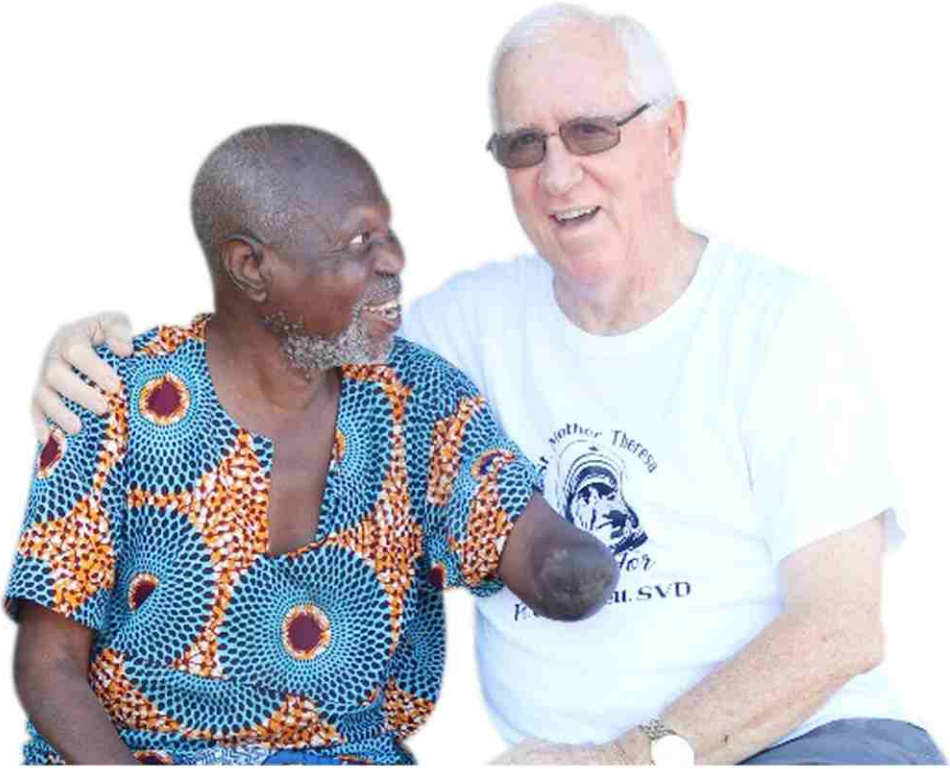
THE LEPERS' PRIEST

FIFTY YEARS OF MISSIONARY IMPACT IN GHANA, 1971-2021: CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND WORKS OF REVEREND FATHER ANDREW CAMPBELL, SVD.



MARIA MARCIANA KUUSAANA

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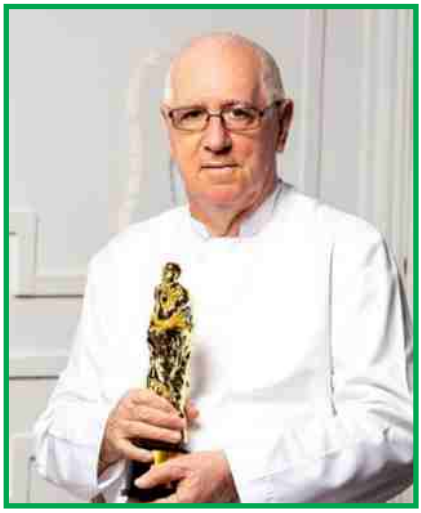

MARIA MARCIANA KUUSAANA

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to God for the gift of Father Campbell to humanity and to Ghana, and thanks to Father Campbell for the privilege to chronicle him.

My passion for writing biographies was rekindled by the Historical Society of Ghana, which organized a series of training sessions for graduate students of History in Ghana between 2005 and 2007. The President of the Society, Professor Irene Odotei, together with her team of other experienced History lecturers took my colleagues and I through various topics, among which was biographical writing. Thanks to the Society for contributing immensely to my training. I'm equally grateful to Dr. Wilhemina J. Donkoh, Dr. Vincent John Nii Ofei Dodoo (both former Heads of the Department of History and Political Studies, KNUST), and Mr. Ben Andoh (former Acting Registrar of KNUST and a part-time lecturer in the Department). Dr. Donkoh started a difficult journey with a group of graduate students of which I was one, left for the USA as a Fulbright Scholar, and Dr. Dodoo continued, and made sure the difficult journey ended well with our retention in the Department as lecturers, a position which has enhanced my skills in writing. Mr. Ben Andoh provided some "coaching" while we were under training. I extend posthumous thanks to Mrs. Grace Sefah Ayim, (wife of the former Vice-Chancellor of KNUST, Prof. J. S. K. Ayim) a former Deputy Registrar of KNUST, whose efficient administrative skills eased some difficulties for me in particular.

I also thank Dr. Mahamadu Bawumia, the Vice-President of the Republic of Ghana for providing a befitting foreword, and Mrs. Matilda Amissah-Arthur, former Second Lady of the Republic of Ghana for proof reading the work.

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Special thanks to Mrs. Deirdre Nolan (Nee Campbell), the sister of Father Campbell. Distance is no barrier between brother and sister. My interviews with Father were interposed with conversations about the two, usually providing Father with a relaxed mind to remember some information that would not have readily come to mind.

Despite all these acknowledgements, the biographer takes responsibility for any errors which may be found in the work.

DEDICATION

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Campbell of Blessed Memory
and my beloved sister Deirdre .

FOREWORD

Human, but with the heart of God. It would be preposterous to think we could, in the few pages of a book, tell of the life and work of Reverend Father Andrew Campbell. His life has been a labour and service of love to thousands of the sick, destitute and forgotten in society. Until one meets each of the thousands of souls he touched, sees their smiles and feels their joy, one could never know or even fathom the true scale of his work. Always garbed in his signature flowing white tunic, he has become a symbol of love and a constant reminder of how one man can make all the difference.

I have always been intrigued by this man who, at the age of 25, when I was just a young boy, left his life entirely to serve in a country he neither knew nor had ever heard of. Though originally on a priestly mission, his influence has transcended pulpits and chapels - far more than humanity can ever thank him for. For 50 years, he has given his life to caring for lepers - people deemed unfit, ostracized and whom society cares less about. Indeed, on their account, he happily suffered many indignities with a fervid sense of sacrifice. Like birds making beautiful nests from the discards of trees and shrubs, he picked up the pieces of their lives and, with an ethereal love, made them whole again.

I would forever treasure the moments I shared with Father Campbell and the lepers in my home. In all my years of public service, I would count those moments as some of the most fulfilling; a rare taste of how sweet the fruits of one's labour of love and kindness can be. To have been the reason for the smiles and joy of Father Campbell and the lepers, will forever be one of the highlights of my life.

As Ghanaians, we have tried with numerous medals, awards, plaques and citations to honour Father Campbell and

yet, against the true scale of recognition he deserves, our efforts are almost laughable. 'The Lepers' Priest' is a progressive attempt to chronicle the life of Reverend Father Andrew Campbell and make sure generations come to know him and the stories of his life-changing work. I highly recommend this book to philanthropists, politicians, public servants, the clergy, religious institutions, charitable initiatives and organizations as a guide to draw more inspiration and propel individuals and cooperatives to more humanitarian services for God and Country.

Finally, to Father Campbell, we wish to say that you will always be a beautiful part of the Ghanaian story and history. This country will always be your home, and you will always have the unbounded love of Ghanaians. As you rest your oars on this long journey which commenced 50 years ago, we wish you a life of good health, heavenly joy and saintly rewards. You will forever be to us, the man with the heart of God.
Ayekoo Nii Lantey!

His Excellency Dr. Mahamudu Bawumia
Vice President of the Republic of Ghana

THE METHOD OF COMPILATION

The volume of information on Father Campbell is a huge one that can be found in both print and electronic media. In compiling this biography of him, all that was available to the biographer was collected, and through long sessions of interview with Father Campbell, he responded to the numerous issues and reports concerning him. His responses corroborated much of what has been captured in these sources. Significant individuals, including those he has worked or interacted with were also interviewed. Some ordinary Ghanaians were also interviewed throughout the country in places the biographer found herself a year earlier to the start of writing the piece in June 2021. These interviews confirm one fact about Father, which is that, he is well known in the major cities such as Accra, Kumasi, Cape Coast and Sekondi-Takoradi. If he is not readily identified by an interviewee, one or two clues by the interviewer brings him to mind.

In the book is “a story within a story” in which Father, from the horse's own mouth, gives two brief touching accounts of some aspects of his life. The same style is used in the “Introduction” where he contributes to that portion of the book from his own perspective. His portions are italicized to distinguish them from the biographer's narrative.

Through the internet, such as on youtube and facebook, Father reveals a lot about himself and his opinions concerning other issues or people, and these were useful in gathering information for this book.

To avoid unnecessary repetition of the name Father Andrew Campbell, he is sometimes simply referred to as Father in the book.

ENDORSEMENT FOR "THE LEPER PRIEST"

Matthew 19:29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life.

The above text is really evidenced in the life of Fr. Campbell. Although by choosing to live a life of a celibate Catholic missionary priest, he lived far away from his family and had no biological children he has many people who call him Father and even many children who are named after him because of his many good works.

The Leper Priest details Fr Campbell's early years to his missionary life in Ghana. The description of his early family years shows the source of his deep spirituality and his love for the rosary and the Eucharist. Fr. Campbell is living testimony to Mother Teresa's statement "If you want to change the world, go home and love your family". The Campbell family produced a world changer and Ghana is all the better for it.

This book is a must read for everyone!

Angela Azumah Alu, PhD Candidate,
University of Ghana and ROSA 2005

INTRODUCTION

Though Christianity started in Asia, specifically the Middle East, it was introduced into much of Africa south of the Sahara, by European Christian missionaries after the religion had successfully spread to that continent. In the early years of their arrival, many of them died of tropical diseases. In Ghana, well known among those early missionaries who died include the Wesleyan Joseph Dunwell, who died within a period of only six months after arriving in the then Gold Coast in 1835. The first four Basel missionaries to the then Gold Coast, Karl F. Salbach, Gottlieb Holzwarth, Johannes Henke and Johannes Gottlob Schmidt, came in 1828, but were all dead by 1831. Rev. and Mrs. Wrigley and Rev. and Mrs Harrop of the Wesleyan Mission who came in 1836 died within a year. Father Eugene Murat, one of two Catholic priests who came in May 1880, died in August the same year. The, survivor being Father Auguste Moreau. The first two Catholic Bishops to the Gold Coast, Maximilian Albert and Isidore Klaus died in 1903 and 1905 respectively, while seeking treatment in Europe (Maximilian died in Germany and Isidore in Switzerland). The European missionaries were not deterred by these deaths. They continued to come, and with time, advancement in scientific medicine curtailed the situation. The provision of social services and other needs were an integral part of evangelization.

By the middle of the twentieth century, Christianity was well grounded in the Gold Coast, and the Churches were gradually coming under indigenous pastoral management, and by the close of the century, European missionary presence had reduced drastically. While this may be true of the Protestant denominations, the Catholic Church by its institutional arrangements, still receives missionaries from abroad though in small numbers as compared to the past. One major reason which

accounts for this is that, some of the Catholic religious orders are international in character, such as the Society of the Divine Word (SVD), Society of African Missions (SMA), The Society of the Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers), Sisters of Our Lady of Apostles, Franciscan Missionaries of Mary (FMM), Congregation of the Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost Fathers), Congregation of Holy Cross (CHC), Handmaids of the Divine Redeemer (HDR), Missionary Sisters, Servants of the Holy Spirit (SSpS), School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND), Brothers of St. John of God, Sisters Hospitallers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (HSC), Medical Sisters of St. Joseph, Sisters of Charity of St. Anne, Congregation of Jesus Mary Joseph (CJMJ), Missionary Sisters of the Lady of the Holy Rosary (MSHR), Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth (CFNS), Religious of the Virgin Mary (RVM), Congregation of the Holy Family (CHF), Daughters of St. Paul (FSP), Order of Friars Minor Conventual (OFM), The Congregation of the Missionary Brothers of Saint Francis of Assisi (CMSF), Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM), Subiaco Cassinese Congregation (O. S. B.), Presentation Brothers, Orders of Friars Minor Capuchin (OFM Cap), Daughters of Mary Mother of Mercy (DMMM), Salesians of Don Bosco (SDB), Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny, Society of St. Anne Phrangipuram, India (SSAP), Congregations Of the Servants of Charity (SC), Marist Brothers Of the School, The Sisters of St. Louis (SSL), Claretian Missionaries, Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent De Paul, The Institute of Comboni Missionaries of the Heart of Jesus (Comboni Missionaries), Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (IBVM, Loreto Sisters), The Brothers of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Brothers FIC), and The Congregation of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus (HHCJ).

Some of the congregations founded in Ghana include Sisters of Mary Immaculate (SMI, founded by Bishop Oscar Morin in 1946), Handmaids of the Divine Redeemer (founded

by Bishop Oliver Bowers in 1957), Society of the Infant Jesus (founded by Most Rev. John Kwadjo Amissah in 1964), and Daughters of the Most Holy Trinity (FST- *Filae Sanctissimae Trinitatis,* founded by Most Rev. Peter K. Sarpong),

Consecrated men and women belonging to such orders may therefore be sent outside of their home countries to serve in other parts of the world.

Belonging to the SVD, Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbell is one of such missionaries. He arrived in Ghana in October 1971, and has remained in the country since then, paying only occasional visits to his home country, Ireland. While in Ghana all these years, Fr. Campbell has endeared himself to much of the Ghanaian populace, right from the upper crust of Ghanaian society to the very bottom. The biographer being one of his admirers, decided to chronicle him. Though an ordained Catholic Priest, and very much tied to the duties required of him in that regard, his role in humanitarian and social work is quite significant. Indeed, much has been written about Fr. Campbell and his works, and these are scattered pieces, many of which can be found on the internet. A first biography of him compiled by Rev. Fr. Stephen Kofi Sakpaku was launched in 2020 to commemorate his fifty years of priesthood. This second biography is an additional one aimed at a more comprehensive account at a turning point in his life, fifty years in Ghana, and at the age of retirement as a Catholic priest, which is 75 years.

At age 75 in March 2021, Fr. Campbell retired from active service as a Catholic Priest. However, he has continued to occupy himself with his humanitarian and social work, now living within the premises of the Weija Leprosarium, among an underprivileged people he has toiled so much to rehabilitate and integrate into society.

Father Andrew Campbell:

It was 12 midnight as I lay lying motionless on a hospital bed at

the University of Ghana Medical Centre, surrounded by a team of doctors and nurses. I was in and out of consciousness. I was plugged to a heart machine, fed by a drip, kept alive by an oxygen machine and monitored by a BP apparatus. Sometime later, I found out my blood pressure that night was 70/30, a reading for a dead body. But I survived. I made it, thanks to God's healing and the brilliant care of the doctors and nurses. Everyone taught I had Covid-19, and that I would not make it. Rather, I had a blood clot and pneumonia in the lungs. How blest I was to be alive. My doctor told me that two of his mates had what I had but didn't survive. Not very comforting to one lying on a hospital bed.

A new chapter had begun in my life. The following day after this traumatic incident, as I lay quietly in my bed with all the medical gadgets working silently and meticulously, I heard a voice, a voice from heaven. I am not one who normally hears voices but this one was quite audible and clear. "You have not finished your work. Go and help the poor." I quietly absorbed this heavenly message thinking that in the very near future I would be going on retirement from active parish work. Yes, I felt God was telling me to spend my retirement working for the poor and needy.

I am living at Weija Leprosarium since the 31st of May 2021as resident no. 30. It's a joy and blessing to be with the most forgotten, marginalized and stigmatized people in society. I now have time to talk to these cured lepers, to listen to their stories, even helping to bandage their wounds. They have stories to tell… stories of abandonment, rejection, neglect, hunger and sickness, abuse, and insult. My heart bleeds for them as I listen to them. Some of their families have been really wicked to them, despising them and evicting them from their homes. Many families visit the leprosarium only when their relative dies. And what a big lavish funeral they give them… canopies are erected, caterers are hired and drinks flow. They feel that if they don't do so, the disease will follow them back to the village.

On Sundays I celebrate Mass with the cured lepers. Their joyful, happy singing would touch anyone's heart. Some clap with broken hands and stumped fingers, while others dance to the glory of God. My interpreter is a Muslim who also participates praying one of the prayers of the faithful.

I am into my fourth month of retirement trying to adjust myself from a very active parish apostolate to a sedate quiet life. I still attend meetings, officiate at weddings and baptisms and visit old friends. However, I have more time to pray and reflect and feel the real presence of God. I feel deeply, his loving goodness and the beauty of living. I now have time to really appreciate the wonderful gift of my missionary vocation as a Divine Word Missionary, DOING SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL FOR GOD.

Just over a year ago, I received a letter from a history lecturer at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, requesting to meet me. She was interested in writing my biography to commemorate my 50 years in Ghana. I reluctantly agreed. What you are about to read is the result of her research on my life, celebrating 50 wonderful years in Ghana. I congratulate Marciana on her workmanship, her many hours interviewing, researching and writing. I feel humbled, honoured and privileged to present this biography to you. Please pray for me that I may continue ***DOING SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL FOR GOD.***

CHAPTER ONE

GROWING UP AND LIFE CHOICES

The Campbells -A Well–knit Family

In father Campbell's own words, 'Í come from the happiest family one can wish.' Though he may be the product of his natural endowments, he attributes much of his being to his family, particularly, his parents, Mr. Andrew Campbell and Mrs. Kathleen Campbell. Together with his other three siblings – Margaret (first child who died quite early in 1972), Deidre (third), and Martin (the last born of the family who died at infancy), the family of six remains one of the greatest gifts in Father Campbell's life. He describes his mother as a virtuous woman who nurtured her children in accordance with her beliefs. She trained her children to be as self-reliant as possible, teaching them to cook, clean and sew clothes. Above all, she taught them to pray, and to pray the Holy Rosary daily, usually putting their intentions, and that of others before the Lord. They particularly prayed for God's protection for the head of the family, Mr. Andrew Campbell, who rode a bicycle to work each working day. A strong connection with Christ was also inculcated in them through Eucharistic Adoration (visits to the Blessed Sacrament). The richness of the family was therefore grounded not in their material stance, but in the warm and cordial family relations that the entire family shared. The children of the family were taught the values of honesty, hard work and prayer. These strong Christian values led to contentment in a family that one could say was both rich and poor, perhaps a perfect blend.

The cherished mother of the Campbells, Mrs. Kathleen Campbell passed away on 23rd July, 1965 at the age of 51, being the second to die in the family. When Margaret followed in 1972 through a motorbike accident as the third to die in the family, Father Campbell was only a few months old in Ghana, and he had to travel back home. She had already been buried by the time he arrived in Dublin.

The family ties are so strong that though the larger part of the family is gone into eternity, and Father has spent the greater part of his life in Ghana, and has naturalised, he still visits home every three years.

During one of my long interviews with Father in his office at Christ the King Parish, he said, "I am the last Campbell." Inside the bus on my way back to Kumasi, I kept pondering over his statement. How could he have said that with ease? Such a statement would have sounded calamitous in the African setting. I realised that what he had said was true only in one sense – that biologically, the patriarchy back in Ireland was gone, because his brother Martin died at infancy, and he has also become a consecrated person bound among other things, by chaste celibacy. His sister Dierdre gave birth to two girls: Sharon has two girls in her marriage, and Lorraine, also married with three girls, and no boy at all. However, the life of sacrifice, which Father has lived throughout his life has regenerated the Campbell family in Africa. He adopted a boy in his infancy in Ghana, who is called Andrew Campbell. He has completed tertiary education, and is married with a son he also named Andrew Campbell, in appreciation of what Father has done for him. His adopted son calls him Pops. So, the Irish Campbell lives on, not in Ireland, but in Ghana (Africa), I believe according to God's will. Indeed, to have a feel of Father's relationship with his family, his parents in particular, his own words are captured in the following (a story within a story):

The Foundation of a Happy Family

Every day, my mother led us in praying the Holy Rosary. Every evening at 5.00pm, when my father would be leaving work and cycling home, my mother would call us her children to come and pray for Daddy's safe journey home. One never left our house without blessing oneself with holy water asking for God's protection. She prepared us, her children, for our First Holy Communion. She sent us with all the neighbours' children to confession every Saturday morning.

The Sacred Heart picture had a pride of place in our home. It had a red light burning constantly below the feet of Christ. Upon enquiry from my father, I learnt something very special. My mother worked as a pork butcher after she left school. (My whole family on my mother's side were pork butchers). She met my father in the shop she worked in and began dating. After some time, my mother hinted to my father that she felt she had a religious vocation. My father was shocked but agreed that if this is God's will, she should go to the convent.

My mother joined as a postulant, the Congregation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. She entered the convent on the 7th of December, 1934. However, due to ill health, she left the convent after three months on the 1st of March 1935.

The above explains why my mother had such a strong devotion to the Sacred Heart. Our home was consecrated to the Sacred Heart. We meticulously kept the First Thursday and First Friday of every month. My mother passed on to me, her priest son, this great love of the Sacred Heart. It was no surprise that the first parish I was assigned to as parish priest was the Sacred Heart Parish, Derby Avenue, Accra.

After my mother left the convent, my father continued his former relationship with my mother. They got married on the 29th of June, 1943. Their marriage was an extremely happy one. I never heard them arguing. They were always together. On Friday evenings, when my father arrived home from work, he would sit down with my mother and place his whole pay packet on the table. With my mother, he would work out all expenses and bills for the week.

My father was a very good man, a wonderful father, and kind husband. He took me to football matches every week. We cycled together to many places. I still have the Jerusalem Bible he gave me when I was in novitiate. He wrote on the inside page…" from a proud father to a loving son," December 1965. My father was a very active member of the Legion of Mary and would visit many old people in their homes each week. He dressed meticulously, his shoes were polished and shone like a

soldier's shoe. His wavy red hair was scrupulously combed. He was as punctual as Big Ben. He loved football. Shamrock Rovers was his local team and Manchester United his star-studded English team. He taught me to grow potatoes, lettuce, and carrots.

But he had a very bad habit. He smoked cigarettes. In the end, he developed cancer of the lung which eventually took his life. When he was dying, he told a priest friend that he never wanted me to go to Africa. But he never told me or stopped me. Rather, he encouraged me. Twice a week, he wrote to me from Dublin.

He died in my arms at home on the 27th of June, 1976 and I buried him on his wedding anniversary, 29th June. Each time I travel to Dublin on holidays, I visit my parents' graves and promise them I will never let them down. When both my Mummy and Daddy died, I took their wedding rings from their fingers, melted them and placed them on my chalice. Each time I offer Holy Mass, I remember the wonderful parents God gave me. I am what I am because of them.

Life is Changed not Ended

It was a sunny, chilly, February morning. It was 9 o' clock precisely as I waited in the clean polished, freshly brushed corridor of this old hospital for the matron. During these agonizing moments of waiting, my mind wandered back over the last few days.

Forty-eight hours earlier, four thousand miles away, a letter reached me. It read "discharged from hospital". The matron cryptically wrote, "My father has been discharged from hospital. He is in good spirits, but I advise you to come home as soon as possible. His case is serious."

After getting the needed permission from my superiors, I left my mission station in West Africa to start on the long journey home. It was a long journey. The usual joy in traveling had dissipated into nervousness and worry. The matron's letter appeared,

disappeared, then reappeared before my eyes. I was sad. I wanted to cry but could not. Memories came back of a similar journey made five years previously when I got a telegram informing me that my eldest sister had been killed in a motorbike accident.

I arrived at the hospital and a porter ushered me into the matron's office to wait for my father's doctor. The matron, the doctor and I stood as the doctor read from my father's file. His tone, manner and composure gave me the impression of a judge pronouncing judgement. "Your father has cancer of the lung. He will live a few months. His death will be quick. If there is anything else you want to know just contact me." I never wanted to contact this soulless, heartless man again. Did he realise that he was talking about my father – the man whom people, considering the way we loved one another said was more like a brother to me? I stood aghast, numb. Tears couldn't come. Words were suspended. The matron reappeared with a cup of coffee laced with a tot of whisky.

I walked from that hospital as though walking to the gallows. The sunny spring morning didn't touch me. I sought the refuge of a local church which I frequented often as a young schoolboy, but now my prayers, thoughts and words were different. Why Lord?" I questioned, "you took my younger brother, my mother, and recently my elder sister. Why Daddy? With my youngest sister, he is all I have."

