignatius of Loyola Cath. Ch., Baatsona, Accra.	Archdiocesan Coordinator of Religious
	4 th – 11 th	Holy Childhood (Children's Week)	Children	All Parishes	Mission Office
	6 th	Seminar for Priests	Priests (6 years & above of ordination)	Holy Spirit, Cathedral	Pastoral Centre
	8 th - 10 th	Ongoing formation for Tema Deanery	Catechists	Archbishop Andoh Catech. Cen. Shai- Hills	Archdiocesan Catechetical Commission

DATE		ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC TO	VENUE	ACTION BY (RESPONSIBLE)
2024 February	2 nd week	Seminar for Priests and Religious	All Priests and Religious	Christ the King Parish, Cantonments Hall	Dept. of Biblical Apostolate & Evangelization
	24 th	Conference of Archdiocesan MFLC Counsellors (Marriage Facilitators)	All MFLC Counsellors in Tema/ Ada/ Battor/ Ashaiman Deaneries	Good Shepherd Parish, Tema Comm.2	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life
	24 th	Retreat for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion		Youth Formation Centre, Lashibi	Liturgical Committee
2024 March	8 th - 10 th	Youth Weekend in Christ		Youth Formation Centre, Lashibi	Youth Office
	14 th	Land Grabbing Seminar	Priests, PPC & Chairpersons	Holy Spirit, Cathedral	Development Office & Caritas & Estate Office

DATE		ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC TO	VENUE	ACTION BY (RESPONSIBLE)
2024 March	16 th	Youth Formation – Marriage & Mate-Selection, Challenges & prospects	Madina Deanery	Queen of Peace Parish, Madina	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life
	23 rd	Collaboration With CIBT – Training	Lay Leaders, Church Staff, Clergy & PPC	CIBT	Laity Council
	27 th	Chrism Mass	All	Holy Spirit Cathedral, Adabraka	Liturgical Committee
2024 April	7 th	Legacy Concert			Youth Office
		Easter Tree Planting Exercise	Parishes/churches- JPC All Groups, Societies, Movement, Individuals etc.	Parishes/Churches/ Homes, available space, etc.	JPCs -Parish/ Church/ Deanery / Archdiocese Archdiocesan
	11 th - 13 th	Ongoing Formation for Osu Deanery		Archbishop Andoh Catechetical Centre Shai -Hills	Catechetical Commission

DATE		ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC TO	VENUE	ACTION BY (RESPONSIBLE)
2024 April	13 th	Easter Seminar	Laity	Corpus Christi, Sakumono	Laity Council
	14 th - 21 st	Vocation Week : Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle	Parishes	Parishes	Mission Office
	16 th – 20 th	Vocations Camp	Youth & Aspirants	Youth Formation Centre, Lashibi	Youth Office & Vocation Office
	21 st	Vocations Sunday (Exchange of Pulpits)	Priests	Parishes	Mission Office
	20 th	Vocations Rally	Youth	Ashaiman Deanery	Youth Office & Vocation Office
	27 th	Youth Formation – Marriage & Mate- Selection, Challenges & prospects	Kaneshie and Mamprobi Deaneries	St. Charles Lwanga Parish, Abeka	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life

DATE		ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC TO	VENUE	ACTION BY (RESPONSIBLE)
2024 May	1 st	Workers day games / St. Joseph the Worker Day games		Legon Sports, Stadium	Laity Council & Professionals' Guilds
	9 th - 11 th	Ongoing Formation for Kpehe Deanery	Catechists	Archbishop Andoh Catechetical Centre Shai – Hills	Archdiocesan Catechetical Commission
	11 th	Youth Formation – Marriage & Mate-Selection, Challenges & prospects	Ashiaman /Tema and Battor Deaneries	Good Shepherd Parish, Tema Comm.2	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life
	16 th	Seminar on Laudato Si	Priest & Religious	Holy Spirit, Cathedral	Development Office & Caritas
	25 th	Youth Formation – Marriage & Mate-Selection, Challenges & prospects	Kpehe and Osu Deaneries	St. Thomas Aquinas Cath. Ch, Cantonments	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life

