

Mission to Ghana

By Brent Heiser and Emmanuel Tamakloe

There is a need for us in the fullness, joy and enthusiasm which comes from the Holy Spirit to take on the task which is more urgent than any other; that of making the unfathomable riches of Christ known to our brothers and sisters.

— Blessed Pope John Paul II

THIS MISSION TO GHANA was especially fruitful. The team comprised of Brent Heiser and Cecilia Ritchie from the U.S. and Fr. Ben St. Croix from Canada ministered in Accra, Donkokrom, and Kumasi. Here are the highlights:

Province of Accra

In the Ecclesiastical Province of Accra, we conducted a program for 60 prayer group leaders from six dioceses. The teachings were designed to help them live in the power of the Holy Spirit and to embrace the New Evangelization.

At the University of Ghana we hosted a camp for 150 youth.

Donkokrom Vicariate

In Donkokrom, we conducted a three-day program designed to help 45 catechists encounter the person of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit. For the next three days, we conducted two simultaneous programs; one for 50 prayer group leaders and a second for 120 youth. During the evenings, we hosted an open air rally in Sakora Park for more than 600 people. We were joined by a local team from the Renewal Centre in Kumasi.

Fr. Ben said that the crusade in Donkokrom was a great opportunity to preach the Gospel in the town center. "I believe that many hearts were deeply touched," he said. "One young Muslim man in particular publicly stated that he had decided to become a Catholic at the crusade. Please keep him in your prayers."

Archdiocese of Kumasi

The team had a two-day session for 60 catechists in the Archdiocese of Kumasi. In addition, we had the opportunity to speak with Archbishop Gabriel Justice Anokye who praised the work of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Ghana. He said that before the renewal the Catholic Churches were dying; now they are growing abundantly.

Cecilia summed up this mission. "As we worked together with the Ghanaian team and learned to care for each other, something unexpected happened," she said. "We became family."+



In the Donkokrom Vicariate, the team helped a group of 45 catechists encounter Jesus and experience the power of the Holy Spirit, through teachings, Eucharistic celebrations, faith sharing groups and prayer times.



The team prayed for healing and deliverance during an open air crusade in Donkokrom which drew more than 600 people.

When the team arrived in Kumasi, the National Office of the Ghana Catholic Charismatic Renewal had just received a new car from Newfoundland, Canada. Christine Manuel, a team member in 2012, secured the donation of an AWD vehicle and raised the funds to ship it to Ghana. Ayeekoo (well done) Christine!



Make a Difference: Join a Renewal Ministries Mission Team!



“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
Matthew 28:19-20

THIS YEAR RENEWAL MINISTRIES will conduct 34 missions in 26 different countries! These missions vary from hosting large rallies and schools of evangelization to medical outreaches. These missions help Catholics to be renewed in their faith and others come to know the saving love of Jesus for the first time.

The mission trips are typically one to two weeks long. The rallies, conferences, retreats and training seminars usually include talks, prayer ministry, liturgy, testimonies and worship. The primary role of the mission team member is to participate in prayer ministry.

Team members may also have an opportunity to share their testimonies, and to help in any capacity they are needed. The mission teams include Catholics of all ages and vocations—lay, clergy and religious who feel a call to mission.

We invite you to participate in one of three ways. First, consider joining one of the teams to help proclaim the Gospel. Second, please pray that our missionaries will be open to the working of the Holy Spirit, so that many will come to believe. Third, please consider making a donation to support this important work.

Following are some of the mission trips planned for the remainder of 2014.

April

Mexico, Zimbabwe, Romania

May

Serbia

June

Kazakhstan, Papua New Guinea

July

Tanzania, Slovenia, Mexico, Ghana, Latvia

August

Romania, Gambia, Rwanda

September

Zambia, Serbia, Kenya, Ukraine/Belarus

October

Slovakia/Czech Republic, Vietnam, Mexico

November

Ghana

To learn more about our missions, please visit www.RenewalMinistries.net.
Or contact Kathleen Kittle at kkittle@renewalministries.net.



Testimonies from the Ghana Mission



Words cannot express how I feel deep down for all the marvels the Lord has worked through them and with them for the people here.

—Fr. John Felix Awate, Jr., *First priest ordained for the Donkorkrom Apostolic Vicariate*



It was an impressive seminar on the New Evangelization. It has empowered us as ministers of the Faith and helped us to understand that once we are baptized, confirmed and filled with the Holy Spirit we can go out and bring Jesus to the people.

—Peter Fafanyo, *Catechist for 34 years*