Between tearstained hands, I cried and begged God to strengthen me in the days ahead. Dad trusted me. He loved me. He was a proud father because God, he said, blessed him with a priest-son. I was proud of dad too. The love and encouragement he gave me all through my life was sacred. We were always together, sharing, visiting and enjoying life. Be it a visit to a friend, a football match or a film. Even if separated, we were together. The weekly letter full of news and encouragement always arrived.

Only a few close friends knew the doctor's prognosis. Day by Day, Dad was sinking and what agony it was when friends and relatives came and told him he was looking better and asking when he would be back again to work. I often sought refuge at the hospital. Dad's second doctor and the matron often consoled and encouraged me. The perennial question WHY, they just couldn't answer? How often did I tell God that I needed Daddy? I prayed for a miracle. Afterall, nothing is impossible with God. The Doctor told me to live one day at a time.

As each day passed, I thought of the next and what it might bring. I begged God daily that if it was his will to take Dad, then he should let me be with him when he died, and spare him the pain. The doctor hesitated to talk about the sort of death Dad might have. But with my experience in working as a nurse in a hospital, I knew it could be difficult. I thought of all the people I saw dying from cancer – the pain, the breathlessness, the agony. I was afraid, but yet something told me to have courage. One day, when I was in the blues, the matron told me to trust in God. She assured me everything would turn out well. It was a reversal of roles – a layperson comforting a priest!

On Sunday 27th June, Dad seemed restless all day. We were worried about him. The doctor came to the house and after examination, told us that there was nothing to be concerned about. I offered evening Mass at the parish church and returned home before 7 o' clock. I asked Dad what he wanted for tea. "Just a cup of milk," he answered; those were his last words to me.

After my tea, my brother-in-law called and complained that Dad did not look too well. His eyes were closed. The time span between his breathing was getting longer. I knew this was the end. With my holy oils, I anointed Dad and asked God to take good care of him. "Reward him Lord because he deserves it. He was a great Dad, I prayed." It was while I prayed the Rosary that something happened. There were no tears, nor sadness, or sorrow to record. I felt that I got a glimpse of where Dad was

going. It felt a real happy place and how happy I was for Dad. He had had so much sorrow and cares in this life. He died quietly and gently in my arms. God had answered both my prayers.

The funeral was over. The chair was empty. No more letters. All tears spent. Just what would Christmas be like without Daddy? I held back those tears, straightened up and said, "Why be sad? Why cry? Dad is happy now with God and is reunited with Mummy, my sister and brother.

Looking back to those happy days with Dad, I see how weak my faith in God was. All my fears and worries were unfounded. God had answered my two prayers – that Dad die without pain, and that I be with him when he died.

There is a big gap in my life – a void no one can ever fill. This gap however, is made painless with the great reassurance of my faith, knowing that Dad's life has just changed, not ended. He is with God.

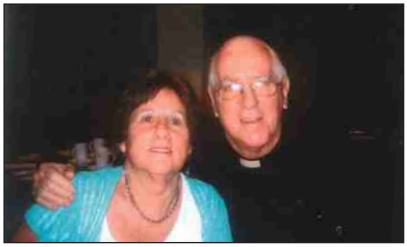
From my own experience, I believe many readers of this biography will identify with Father's story as he tells it by himself as captured above. While in the office working on a certain Monday in November 2015 at about 4: 00 pm, I received news about my father's ill health. I went with speed to the Adoration Room at the Christ the King Catholic Church at Ahensan in Kumasi, as I did not know then, that there was one closer to me at the St. Martin de Porres Church at Atonsu. Kneeling before the Blessed Sacrament, I told my Lord to let my dear father die in the hands of his children as our mother had earlier died in September 2000. I called my younger brother to leave Cape Coast immediately for home in the Upper West Region to attend to him. He said it was late to make the long journey that night, as he was on his way from Winneba to Cape Coast. I insisted because I had a strong conviction that the old man was on his way out of the world. He agreed, went home, brought dad, and each of his surviving children took turns to attend to him on his sick bed

before he died on 3rd December 2015. He died in the hands of my second brother. It was a sad but wonderful moment for us, because, the Lord answered our prayer by giving us an opportunity to share his last moments on earth with us before dying.

Mr. Andrew Campbell and Mrs. Kathleen Campbell (left). Family photo, left to right- Deidre, Margaret, Mummy, Fr. Campbell, Daddy (right)

Another picture of the Campbell family in 1964. From left to right, Margaret, Fr. Campbell, Daddy Campbell and Deirdre.

Wedding photo of Deirdre Nolan (Nee Campbell) being brought into the Church on her wedding day (left). From left to right: Margaret, Father Campbell and Dierdre (right).



Father and his sister Deirdre, the only surviving members of the original Campbell family of six (left). Christening of the grandchild of Deirdre with Father present on holidays (right).

Childhood and Education

Memories of childhood conjure images of deprivation for Father Campbell, but which were not enough to kill the dream of a little boy with a vision, and blessed with the happiest of families. Indeed, adversity became a motivation rather than a crippling factor. He started kindergarten in 1950 at Sisters of Charity School in Dublin, and entered primary one in 1952 at Haddington Road, in Dublin. His parents could not afford to send him to secondary school when he completed his primary education. He still has memories of going to school with holes in his shoes filled with cardboard, and had patches on his trousers

because his parents could not afford new clothes for him. For this reason, he started work at the age of thirteen as a Van Delivery boy with Ideal Products Wholesale Grocers at Thomas Street in Dublin, and broke his teeth while busy working one day. Out of his earnings of 30 Shillings a week, he could afford to give his father a loan anytime he needed one. His employers found his output as a delivery boy so impressive that they promoted him to a Shop Assistant in charge of sweets, chocolates and cigarettes only one year after working with them. Within two years of hard work (1959-1961), young Campbell had saved enough money to go back to school. From 1961-1964, he had his secondary school education, first at St. Richard's School, Droitwich Worcester, U. K., and continued later at St. David's College Corwen, in Wales, being the first in his family to attain secondary education.

Young Campbell during primary school (class six)

Young Campbell and sister, Margaret, during their first Holy Communion in 1952.

Young Campbell during Confirmation in 1959.

The first class Fr. Campbell taught as a student. This was class six in an all-boys school, Christian Brother School in the West of Ireland.

Father Campbell (left) and his biological father (right). The last picture of the two before his father passed on.

The Choice of Priesthood

By the time that he had completed his secondary education, young Campbell had felt called to ministry. He managed again to work hard and acquired all the necessary items for the seminary, apart from three black cassocks which he needed ten pounds (£10) to buy. This was quite a huge sum then. As he kept pondering over how to get the money for the cassocks, the postman arrived one day with an envelope addressed to him. He opened it, and found inside it, ten pounds, the exact amount he needed for the cassocks. A miracle? A prayer answered? It was sent anonymously, and all that this benefactor asked of him was prayers for her and her family. This little information identified the sender as a female, but that was all there was to the origin of the money. The letter is safely kept in Fr. Campbell's Bible to remind him of God's great love. (See appendix for the letter).

With the fullest support of his family, he entered the Society of the Divine Word Missionaries as a Novice at St. Patrick's College, Donamon Castle in County Roscommon, Ireland, on 8th September, 1964. The Society of the Divine Word (SVD), also known as the Divine Word Missionaries is an international male religious group in the Catholic Church dedicated to missionary work. It was founded by Fr. Arnold Janssen on the 8th of September, 1875 in Steyl in the Netherlands. The total number of Father's batch was thirty-one (31) young men who were accepted into the novitiate. The novitiate marks the entire period that trains and prepares a prospective member of a religious order before the profession of vows. There, the novice, who is the one undergoing the training or formation is made to understand the constitution of the society, to be well informed to either continue or to go a new way altogether. After successfully completing this first phase of his formation, Father professed his first vows of Consecrated Chastity, Evangelical Poverty, and Apostolic Obedience on the 8th of September, 1966.

Consecrated Chastity means to practice chaste celibacy by remaining unmarried and unattached to another in this regard

for life. This is to set such a person free from all attachments to serve God and humanity through service. The vow of Evangelical poverty entails that one commits oneself to living simply, having no private possessions and sharing everything acquired with the other members of the group for the common good. By the vow of Apostolic Obedience, the novice pledges to live a life according to God's will and for the good of the religious community one belongs. These vows are renewed annually with the cooperation of the novice until the final vows are professed.

From 1965-1967, Father studied Philosophy at the same College, where he met Father Rockledge, a lecturer in Philosophy who impacted on his formation tremendously. Thereafter, he continued with his Theological studies from 1967-1971 at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Ireland. He studied subjects such as Scriptures, Liturgy, Church History, Moral Theology and Canon Law. This took him about four years to complete. During this time that he was undergoing formation at the seminary, he continued to work as a kind of "Jack of all trades" during long vacations, successfully combining work with learning. He was already used to a life of working to support oneself when he worked in supermarkets, filling shelves with foods and sweeping floors before he went to seminary in 1964.

He also worked as a welder (1968) in a factory in London, as well as an auxiliary nurse at Walton Hospital in Liverpool during long vacation (1967 - 1970). In October 1970, his effort was crowned with a Bachelor of Divinity Degree, which he obtained at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, County Kildare in Ireland. In December of the same year, he was ordained by Bishop Dominic Joseph Conway to the Catholic Priesthood at the young age of 24, one year under the normal age for ordination. Since the normal age for ordination in the Catholic Church is 25 years, special permission had to be sought for him from Rome.

Of the thirty-one (31) young men with whom Father started the journey to Catholic priesthood in 1964, only fifteen of them completed successfully and were ordained. Eleven of the fifteen have since passed away, and all the four surviving ones are now in their retirement, Father Campbell being the last of them to have retired in March 2021.

When Father was seriously taken ill in July 2020, he thought his end had also come, that he was also going to join his departed brothers and deceased members of his family. His blood pressure indicated 70/30, almost that of a dead person. This was during the peak of the Covid-19 outbreak in Ghana, and there were fears he might have been infected with the disease. However, at the University of Ghana Medical Centre, he was diagnosed of a clot of blood in the lung, pneumonia of the lung, and malaria, among other complications. There, a team of twenty-two (22) medical personnel (doctors, nurses and other paramedics) attended to him. After getting completely healed, he expressed his gratitude to the medical staff who attended to him, gifting each of them a half piece of cloth, and afterwards, described himself as a 'walking miracle'.

Novice at Novitiate in Ireland, 1964

Novices on picnic in 1965.

Young Campbell preparing Confirmation class in 1965.

Fr. Campbell (kneeling), being ordained by Bishop Dominic Joseph Conway on the 20th of December, 1970

Father (standing) giving his First Blessing to Bishop Conway

Africa as Choice for Mission

Why did Father choose to come to Africa when he could have easily gone to some part of Asia or Latin America? While growing up as a young Irish boy, Father read widely. One of the things which intrigued him most in his readings was about the work of Christian missionaries in Africa. He read, and also heard from other sources about missionaries working under difficult conditions, such as unfriendly weather and riding on horseback to travel across long distances. He therefore made up his mind to work in Africa after his ordination, and did exactly that. His biological father was not comfortable with his decision to travel to Africa as a missionary. He wanted him to remain and minister at home, but he was not able to discourage him from making the journey. Consequently, he came to Ghana as a Catholic Missionary Priest in the Society of the Divine Word, arriving on the 13th of October, 1971.

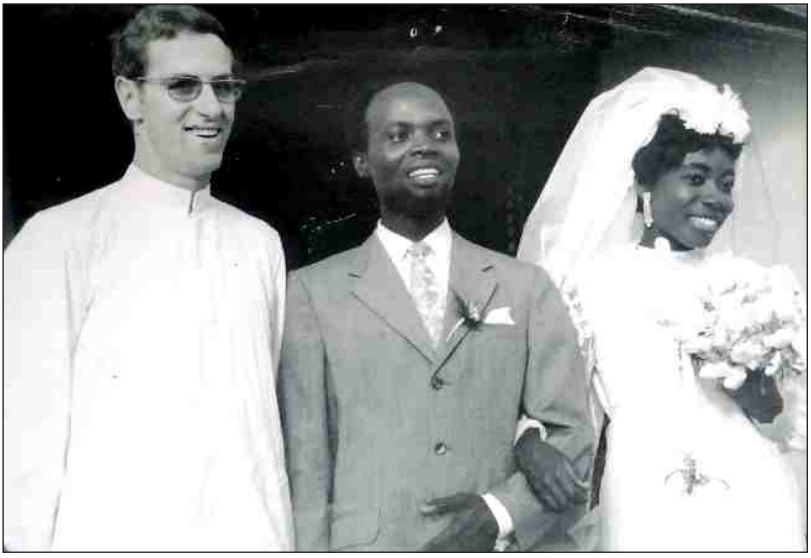
Fr. Campbell was not the first SVD missionary to come to Ghana. Indeed, the first SVD missionaries to Ghana were Fr. August Gehring, SVD, and Fr. Alphonse Elsbernd, SVD, on the 13th of October, 1938. The following day, they moved from the Takoradi Port to the Sacred Heart Catholic Church at Derby Avenue, in Accra. Subsequently, other missionaries of the SVD followed, and through their effort, the Accra Mission was elevated to an Apostolic Prefecture on the 19th of December, 1943. Fr. Adolf Noser was installed as the first Apostolic Prefect by Bishop William Porter, then the Catholic Bishop of Cape Coast, in the Sacred Heart Church at Derby Avenue in Accra. On the 18th of April, 1952, this SVD-managed vicariate was further raised to the status of a Diocese.

The journey to Ghana was by boat from Liverpool in thirteen (13) days. Indeed, there were two of them, both SVD missionaries on this mission. On their arrival, what struck them

most was the cultural shock. The enthusiasm with which they came began to give way to some kind of despair. They found themselves in an entirely new world, with everything different, including food. The other counterpart of Fr. Campbell left after a short period (within a period of about three months), while he quickly adapted to his new environment. His first station was Osu St. Peter's Catholic Church in Accra, the national capital of Ghana. The people won his heart by their warm welcome and niceties they extended to him. He soon overcame the initial cultural shock, settled in and began to adjust to his new environment. However, sad news from Ireland interrupted this period of adjustment. He was again struck by the news that his sister Margaret had died through a motor accident. He arrived late for the funeral in January 1972, after which he returned to Ghana to continue with his missionary work at his first station.

Baptism in 1972 of baby Allotey.

First Baptism by Father in Ghana at the Osu Church.



Father with newly-weds, Isaac and Monica (42 years ago).
Isaac was a former editor of the Catholic Standard.

CHAPTER TWO

GHANA: HOME AWAY FROM HOME

'…He is one of Ghana's most influential persons. He is extremely popular; highly revered; and widely honoured'…Yet Father Andrew Campbell is as humble and gentle as a dove. He carries no airs. Despite his achievements, and the great works he has done, and he is still doing in the country, which have endeared him to the great people of his adopted country of 44 years, he looks like your man next door.' (WEEKEND SUN- www.thesunonlinegh.com, May 15th – 18th, 2015, Vol. 2, No. 47. Pp 9 – 11)

The Voice of a Nations Conscience

Fifty years on, Father Campbell has found home in Ghana. Indeed, his mentor's decision to allow him to pursue his heart's desire of being a missionary priest in Africa, a decision which ran contrary to the will of Rev. Father's own biological Father could not have been a better choice for him. Describing him as a 'champion of unpopular and unfashionable causes,' journalist and former minister of state, Madam Elizabeth Ohene notes that, in spite of his extremely humble, loving and caring background, which leads him to commend where credit is due, the 'trouble stirring loquacious Irish-Ghanaian priest,' minces no words to also criticize where the need be.

He has commended government for initiating some good policies for the country, calling on it to ignore criticism, but work hard to overcome the challenges facing the implementation of these policies, and make them work for the common good. On a visit to the Chief Executive Officer of the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA), Mr. Nathaniel Otto in August 2016, he remarked on the usefulness of the scheme in bringing relief to the poor. On another visit with the entire Council of his Parish to the Jubilee House on 3rd December, 2017, to pay a courtesy call on President Nana Addo-Dankwah Akufo Addo, he seized the opportunity to commend the government for implementing the free Senior High School (SHS) education, as

well as banning illegal mining, and adopting some social intervention measures, such as Planting Food for Jobs, and the 1- District-1-Factory Initiative. It is worth noting that though these policies are hailed by some Ghanaians, they have been faced with criticism by others because of the problems associated with their implementation. Among some of these problems are complaints of some irregularities arising out of the implementation of the NHIA Scheme, inadequate infrastructure and other materials for the free SHS, and unemployment of those previously involved in illegal mining.

Through numerous appeals on television and other platforms, he campaigned vigorously for quite a long time to awaken the consciousness of Ghanaians to see the need to care for lepers and cured lepers in the country, and has succeeded in that bid. Through such campaigns in partnership with the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC), and Ultimate Media, a communication consulting firm, the government was moved to raise the feeding fee of lepers from a GH ₵1,200 to GH ₵6000. Through his good relations with the former First Lady, Mrs. Theresa Kufuor, he received several donations from her for the Weija Leprosarium. Other groups concerned with the plight of lepers followed, and still follow such example, and continue to support in various ways, one case being the Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission Homeopathic Medical Group for Leprosy Patients based in Kumasi, which provided free medical care for the lepers in 2006.

In early 2005, members of clubs of Zones 161 and 162 of the Lions Club International visited the Weija Leprosarium, where Father Campbell used the occasion to advise Ghanaians to not abandon lepers once they are cured and can be reintegrated into their families and society at large. While talking to the "Daily Graphic" in 2009 when the Accra branch of the Convention People's Party (CPP) donated to the Weija Leprosarium on the 60th Anniversary of the formation of the CPP,

he observed that some of those in authority who can help alleviate the suffering of lepers only talk big but pay lip service to it. On several occasions, he has also called on Ghanaians to stop stigmatising lepers. In early 2013, for example, he made one of such calls when the Ghana Battalion 16 which had taken part in the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNIMIL) had come to donate assorted items worth GH ₵ 1000 to the Weija Leprosarium in Accra.

During the World Leprosy Day celebration in 2020 at Eyindakrom Leprosarium near Cape Coast, he called on the state through the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) to speed up the process of enrolling the inmates of the Ankaful, Kokofu and Nkanchina Leprosaria in the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) programme. He has also appealed to Ghanaian youth to support the vulnerable in Ghanaian society through acts of charity. He made this appeal together with Bishop Joseph Kwaku Afrifa-Agyekum of the Koforidua Diocese of the Catholic Church when the two joined the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of the Catholic Church during the Society's annual meeting on 6th July 2019 at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church at the University of Ghana in Accra.

On the 'Inspire Series' of the Class Drive (CD) on Class 91.3 FM on 5th December, 2019, he expressed concern, describing it as 'shocking,' 'bad,' and generally a 'bad lifestyle' for young people to be taking part in betting, especially sports betting. While drawing attention to this reality, he explained that, his involvement in the TV programme, 'Who Deserves to be Rich' in which he won GH ₵25, 000, the highest amount won in the whole of the series, and all of which he donated to the Lepers Association was a means of raising money for the lepers, and as such, was not betting.

He has further noted that much suffering in Ghana is the result of corruption and materialism, where people are more interested in acquiring big houses, fashionable vehicles and titles

to the neglect of working to develop the country. He said this at the launch of the 2010 Ghana–Nigeria Christian Business Dialogue, and International Christian Business (ICB) Excellence Awards in Accra, the second of its kind to have been held. The ICB is a non-governmental organization with the aim of organizing the annual awards to give recognition to Christian Businessmen and women who have distinguished themselves in their various areas of endeavour. Explaining the rationale behind the awards, the international coordinator of the Christian Business Excellence Awards, Joshua Buam said the idea to award Christian entrepreneurs resulted from the collapse of the Wall Street and the financial crises the world experienced from it. It was a situation that gave a lesson in good economic practices. Also known as the Great Crash, the Wall Street Crash of 1929 occurred between September and October of that year in the United States of America (USA), when share prices on the New York Stock Exchange collapsed. A similar thing had also been experienced by the London Stock Exchange in September 1929. These events culminated in the Great Depression of the 1930s, which engulfed the whole world, contributing partly to the outbreak of the Second World War.

Commenting on a similar theme on the second Easter Sunday in Accra, in 2011, Father Campbell called on Ghanaians to use May Day to reflect, amend and increase productivity to achieve a better life for all citizens. He added that dishonesty, greed and hatred are acts which retard the growth and development of society, and that Churches should not be places for fun and merry-making, but for the 'sake of joining the Lord Jesus Christ.'

Prophesying about the outcome of elections by some men and women of the pulpit has characterized elections in Ghana in recent years. However, Father Campbell has some reservations about these prophesies. To those engaged in the act, he advises them to rather pray for good leadership, peace and

transparency rather than hasting to give prophesies of either victory or doom. To the entire nation, he advises that people should desist from spreading false news and unfounded accusations during election periods. He voted for the first time on 7th December 2020.

On his take on the rise of suicide cases in the country, he calls on parents to show love to their children to prevent them from drifting into waywardness that could lead to suicide. He said this during the inauguration of a 70- member Catholic Men Association (CMA) at the Christ the King Church at Cantonments in Accra. He emphasized the need for the enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in their homes for protection against evil acts, as well as for families to be happy. On a similar theme in an interview with "Junior Graphic", a newspaper for children, he admonished parents to desist from always being on their phones, and spend quality time with their children.

On a lighter side, Father Campbell together with the Most Rev. Paul K. Boafo, the Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church of Ghana joined the national campaign to encourage Ghanaians to consume cocoa products, such as chocolate, milo and cocoa powder in February 2021. The National Chocolate Week is usually held in Ghana in February each year to coincide with Valentine's Day. He said his consumption of cocoa powder for thirty years has protected him from the malaria disease, from which he suffered only once, in all those years. On his part, the Most Rev. Boafo also indicated that, while growing up as the proud son of a cocoa farmer in the Western Region of Ghana, the seeds of the golden pod was incorporated in their meals in powdered form for the benefit of their nutritious value.

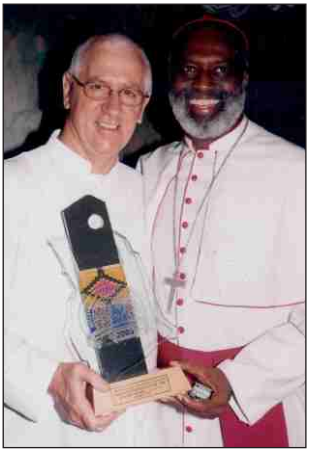
For as long as he continues to live in Ghana and observes all that goes on in the country, Father Campbell is determined to remain a voice that speaks to awaken the consciousness of the nation.

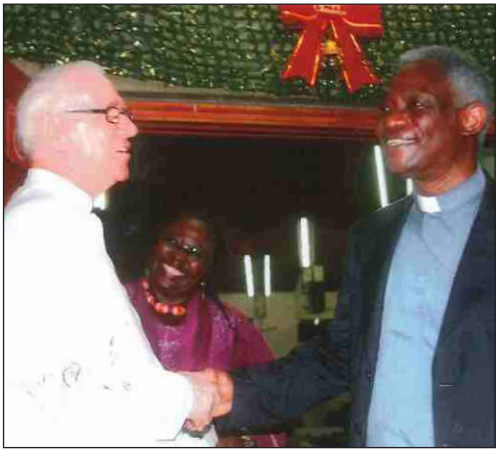
Embracing All and Sundry:

Though permanently resident in the nation's capital, Accra, all these years, Father has intermingled in cordial and friendly terms with people of all walks of life: the rich, poor, young, old, elite, royalty, males, females, and indeed, Ghanaians of almost every status.

He Found a Family

Father Campbell has lived in peace among his co-religious in Ghana. Though not a diocesan priest, he has co-existed peacefully with such priests in the various parishes in which he has served. In his humanitarian activities, some reverend sisters have also offered helping hands. Following are some photographs depicting his relations with other members of the clergy and the religious in general.





Father Campbell and Archbishop Palmer Buckle during the 2005 Millennium Excellence Awards (left). Father Campbell and Cardinal Appiah Turkson (right).

Father with the Pro-Nuncio to Ghana, H. E. Guissipe Ferallioli in 1976 (left).