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2024 May	29 th - 31 st	Pilgrimage		Abidjan (Largest Basilica)	Archdiocesan Catechetical Commission
	28 th - 30 th	Archdiocesan Laity Week Celebration	All Parishes And Churches	All Parishes And Churches	Laity Council
2024 June	6 th - 8 th	Ongoing Formation for Kaneshie Deanery		Archbishop Andoh Catechetical Centre Shai-Hills	Archdiocesan Catechetical Commission
	7 th - 9 th	Skill Development		Youth Formation Centre, Lashibi	Youth Office
	10 th	On-Going Formation – Part II	Ashiaman /Tema and Battor Deaneries	Good Shepherd Parish, Tema Comm.2	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life
	15 th	Archdiocesan Prayer Day	Archdiocese	Holy Spirit, Cathedral	Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women

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June-July		Archdiocesan Bible Evangelization	All deaneries		Dept. of Biblical Apostolate & Evangelization
2024 July	6 th	On-Going Formation – Part II	Kpehe and Osu Deaneries	St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, Cantonments	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life
	11 th - 13 th	Ongoing Formation for Mamprobi Deanery		Archbishop Andoh Catechetical Centre, Shai -Hills	Archdiocesan Catechetical Commission
		Training of Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	Those Appointed by Pastors	CIBT	Liturgical Committee
	27 th	Seminar	Parishes/churches- JPC	Christ the King Hall / Holy Spirit, Cathedral Hall	JPC Archdiocese
	27 th	On-Going Formation – Part II	Kaneshie and Mamprobi Deaneries	St. Charles Lwanga Parish, Abeka	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life

DATE		ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC TO	VENUE	ACTION BY (RESPONSIBLE)
July		Archdiocesan Priestly Ordination		Holy Spirit, Cathedral	Liturgical Comm./ Vocation Office
2024 August	6 th -9 th	Orientation for newly ordained priests	Newly ordained priests	Archbishop Andoh Catechetical Centre, Shai Hills	Pastoral Centre
	8 th - 10 th	Ongoing Formation for Madina Deanery		Archbishop Andoh Catechetical Centre Shai -Hills	Archdiocesan Catechetical Commission
	10 th	On-Going Formation	Madina Deanery	Queen of Peace Parish, Madina	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life
	18 th - 1 st sept	Archbishop Kwofie Summer		Youth Formation Centre, Lashibi	Youth Office
		Archdiocesan Youth Congress		Youth Formation Centre, Lashibi	Youth Office

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August 2024	21 st - 23 rd	Orientation for first time military chaplains assigned to Accra Archdiocese	First time Pastors, Religious assigned to Accra Archdiocese	Archbishop Andoh Catechetical Centre, Shai Hills	Pastoral Centre
2024 September	7 th	Students' Communion in Christ 2024 Edition		St. Thomas Aquinas, Legon	Youth Office
	7 th	Seminar for Single Mothers	All Single Parents, Accra Deaneries	St. Charles Lwanga Parish, Abeka	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life
	12 th - 14 th	Ongoing Formation for Ashaiman Deanery		Archbishop Andoh Catechetical Centre Shai -Hills	Archdiocesan Catechetical Commission
	14 th	Forum		Sacred Heart, Derby Avenue	Archdiocesan Catechetical Commission
	15 th	Seminar for Ushers	All Ushers	CIBT	Liturgical Committee

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2024 September	21 st	WUCWO Day celebration	Archdiocesan Parishes	St. Anne & Joachim -Teshie	Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women
	21 st	Leadership Orientation and Archdiocesan Elections		St. Thomas Aquinas, Legon	Archdiocesan Catechetical Commission
	29 th	Day for Religious	All Religious	St. Luke Catholic Church, Lebanon- Ashaiman	Fr. Jojo George, SVD
	21 st	Singles' Seminar National	SSS Candidates Ashiaman /Tema and Battor Deaneries	Good Shepherd Parish, Tema Comm.2	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life
		Biblical Apostolate Week	Parishes	Parishes	Dept. of Biblical Apostolate & Evangelization Committee