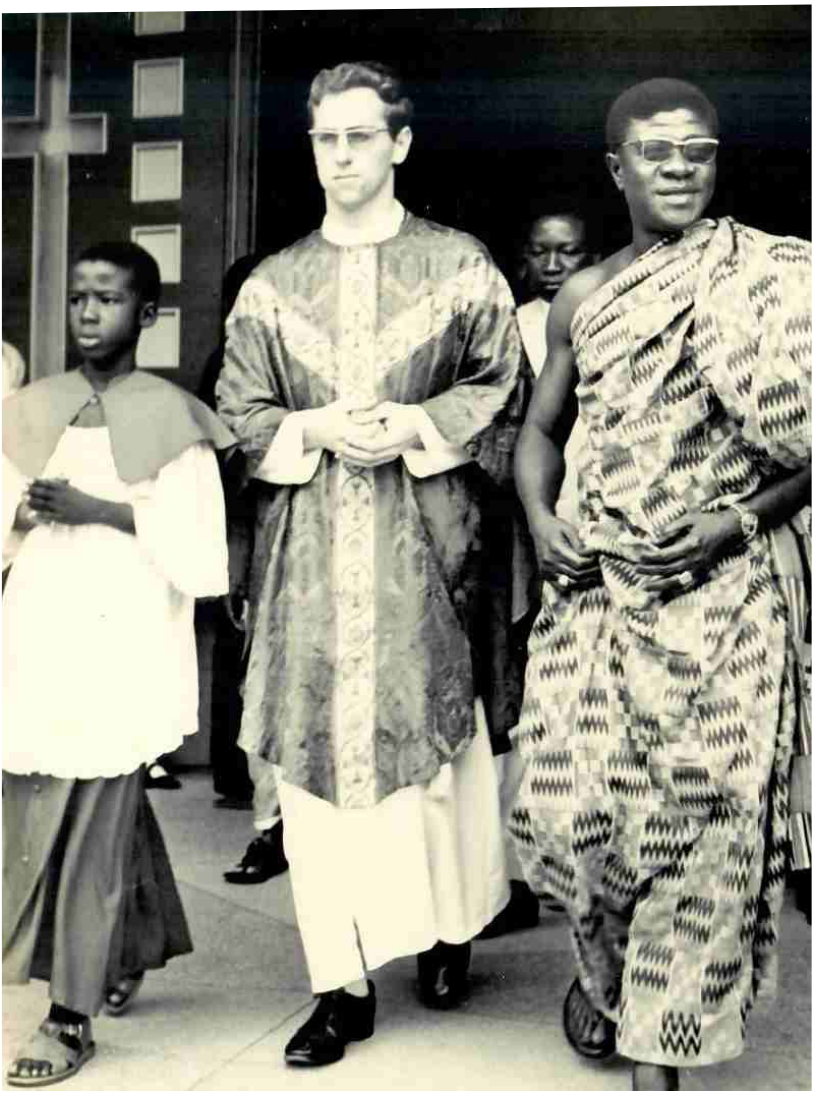
Father Campbell (first from right) in a group picture with some Bishops and some Catholic laity in the background. Mr. Buckle, father of Archbishop Palmer Buckle (first from left), Apostolic Nuncio to Ghana (fourth from left), Archbishop Dominic Andoh (second from right),

Father Campbell among his fellow priests.

Fr. Campbell with some Mother Teresa's Sisters assisting in child care (left), and others assisting him to cut a tape to open a maternity block at St. Andrew's Hospital at Kordiabe. (right).

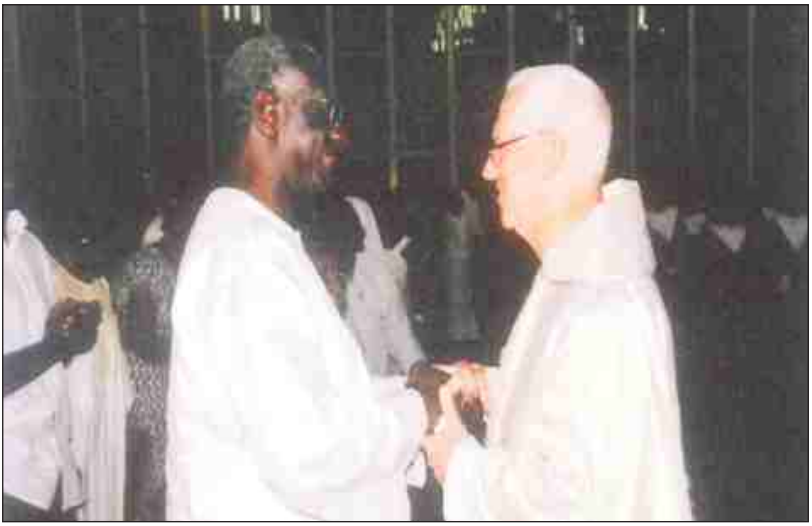
Heads of State and Traditional Royalty.

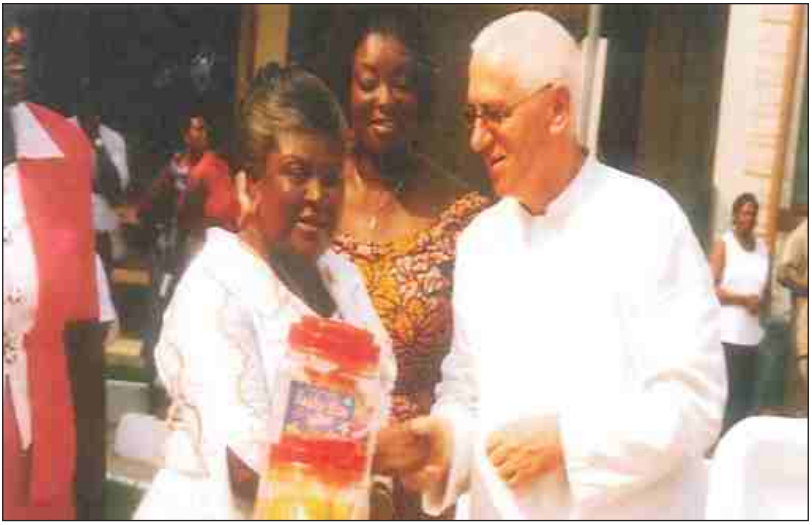
All the Heads of State of Ghana since 1980, have in one way or the other, been involved with Father Campbell, usually for good reasons. Before the 1980s, he had also met with the former Head of State of Ghana from 1972 to 1977, General Kutu Acheampong. He also doubled as the "Parish Priest" of the Jubilee House when he served in the same capacity at the Christ the King Parish.



Father Campbell with Gen. Ignatius Kutu Acheampong (former Ghanaian Head of State) in the early 1970s.

Father Campbell with President Rawlings and his wife, Nana Konadu Agyeman Rawlings (left). Former President J. J/ Rawlings (seated third from right, near Father Campbell during the 70th birthday celebration of the latter) (right)

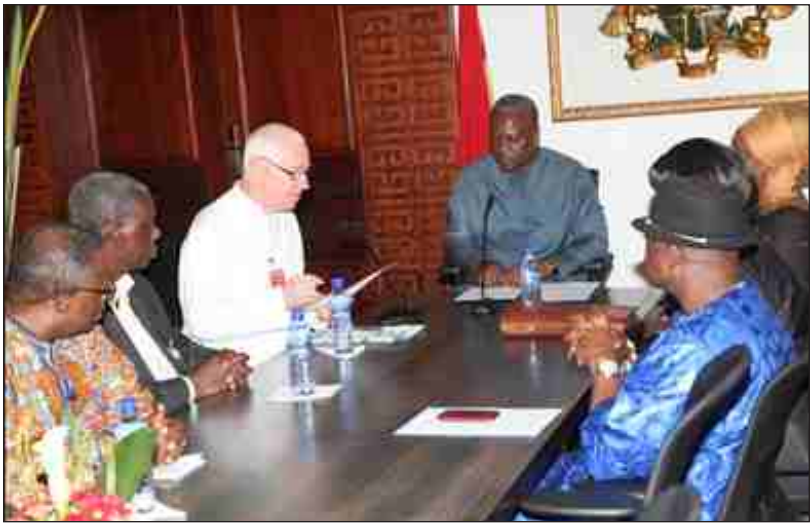




President Kufuor interacting with Father Campbell at the Christ the King Parish (left) Father Campbell with former First Lady, Mrs. Theresa Kufuor and daughter at the Christ the King Parish in Accra (left).

The former Second Lady, and later, First Lady of the Republic of Ghana, Enerstina Naadu Mills, wife of late President John Evans Attah Mills with Father and others at the PMLCH.

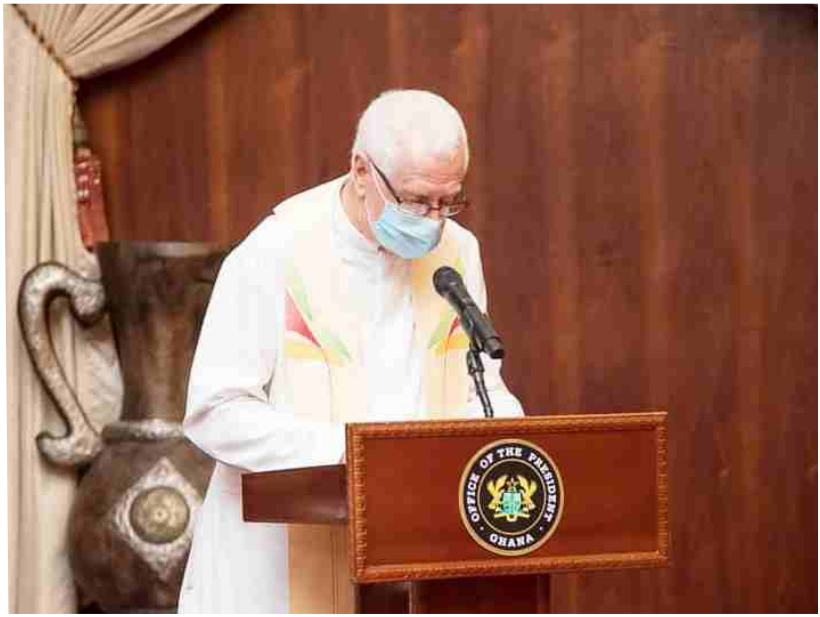
Father and his Personal Assistant, Mr. Patrick Annan with President John Mahama (right).



Father Campbell (third from left) with former President John Dramani Mahama (seated at head of table) (right).

Following is a photo of Father Campbell, President Nana Akufo-Addo, Senior Minister J. H. Mensah and other Ministers of State:

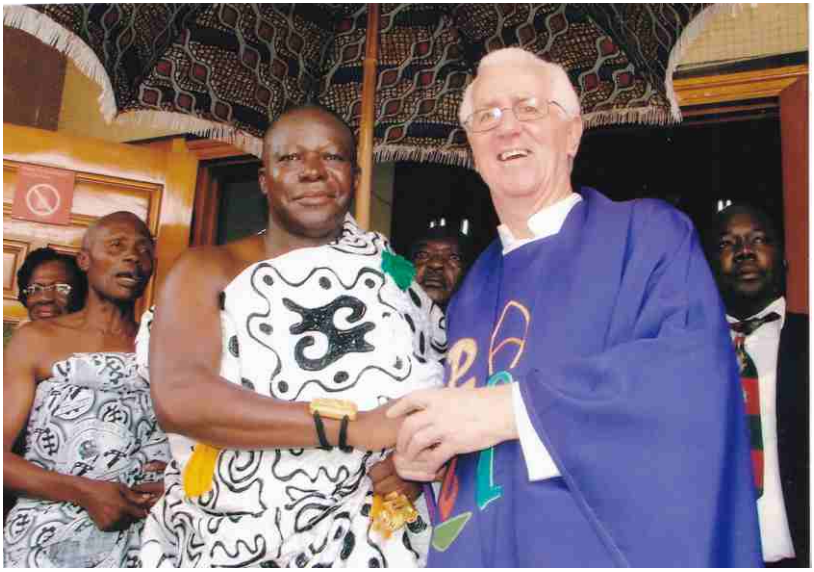
Father Campbell on a visit to President Akufo Addo with members of his Parish Council (left). Father Campbell with President Akufo Addo, shaiking hands, J. H. Mensah (left), and some members in government (right).



Father saying the opening prayer as the "Parish Priest" of the Jubilee House during the swearing in of High Court Judges in September 2020.

As one working in the heart of Accra, the capital town, Father Campbell made sure he established good relations between him and the Ga Traditional Authorities. He used to pay regular visits to some of the Ga prominent Chiefs and Chief Priests (Wulomei) when he was at the Sacred Heart Parish. Some of these Chiefs were Nii Perse Manko (Gbese Mantse), Nii Kojo Ababio (James Town Mantse), Nii Engleshie Abbey, and Asafoatse Nettey (Sempe Mantse). Mantse is the Ga word for chief or king. The Chief priests he acquainted himself with included Numo Yartey (Nai Wulomo – singular form of Wulomei), Numo Ayitey Kobbina (Korle Wulomo), Oku Wulomo, and Oko Lante (Lante Gjanwe Wulomo).

In more recent times, and from far beyond Accra, the Asantehene, Osei Tutu II, with some of his Elders and other dignitaries from Kumasi, paid a courtesy call on Father Campbell at his parish, Christ the King in Accra.



Father and Otumfuo Osei Tutu II, the Asantehene (left). The Asantehene, Nana Osei Tutu II (second from left), Father Campbell (third from left) (left).

Ghanaian Elite

Father Campbell participates in many state's functions, sometimes, in the capacity of an officiating minister. At other times, he becomes a guest at programmes organized by organizations or individuals. Such roles have brought him into contact with the elite in Ghanaian society, making him become more integrated into the society. He was the officiating Minister during the 28th Remembrance Day Service, also called 'Martyrs' Day', held at his own Parish, Christ the King Parish in the heart of Accra. The day is instituted as a memorial for the three High Court Judges who were murdered in 1982. The Justices: Fred Poku Sarkodie, Cecilia Afran Koranteng-Addow and Kwadwo Agyei Agyapong were abducted on 30th June, 1982. Their bodies were discovered in a state of decomposition at the Bundase Military Range in the Accra Plains on 1st July, 1982.

During the launch of an NGO, Power Empowerment (PEM), he was the Ceremonial Priest for the occasion. Other dignitaries present at the occasion were former Minister for Women and Children's Affairs, Nana Oye Lithur, Mr. John Kumah, CEO of NEIP, and Rev. Harry Insaidoo, former Senior Pastor of Assemblies of God Church, North Kaneshie (Accra), who was also the Chairman of the Power Empowerment launch. The NGO (PEM) which is very much in tune with Father Campbell's preoccupation, is a humanitarian organization which aims specifically at training women with disability in the leg in bead making as a trade for livelihood.

Again, Father was the officiating Minister at the consecration of Gethsemane Memorial Garden at Shiashie (East Legon), in Accra, on 5th March, 2015. The Garden is designed by a Canadian firm, Lees and Associates, with input from Dr. Alfred Lutterodt. Dr. Lutterodt, who owns the place, himself a private cemetery developer, constructed the place with an entirely Ghanaian team. By providing this non-denominational Christian cemetery, Dr. Lutterodt aims at easing congestion in cemeteries in the city and also to give respect to the dead. During All Souls Day which falls on 2nd November each year, Father Campbell visits the cemetery to bless all graves.

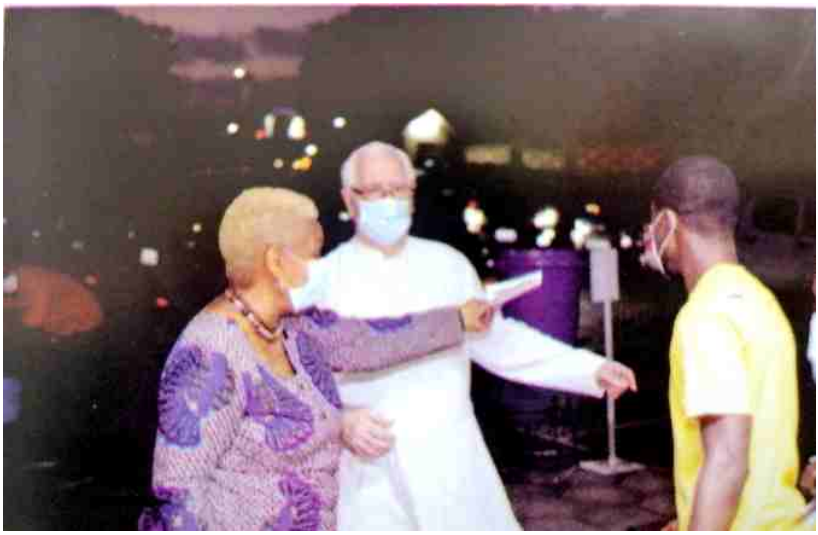
As the Local Manager of Christ the King International School, he was assisted by a representative of former President Kufuor, Mr. Isaac Osei (then CEO of Tema Oil Refinery), to commission an ultra-modern washroom facility – a two-storey building of forty (40) washrooms with additional bathrooms in May 2017. The structure, valued at GH ₵ 560, 000 was funded by the PTA of the school.

He was among a group of selected ministers of religion who were called to the Presidency to pray for the nation at the breakout of the Covid-19 disease.

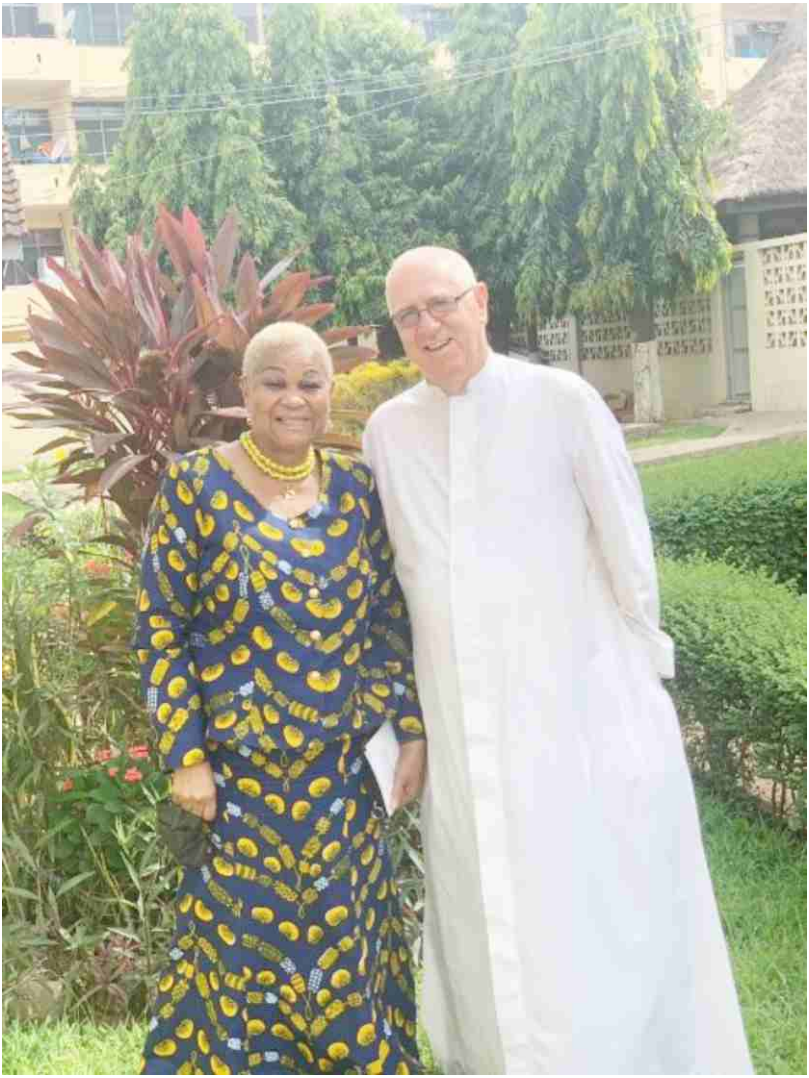
Dr. Joyce Aryee is Father's Ghanaian 'twin sister'. Both of them were born in the same year, month, day, but were separated only by few hours. This coincidence of birth has been an occasion for the two of them to fraternize and share jokes any time they meet.

They had always had to argue about who was the *Atta Panyin* (senior twin in the Akan language) and *Atta Kakra* (junior twin in the Akan language), with each claiming seniority. One day, they calculated the hours of their birth, and Dr. Joyce Aryee was found to be the *Atta Panyin*, and that settled the deal of which of them was the senior of the two. The following pictures depict Father Campbell's relationship with some elite of Ghanaian society.

Father was the main celebrant during the Thanksgiving Mass of Honourable Alban Bagbin, following his election as the Speaker of Ghana's 8th Parliament of the Fourth Republic, at the Christ the King Church on 1st February 2021. He used the occasion to admonish Ghanaians against corruption. On his part, the newly-elected Speaker of Parliament, who described his election as miraculous, attributing it to divine intervention, called on all who had congregated in the Church, for their prayers and unflinching support. He generously responded to an appeal for support for the Mother Teresa Soup Kitchen by donating an amount of GH ₵ 50, 000. Other notable Ghanaian politicians who were there to support the Speaker included the First Deputy Speaker and MP for Bekwai, Joseph Osei-Owusu, Second Deputy Speaker and MP for Fomena, Andrew Asiamah Amoako, some former and current MPs of the National Democratic Congress (NDC), while the NDC 2020 Presidential Candidate, former President John Dramani Mahama was represented by his Vice, Professor Jane Naana Opoku Agyeman.

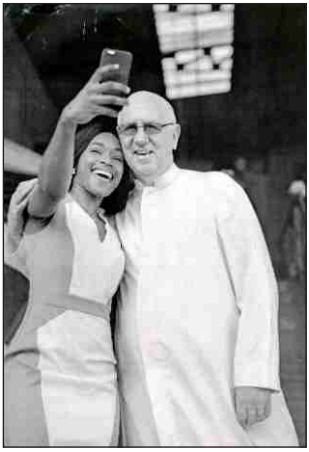


Dr. Joyce Aryee - greeting the Covid-19 style with two others, with Fr. Campbell and another -behind them, being part of the group of religious at the Jubilee House to pray for the nation against Covid-19 (left). Father Campbell with Ghanaian twin sister (Rev. Dr. Joyce Aryee on the occasion of the Annual Christmas Carol at Christ the King Hall (left).



Father and his Ghanaian twin sister, Dr. Joyce Aryee. She visted him at the Christ the King Parish to congratulate him on His 75th Anniversary as priest.

Fr. Campbell with the Chief Justice, Georgina Wood during the 28th Martyrs 'Day Service (left), and with Nana Oye Lithur, former Minister of the then Women and Children's Affairs, now Gender, Women and Social Protection (right)



Father Campbell and his adopted son with Mr. Harry Sawyer (former Minister of Education) and his wife (left). Father Campbell with Adjoa, a newly-graduated Medical Doctor (right).

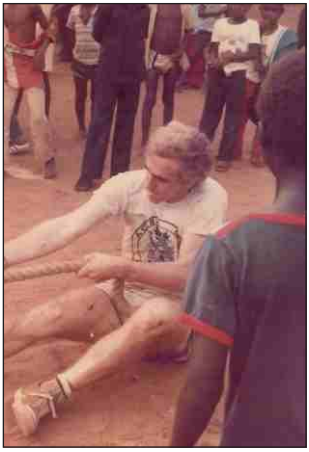
Honourable Alban Bagbin and his wife, Mrs. Alice Bagbin (4th and 5th from left respectively) in a group picture with Father Campbell (3rd from left), other notable politicians. family and well-wishers after a thanksgiving Mass at the Christ the King Parish, following his election as the 8th Speaker of Parliament of Ghana's fourth Republic.

Involvement in Arts and Sports

Father has time for leisure and sports in spite of his busy schedules. He loves to play and watch football, and he is a great fan of Manchester United. One of his fond memories is the opportunity he had to meet all the Manchester United players before leaving for the seminary in 1964. His once favourite player was the late George Best, an Irish professional footballer with the Manchester United who played the position of a winger. No wonder that when he arrived in Ghana, he formed his football team, the 'Real Santos,' in 1972.

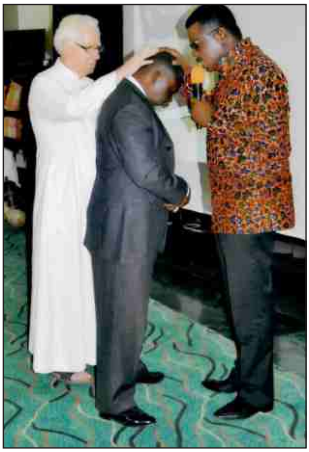
Father acting as an "Irish Patriot" during Novitiate in 1964 in a play performed by the novices (left), Father blessing football boots and balls after presentation by the Brazilian Ambassador to Ghana, to the Real Santos football team. (right)

Father Campbell with his football team, the Real Santos (left). Donation of jerseys, balls and football boots by the Brazilian Ambassador to the Real Santos (right).



Father Campbell receiving a present from a prison officer at James Camp Prison, after a football match played between the Real Santos and the prisoners (left). Father taking part in a tug-of-war during Sports Day at Christ the King Parish at Cantonments in Accra (right).

Father Campbell and Pastor Mensah Otabil were among the invited guests during the launch of the biography (a book) of renowned Ghanaian boxing legend, Azumah Nelson.



Father Campbell and the renowned Boxer embracing during the occasion. Pastor Mensah Otabil is captured in the photo as one of the invited guests. (left) The two priests (Father Campbell and Pastor Mensah Otabil) blessing Mr. Azumah Nelson (right).

Father and Ghanaian music icon, Akosua Agyepong were the winners at the TV programme, 'Who wants to be Rich', hosted by Kafui Dei. It was a well contested highly competitive show, at the end of which Father and Akosua Agyepong, were just only one step to winning the ultimate prize. As the winner of the competition, Father Campbell received a cash prize of Gh ₵ 25, 000, all of which he donated to the cause of his charities. Though the series was initially opened to all Ghanaians to make money, and was originally dubbed 'Who wants to be Rich,' a derivation of it named as 'Who Deserves to be Rich', was offered as a special series for celebrities who were championing good causes in society to help them raise money for that purpose. Father Campbell was given the opportunity because of his humanitarian endeavours. Others in this special category were ex-national football star, Ali Jahrra who owns a goalkeeping academy where he trains young people for free, Louisa Enyonam Ansah, a forty-six (46) year physically challenged teacher of Aduagyir Roman Catholic KG, and national athletics hero, Rose Hart, and young philanthropist, Zakiyu Tandoira.

Sons of famous Ghanaian footballer, Jordan, Andre and Ibrahim on visit to Father Campbell. (left) Father with Fr. James Ahemkora and Fr. Wisdom Dordonu , ready to go and support the Ghana Black Stars at the Accra Sports Stadium in 2008 (right).

Akosua Agyepong (left), Father Campbell (middle) and Kafui Dei (right) showing the cheque for the cash prize at the end of the programme.

In February 2009, Miss Malaika 2008, Tamara, joined Father Campbell at a Valentine's Day Party she organized for the inmates of the Weija Leprosarium. On another occasion, the contestants of Ghana Most Beautiful (GMB) visited Father Campbell to donate to the Weija Leprosarium

Father with the contestants of Ghana's Most Beautiful (GMB)

Relationship with the Youth and Children

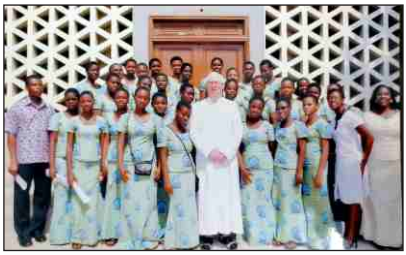
The development of young people is at the core of Father's heart. In every parish and community in which he finds himself, he reaches out to the youth to promote their overall development: physical, spiritual, moral and social. His dedication to the maintenance of the Princess Marie Louis Children's Hospital is an act of expression of the love and concern he has for the welfare of children.

Staff and students of the Sacred Heart Vocational Institute

Fr. Campbell with some students of the Sacred Heart Vocational Institute

Father Campbell with some youth during a gathering of Catholic youth at St. Mary's Girls Secondary School (now Senior High School) in Accra

Father Campbell with Mass servers from Christ the King.



Father with students from Accra Girls' Senior High School.

Father with Past students of St. Rose's Girls SHS (Akwatia).

Father with St. Rose's Girls SHS (Akwatia) at School. Re-union in Washington D.C In 2018

Father Campbell interacting with children

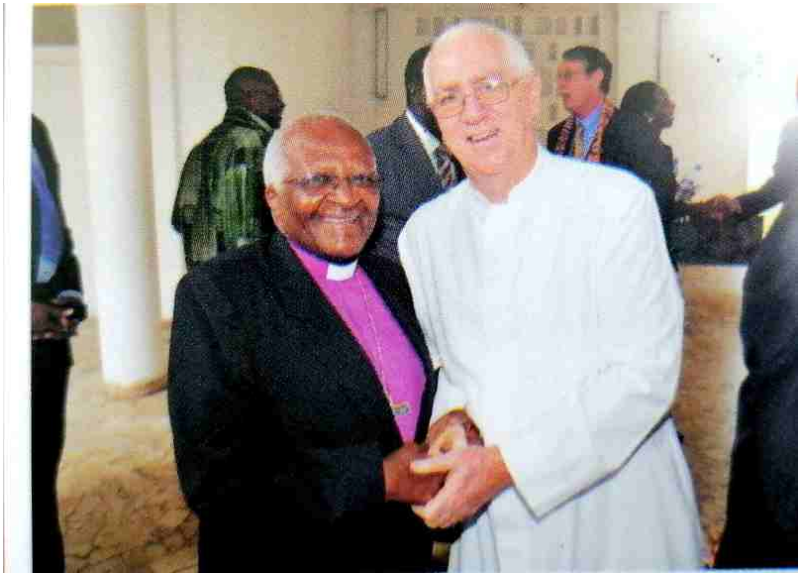
Father carrying some children

Promoting Ecumenism (Religious Fraternity)

As a peace-loving man, Father Campbell extends his bond of friendship to all and sundry, irrespective of religious, ethnic or national affiliation. This can be observed in his relationship with other priests in the Catholic Church, ministers of religion from non-Catholic Churches, Muslims, and people belonging to other faiths. A classic example of this occurred during the Easter of 2019. On Easter Sunday, 11th May, 2019, at the Christ the King Parish, where he was in charge as the Parish Priest, he welcomed the National Chief Imam, Sheik Nuhu Shaributu and his entourage to the parish. It was a groundbreaking visit which aroused mixed feelings nationally and internationally. While some people hailed it as an act of religious harmony, others condemned it as sacrilegious. The historic visit attracted headlines in newspapers such as *'Chief Imam worships with Christ the King Church ahead of 100th birthday celebration*,' *What the BBC Wrote About Ghana's 100-Year Chief Imam who*

went to Church,' '*The Priest who befriended an Imam*,' *Chief Imam celebrates 100 years in Church*,' '*Interfaith tolerance on display – As National Chief Imam visits Catholic Church on Sunday*,' '*Ghanaians hail National Chief Imam for joining Easter Service.*' However, the Imam explained through his spokesperson Sheikh Aremeyaw Shuaib that he was not at the Church to worship, but rather to extend a hand of friendship to Christians to demonstrate the possibility of a people living together in peace and harmony in spite of differences in religion and ethnicity. The Chief Cleric of Islam originates from Hausaland in Nigeria. His visit to the Church was part of a series of activities marking his 100th birthday.

The two clerics have a lot in common. Both of them are humanitarians, and have established NGOs for that purpose. The Chief Imam leaves his door open daily at Fadama for neighbours and needy people to draw water and receive other needs, while Father Campbell in a similar fashion, opened his Soup Kitchen to feed the poor. The Chief Imam's NGO is Sheikh Dr. Osman Nuhu Shaributu Education Trust Fund (SONSETFUND), which was established to support government's effort in providing quality education for the deprived people in the Zongo communities, and that of Father Campbell is the Lepers' Aid Committee. Both have received national acclaim for their contributions to the development of Ghana, and are recipients of many awards, citations, and other forms of recognition. These similarities notwithstanding, journalist and former minister of state, Madam Elizabeth Ohene has observed that, while the Sheikh is a man of few words, Father Campbell likes to 'stir things up a bit.' According to her, although he has fitted well into his new country, and has acquired Ghanaian citizenship, 'he has refused to adapt some local habits. He insists on keeping to time.' In other words, he does not tolerate the habit of lateness, and at one time, started Church service at what was supposed to be part of a wedding ceremony before the bridal procession arrived.



Father Campbell with Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a former Anglican Archbishop of South Africa.

Father Campbell with the National Chief Imam, Sheikh Nuhu Shaributu at the residence of the Vice President, Mahamudu Bawumia (left). Father Campbell with the Sheikh and his entourage during his visit to the Christ the King Parish on Easter Sunday, 11th May, 2019 (right).

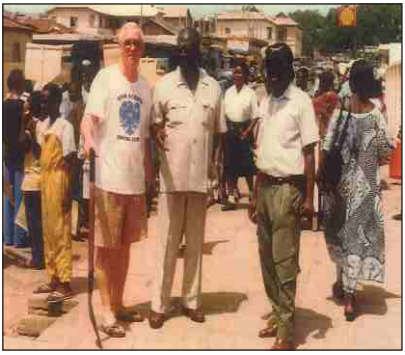
Father (right), The National Chief Imam, Sheikh Osman Nuhu Shaributu (middle), and Vice President Bawumia (left)

Father, together with the Anglican Rev. Sister Bertha, are godparents to John Akrofi, son of Archbishop Akrofi, former Anglican Archbishop of Accra and West Africa. As a close friend of Father, the Archbishop is always ready to support him in his activities. Indeed, Father Campbell's relationship with non-Catholic Christians and non-Christians in general reflects the new spirit of ecumenism advocated by the Catholic Church.

Father Campbell and the Ordinary Ghanaian

Father's relationship with ordinary Ghanaians can be seen in the way in which he immerses himself in the society and interacts with all on equal level. He receives everybody with open arms, but exercises caution where the need be. While at the Sacred Heart Parish at Derby Avenue, he used to extend church services to the fisher-folk at the beach. These Masses were highly patronized partly because the people were already used to them before he arrived. What he was doing for them in that respect, was a continuation of what a former Anglican Bishop of Accra,

Most Rev John Apfuse Anglobin used to offer them. However, following Anglobin's departure in 1950, after having stayed in the Gold Coast from 1919 up to that time, the celebration of these Masses had ceased, until the arrival of Father Campbell. In addition to the celebration of Mass, he also used to bless the boats used for fishing annually, usually at the beginning of the fishing season. During the *Homowo* Festival of the Ga people, he used to join them to eat *kpekpele* (made from fermented cornmeal and eaten with fish and palmnut soup), the traditional food that goes with the Festival. He ate it so many times with the former James Town Chief, Nii Ababio. Also, at the Derby Avenue in Accra, he, together with a former Director of Vanguard Insurance Company and others, formed a society dedicated to environmental cleanliness, called the Environmental Protection Society.



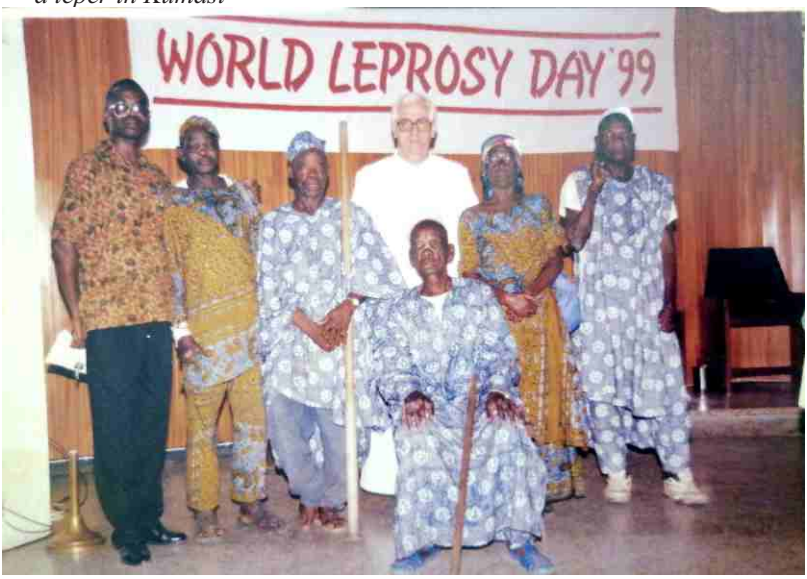
Father interacting and cleaning the streets in Accra with the ordinary people at Derby Avenue.

The Lowly, Underprivileged and the Poor.

One way in which Father can be described is as someone being a bridge between the rich and the poor in Ghanaian society. He receives from the rich and those not necessarily rich, but willing to sacrifice, and distributes to the have-nots.

Father Campbell with a leper in Kumasi

Father Campbell with a cured leper



Father with some cured lepers on World's Leprosy Day in 1999.

Father with some street kids at the Christ the King Church

Father eating with street kids.

Father assisting a cured leper to dress her wounds.

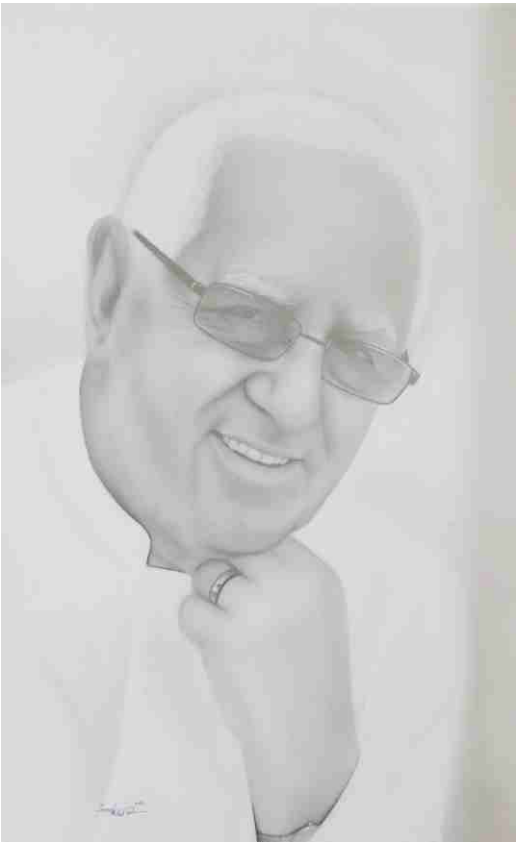
Father and Vice President Bawumia (in smock) interacting with cured lepers from Weija at Christmas party.

Time with the Ladies of the Night

Truly, Father embraces all and sundry. He spares some time to minister to this category of people usually shunned by society, for which reason, many of them prefer to hide their identity when at work. Dressed in his usual white cassock, he adopted the habit of joining the Legionaries at Christ the King to evangelise to these ladies. While some take to their heels as he approaches them, others kneel for prayers for God's protection and booming business. He tells them God loves them as human beings created in His own image, only that He disapproves of their way of life. Donations even come from some of them to support charities in the Parish. The most important aspect of this exercise is that, it has led to repentance and conversions of some of them, who have returned to normal life. Two of such ladies visited the

Parish one Sunday, and while Father Campbell could not make them up, they revealed their identities to him, and thanked him profusely for helping them to return to normal life.

Though his association with them has attracted some criticism, he sees it as his mandate to pray with them and give them hope. He sums up his relationship with them in the following words: “I tell them that the fruit of my works is to get them from the streets. I am not there to judge people. I am there to help people get off the streets”.



CHAPTER THREE

DOING SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL FOR GOD-FATHER CAMPBELL'S PROJECTS IN GHANA

Father Campbell shares the same motto with the late Mother Teresa of Culcatta, which says, 'Doing something beautiful for God'. Influenced partly by his own humble background, he cherishes in improving the life of deprived people in society. In pursuing this goal, he has undertaken many projects and activities, and has to a large extent succeeded in that regard.

Father Campbell the Lepers' Priest

Father's own words on how he got involved with the lepers:

> **"When I was a young priest at Holy Spirit Cathedral in 1974, I was working out one morning in the garden of the church when this leper came with a bag of mangoes as a gift."**
>
> **Father immediately gave out the mangoes as he feared he could get the disease.**
>
> **"But I later told myself this is not right, so, I went out to Weija Leprosarium and I was devastated when I saw the condition of the place. So, I told myself this is what God has told me to do and I decided to help them. So, I started the Lepers' Aid Committee, and we started raising money, having sponsorships to support them."**

("We need more education on leprosy – Father Campbell." The 'Engine Room" series on the Springboard Your Virtual University. www.businessghana.com)

Father Campbell is widely known as the 'Lepers' Priest', not because he is a leper himself, but because of his dedication to the cause of lepers in Ghana, which he started with the lepers at the Weija Leprosarium in Accra. His first encounter with the disease was the period during which he served as the Associate Pastor of the Holy Spirit Cathedral in Accra (1972-1977). There, he met a cured leper who gave him a present of a bag of mangoes, which he took but did not eat. He was afraid of him even though he was a

cured leper. Thereafter, specifically in 1977, he started visiting the cured lepers at Weija, and in the course of time, extended his concern for lepers to Kokofu in the Ashanti Region, Ho in the Volta Region, Ankaful in the Central Region, and most recently to Nkanchina in the Northern Region.

A brief history of the Weija Leprosarium may help to shed more light on the disease in Ghana. The Weija Leprosarium was started in 1949, completed in the first quarter of 1950, and occupied by the first batch of eighty-five (85) lepers in August 1950. What necessitated the construction of the Leprosarium was that, the opinion leaders and residents of one of the suburbs in Accra, Jomo in La, where the La Poly Clinic is currently situated openly objected to having lepers being part of their community. They wanted the lepers to be ostrcised from the community. It was against this background that Mr. Essumantey formed 'The Society of Friends of Lepers' in 1946. His intention for forming the society was to solicit funds for the upkeep of the lepers. Other members of the society were Dr. Wilson (a medical doctor), Mr. Gray (a teacher), Miss Nash (a teacher), and Reverend Sister Barbara, all from Achimota School. The work of the society was given a boost, with the arrival of Dr. McCarthy in the Gold Coast with the aim of eradicating leprosy. As the pressure mounted by the people of Jomo to have the lepers evacuated became intense, Dr. McCarthy decided to convey the lepers to Ankaful in Cape Coast where he had put up a clinic to cure leprosy. This plan could not go through because it was against the custom of the Ga people to have lepers cross the Densu River. Dr. McCarthy was compelled by the situation to find an alternative. This pushed him to acquire a vast piece of land at Weija for that purpose. Together with Rev. Sister Barbara and Bishop Anglobin, they started the construction of the Leprosarium at Weija. His two companions (Rev. Sr. Barbara and Bishop Anglobin) left for the United States before the completion of the lepers' housing project. It was with the assistance of Mr. Koomson and Mr. Tawiah that the first batch of the eighty-five (85) lepers moved into the newly-constructed Leprosarium in August 1950, and were kept under the care of the

Ministry of Health (MOH) and the Department of Social Welfare. Three months following this historic move, Mr. Koomson left for Ankaful. In his absence, some officers took turns to help in running the place, and included Mr. Yorke, Mr. Doddoo, Mr. Hodenyo, Mr. Quaye, Mr. Yemo, and Mr. Darku.

Due to the unfavourable conditions at the Leprosarium, Dr. MacCarthy feared that the inmates could not survive there for long. However, they managed to stay and made a living out of farming by selling their farm produce at the Makola Market. A much harder time came when the lepers were evicted by social welfare officials. According to Madam Gladys Adobea, a former prefect of the Leprosarium, and the last of the first inmates (85) to die in June 2020, while some were sent to prison, others were made to go back to their respective hometowns. All those who were sent to their hometowns were reported to have died within two years. The lepers' case was petitioned to the President, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah by the then care taker of the place, Mr. Quartey. The President ordered for the release of those sent to the prison. They were sent back to the Weija Leprosarium and were supported with monthly stipends. With the death of Mr. Essumantey, the lepers were left on their own. Later, Reverend Sisters Jane and Bonasa also took turns to help them. Rev. Pastor Hesse of the Presbyterian Church further provided aid and encouraged the lepers to look up to God and do the little they could to maintain themselves.

Since 1977, following an encounter with a cured leper, Father Campbell started visiting the Leprosarium. He took up the mantle to support the lepers. With the support of the Lepers' Aid Committee (LAC), an NGO which he formed for that purpose, and other benevolent individuals and organisations, he has been able to maintain the Wieja Leprosarium, as well extend assistance to other leprosaria at Ho, Ankaful, Kokofu and Nkanchina. All the 85 inmates who started the Weija Leprosarium are now deceased.

The Nkanchina Leprosarium with forty-room accommodation was officially commissioned on 30th January

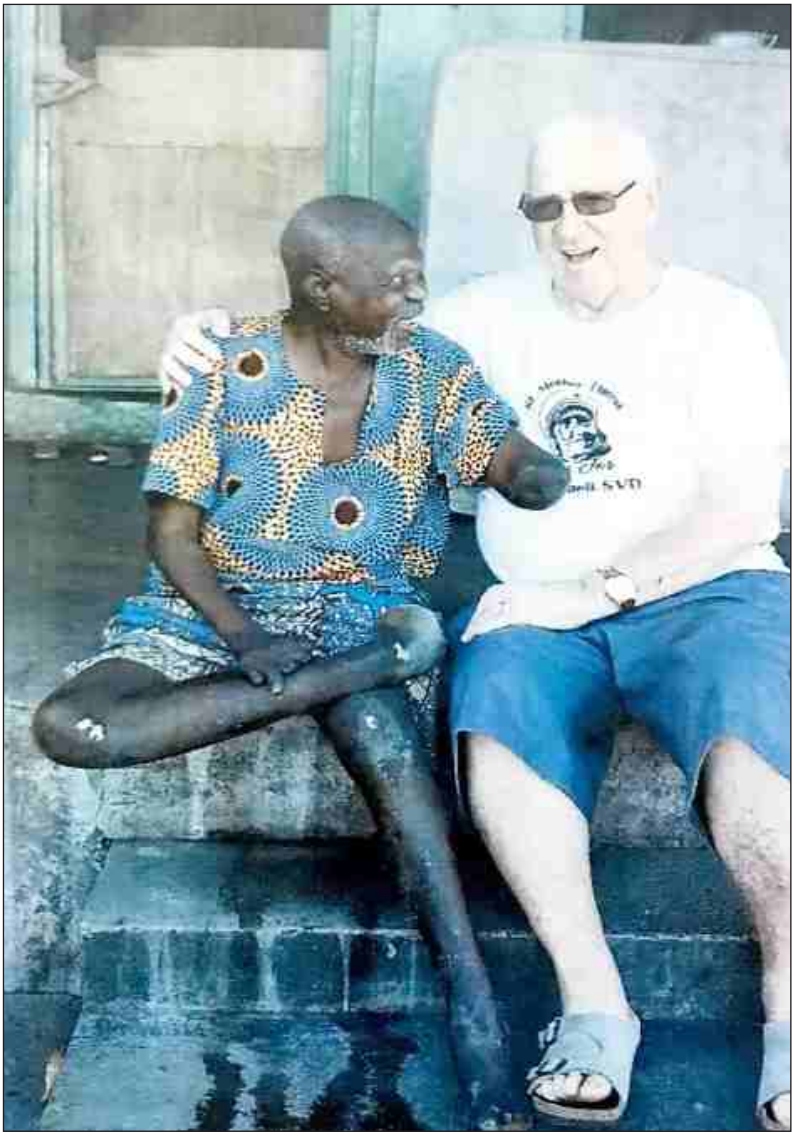
2016 by Father Campbell with support from the District Assemblies Common Fund, LMI Holdings, Ghana International Bank plc, Samara group of Companies, Gapoha among others. On 10th March, 2018, the Leprosarium at the Kokofu General Hospital was also commissioned.

Apart from the existing facilities at the Weija Leprosarium, Father Campbell further added another centre, which included an office, kitchen, living area, nurses' quarters and an infirmary.

A lot of challenges come with work concerning lepers. They are abandoned by their families even when they are completely cured. Very little or no form of financial or material support come from the families of the lepers, and sometimes, their children or grandchildren come to stay and depend on them for upkeep. Though donations come in, these are not enough to cater adequately for the needs of all these people.

Yet when they die, their relatives come to claim their bodies to perform expensive funerals for them. This attitude angers Father Campbell to the extent that, sometimes, he quarrels with their respective family members. He usually insists on defending the dignity of the deceased lepers. When he was once asked of his memorable event with the lepers, he recounted how they were turned away when they went to bury one of the lepers who had died. This happened because they were late, getting to the cemetery at 4 pm, when workers at the Mile 11 cemetery had closed. Since they could not have taken the body back, Father Campbell removed his cassock, grabbed a shovel, and with the help of the others with him, dug the grave and buried the deceased leper.