DATE		ACTIVITY	SPECIFIC TO	VENUE	ACTION BY (RESPONSIBLE)
2024 October	5 th	Singles' Seminar	SHS Candidates Accra Deaneries	St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, Cantonments	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life
	20 th	Exchange of Pulpits (Mission Sunday)	Priests	Parishes	Mission Office
	21 st	Seminar for Single Mothers	All Single Mothers	Good Shepherd Parish, Tema Comm.2	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life
	26 th	Conference /Workshop	Parishes/churches- JPC	Christ the King Cantonments Hall / Holy Spirit, Cathedral Hall	JPC Archdiocese
November	5 th	Seminar for Priests	Priests (1-5 years of ordination)	Holy Spirit, Cathedral	Pastoral Centre

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2024 November	8 th	Thanksgiving Mass / Interaction with Nuncio & Archbishop For Catholic Office Holders In The Public Sphere	Nuncio & Archbishop For Catholic Office Holders In The Public Sphere	Christ the King Cantonments	Laity Council
	7 th - 9 th	Ongoing Formation for Battor – Ada Deanery		Archbishop Andoh Catechetical Centre, Shai Hills	Archdiocesan Catechetical Commission
	12 th	Seminar for Priests	Priests (6 years & above of ordination)	Holy Spirit, Cathedral	Pastoral Centre
	23 rd	Moment with the Archbishop (Appreciation of Senior counsellors)	All Counsellors and Coordinators	Holy Spirit Cathedral, Adabraka	Dept. of Marriage and Family Life
December	1 st	Annual Plenary Meeting	Kaneshie Deanery	Yet to decide	Laity Council

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2024 December	6 th - 8 th	Skill Development		Youth Formation Centre, Lashibi	Youth Office
	11 th	Conversations in the Holy Spirit, Cathedral	All	Holy Spirit Cathedral, Adabraka	Ecumenical Committee
	21 st /22 nd	Archdiocesan Nine Lessons & Carols	Deanery Choir	Holy Spirit Cathedral, Adabraka	Liturgical Committee
	27 th	Co-Workers Appreciation Day	All Co-Workers	Holy Spirit Cathedral, Adabraka	VG, Bursar et al

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR 2024

JANUARY

For The Gift of Diversity In The Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

FEBRUARY

For The Terminally Ill

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

MARCH

For New Martyrs

Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

APRIL

For The Role of Women

Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

MAY

For The Formation of Men And Women Religious And Seminarians

Let us pray that men and women religious and seminarians, grow in their own vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, that leads them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.

JUNE

For Those Fleeing Their Own Countries

Let us pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys fraught with danger and violence, may find welcome and new living opportunities in their host countries.

JULY

For The Pastoral Care of The Sick

Let us pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, bestows the Lord's strength to those who receive it and to their loved ones, and that it may become for everyone an ever more visible sign of compassion and hope.

AUGUST

For Political Leaders

Let us pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor.

SEPTEMBER

For The Cry of The Earth

Let us pray that each of us listens with our hearts to the cry of the Earth and of the victims of environmental disasters and the climate crisis, making a personal commitment to care for the world we inhabit.

OCTOBER

For A Shared Mission

Let us pray that the Church continues to sustain a synodal lifestyle in every way, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, communion and mission shared by priests, religious and laity.

NOVEMBER

For Those Who Have Lost A Child

Let us pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community, and may receive peace of heart from the Spirit of Consolation.

DECEMBER

For Pilgrims of Hope

Let us pray that the coming Church Jubilee Year 2025 strengthens us in our faith; helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

On Synod 2021-2024
For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission
Prayer for the Synod: *Adsumus Sancte Spiritus*

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.
 We are weak and sinful;
 do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong
 path nor partiality influence our actions.
 Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal
 life and not stray from the way of truth
 and what is right.
 All this we ask of You,
 who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.
 Amen.

The Main Questions for Consultation

- This Synod poses the following fundamental question:
- *A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, “journeys together.”*
- *How is this “journeying together” happening today in your local Church?*
- *What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our “journeying together”?*

1. COMPANIONS ON THE JOURNEY

In the Church and in society we are side by side on the same road. In our local Church, who are those who “walk together”? Who are those who seem further apart? How are we called to grow as companions? What groups or individuals are left on the margins?

2. LISTENING

Listening is the first step, but it requires an open mind and heart, without prejudice. How is God speaking to us through voices we sometimes ignore? How are the laity listened to, especially women and young people? What facilitates or inhibits our listening? How well do we listen to those on the peripheries? How is the contribution of consecrated men and women integrated? What are some limitations in our ability to listen, especially to those who have different views than our own? What space is there for the voice of minorities, especially people who experience poverty, marginalization, or social exclusion?

3. SPEAKING OUT

All are invited to speak with courage and parrhesia, that is, in freedom, truth, and charity. What enables or hinders speaking up

courageously, candidly, and responsibly in our local Church and in society? When and how do we manage to say what is important to us? How does the relationship with the local media work (not only Catholic media)? Who speaks on behalf of the Christian community, and how are they chosen?

4. CELEBRATION

“Walking together” is only possible if it is based on communal listening to the Word and the celebration of the Eucharist. How do prayer and liturgical celebrations actually inspire and guide our common life and mission in our community? How do they inspire the most important decisions? How do we promote the active participation of all the faithful in the liturgy? What space is given to participating in the ministries of lector and acolyte?

5. SHARING RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR COMMON MISSION

Synodality is at the service of the mission of the Church, in which all members are called to participate. Since we are all missionary disciples, how is every baptised person called to participate in the mission of the Church? What hinders the baptised from being active in mission? What areas of mission are we neglecting? How does the community support its members who serve society in various ways (social and political involvement, scientific research, education, promoting social justice, protecting human rights, caring for the environment, etc.)? How does the Church help these members to live out their service to society in a missionary way? How is discernment about missionary choices made and by whom?

6. DIALOGUE IN CHURCH AND SOCIETY

Dialogue requires perseverance and patience, but it also enables mutual understanding. To what extent do diverse peoples in our community come together for dialogue? What are the places and means of dialogue within our local Church? How do we promote collaboration with neighbouring dioceses, religious communities in the area, lay associations and movements, etc.? How are divergences of vision, or conflicts and difficulties addressed? What particular issues in the Church and society do we need to pay more attention to? What experiences of dialogue and collaboration do we have with believers of other religions and with those who have no religious affiliation? How does the Church dialogue with and learn from other sectors of society: the spheres of politics,

economics, culture, civil society, and people who live in poverty?

7. ECUMENISM

The dialogue between Christians of different confessions, united by one baptism, has a special place in the synodal journey. What relationships does our Church community have with members of other Christian traditions and denominations? What do we share and how do we journey together? What fruits have we drawn from walking together? What are the difficulties? How can we take the next step in walking forward with each other?

8. AUTHORITY AND PARTICIPATION

A synodal church is a participatory and co-responsible Church. How does our Church community identify the goals to be pursued, the way to reach them, and the steps to be taken? How is authority or governance exercised within our local

Church? How are teamwork and co-responsibility put into practice? How are evaluations conducted and by whom? How are lay ministries and the responsibility of lay people promoted? Have we had fruitful experiences of synodality on a local level? How do synodal bodies function at the level of the local Church (Pastoral Councils in parishes and dioceses, Presbyteral Council, etc.)? How can we foster a more synodal approach in our participation and leadership?

9. DISCERNING AND DECIDING

In a synodal style we make decisions through discernment of what the Holy Spirit is saying through our whole community. What methods and processes do we use in decision-making? How can they be improved? How do we promote participation in decision-making within hierarchical structures? Do our

decision-making methods help us to listen to the whole People of God? What is the relationship between consultation and decision-making, and how do we put these into practice? What tools and procedures do we use to promote transparency and accountability? How can we grow in communal spiritual discernment?

10. FORMING OURSELVES IN SYNODALITY

Synodality entails receptivity to change, formation, and on-going learning. How does our church community form people to be more capable of “walking together,” listening to one another, participating in mission, and engaging in dialogue? What formation is offered to foster discernment and the exercise of authority in a synodal way?



For more information Contact

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