Father helping to dress the wounds of Madam Mary Toku, a cured leper with her grandchild called Precious. She is occasionally brought to the leprosarium to spend some time with her grandmother, and she calls Father grandpa



Father chatting with Mallam Mahama cured leper

The Lepers' Aid Committee (LAC)

In 1993, Father Campbell founded an NGO, the “Lepers' Aid Committee” (LAC). The Committee is made up of young people with the aim of raising funds to support the lepers. They help with all aspects of the wellbeing of the lepers – feeding, clothing, healthcare, and domestic bills. They also help to bury them when they die. The Committee also aims to integrate the cured lepers into society, and create awareness of the plight of the cured lepers. The policy of the NGO is, 'Give a fish and you feed a person for a day, show him how to fish, and you feed him for a life time.' Some of the activities of the Committee to realise their aims include taking the cured lepers out of their communities to church, field trips twice a year to the Tema Harbour and also to Christmas dinner at the Labadi Beach Hotel, usually at the invitation of the hotel management. Over the years, usually on the occasion of World Leprosy Day, the hotel also gives sumptuous lunches to the lepers.

The LAC has further extended its assistance to the cured lepers at Ho, Ankaful and Kokofu, and Nkanchina. With the support of LAC, Father supports the Ho and Nkanchina Leprosaria with food, clothing and drugs. He has also helped to raise funds to construct a number of boreholes, as well as a multi-skilled centre. In accordance with their policy of making the lepers self-sufficient, the Committee has trained the lepers in a number of income-generating ventures. The have been taught soap making, which they sell and share the profits among themselves. They have also been taught sewing, and how to make door mats, as well as do painting. With assistance from DHL, corn mills have been procured for the cured lepers at Ankaful, Ho and Kokofu. Those at Ankaful have also been trained in grasscutter rearing.

A major challenge affecting the Committee's policy to help the lepers provide for themselves is the lack of patronage for their goods and services. People fear to buy the goods and to employ the services of the lepers because they think they might contract the disease.

Some remarkable events the LAC organizes to raise funds include sponsorship walks, and annual Musical/Choral Concerts. In 2010, the LAC in collaboration with the National Symphony Orchestra, Winneba Youth Choir, Christ the King Parish Mass Choir, Akosua Agyapong and Abstract Group, organized one of such Musical concerts at the Accra International Conference Centre. It was in commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the Weija Leproarium and the 40th Anniversary of priesthood of Father Campbell. The then CEO of the Ghana Chamber of Mines, Dr. Joyce Aryee, was the Chairperson for the occasion, and Mrs. Georgina Theodora Wood, then the Chief Justice of the Republic of Ghana, was the Guest of Honour. Other dignitaries who were present included Archbishop Palmer Buckle, and Most Rev. Leon B. Kalenga, who were the then Metropolitan Archbishop of Accra and the Apostolic Nuncio to Ghana respectively. Also present was Rev. Fr. David Amissah of the Christ the King Parish.

Father with some members of the Lepers' Aid Committee

Following is a list of members of the Lepers Aid Committee:

NAME	NAME
1. Adwoa Duncan	17. Samuel Hammond
2. Andrew Manomey	18. Clara Fosu
3. Barbara Humphrey-Ackumey	19. Patience Abbey
4. Linda Afia Obeng-Manu	20. Clara Ereira
5. Lovelace Adjorlolo	21. William Blay-Miezah
6. Doris Kwaidoo	22. Patrick Benjamin Annan
7. Doris Abdulai	23. Austin Kobbinah
8. Isaac Hashim Ibrahim	24. Paul Gordon
9. Edith Tetteh	25. Kenneth Kwaku Klevor
10. Sis. Justina Ali	26. Emefa Eunice Ansah
11. George Quansah	27. Rita Talata Ayine
12. Leticia Ofinibo	28. Susan Lamisi Ayine
13. Esther Geh	29. Sharon Daplah
14. Martin Kwame Tandoh	
15. Miranda Akua Apenteng	
16. Godfred Hinson	

List of members of the Lepers Aid Committee
(An NGO founded by Father Andrew Campbell, SVD)

The last two of the first 85 inmates, Madam Nancy Ayawo and Madam Gladys Adobea died on 28th July 2016, and 25th June 2020 respectively. During the 60th Anniversary of the Weija Leprosarium in 2010, Madam Adobea who was then the prefect of the place expressed the lepers' gratitude to Father as follows:

> "We thank God for giving us a good shepherd, that is, Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbell. Fr. Campbell sacrifices his life and time for Ghana, children, and we the lepers. In all things, we cry upon him and he answers us. We ask for God's blessings, guidance and long life for Fr. Campbell. May he grow in wisdom, strength and unflinching love for all. God bless Fr. Campbell and the Lepers Aid Committee."

Education and Training of the Youth.

One of the earliest concerns of Father Campbell when he arrived in Ghana centred on education of the youth. He has contributed to this by building three schools. The Derby Avenue Catholic School was only a primary school without a middle school at the time Father Campbell was the Parish Priest of the Sacred Heart

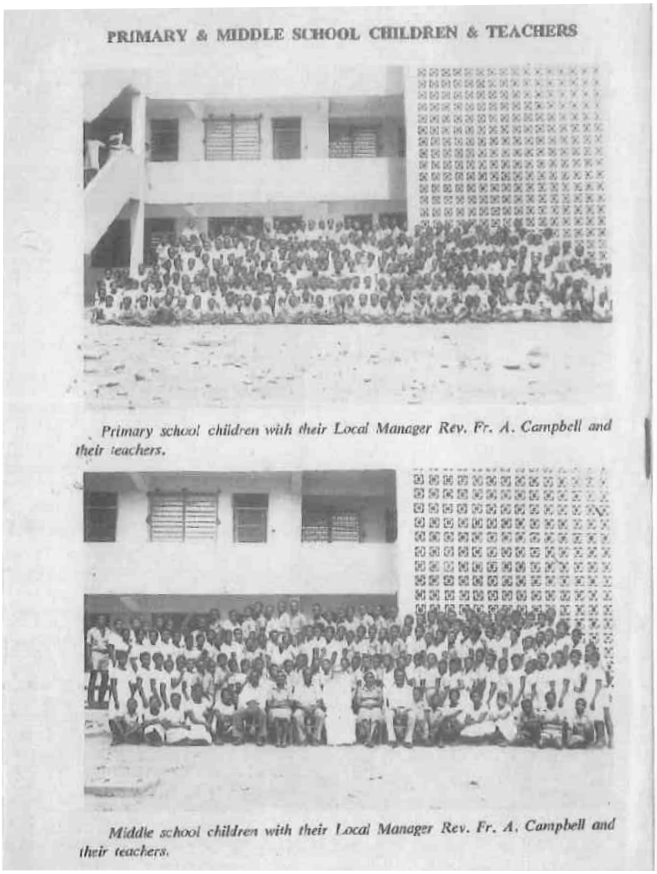
Parish. The pupils after primary six had to go to Mamprobi for their middle school education. To solve the problem, Father Campbell opened a middle school for the pupils to continue with their education after the basic level without having to move to different schools.

In 1980, he proceeded to establish the Sacred Heart Vocational Institute for poor and needy students in Accra Central. It is however open to all Ghanaians of all faiths. He started with twenty-two (22) students, ten (10) studied secretarial services while twelve (12) studied dressmaking, and was the first Principal of the School from 1980-1987. Subjects then taught at the Institute included English Language, Shorthand and Typing, Business Methods (Office Practice), Business Mathematics and Commerce, and Dress-making.

In addition to these, Father has personally organised retreats for students at the Senior High School (SHS) and tertiary levels. He has done this continuously for the students of St. Roses Girls' SHS at Akwatia for about thirty-five years. He spends a whole week with the students during such retreats, and deals with them class by class, touching on important topics such as boy/girl relationships, the effects of abortion, virginity, prayer, forgiveness, vocations and professions, just to mention a few. Usually at the end of the retreats, some of the students promise to remain virgins until they marry. Some of those who have completed school and are in good positions make donations to Father for his humanitarian works. For example, on 18th June, 2020, one St. Rose's girl in the United Kingdom gave Father a cash donation of five hundred pounds for the Soup Kitchen. The St. Rose's Old Girls' Association also contributed to the renovation of the Andrew Campbell Ward at the Princess Marie Louise Hospital, which caters for children with protein deficiency *(kwashiokor*) at the cost of thirty-two thousand Ghana Cedis. The impact of these retreats has been tremendous, with some students keeping up correspondence with Father Campbell many years after completing school. Other institutions involved in these retreats include St. Peter's SHS (Nkwatia) and St. Mary's

SHS (Accra)

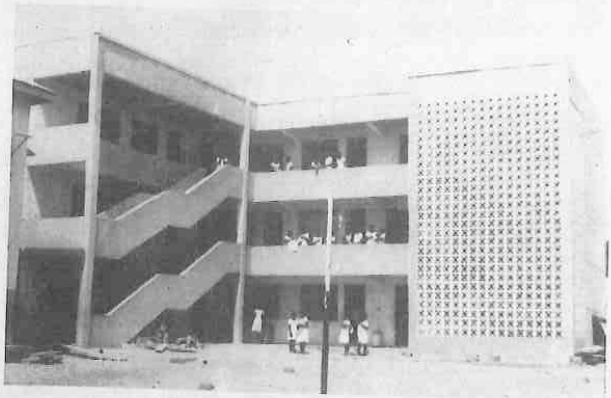
Father has also built a two-storey classroom block for the St. John Bosco School at Tema Community Two and walled its entire boundary. With assistance from his friends abroad, he sponsors over one hundred (100) needy students from nursery to the university level.



Primary school children with their teachers and Father Campbell (top). Middle school with their teachers and Father Campbell (bottom). The Middle school was started by him to stop pupils from moving to other schools after completing primary six.

Pioneer students of Sacred Heart Vocational Institute with their Principal Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbell, Mr. Yevu, Shorthand/typing teacher, Miss E. Arthur Dressmaking teacher.

THE NEW EDUCATIONAL COMPLEX SACRED HEART CHURCH



Father Campbell, Principal of the School (seated middle) with pioneer students of Sacred Heart Vocational Institute, Mr. Yevu, Shorthand/Typing teacher (seated third from left), and Miss E. Arthur, Dressmaking teacher (seated fifth from left).

Prison Chaplaincy

As the Catholic chaplain to James Camp Prison from 1972-1976, and to James Fort and Ussher Fort from 1977-1997, Father Campbell instilled hope and love in the inmates of these prisons. He also prepared those condemned to death for firing squad. During the lean years of the early 1980s, he used to organize parishioners to cook food each Saturday for the prisoners of both the James Fort and Usher Prisons. He held Holy Mass for them on Wednesdays, and took the sick ones under armed guard for medical care at the Korle Bu Hospital.

Families of some detainees also benefited from his benevolence. Many of the prisoners showed their gratitude in various ways. One of them with excellent skills in Art, after gaining his freedom, went to the Sacred Heart Church, where Father Campbell was in charge, and put up a beautiful art work depicting the Judgement Day just above the Sanctuary. Another prisoner decided to go on strike and denounced God when his expectation to be released from prison within a week was not realized. He stopped participating in Church service, and gave his Bible, rosary and hymn book to former minister of state in the Second and Fourth Republics, Mr. J. H. Mensah (he was a political prisoner). On the eighth (8th) day of December, which was this man's birthday, and also marks the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, an important feast day in the Catholic Church in memory of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the man decided to go to Church. While at Church, sitting on the front pew, he received a birthday gift sent by his daughter in London. The gift was a rosary. This rekindled his faith, making him call off his strike, and returned to normal prison life. When he was eventually released one week after his return to Church, he visited Father Campbell with a plea for him to intervene for God to forgive him for denouncing Him. Of course, Father acted accordingly, setting the man at ease and happy.

According to Father, the prison experience really humbled him. It was there he met some of his good friends. Most of these friends are political figures, who, since then, have

remained his close friends, and who readily come or came to his aid when he needs or needed help. Some of them include Ignatius Kutu Acheampong, Mr. J. H. Mensah and Paa Willie (all three deceased), Sam Okudjeto and other Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) convicts.

Princess Marie Louise Children's Hospital

It is appropriate to give a brief history of the Princess Marie Louise Children's Hospital (PMLCH) before proceeding with an account of Father Campbell's contribution to its development. It is the only children's hospital in the whole of Ghana, located in Accra in the Ashiedu Keteke Sub Metro of the Greater Accra Region. Its origin can be traced to 1915, when an eminent Gold Coast physician and statesman, Dr. F. V. Nanka-Bruce brought the attention of the government to the need for a specialist children hospital during a debate session of the Gold Coast Legislative Council. This prompting was necessitated by the high infant and maternal mortality rate in the then Gold Coast Colony. In 1925, a decade following this move, Sir Gordon Guggisberg, in his capacity as the Governor of the Gold Coast, put the move into action. His decision to build the children's hospital coincided with the visit of Her Royal Highness Princess Marie Loiuse, granddaughter of Queen Victoria, then Queen of the British Empire to the Gold Coast. It was during this visit that the Princess laid the foundation stone for the children's hospital. Consequently, the hospital was named after her when it was commissioned in 1926. Since then, it has fulfilled its mandate by catering for children up to eighteen (18) years of age with various forms of illnesses in the Ashiedu Keteke Sub Metro and beyond. Reputable medical personnel have been associated with the PMLCH, one being Dr. Cecily Williams from Oxford University. She carried out a groundbreaking study in nutritional disorders in children which resulted in a remarkable contribution that led to the identification of Protein Deficiency Syndrome, known locally as Kwashiorkor. This brought the PMLCH and the Gold Coast

to the limelight internationally, when the Hospital published it in 1933.

In 1982, Father was appointed a member of the Management Committee the PMLCH, and was further appointed the Board Chairman of the Management Committee of the same Hospital in September 1986, a position he has held up to date. Since taking up these appointments, he has thrown his weight behind the development of the Hospital in many ways. He has been able to look for funds to complete two separate buildings; a four and three storey buildings respectively. He achieved this with assistance from certain banks, institutions and friends. Some of these benefactors and their contributions include: Protégé Real Estates Investors (₵76, 000), Mantra Ghana Limited (₵10, 000), Boeing (₵10,000) Domod Aluminium Products, producers of cooking utensils and galvanized roofing sheets, provided roofing sheets, and PW Contractors, a British Company, supplied stones and sand needed for the construction. One individual, a British man, Mr. Anthony Weeks, who lost his son when he served with the British Army in the Gold Coast donated an amount of £ 40, 000 as seed money towards the project. Others include the then Barclays Bank (now Absa), Mobile Communication Network (MTN), Agricultural Development Bank (ADB), Cal Bank, personal donation from President J. A. Kufuor and Mr. Isaac Osei, then CEO of Cocobod.

A fifteen-member Building Committee was constituted to see to the construction of the three-storey surgical theatre and intensive care unit. With Father Campbell as the Chairman, membership came from various professional groups in the construction industry, and included Mr. John Awuah, Mr. Patrick Okoto, Mrs. Maame Yaa Nyarko, Mr. Samuel Nortey, Mr. Albert Asante, Mr. Joseph Baah, Mr. M. G. Tackey, Mrs. Agnes Nkrumah, Mr. Eric Sefah, Mrs. Theresa Yankah, Mr Kwasi Amon-Boahin, Mr.s Evelyn Nelson-Frimpong, Mr. Mark a. Taylor, and Mr. Fred Kwofie. Mrs. Theresa Yankah, (an architect), and Ft. Lt. Tackey, (an engineer), provided their

services free of charge.

In May 2009, work on the three storey building made up of two theatres and an intensive care unit started, and was completed in September, 2011. Named after Father Campbell, the three-storey building was commissioned by Mr. K. B. Asante, a retired Diplomat, and blessed by the then Apostolic Nuncio to Ghana, Most Rev. Leon B. Kalenga, who was assisted by Archbishop Palmer Buckle, the then Metropolitan Archbishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Accra. Father Campbell petitioned Tullow Oil for equipment, and it yielded an amount of two million US dollars to procure equipment for the two theatres, the intensive care unit and an emergency unit. So far about two thousand, seven hundred (2,700) operations have been performed in the theatre. Through petitioning the then First Lady of the Republic of Ghana, Mrs. Lordina Mahama, the Hospital was given an ambulance. Through his assistance, the Hospital was also provided with a paediatrician, after it had been without one for a period of about thirty years. In addition to all these, Father Campbell further acquired two generators and established a website for the Hospital. Following is a list of corporate groups and individuals who contributed to the PMLCH project.

Corporate Groups	Individuals
1. Government of Ghana	30. Nana Akufo-Addo
2. Scancom Ghana Limited (Operator of MTN Ghana)	31. Mr. John Paynter (Standard Chartered Bank, UK)
3. Domod Company Limited	32. Mr. Dave Mclean
4. Ghana Cocoa Board	33.. Mr. Patrick Okoto – Engineer
5. Barclays Bank (now Absa), Ghana Limited	34.. Miss Theresa Yankah – Architect
6. Duraplast Ghana Limited	35. Mr. Frank Boamah – Quantity Surveyor
7. Coconut Grove Regency Hotel	36. Lt. G. Tackey – Project Supervisor
8. Gold Coast Securities	37. Miss Abena Amoah
9. Ghana Growth Fund	38. Dr. and Mrs. Narh (Nabita Hospital)
10. Tropical Cables and Conductor Limited	39. Mr. and Mrs. Chris Chinebuah
11. Reroy Cables Ghana Limited	40. Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Osei
12. Vanguard Assurance Company Limited	41. Hon. Mr. and Mrs. P. V. Obeng
13. DeSimone Contractors	42. Mr. and Mr. A. A. Adjavon
14. Sikkens Paints	43. Prof. Kwabena Frimpong Boateng
15. St. Roses Old Students Association (ROSA)	44. Mr. Anthony Weeks (British)
16. Knights and Ladies of Marshall	
17. Air Namibia	
18. Cal Bank Limited	
19. Trasacco Ghana Limited	
20. Agricultural Development Bank	
21. Bank of Ghana	
22. Standard Chartered Bank Limited	
23. PW Ghana	
24. UT Bank	
25. HFC Bank	
26. Fidelity Bank	
27. Protégo- Real Estates Investors	
28. Brit School, UK	
29. Worley Parsons Atlantic Ltd	

List of Contributors to PMLCH Project

Father Campbell with some staff of the PMLCH in 1977.

Father assisting in the theatre at the PMLCH.

Care for the Aged and the Sick

Father Campbell's care for the vulnerable in Ghanaian society led him into being a founding member of Help Age Ghana on the 25th of October, 1988. He established the first Day Care Centre for the Aged at Derby Avenue in Accra. He also started a Day Care Centre for the Aged and HIV patients in Tema on a piece of land donated by the Tema Development Corporation. The land was blessed by Archbishop Andoh in 2007.

Promoting Rural Development

Kordiabe, a deprived community in the Dangbe District which is one of the four rural stations under the Good Shepherd Parish, Tema Community Two is the focus of Father Campbell's attention on rural development. When he was appointed the Parish Priest of the place, he quickly identified it as a deprived area and turned his attention to developing it and its inhabitants.

He has helped to renovate their primary school, built a library, computer laboratory, a clinic, and bungalows for medical personnel. In December 2010, he donated a maternity block to the Clinic on the occasion of his 40th anniversary as priest. Over seven thousand patients underwent treatment at the health facility in the first year of its existence. It needs to be mentioned that it was the idea of Archbishop Dominic Kwadwo Andoh to build a clinic at Kordiabe. He approached Father to execute the task. The parishioners of the Good Shepherd Catholic Church were very supportive of the establishment of the Clinic. The parishioners of Christ the King in Accra also made generous contributions, as well as Dalex Finance, Consultants, Architects among others.

About eighty orphans whose state of being is the result of the death of their parents through HIV/AIDS are also being catered for through Father's sources of funding. Also, a dam which was constructed by the former military regime under General Acheampong was rehabilitated at the cost of one billion, one hundred old Ghana cedis with financial support from an

NGO in Sweden and the Irish government. The dam irrigates about 250 acres of land for the inhabitants of Kordiabe to undertake farming. The people of Kordiabe cultivate tomatoes, pepper and other vegetables which they sell at the Tema market to make a livelihood. Father Campbell also started a cooperative, and introduced fish farming to the people by starting with ten thousand tilapias.

These services provided are enjoyed by all inhabitants of Kordiabe with a population of 2, 356 by the year 2008, according to the 2000 population and housing census. Only about 100 of this number were Catholics circa 2008, with associations in the Church namely, Christian Mothers Association (CMA), Catholic Fathers Association (CFA), Catholic Youth Organisation (CYO), Knights and Ladies of the Altar of the Volta, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Also attached to the St. Andrews Hospital is an Adoration Room, and the Holy Family Convent. Other Christian denominations at Kordiabe include the Methodist, Presbyterian, Assemblies of God, Baptist, Church of Pentecost, Adventist, Divine Church, Bethel Healing Church, and Olumba-Olumba Church.

Born and bred in Dublin, and having stayed in the national capital for all his life in Ghana, Fr. Campbell can best be described as a'city guy', yet he has the desire to help rural dwellers, particularly those living in deprived conditions, as can be testified by his involvement with the people of Kordiabe. The inhabitants have not failed to show their appreciation to the Catholic Church. In a speech delivered on the 23rd celebration of the Dangme West District Farmers Day in the Mla Lekpje Division of the Se Traditional Area at Kordiabe on Friday, the 7th of December, 2007, Odeopeor Mantey Kodjoe Ahwa IV, the Mla Lekpeje Manste, and the President of the Mla Lekpeje Divisional Council of Chiefs and Queen Mothers commended the Catholic Archdiocese of Accra, spearheaded by the Good Shepherd Parish under the leadership of Father Campbell for bringing progress to the village.

During the farewell Mass for Father Campbell after serving for twelve (12) years at the Good Shepherd Church at Tema Community Two, representatives of Kordiabe were among the large number of people to grace the occasion, and seized the opportunity to announce to the gathering that, the Chief and people of Kordiabe had conferred the title 'Nene Biantey I' (a development chief) on Father Campbell, in recognition of his numerous contributions towards the development of the place.

Digging a foundation at the PMLCH.

Checking on projects at Kordiabe.

Care for People Living in the Street and the Urban Poor- Mother Theresa Soup Kitchen

On 18th January 2016, Father Campbell started the Christ the King Soup Kitchen Project. It was officially opened on the 4th of November, 2016, to support the poor and the needy at Christ the King Parish and its environs in Accra. The Kitchen provides meals, clothes and training for poor children on the streets of Accra. The special Guest Speaker for the occasion was the then Second Lady of the Republic of Ghana (2012-2016), Her Excellency, Mrs. Matilda Amissah-Arthur. Her donation to the Soup Kitchen included bags of rice, a box of vegetable oil, baskets of pawpaw, watermelon, oranges, tubers of yam, and a sheep. The main focus of the project is to help the poor and the needy to discover sustainable lifestyles, and to work to get the homeless to integrate with their families. This expectation is to be realised in collaboration with social workers and other

supporting professional staff. Parishioners of the Christ the King Parish are encouraged to support the project with their professional abilities, time, and in cash or in kind. The kitchen opens seven days a week from 7 am-daily.

Along with the Soup Kitchen Project is also the Under the Bridge Project which feeds the homeless with meals three times a week.

Commissioning of Christ the King Soup Kitchen on 4th November, 2016 (left). Father with the former Second Lady, Mrs, Matilda Amissah-Arthur (second from right). and others during the 4th Anniversary of the Christ the King Soup Kitchen (right).

During the 5th Anniversary of the Christ the King Soup Kitchen held on the 18th of January 2021 at the Christ the King Parish, the Vice-President joined with Father as the Special Guest to commemorate the event. During the occasion, Father Campbell observed that the Kitchen by that time, had been feeding up to 200 children daily, had fed over 300,000 since its inception, and during the Covid –19 lockdown in Accra in 2020, it used to feed over 800 street children daily. Father Campbell further annouced that the Soup Kitchen in partnership with the Department of Social Welfare were collaborating to acquire a parcel of land at Osu in Accra to construct a social centre for street children in the Accra Metropolis. The Vice-President immediately responded with a pledge of GH ₵ 100, 000 for the new project at Osu. He further promised an education sponsorship package for any four street children who wished to continue with their education, and urged individuals and corporate groups to do same for such underprivileged children. A former Chief Justice of Ghana, Justice Sophia Akuffo also pledged to mentor some of beneficiaries of the Soup Kitchen. In early 2021, the President, Nana Akufo Addo and his wife went to worship with the Christ the King Church where he dontaed GH₵ 200, 000 towards the project and another GH ₵ 20, 000 to support the Parish. The Speaker of Ghana's Parliament, Honourable Alban Bagbin also donated GH₵ 50, 000 to the Soup Kitchen.

Coping in the Era of Covid-19

For work that has to do with crowds and multitudes of people, the outbreak of Covid-19 has been very challenging to Father Campbell as a ministering priest, and as a social worker. The Covid-19 disease, also known as Coronavirus is a disease which broke out in Wuhan, a city in China, in the last quarter of 2019. By the end of the first quarter of 2020, the disease had spread to most countries in the world. The fast spread of the disease and the dire consequences accompanying it, resulted in the initiation of drastic measures globally to deal with the situation. High death rates in countries such as the USA, Italy, Spain, Britain and other

parts of Europe called for lockdowns and working from home, not only in these countries, but in most countries across the world, including Ghana. Institutions of learning (schools), places of worship (churches and mosques), and other public places/institutions were all kept shut for a while. In Ghana, Father Campbell was among a selected group of religious leaders who were called by the President, Nana Akufo-Addo to the seat of government, the Jubilee House, to pray for the nation.

The drastic measures adopted to deal with the spread of the disease has had a telling effect on the Campbell projects in aid of the vulnerable in the city. The Soup Kitchen in particular, is partly supported by the weekday Masses offerings and donations from Christ the King Parish, and other philanthropists. However, the partial lockdown of Greater Accra for about a month and other Covid-19 protocols, such as social distancing have negatively affected the smooth running of the Soup Kitchen. With the lifting of the lockdown, but limting Mass attendance to a small number of people, offerings have dwindled and donations have also reduced because the entire economy is generally brought down because of the impact of the Covid-19.

Father Campbell (seated second from left on front row) among the religious invited to pray for the nation at the outbreak of Covid-19.

President Akufo-Addo addressing the religious with Father Campbell seated at the extreme right corner.

CHAPTER FOUR

THE OTHER SIDES OF NII LANTE

Inspiration

Father Campbell draws inspiration from all the Saints, but he has a special attachment to two modern Catholic Saints: Padre Pio and Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Both are known for their works of charity. Padre Pio also had the gift of healing. Padre Pio, born as Francesco Forgione in the town of Pietrilcina on 25th May, 1887, was an Italian Catholic priest. He is reported to have consecrated himself to Jesus at the age of five, and at age fifteen, he became a member of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars who are bound by a life of self-denial characterized by poverty and simpleness. He adopted the name Pio in honour of St. Pius I. Apart from his works of charity and healing as signs of his holiness, he is also reported to have experienced the stigmata (wounds which are similar to that experienced by Christ during his Crucifixion).

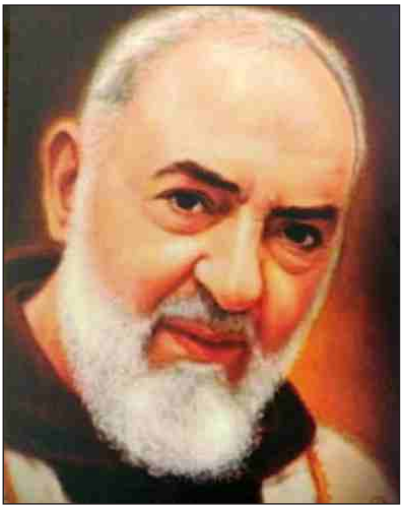
Once, a young Polish Catholic priest, by name Carol Wojtyla visited Padre Pio, and was told by him that he would lead the Catholic Church in the future. After the death of Padre Pio on 23rd September 1968, this Polish priest (Carol Wojtyla) would become Pope John Paul II on 16th October 1978, would beatify Padre Pio on 2nd May 1999, and would be the same person again to canonise him on 6th June 2002.

Mother Teresa was born as Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu in the Albanian town of Skopje on 26th August, 1910. Her father died when she was only eight, and her parish, the Jesuit Parish of the Sacred Heart helped in her religious formation. She joined the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary - IBVM (also known as the Loreto Sisters) in Ireland for her religious formation, adopting the name, Sister Mary Theresa. She left for India in 1929, made her first vows in May 1931, and her Final Profession of Vows on 24th May, 1937, and like Padre Pio, called herself the 'spouse of Jesus,' consecrating herself to Jesus for life.

She had been teaching history and geography at St. Mary's School for Girls when she arrived in India. However, in 1946, she had a deep encounter with Christ exhorting her to charter a cause of charity for the poorest of the poor. After a period of two years of testing and discernment, she started her mission with the cooperation of the Vatican. Dressed for the first time in her habit of white, blue-bordered sari, she departed from her Loreto Convent on 17th August, 1948, and moved into the world of the poor. After a short course to prepare her for her mission with the Medical Mission Sisters in Patna, she returned to Calcutta, stayed temporarily with the Little Sisters, and finally left for the slums. Her new congregation of the Missionaries of Charity was officially established on 7th October, 1950. By the 1990s, the Missionaries of Charity had spread to several countries across the continents, reaching out to the needy of every kind – the poor, the sick, the hungry, unwanted, unloved, and uncared for. Other congregations borne out of the Missionaries of Charity include Missionaries of Charity Brothers (1963), Contemplative Branch of the Sisters (1976), the Contemplative Branch of the Brothers (1979), and Missionaries of Charity Fathers (1984). Others include the Lay Missionaries of Charity, and the Corpus Christi Movement for Priests (1981).

Mother Teresa, as she was popularly called, died on 5th September, 1997. She was beatified by Pope John Paul II on 19th October, 2003, and canonized by the same Pope on 4th September 2016.

Father Campbell was in Rome to witness to her canonization. His trip to Rome was sponsored by the parishioners of Christ the King Parish as part of his 70th birthday package.



Padre Pio

Mother Teresa

Devotions

Just as Father Campbell draws inspiration from all the Saints, but is specially attached to a few, so does the same rule apply to his relationship with the numerous devotions in the Catholic Church. Eucharistic Adoration is one of the means by which Father strengthens himself. It is the act of praying before Jesus Christ during which the Blessed Sacrament (the Body of Christ) is displayed on a small stand called monstrance. It is a Catholic religious practice that is derived from Mark chapter four, verse thirty-seven (Mark 4: 37) where Jesus calls on His disciples to spend one hour with Him. Indeed, it can best be described as ONE – ON- ONE with Christ, because it is a moment of silence with Christ. No form of communication is allowed in the Adoration Room or Centre, even though many people may have congregated there at the same time. Everyone does his/her communication with Christ silently and leaves without talking to anyone. Father Campbell does Eucharistic Adoration for a duration of one hour in each day. He encourages others to do same not only by word, but by action, and has erected Adoration Centres/Rooms in all the parishes he has served. It was among the first he built for the Christ the King Parish, when he assumed

duty as the Parish priest in 2009. He has written some words of inspiration within this beautiful religious edifice to guide those who visit the place. Following are a few of some of these inspirational quotes:

> *1. Be assured that whatever you decide the Lord will be very pleased with you and love you very much. Remember that the mere fact that you have made the effort to come to Adoration is a great prayer of faith and a wonderful witness to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Eucharist. The most important thing is to experience the power and peace of an hour with Jesus each week in the Eucharistic Adoration.*
>
> *2. Come along and meet Jesus in the Adoration Chapel and avail yourself of all the graces and blessings that He wants to pour out on you and your family. Talk to Him about your joys, your sorrows, and your needs. Invite others to join you there.*

The Adoration Chapel at Christ the King is patronized by both Catholics and non-Catholics. It is opened from 4 am – 10 pm each day.

Praying the Rosary is another passion of Father. This was inculcated in him in childhood by his parents. He prays the Joyful Mysteries, which are concerned with the circumstances surrounding the conception and birth of Christ on Mondays and Saturdays. On Tuesdays and Fridays, he prays the Sorrowful Mysteries which centre on the Passion and Crucifixion of Christ. He prays the Luminous Mysteries or Mysteries of Light on Thursdays which reflect on the Public Ministry of Christ, and the Glorious Mysteries which reflect on the Resurrection and its aftermath on Wednesdays and Sundays. He therefore prays the Rosary strictly according to the norms surrounding it as laid down by the Catholic Church. It should be noted that the Mysteries of Light was added to the three existing ones by Pope St. John Paul II. This makes the Rosary a complete package of all

the events surrounding Christ from his conception to the Resurrection through to his Ascension into heaven. Indeed, a kind of a summary of the Gospel.

Father is also devoted to praying the Divine Mercy Prayer. This prayer was revealed to the Church through a Polish Nun, by name Faustina Kowalska (Maria Faustina Kowalska) between 1930 and 1938. On several occasions, she received visions of Christ in which she was instructed to carry the assurance of Christ's immeasurable and unfathomable love for humankind to the world. Though she was not literate, she was able to describe with great precision the way Christ appeared to her in the visions – Christ with blood and water gushing forth from His side, depicting that which poured out when He was pierced with a lance on the Cross by a soldier during his Crucifixion. The Polish Realistic painter, Eugene Kazimierowski produced the first portrait of Christ in 1934 according to Blessed Faustina's description, and it has been replicated by others over time. Such individual revelations do not easily gain credence and endorsement by the Church, but with time, and through continuous interrogation and investigation, guided by divine inspiration, the authenticity of its Divine origin was established. Over the years, the prayers and devotions derived from it have spread throughout the Catholic world, and many have testified to the efficacy of praying them. Two examples may suffice here. When Poland came under the siege of the Nazis during the Second World War, Rev, Fr. Joseph Jarzebowski was among many Poles who faced death threats by the Germans. Though initially skeptical about people's experience with the Divine Mercy, he resorted to praying it, asking God to take him to safety in America, with a pledge to spread the Devotion, once he was saved. Journeying from Poland in February 1941, through Lithuania, Russia, Siberia, Vladivostok, and Japan, he arrived safely in America in May the same year, and attributed the success of his long, winding journey to the miracle of the Divine Mercy. He kept his word by joining his fellow Congregation of Marians of the Immaculate

Conception in America to propagate the Divine Mercy Devotion. In 1944, they established the "Mercy of God Apostolate", which currently accommodates the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy and the Marian Helpers Centre on Eden Hill in Stockbridge, MA.

Another good example is that of Mr. Raphael A. Kumah, a devout Catholic of the Catholic Archdiocese of Accra. He survived two bouts of stroke, and attributed his miraculous healing in both cases to God's intervention when he turned to only His Divine Mercy. In his appreciation to God, he reproduced an earlier work on the Divine Mercy by Madam Ellen Miriam Angela Jonah in the form of a booklet to propagate it for the benefit of others.

Father Campbell has placed this beautiful portrait of Christ as revealed to Blessed Faustina at various places that he frequents, or, are of interest to him, such as his office, and at the entrance of the Father Andrew Campbell Ward at the Princess Marie Louise Hospital in Accra. He also gifts the portrait to individuals and groups, an example being one he presented to President Nana Akufo Addo during a visit to him. He performs these acts of displaying and gifting the portrait of Christ to remind himself of God's great mercy and love for not only him, but to the entire human race.

Father Campbell presenting the Divine Mercy portrait to President Akufo-Addo during a visit to him with members of his parish to the Presidency (left), and another picture with him (right).

Father Campbell with the President Akufo-Addo

Pastimes and a Day in the Life of Nii Lantey – Joys and Sorrows of Priesthood

Father Campbell loves watching and playing football, reading, swimming, walking and listening to music. When he arrived in 1971, one of his problems was the Ghanaian foods, but he learnt to eat most Ghanaian foods over the years, such as *fufu*, *kenkey*, *akple*, *tuo-zaafi* among others. His favourite among the lot is *fufu* with groundnut soup, which he eats twice a week. He also enjoys boiled green plantain with *nkontomire* stew, which he prepared as a host on "Asanka Delight Show" on TV3 in 2010. So, he has not only learnt to eat the foods, but also prepare some.

Father starts his day at 4: 00 am with body exercises, and spends an hour with the Blessed Sacrament. Other prayers and devotions follow at different times in the day. He may say morning, noon or vigil (evening) Mass according to the schedules among the priests in the parish when he worked with other priests while in active service in the various parishes. He works and receives visitors in his office within the parish when he is not engaged in any activity outside of the parish. The visitors could be benefactors, people in need (material, spiritual and other needs), or other members of the clergy and the religious visiting the parish. A lot of challenges come with interacting with this wide range of people. Apart from the problem of insecurity, some may not be genuinely in need.

Sometimes, some fraudsters take advantage of his openness and willingness to receive all to dupe him. On one occasion, a young man came as a person in need. While a conversation was ongoing between them, Father could see that he was attempting to steal his phone which he had placed closer to the edge of the opposite side of the table, where the visitor in need was seated, facing him. Pretending to not see what was happening, Father got up as if to do something, but grabbed him in the act as he had tried to pick up the phone. Being caught in the act, he tried to bolt away, and being more energetic, managed to shove Father aside, but workers in the outer room and the security prevented him from getting away. As Father would

normally do, he set him free, admonishing him to go and sin more.

Again, another young man visited and said he had travelled to Accra from somewhere in one of the regions of Ghana, but was stranded in Accra as he had ran short of money to go back. Upon enquiry by Father of his identity, he identified himself with some people whom he asked Father to contact for evidence after giving him their phone number. Father did the call right away, but the people said they did not know such person. Apparently, he had come to lie to get some money from Father, but his plan failed and he had to go without getting anything from him.

At another time, a woman by name Mary Agbeko visited Father Campbell with a problem concerning her son called Raymond Tuvi, who was then working as a pre-tertiary national service person. While carrying out this duty in a remote village in the Western Region, Raymond became afflicted with a strange illness. He developed an unstable mental state accompanied by suicidal tendencies. Just about the same time, he was shortlisted for an interview to gain admission into the University of Ghana Medical School. While on admission at the Accra Psychiatric Hospital for treatment, his mother decided to visit Father Campbell for spiritual intervention. Father followed up to administer the Sacrament of healing, and Raymond's health was restored.

Ignorance is bliss indeed. Father was rumoured to have died at one time while carrying out a priestly duty. This was during a procession at a *Corpus Christi* celebration at Jamestown. Since the Body of Christ was carried in a royal fashion, the non-Catholics misunderstood it and started spreading rumours that the Parish Priest had died, and the corpse displayed on a palanquin. As the procession approached the Chief's Palace, the people believed the corpse was being carried along to show to the Chief. However, Nii Ayi Bonte allayed the fears of the people by explaining the essence of the procession and the celebration. Catholics celebrate the Feast of *Corpus*

Christi in remembrance of the Kingship of Jesus Christ. Part of the celebration used to be an outdoor event, marked by a procession along the streets in town, but partly due to differences in weather conditions across the world, making it impossible for some people to have the outdoor session, it is now wholly held inside the Churches everywhere.

These few experiences of Father Campbell throw light on the work of ministers of religion. The work comes with trying moments, but other experiences bring joy to both the flock and their shepherds.

Father preparing boiled green plantain (ampesi)and nkontomire stew as a guest on Asanka Delight Show on TV 3 in 2010.

Campbell Quotes – His Words Tell it All

One's words and actions reflect one's thoughts, and reveal much of such person. Following are some sayings of Father Campbell which have been culled from his numerous interviews, speeches, reports and news items about him in both the print and electronic media.

'I live the life of Christ, If Christ lives in you, and you in him, you cannot afford to be arrogant. You must be humble.'

'If you have made your vows, whether as a priest, or a lay person, whether as a married man or married woman, be faithful to your vows.'

'When I'm with the prostitutes and the rest, and they stand in front of me, and I want to pray for them, I keep m eyes away, and pray for them. I don't start looking down.'

'I tell people to live a good, clean, transparent and honest life. I'm always talking on honesty and transparency. How can I stand up in the pulpit and ask people to be transparent if I am not transparent?'

'I mixed around with many girls and many boys, but I knew I wanted to be that priest.'

'Money won't bring you happiness. Sex won't bring you happiness. Power won't bring you happiness.'

I'm a pencil in God's Hands.'

Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love.

Continue supporting the poor, they don't have anybody…Continue helping these marginalized people so they

feel loved and cared for.

I'm referred to as the lepers' priest and I have been told I'm a perpetual beggar.

Being with the people without discrimination, encouraging them, bringing smiles, happiness and joy to them, is the mandate of every Christian including Priests.

If society continues to reject the healed lepers, it has far reaching consequences on what is going on at the leprosarium. Let us remove the stigmatization the lepers go through.

Sick and disabled people are precious treasures of the Church. They are a spiritual resource, an asset to every Christian Community. Do not be ashamed of being a precious treasure of the Church.

These people have rights and have to be taken care of. These people have to be treated with dignity. The notion that once a leper is always a leper is not true.

If you are ever feeling down and out and you go to see the lepers, you will come back a different person. They have so much hope and they are grateful for the little they have materially. I see them as a sign of hope and encouragement, a blessing for our society. They are our treasure because they bring out the good in other people.

Doing something beautiful for God entails helping the children on the street, helping the leper in the leprosarium and helping the poor and needy in the society.

It's a gospel message to take care of the poor, make real friends with the poor. Romans 12 verse 13 says make real friends with the poor and it means real friends.

The materialistic nature of humans has made them unable to show love to one another.

If every family could adopt maybe a leper for Christmas or a poor family for Christmas, it will do something special. That's how we can bring love to the world. We are thinking of ourselves, we are thinking of socialization and material needs, one thing or the other. We are not thinking enough of our neighbor.

Take care of the poor and the needy and be able to do something beautiful for God by helping them in a practical way than just putting hands in the pocket to give them money.

Don't take life for granted, because all of us are going to die one day.

My emphasis has always been that, if you want to work with young people and talk about religion, then you have to practice it.

Life is not simply about material things. It's about caring and sharing. It's time for people to see those cured of leprosy as a blessing of life.

You don't neglect your family because they are infected with a disease.

We have raised a lot of money for the cured Lepers in Ghana. Most importantly, we have made people aware of the plight of the cured Lepers.

By teaching these marginalized people how to work, we are giving them a hand-up and by taking them off the streets where they beg, we restore their dignity.

For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain (Philippians 1: 21).

Take care of the poor and the needy and be able to do something beautiful for God by helping them in a practical way than just putting hands in the pocket to give them money.

Above all, the Eucharist has been a blessing to me. How I thank God and how I appreciate this precious food of life.

If every Ghanaian were honest and truthful, we will not be a third world country and donor-dependent.

Let us all be just and truthful to the Church and State so that we may be good Christians and citizens.

The Church does not only preach the Gospel, but helps the people to feed and clothe themselves.
Elsewhere, Catholic societies like the Knights of Columbus would speak out against pornography, abortion and other forms of evil in society, while here in Ghana many societies only hold meetings.

The fight against pornography is a fight to ensure that Ghana gets a morally upright future leadership.

If I were not a priest, I would have become a male nurse…medicine, nursing and priesthood, are all healing roles of God.

Priesthood is basically a calling. It is something you must respond to irrespective of your abilities and capabilities. So, I came to Africa in response to a calling.

Jesus enjoins us to go everywhere to preach the gospel, not only in our home countries.

My motto in life is like that of Mother Teresa: that is, doing something beautiful for God. What I do is a beautiful thing for

God. This means it is not a profession but a vocation. I am not doing it merely to earn income but to render service to man – the sick and under-privileged.

Priesthood is for service, not position or honours. We are not chasing titles. We are only in priesthood to be servants to the poor, sick and underprivileged. Jesus himself did not look for titles. There is very little meaning in titles but a lot in service to mankind.

I believe in miracles. A priest's work is a healing work. People are afflicted physically and spiritually, even emotionally. Through the Sacrament of confession which is the Sacrament of healing, miracles flow. I do believe in miracles, and in charismatism which is a blessing to the Church.

The charismatic movement is indeed a blessing to the Church. It blesses the Church and the lives of the members because they become more spiritual and prayerful. People read the Bible and evangelise and I think the whole Church must be charismatic.

My favourite scripture is Philippians 1: 21, 'For me life is Christ and to die is gain'.
I give people hope in life, encourage them and offer them the love of God. That is what keeps me going.

I feel called to help the vulnerable.

I want to die in my boots serving Ghanaians and my country through the promotion of my humanitarian projects.

The family I came from is the happiest in the world. We didn't have money, no car, no phone but we were happy, we prayed together so it had a big impact on me.

When I see parents not taking care of their family, it pains me. I owe so much to my mommy, so much to my daddy because they taught me to share.

As Christians, our wealth must be the poor. When you see them at the centre, they are happy. They have to be treated with dignity.

Taking care of the poor and marginalized is part of the evangelization mission of the Church.

The hardest sacrifice coming to Ghana was leaving my family: it's like breaking the umbilical cord. I felt God was calling me to come and serve as a priest.
Having lost my mother while in the seminary and as an only son, my father and sisters surprisingly did permit my coming to Ghana in anyway although my father later confided in a priest before his death that he wished I had stayed with him in Dublin.

Ghana is my first home. I am 61 years of age and lived virtually all my life here.

When I go back to Dublin, I feel lost. I feel like a fish out of water. And I don't intend going back to Dublin because my life is here.

If there is one thing I want to see Ghanaians do, it will be that they show dignity to the poor and support their family members in time of need, and not allow them to wallow in abject poverty, but wait till their death before they show up.

I had a choice but I picked Ghana, … I managed and I just felt that I got my first choice, …I have been here since.

A day that was a historic visit and I was very privileged to be the priest overseeing the Mass that particular day. That is one of the highlights of my stay in Ghana when the Chief Imam came to visit

me on his 100th birthday. It got me thinking about the similarities between the Catholic Church and Muslims.

We have many things in common, so, let us unite in our faith. Let us unite in sharing, caring, in protecting families, in taking care of the poor and the needy and in respecting one another.

A Catholic priest working hand-in-hand with a Muslim Vice-President is an honour and a privilege.

I always felt called to Africa. Something was inside me for Africa, ever since I was a small boy.

I am only doing my work as a priest. I am not doing anything special. It is my work.

I come from a religious home, not wealthy, but when I saw people doing missionary work in Africa, it touched my heart. I dreamt of preaching the word of God to people when I was a child.

My life has always been lived for others. I am inspired by Mother Teresa of Calcutta's Mantra, doing something beautiful for God.

I pray to be a holy priest. I need nothing. My aim, wish is to be a priest bringing God's word to people, giving them strength. I don't want anything, money or titles. The greatest title I could ever ask for is to be called Father. A Father to prisoners, the sick, lepers, needy children, sick children, street children. In short, an earthly Father to everybody.

People have great confidence in a priest. People come to you for spiritual direction, they come for confession, and you give hope.

Despite the fact that mankind has advanced scientifically, we are not any happier. So many are hungry with food going to waste in the developed world, so many at war, so many divorces and

broken homes, so many suicides and street children.
Abortion has damaged and scarred many lives, cheapened relationships, devalued and debased life and its values, and woefully failed to deliver on its promise of happiness.

We are not mass produced like so many photocopies from a single sheet.

You are God's work of art (Eph 2: 10). We are greater than any man-made masterpiece, we are more precious than all the gold and diamonds in the world.

Our parents co-operated with God in bringing us into the world. We are not a Social Security number or a computer number.

Life is a gift, a blessing, a joy and a challenge. The Fifth Commandment obliges all men to respect human life not to kill or destroy it.

Yes, we can put men on the moon, but we cannot make a man, only God can create a human being in His own likeness.

The world needs more love, not hatred and bitterness.

Now, it does not matter who you are, but what you have. Today the priority of parents is money. Parents have shirked the responsibility of nurturing their children in search of material things. This is breaking down the family system.

Parents ought to build homes, not houses.

My parents taught me to give, share and make other people happy, and that is what my vocation is, and that is what I have been doing for the past 50 years in Ghana.

I started the soup kitchen when I saw many people begging after Church. I decided to stop it by encouraging people to come and have a meal every day.

Why should a country which is rich in natural resources still beg after 53 years of independence? …Christ has not been at the centre of the activities of the country.

Really, the country is lacking focus. The emphasis is on materialism. If the citizens are honest, the country will move from a Third World to a developed nation.

We are selling our birthrights and conscience. If everybody in Ghana is honest, we will not be a Third World country.

Prayer, love and forgiveness were the three most essential "resources" that Christ left for mankind before His departure from the world, for which reason it was important that Christians use them in their daily lives.

Let us all be just and truthful to the Church and state so that we may be good Christians and citizens.

Forgiveness is divine…The more we grow in love, the more we should forgive.

My whole life is a testimony of God's abundant love.

CHAPTER FIVE

A GRATEFUL NATION APPLAUDS ITS HERO

It will be generally unpardonable, and characteristically "unCatholic" to overstep the bounds of Papal prerogative to dare canonize the name of the living, notwithstanding the beauty of the mark they have left on the pious sands of time. But it will not be morally wrong, or exegetically unwise to immortalize the living memories of the heroes of our time, whose lives and deeds continue to shape the conscience of the world: and carve their names on the stonewalls of sainthood, even before they exit through the gate of this life into eternity.

Our world is a complex cosmos of inequality inhabited by the haves and the have nots, the privileged and the underprivileged, the oppressor and the oppressed. But it also has in it beautiful men and women who have soiled a part of it with love for humanity that makes them no less than living saints.

To say Father Andrew Campbell is one of such beautiful saints in our part of the world is not a slip of tongue, a blasphemy, or a sheer act of flattery, intended to honour whom honour is not due.

Equating him to the Saint Paul of our time is not to inflate him with vainglory….

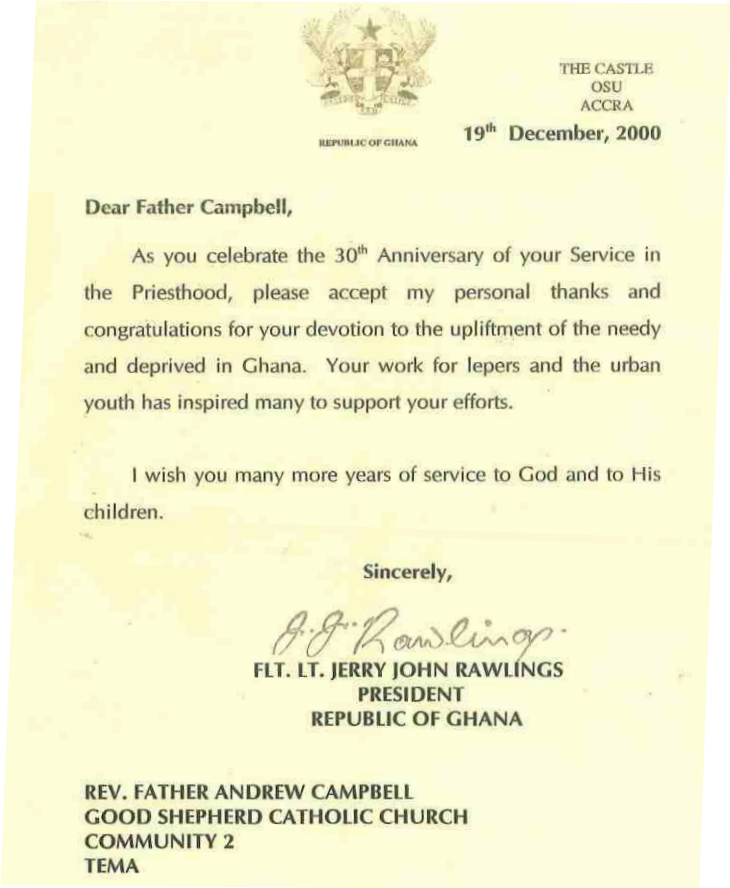
(Elinam Amevor, 'Father Campbell: A Saint in our generation', Business & Financial Times, Friday, March 18, 2011, p 3).

The worth of Father Campbell's effort and contribution to the development of his adopted country can be measured against the huge volume of awards, recognitions and citations he has received from the nation; corporate groups and individuals, and even from beyond the country. The wide acclaim accorded him by Ghanaians is evidenced by the following:

A Congratulatory Message from President J. J. Rawlings (2000)

On the 19th of December, 2000, former President, Jerry John Rawlings sent Father Campbell the following letter to congratulate him on his 30th anniversary of priesthood and his dedicated service to the needy and deprived people in Ghanaian society

Following is the letter from President, J. J. Rawlings, congratulating Father Campbell on his 30th anniversary as priest, and for his good works.



REPUBLIC OF GHANA

THE CASTLE
OSU
ACCRA

19th December, 2000

Dear Father Campbell,

As you celebrate the 30th Anniversary of your Service in the Priesthood, please accept my personal thanks and congratulations for your devotion to the upliftment of the needy and deprived in Ghana. Your work for lepers and the urban youth has inspired many to support your efforts.

I wish you many more years of service to God and to His children.

Sincerely,

J. J. Rawlings

FLT. LT. JERRY JOHN RAWLINGS
PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF GHANA

REV. FATHER ANDREW CAMPBELL
GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH
COMMUNITY 2
TEMA

President Rawlings' congratulatory message to Father Campbell.

Award of the Order of Volta Award (2001)

On 6th January 2001, former President Rawlings conferred the Order of the Volta on Father Campbell. The Order was instituted in 1960, the same year Ghana attained Republican status. The aim of instituting it was/is to recognize people who have rendered outstanding service to the country. Though the majority of awardees have been Ghanaians since its institution, some few foreigners have also been given the award. It comes in three classes, namely, Companion, Officer and Member. Following is a photograph of the occasion:

Former President Rawlings decorating Father Campbell with the Order of the Volta

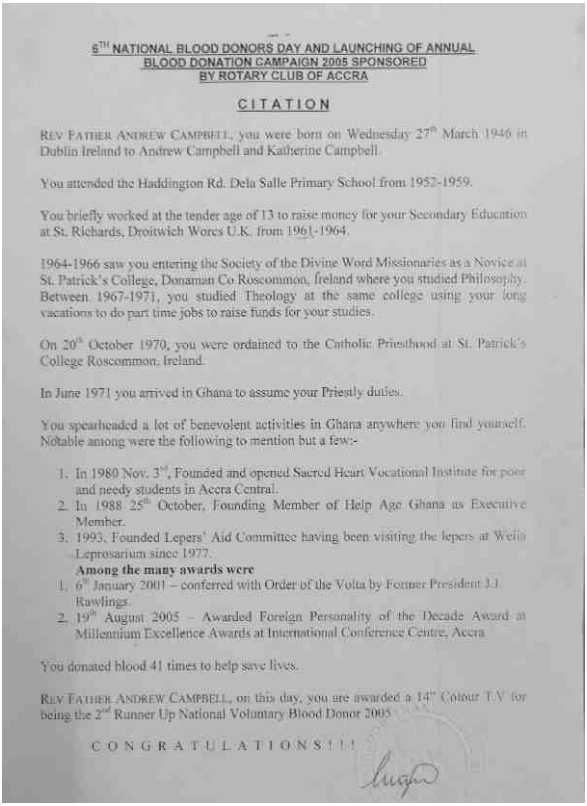
Millennium Excellence Award for Foreign Personality of the Decade (2005)

In 2005, Father Campbell and Mr. Jurgen Eigendaal jointly won the Foreign Personality of the Decade Award at the Second Millennium Excellence Awards. The event was organized by Ghana Classifieds, a media and events management firm with Mr. Ashim Morton as the Chief Executive, and the originator of the awards. The awards came in 25 categories, and were received by 27 distinguished personalities and corporate institutions. Some categories had two award winners winners like the one won by Fr. Campbell and his counterpart. The Chairman for the occasion was Cardinal Peter Appiah Turkson, and was organized under the patronage of the Asantehene, Nana Otumfuo Osei Tutu II. Other dignitaries included President J. A. Kufuor and the Vice President, Alhaji Aliu Mahama, former UN Secretary General, Mr. Kofi Annan and his wife Nane, the President of Benin, Mr. Matthew Kerekou, and the Prime Minister of Togo, Mr. Edem Kodjo. Apart from Fr. Campbell and Mr. Jurgen Eigendaal, the other awardees included the following:

The Global Excellence Award (the highest honour) – Mr. Kofi Annan; the agricultural Award - Madam Afua Frimpong, the 2004 National Best Farmer; the Personality of the Decade – Professor Kwabena Frimpong Boateng, the Chief Executive of Korle Bu Teaching Hospital; Arts – Kwaw Ansah, Chairman of TV Africa and a renowned film maker; Grassroots and Rural Development – Dr. Sule J. Gariba, a development consultant; Women Empowerment – Afia Ansaa Ampene, host of Mmaa Nkomo, a TV magazine programme; Sports – Abedi Ayew Pele, three times African best footballer; Humanitarian Award – Apostle Dr. Kwadwo Sarfo, founder and leader of the Kristo Asafo Mission; Information Technology – The Soft Tribe; Education – SOS Ghana; Business of the Year Award – Metro TV, a private television station; Industrial Development Award – Global Haulage Company and GRATIS; Foreign Business of the year – Vlisco GTP; Literary Award – Ama Ata Aidoo, a renowned

writer; International Development Partner – Advent Development and Relief Agency; Scientific and Environmental Award – Professor Francis K. Allotey; Personality of the Year – Togbe Afede XIV, Paramount Chief of Asogli Traditional Area; Personality of the Century – Ephraim Amu (posthumously); Foreign Personality of the Year – Dr. and Mrs. Bill Rogers; Business of the Decade – Spacefon Areeba; Inspirational Motivation – Emmanuel Dei-Tumi; Business of the Century – Fan Milk Ghana; and Peace Award – Mr. Emmanuel Bombande.

National Award for being Second Runner up of National Voluntary Blood Donation (2005)



6TH NATIONAL BLOOD DONORS DAY AND LAUNCHING OF ANNUAL BLOOD DONATION CAMPAIGN 2005 SPONSORED BY ROTARY CLUB OF ACCRA

CITATION

REV FATHER ANDREW CAMPBELL, you were born on Wednesday 27th March 1946 in Dublin Ireland to Andrew Campbell and Katherine Campbell.

You attended the Haddington Rd. Dela Salle Primary School from 1952-1959.

You briefly worked at the tender age of 13 to raise money for your Secondary Education at St. Richards, Droitwich Worcs U.K. from 1961-1964.

1964-1966 saw you entering the Society of the Divine Word Missionaries as a Novice at St. Patrick's College, Donaman Co Roscommon, Ireland where you studied Philosophy. Between 1967-1971, you studied Theology at the same college using your long vacations to do part time jobs to raise funds for your studies.

On 20th October 1970, you were ordained to the Catholic Priesthood at St. Patrick's College Roscommon, Ireland.

In June 1971 you arrived in Ghana to assume your Priestly duties.

You spearheaded a lot of benevolent activities in Ghana anywhere you find yourself. Notable among were the following to mention but a few:-

1. In 1980 Nov. 3rd, Founded and opened Sacred Heart Vocational Institute for poor and needy students in Accra Central.
2. In 1988 25th October, Founding Member of Help Age Ghana as Executive Member.
3. 1993, Founded Lepers' Aid Committee having been visiting the lepers at Weija Leprosarium since 1977.

Among the many awards were

1. 6th January 2001 – conferred with Order of the Volta by Former President J.J. Rawlings.
2. 19th August 2005 – Awarded Foreign Personality of the Decade Award at Millennium Excellence Awards at International Conference Centre, Accra

You donated blood 41 times to help save lives.

REV FATHER ANDREW CAMPBELL, on this day, you are awarded a 14" Colour T.V for being the 2nd Runner Up National Voluntary Blood Donor 2005

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Tema Excellence Award for Working with the Poor

SOCIAL TIMER'S CLUB

IN GOD WE TRUST

TEMA EXCELLENCE AWARD

REV. FR. ANDREW CAMPBELL

Dedicated humanitarian for several decades, Rev. Father Andrew Campbell has reached out to thousand of handicapped and the less privilege in Ghana as a whole.

His humble background and beginning has spared him on to show compassion to the less advantaged in society.
He is a household name in Ghana whenever "lepers" are mentioned.

A degree holder in Divinity Father Campbell understands the purpose of life on earth and what is promised thereafter.
His humanitarian efforts have lifted up and placed thousand on a higher pedestal in society.

He has served on several boards of reputable establishments and a founding member of Help age Ghana.

He was awarded the order of Volta by former president Jerry John Rawlings and also holds a Millennium Excellence award for foreign personality of the decade.

Chairman

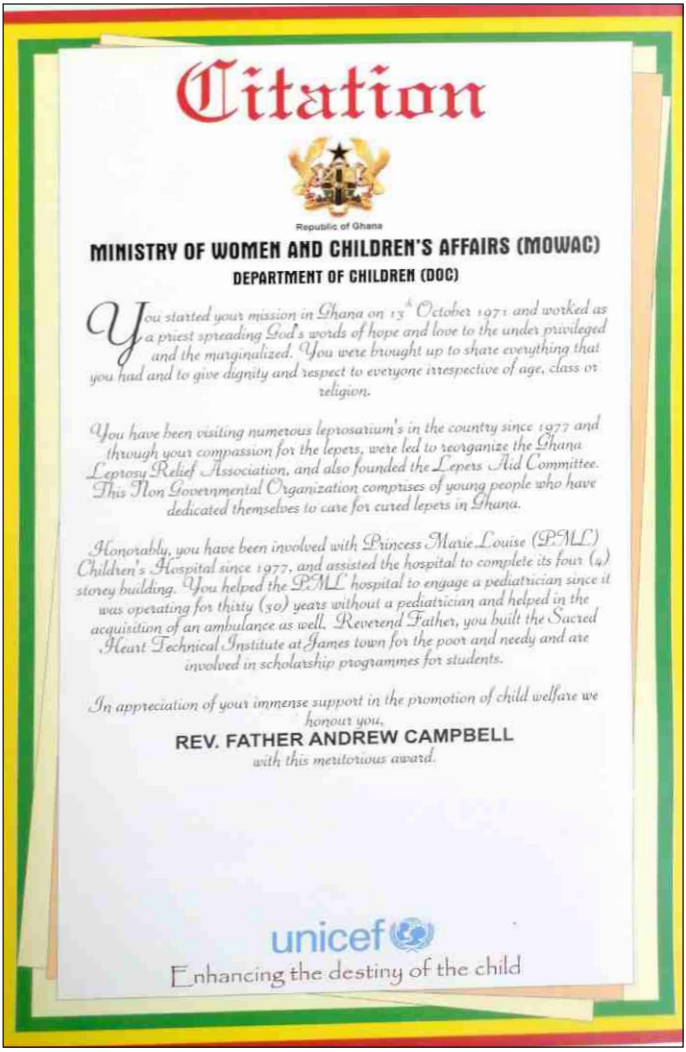
Award for Promoting and Protecting Fundamental Rights of the Poor and Needy in Ghana (2011)

Father was among a group of other people who were recognized by the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice for their concern for the poor and needy in 2011.

Father in a group picture with other awardees at the British Council in Accra

Award for Contribution towards Enhancing the Destiny of the Ghanaian Child (2011)

The award was presented by the then Ministry of Women and Children Affairs.



Citation

Republic of Ghana

MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S AFFAIRS (MOWAC)

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN (DOC)

You started your mission in Ghana on 13th October 1971 and worked as a priest spreading God's words of hope and love to the under privileged and the marginalized. You were brought up to share everything that you had and to give dignity and respect to everyone irrespective of age, class or religion.

You have been visiting numerous leprosarium's in the country since 1977 and through your compassion for the lepers, were led to reorganize the Ghana Leprosy Relief Association, and also founded the Lepers Aid Committee. This Non Governmental Organization comprises of young people who have dedicated themselves to care for cured lepers in Ghana.

Honorably, you have been involved with Princess Marie Louise (PML) Children's Hospital since 1977, and assisted the hospital to complete its four (4) storey building. You helped the PML hospital to engage a pediatrician since it was operating for thirty (30) years without a pediatrician and helped in the acquisition of an ambulance as well. Reverend Father, you built the Sacred Heart Technical Institute at James town for the poor and needy and are involved in scholarship programmes for students.

In appreciation of your immense support in the promotion of child welfare we honour you,

REV. FATHER ANDREW CAMPBELL

with this meritorious award.

unicef

Enhancing the destiny of the child

Gaining Ghanaian Citizenship (2013)

On 3rd July 2013, Father Campbell received the documents confirming him as a full citizen of Ghana, at the Ministry of Interior. His Ghanaian Name is Nii Lantey (the name for a first male child among the Ga people), and his adopted clan is *Lante Dzan We*, from the Ga Mantse Traditional Area of Accra. He was given this name when he went to serve as the Parish Priest at the Sacred Heart Parish at Derby Avenue in Accra in 1977. In an interview with Nana Yaa Mensah of Asaase Radio in Accra, he explained how he came by name as follows:

"When I was working in Derby Avenue, the whole area was under my control, looking after the Sacred Heart Parish, it was all my responsibility. So, I knew all the Ga chiefs, I used to visit them…and I heard the name Nii Lante, so I asked what's Nii Lante, and they said it is a first-born boy in a family and I am the first-born boy and so I said I like this one. Ever since then, at the beginning I was (casually) just Nii Lante, Nii Lante; now it has caught on. Even the President calls me Nii Lante, so I am the first-born boy of my family, so it is a beautiful title. It reminds me of my Ghanaian citizenship because I have been here in Ghana for the past 50 years."

Father Campbell receiving his documents of Ghanaian citizenship (left). Naturalised Father Campbell in Ghanaian traditional attire (royal regalia), christened Nii Lante of Akoto Lantey and enstooled as Nene Biantey I (right).

Nene Biantey I in a kente cloth gifted to him by President Nana Akufo-Addo on his 75th Anniversary as priest.

Recipient of National Philanthropy Excellence Award (2017)

Father Campbell was among a group of individuals and organisations who were awarded at the second National Philanthropy Forum and Excellence Awards. The awards were presented at a two-day summit organized by Philanthropy Forum- Ghana, under the leadership of Dr. Ben Ocra. The summit was held from March 23rd – 24th at the Accra International Conference Centre. The awardees were selected for the awards based on their outstanding performance in promoting various humanitarian causes. Apart from Father Campbell who received the Humanitarian Lifetime Achievement Award, other individuals who received awards included Professor Oheneba Boachie-Adjei, who is the founder of FOCOS Orthopedic Hospital. He received the award for Individual Philanthropist of the Year (Special Needs), and Nathan Kwabena Anokye-Adisi, known popularly as Bola Ray, who was the recipient of the Individual Philanthropist of the Year Award. In accepting the award, Father Campbell thanked the organisers for recognizing his 'little service to humanity.' Corporate groups which were also recognized included MTN Ghana Foundation, which won the 'Corporate Philanthropist of the year,' Newmont Ahafo Development Foundation (NADeF) and the Osei-Kusi Foundation (OKF) won the 'Foundation and Corporate Foundation Philanthropist (s) of the year' respectively. The awardees were given infinity crystal trophies bearing specific citations for their various categories.

In a speech delivered at the summit, Dr. Ocra identified philanthropy as the 'third sector' of the economy, and emphasized its significance in the development of the country. The awards were therefore aimed at promoting the growth of the sector by recognizing and encouraging humanitarians. Another speaker at the summit was Mr. Derek Appiah, Ghana's country Manager for Microsoft. He spoke on effective management of data in the voluntary sector to enhance efficiency in that area. A Microsoft support package specifically designed to help NGOs in their work was launched at the event.

Father Campbell receiving his award

Father Campbell in a group picture with some of the awardees

Humanitarian Personality of the Year Award (2018)

Father Campbell was the recipient of the Humanitarian Personality Award of the year, 2018, at the 6th edition of Made in Ghana Awards (MIGA). The Award is instituted by the Entrepreneurs Foundation of Ghana (EFG). It has government's recognition with endorsement by the Ministry of Trade and Industry, as well as the Ghana Standards Authority (GSA).

Recognition by Philharmonic Royal Choir (2018)

The Royal Philharmonic Choir at the Bread of Life Methodist Church Auditorium at Dansoman, in Accra, honoured a group of Ghanaians in June 2018 who have distinguished themselves in their specific areas of endeavor. The honour was given as a way of recognizing the good work of some citizens to encourage others to follow their example. Father Campbell was among those honoured. He was recognized for his humanitarian work in helping the poor, needy, lepers, homeless and other categories of vulnerable people, as well as promoting environmental cleanliness through his role as Co-chairman of Environmental Protection Association (EPA), West Arena. Others included the First Lady, Rebecca Akufo-Addo (represented by her Personal Assistant, Miss Ivy Mintah) for her work in curbing child mortality and promoting healthcare; Madam Georgina Theodora Wood, former first female Chief Justice of Ghana (represented by Mrs. Peace Atta Panyin Okantey, Acting Secretary to the Council of State) for distinguishing herself in the area of administration of justice while she was in office; Nana Professor S. K. B. Asante, a traditional ruler and a statesman for his contribution in promoting democracy in the country; Dr. Osei Kwame Despite of Despite Group of Companies and Dr. Ernest Ofori Sarpong of Special Ice Group of Companies, both of whom are renowned businessmen, for their contribution to the development of the country in various ways. A cross section of the clergy, politicians and businessmen were in attendance to support the programme.

Father Campbell among a group of Ghanaians who were honoured by the Philharmonic Choir

Catholic Standard Award (2009, 2011, 2013, 2018)

In 2001, the print media outlet of the Catholic Church in Ghana introduced an Award Scheme to encourage and recognize those groups and individuals who patronize this weekly newspaper. Some parishes under Father Campbell have been the proud winners of this award. Under his leadership as the Parish Priest of the Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Community Two at Tema, they won it in 2009. In the same capacity at Christ the King Parish, they won it in 2011, 2013, and 2018.

Exclusive Man of the Year (EMY) Award (2020)

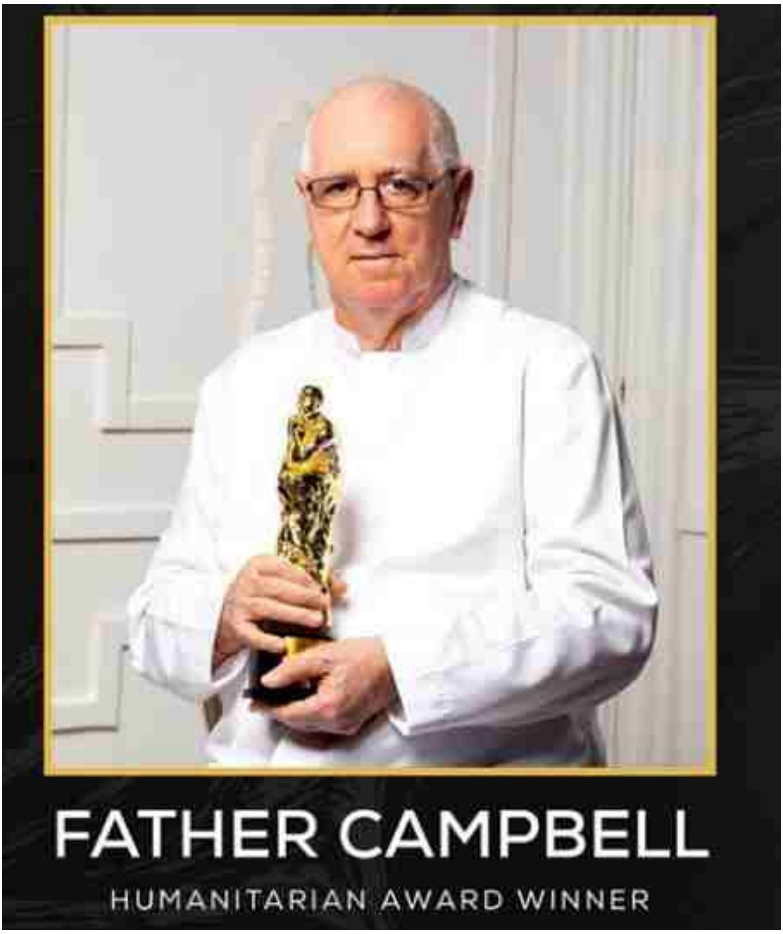
During the 5th EMY Africa Awards, Father Campbell was recognised for his exceptional humanitarian work in Ghana. The event was held on 6th July 2020 at the Movenpick Ambassador Hotel in Accra. The EMY Africa Awards is an annual event organized by Carbon Av, and Exclusive Men's Magazine. It is usually held around the period of Fathers' Day to identify,

recognize and celebrate men and women in Ghana and across the African Continent who have made useful contributions to the development of their societies and Africa as a whole. The awards totaling twenty-nine (29), are made up of two categories: Horonary and Competitive.

The Competitive Awards include: The PAV Ansah Communicator Award, Man of the Year Award – Entertainment, Man of the Year- Sports, Discovery of the Year, and Brand of the Year.

The Horonary Awards, the selection of which was based largely on technical and expert opinion include: Man of the Year – Ghana, Woman of the Year – Ghana, Lifetime Achievement Award, Diasporan Award, Citizen Ghana Award, Osagyefo Pan African Peace Award, Media Excellence Award, Young Achiever – Male, Young Achiever – Female, Men Group / Club of the Year, Continental Icon Award, The Settler Award, Humanitarian Award, the Guardian Award (Mentorship and Leadership Award), the Green Fingers Award (Man of the Year – Agriculture), Man of the Year – Technology, Asclepian Award (Man of the Year – Health), the Rig Award (Man of the Year – Oil and Gas), Magnate Award (Man of the Year – Business), Man of the Year (Style), Designer of the Year, Man of Courage Award, Special Recognition Award, and Green Corporate Award.

Commenting on the nature of the 2020 version of the event, the Executive Director of EMY, Kojo Soboh noted that it was more Pan-African centred as a significant number of participants came from other parts of Africa and wider diaspora. Other groups which collaborated with the organisers to make a reality included the Royal Commonwealth Society and Diaspora Affairs of the Office of the President.

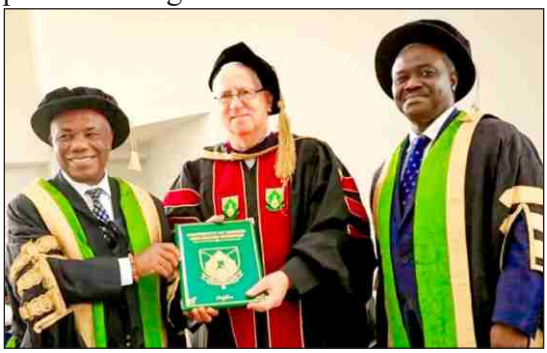


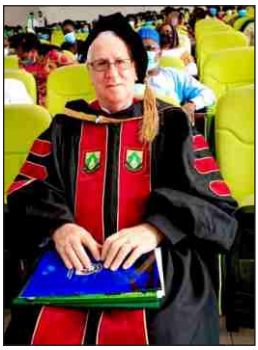
Father with EMY Award

Honorary Doctorate Award by the University of Allied Sciences (2020)

In November 2020, the Governing Council and the Management of the University of Health and Allied Sciences (UHAS) at Ho in the Volta Region of Ghana, on its 5th Leadership Lecture Series, awarded Father Campbell an Honorary Doctorate Degree. The honour was done him by this very young institution of higher learning in recognition of his contribution to healthcare delivery in Ghana, as well as his concern for the disadvantaged and the vulnerable in society. The Director of the Centre of Malaria Research of UHAS, Prof. Evelyn Korkor Ansah, who read Father Campbell's citation described him as an "institution" they would be proud to have their students identify with and emulate. The University made known its plan at the gathering to build an Infectious Disease Centre and name it after Father Campbell (Andrew Campbell Centre for Infectious Diseases). In all, 789 students who had successfully completed their various programmes of study graduated. The first batch of UHAS doctors was among the graduands.

The Vice-President, Dr. Mahamudu Bawumia was there to support Father Campbell, whom he so much admires and often proudly describes as his good friend. He pledged government's support for UHAS' intention to institutional this friend of the poor and marginalized.





Fr. Campbell with his Certificate of Honour (middle), Justice Victor Mawulom Jones Dotse, Chairman of University Council (left), and the Vice Chancellor of UHAS, Prof. John Owusu Gyapong (right). Fr. Campbell at the at the award ceremony.

Front row (from left to right)- Fr. Campbell, Prof. John Owusu Gyapong (Vice-Chancellor of UHAS, Vice President, Dr. Bawumia and Justice Victor Mawulom Jones Dotse (Chairman of University Council).

Lifetime in A Portrait Award of the Decade (2021)

On 4th April 2021, the Initiators for Change Foundation (IFC) recognized Father Campbell as the COMPASSIONATE LEADER OF THE DECADE, in a ceremony that was held to mark the tenth (10th) anniversary of the Foundation's establishment. As part of the celebrations, the Foundation included a package to honour Ghanaians who have made unique contributions towards the development of the country. These include exceptional public servants and others who have projected a positive image of the country internationally as a result of their outstanding service to humanity.

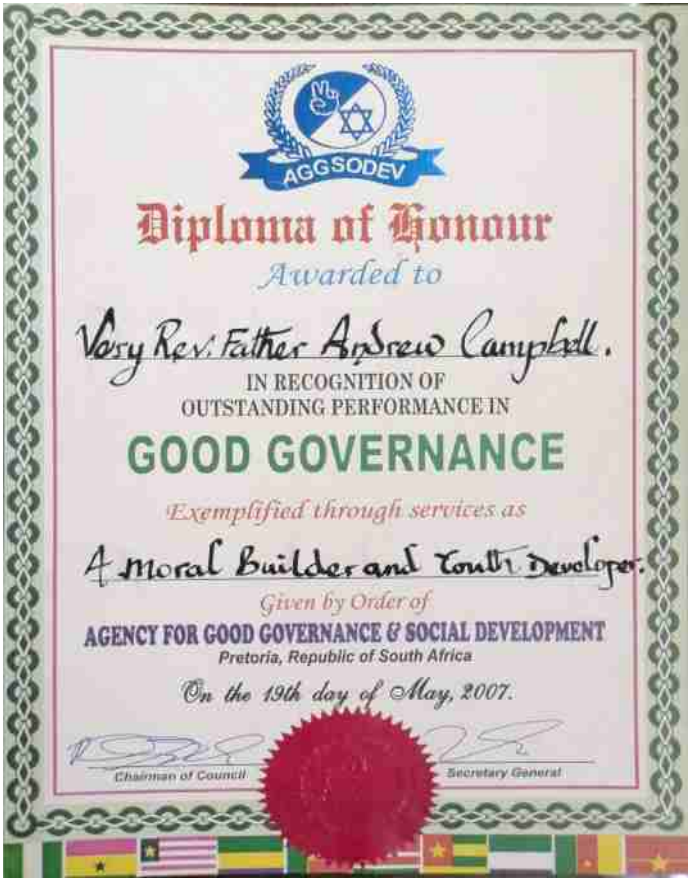
Father receiving a citation from FAGRO

Father receiving a citation from Save a Street Child Foundation.

Father with his 2014 Hero of Change citation from MTN Ghana Foundation

International Recognition

Observers outside of Ghana have noticed the works of Father Campbell, and have joined the national applause in his honour. In 2007, the Agency of Good Governance and Social Development in South Africa acknowledged Father Campbell for his good works. Similarly, in December 2020, the Superior General of the SVD, Paulus Budi Kleden, sent him a congratulatory message on the occasion of his fifty years of service to humanity and God, from the Society's headquarters in Rome.


AGGSODEV

Diploma of Honour

Awarded to

Very Rev. Father Andrew Campbell.

IN RECOGNITION OF
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN

GOOD GOVERNANCE

Exemplified through services as

A Moral Builder and Youth Developer.

Given by Order of

AGENCY FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
Pretoria, Republic of South Africa

On the 19th day of May, 2007.

Chairman of Council

Secretary General

Superior Generalis
Societatis Verbi Divini
Curia Generalizia SVD • Via del Verbo, 1 • 00154 Rome RM • ITALIA
Tel. (centralino) (+39) 06 571 15 200 • Fax (+39) 06 571 15 300 • e-mail: • superior@svdcuria.org

"Precious is the Life Given for Mission"
(St. Arnold Janssen)

Dear Fr. Andrew,

I wish you God's special blessings as you celebrate your 50th anniversary as a religious missionary priest of the *Society of the Divine Word.*

In the name of the whole Society allow me to express to you a special word of thanks for dedicating your life to serving God and His people following the example of Arnold Janssen and the Founding Generation.

You celebrate a milestone, and rightly so! Five decades of dedicated service to God and those dearest to Him: the poor, destitute and marginalized in society, especially the Lepers. All over Ghana, your name and face are known and easily connected to the cause of these poorest of the poor. You are loved for your dedication to the Blessed Sacrament and the adoration chapels you build to encourage people to visit our Lord. Our appreciation of your ministry cannot be summed up into words, yet we dare to say *AYEKOO!!!* May God continue to grant you good health, long life and the means to continue fighting for those dear to His heart.

God knows what is best for His people. May He continue to guide you in journeying with all those He has entrusted to you!

May the love of Christ impel you to be rooted in the Word and committed to his Mission!

With prayers,

Fraternally in the Divine Word,

Paulus Budi Kleden, SVD
Rome: December, 2020

Father Campbell (fourth from left), presenting a gift (portrait and drawing by a cured leper) to the Pope through the Superior General of the SVD, during one of his visits to Rome. Present is Ghana's first Ambassador to the Vatican City, Mr Bebaako-Mensah (fourth from right) and other members of the Ghanaian Diplomatic Corps.

CHAPTER SIX

THE FUTURE OF A BEAUTIFUL LEGACY

After I went home, on the midnight of July 11 2020, I had a crisis, they had to call in doctors and my blood pressure was that of a dead body. I was literally dead but God being so good, I was healed.

God told me I haven't finished my work so I should go and help the poor. I was retiring in a few months and God gave me a vision through that experience that it was not time to go on retirement."

(Fr. Campbell's vision on his retirement which he revealed when he had his turn on the 'Engine Room" series on the Springboard Your Virtual University. Source: Graphic Online; www.businessghana.com)

It is Fare Thee Well, but "I want to die in my Boots"

Father Campbell turned seventy-five, the retirement age for Catholic priests, in March 2021. This milestone in his life coincided with the seventieth (70th) anniversary of the Christ the King Parish, the last of the parishes in which he would serve as the parish priest in Ghana since his arrival from Ireland. Therefore, as part of the yearlong celebrations of the Parish's anniversary, the parishioners included a send-off package to honour him. An event dubbed, "An evening with Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbell SVD", was held at the Christ the King Parish hall on 17th May 2021 for that purpose. The event brought together groups and individuals to grace the occasion. The Grace Chorale Int, Angelic Choir, Marian Choir, and the Christ the King main Choir provided music, while children of the Christ the King School rendered poetry recitals and other performances. A drama portraying the life of Father Campbell's life in Ghana was staged by the Divine Mercy Catholic Church, in addition to goodwill messages and citations from the "Catholic Standard," some societies in the Church as well as individuals. Among the

dignitaries gracing the occasion were his Ghanaian “twin sister”, Madam Joyce Aryee, and Her Ladyship Justice Georgina Theodora Wood (former Chief Justice of Ghana).

In addition to the above was a farewell Mass for Father Campbell which took place at the Christ the King Church on Sunday 23rd May 2021. The theme of the Mass was “Celebrating our faith and love: Doing something beautiful for God”. Some of the dignitaries present were the Vice-President, Dr. Bawumia, and his wife, Hajia Samira Bawumia, the Speaker of Parliament, Honourable Alban Bagbin, and former Second Lady of the Republic of Ghana, Mrs. Matilda Amissah-Arthur. The Presidency donated an amount of GH ₵ 100, 000 and a kente cloth to Father Campbell, and GH ₵ 50, 000 to the Christ the King Parish.

A Eucharistic Service was also held on Sunday, 30th May 2021 to honour him as he had turned 75 in March. Some dignitaries at the occasion included the Speaker of Ghana's Parliament, Honourable Alban Bagbin, Minister of Interior, Mr. Ambrose Dery and Mr. Albert Mensah, representing the President, Nana Akufo Addo and the Vice-President respectively, former Chief Justice of Ghana, Mrs. Georgina Theodora Wood among others. The Speaker of Parliament commended Father Campbell for his humanitarian works and donated an amount of GH ₵ 5, 000 towards his charities, while the Minister of Interior contributed GH ₵ 10, 000 on behalf of the President. Members of the clergy present included the Metropolitan Archbishop of Accra, Most Rev. John Bonaventure Kwofie, SSSp, Bishop of the Keta-Akatsi Diocese, Most Rev. Gabriel Edoe Kumordji, SVD, Rev, Fr, Cyprian Kuupol, SVD. The Provincial Superior of the Ghana-Liberia Province of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD), Rev. Emmanuel Salifu, preached, with 20 other priests in attendance.

Father and other priests during his farewell Mass at Christ the King. A group picture with dignitaries, including Vice-President Bawumia and his wife, Lady Samira.

Father Campbell being blessed by Bishop Joseph Afrifa-Agyekum during the farewell Mass.

From left to right, Archbishop Palmer Buckle, Father Campbell, Bishop Joseph Afrifa-Agyekum, and Archbishop John Bonaventure Kwofie, SSSp at the farewell Mass.

Following is a Goodwill Message from the Pro-Nuncio to Ghana, Most Rev. Henryk M. Jagodjinshki on the Occasion of the 75th and 70th Anniversaries of Father Campbell and the Christ the Parish respectively.

APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
IN GHANA

8, Drake Avenue
P. O. Box 9675, Airport, Accra
Tel: (233-302)777759 Fax: 0302-774019

Goodwill Message of H.E. Mos Rev. Henryk M. Jagodziński, Apostolic Nuncio
On the Occasion of the 70th Anniversary of Christ the King Church
& Retirement Farewell of Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbel, SVD

On this special occasion, I join the Catholic Church of Christ the King in thanking God for the great things He has done. I pay special tribute to the founder, Rev. Fr. Charles Erb, and his first Christian community, to all the priests, religious and lay faithful and all who helped in the foundation and nourishment of this church since its inception, to the present Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbell, SVD, his community of priests and the present parishioners.

The whole Church of Christ the King is grateful for the blessings she receives through 70 years but as the Church in journey, there is still a lot to be done and challenges to be faced, and in this particular church, there is a challenge on how to live fully the spirituality of the Kingdom of Christ the King. My dear brothers and sisters, to have a meaningful celebration of this occasion, I invite you to reflect and learn from the homily of our Holy Father Pope Francis during the Feast of Christ the King as he said: *Jesus brought about his kingdom through his closeness and tenderness towards his people. He is the Shepherd who show the care and love that the Shepherd has for his flock: to search, to look over, to gather, to bring to rest, to seek the lost, to bandage the wounded, to heal the sick, to care the poor and marginalized and protector and zeal for souls.* (cf: *Pope Francis Homily on 23.11.14 in St. Peter Square*).

On this anniversary's occasion, Christ the King Church is also holding the 'Retirement Farewell' of Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbell, SVD, the present Parish Priest. Recalling briefly his 50 years mission life in Ghana, we can lift up our gratitude to God for the great gift of this missionary to the Church in Ghana, as he tries to imitate in his own little way the examples of the Good Shepherd especially the care for the poor and marginalized in our society, the lepers in particular. About 50 years ago Fr. Campbell came to Ghana, Africa, as a young missionary. Africa is the continent of his dream where he had a burning desire to work. He arrived in Ghana on 13th October 1971. St. Peter's Church, Osu was his first assignment and considered it as the 'rock foundation' of his mission in Ghana. All his assignments in Ghana later would have great impacts in his mission spirituality and ministries. From St. Peter's Osu, he was next assigned in Holy Spirit Cathedral where the Holy Spirit led him to have an encounter with the leper which would be the start of his lepers apostolate. He would then be immersed to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as He was assigned in the Sacred Heart Parish at Derby Avenue, a big and older parish. Moved by the mission realities, the growing faith of the people, the need of the children and the youth and the poor people around, his response was of a spiritual and integral human developmental response. He built clinics, schools for children and youth, vocational centers and center for the elderly and others. The same dynamic responses he gave to his next mission assignments in Good Shepherd Parish in Tema and Christ the King Parish in Accra. It is in Christ the King Parish assignment that he actively involved himself in the Ministry for the lepers with the organization of Lepers Aid Committee (LAC). The Pontifical Representatives give strongly their moral, spiritual and fatherly support to him in this leper ministry as Fr. Campbell gives himself selflessly to this mission. He is especially admired by them because of his being a deeply spiritual person. The former Apostolic Nuncio the late Archbishop Leon Kalenga once said: *I deeply admire Fr. Campbell not so much of his missionary achievements and awards, but his deep devotion to the Holy Eucharist, his faithful devotion to Eucharistic Adoration which is the source of his spiritual energy that inspires him to do wonderful apostolates especially for and with the lepers.*" His deep devotion to Eucharistic Adoration has inspired him to build Perpetual Adoration Chapels in Good Shepherd and Christ the King Parishes that has drawn many faithful closer to our Lord coming from different walks of life, the poor, the middle and the rich, who hunger for our Lord.

Finally, my dear Clergy, Religious and lay faithful, I give to you all the Paternal Blessings of our Holy Father Pope Francis, as I express my personal congratulations and the assurance of prayer for the Church of Christ the King and for the blessed retirement of Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbell. Congratulations!

Who takes up the Baton?

The one-dollar question is: what will ensure the continuity of all the gains of these years? Leprosy is not yet entirely wiped out, and the difficult issues associated with it will continue to persist. Urban poverty, streetism and prostitution among others seem far from eradication. Uncompleted projects, such as the development of Christ the King Basic School into an ultra-modern structure within the Accra Metropolis, the construction of a street children's centre at Osu await to be executed. Maintenance of completed projects like accommodation and other facilities for the various leprosaria, just to mention a few, remain a nagging task. Moreover, in a conversation with Nana Yaa Mensah of Asaase Radio, as he prepared for his exit from Christ the King, Father Campbell noted that, about 260 new cases of leprosy were recorded in Ghana in 2020. Wa, which is the Upper West Regional capital alone currently has about 700 leprosy patients, who, partly for lack of a leprosarium, were living with their families. This means a lot more work since his care for them may have to be extended to this northernmost part of the country.

While he remains alive and strong, Father has pledged to concentrate even more on his humanitarian works. On 31st May, 2021, he moved from the Christ the King Parish into residence at the Weija Leprosarium as the 30th resident of the place. He intends to establish a committee to be responsible for managing the projects at the Leprosarium. The place is currently undergoing redevelopment. Some of the structures include two separate new blocks, to serve as accommodation for the cured lepers, and a Research Centre with a clinic and a laboratory for research into leprosy and other skin diseases, as well guest houses for researchers and those who would be taking care of the place when it is completed. Father has also launched a project called “Adopt a Granny,” aimed at getting benefactors to adopt a cured leper and provide monthly to support them. Plans are also in place to build an auditorium, and Father intends to add an events centre for hosting wedding receptions, birthday

celebrations and other events as a way of generating funds internally to maintain the Leprosarium. He gives credit to the administrator of the Common Fund for being a major sponsor of these projects. The Lepers Aid Committee is also sponsoring the construction of a two-storey building to contain stores and hostels for renting to the public as another source of internally generated fund

Father at the entrance of the Weija Leprosarium.

Father with the Weija Congregation after Church service.

Father assisting in construction work at Weija

The Leprosy and Skin Diseases Research Centre at Weija.
It is the first of its kind in the whole of West Africa.

Some of the new residences at Weija.

On the 16th of October, 2021, the fiftieth (50th) anniversary of Father Campbell's stay in Ghana was celebrated at the Weija Lerosarium. Father used the occasion to launch a support fund for the cured lepers. Dubbed "Adopt a Granny," it is intended to get individuals, corporate groups and NGOs to donate to augment the welfare provided by the Lepers Aid Committee. The number of cured lepers in four communities is as follows: Weija (28), Ho (53), Nkanchina (71) and Cape Coast (65), making a total of 217.

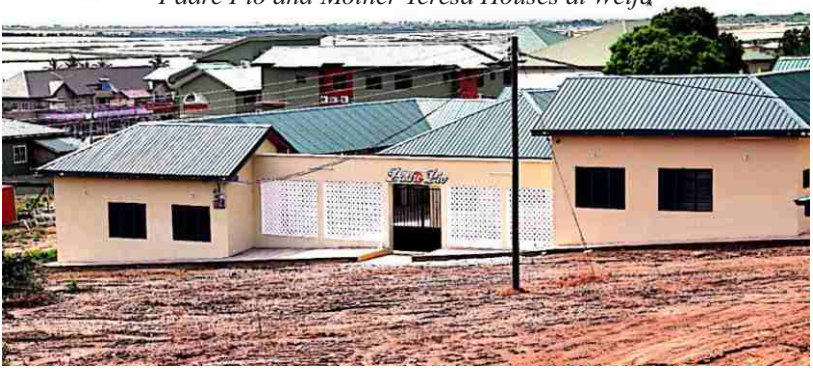
Members of the clergy, government representatives, Chiefs, and other notable individuals came to celebrate with Father and the lepers. Among the lot were the Pro-Nuncio to Ghana, Most Rev.

Henryk M. Jagodjinski, the Metropolitan Archbishop of Accra, Most Rev. John Bonaventure Kwofie, the Provincial Superior of the Society of the Divine Word, Ghana-Liberia Province, Rev. Fr. Cyprian Kuupol, Director of the Matthew 25 House at Koforidua, Rev. Msgr.Alex BobbyBenson, Nana Dr. Appiagyei Dankwawoso I, Omanhene of Asante Juaben Traditional Area and President-General of the West Africa Nobles Forum (WANF), who was also Chairman for the occasion, Deputy Minister of Gender and Social Protection, who also doubles as the Member of Parliament for Walewale, Honourable Lariba Zuweira Abudu. Others included the Member of Parliament for Weija-Gbawe Constituency, Tina Naa Ayele Mensah, the Municipal Chief Executive of the Weija-Gbawe Municipal Assembly, Mr. Patrick Kumor, Former Chief Justice of Ghana, Justice Georgina Wood and some Members of the Council of State.

Goodwill messages came from the Member of Parliament for Weija-Gbawe Constituency, the Provincial Superior of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD), Ghana-Liberia Province, the Archbishop of Accra, and the Apostolic Nuncio to Ghana. Some groups and individuals donated to support the lepers, among which were bed sheets, towels and other materials from the Labadi Beach Hotel with a promise of continued support for the Leprosarium, and GH ₵ 10, 000 from the Vice President.

An important event at the occasion was the inauguration of a Research Centre for leprosy and skin diseases, being the first of its kind in West Africa, and a 40-room apartment for cured lepers at the Weija Leprosarium. The two apartments, each made up of twenty rooms are dedicated to Father Campbell's Patron Saints, Padre Pio and Mother Teresa, because of their involvement with the poor and needy.

Padre Pio and Mother Teresa Houses at Weija



The front view of Padre Pio House.

A part of the inside view of Mother Teresa House with an Art Gallery on the right.

One of the rooms in Mother Teresa House serves as an art gallery for one of the cured lepers called Mr. John Ampah.

Father Campbell in the art gallery of a cured leper, Mr. John Ampah

Mr. John Ampah working in his gallery located in the Mother Teresa House

The Pro-Nuncio, Most Rev. Henryk M. Jagodgjinhski blessing the new buildings at the Weija Leprosarium during the inauguration.

The Fr. Campbell SVD Foundation

The Campbell Foundation, which is yet to be launched is expected to attract funds and other forms of assistance to continue with, and consolidate the initiatives of Father Campbell. It is hoped that this effort will be largely supported by friends of Father Campbell in collaboration with the Catholic Church, and in consultation with Rome.

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APPENDIX ONE

Appointments, Awards and Citations

Year/Period	Appointment/Award/Citation
	Appointments/Positions
1971, 13th October	Arrival in Ghana
1972, January – June	Assigned to St. Peter's Catholic Church, Osu, Accra.
1972, June- 1977, January	Associate Pastor, Holy Spirit Cathedral.
1975 – 1980	Appointed Youth Chaplain for Catholic Churches, Accra.
1977 – 1997	Appointed Parish Priest of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Accra. Appointed Catholic Chaplain to Ussher Fort and James Fort Prisons in Accra.
1978	Opened Middle School at Sacred Heart Parish
1980, 3rd November	Founded and opened Sacred Heart Vocational Institute for poor and needy students in Accra Central.
1982	Appointed member of Management Committee of Princess Marie Louise Hospital, Accra.
1985	Elected as Chairman for Conference of Local Managers' for Catholic Schools for Accra and Tema.
1986, September to date	Appointed as Chairman of Management Committee for Princess Marie Loiuse Hospital, Accra.
1988, 25th October	Founding member of Help Age Ghana as Executive Member.
1992	Elected as Treasurer of Ghana Leprosy Relief Association.
1993	Founded Lepers' Aid Committee
1996	Founding member and Co-Chairman of Environmental Protection Association, West Rena, Accra.
1997, 21st December	Appointed Parish Priest of Good Shepherd Parish, Tema.
1998	Appointed Spiritual Director for Missionary Sisters of Charity, Tema, by His Grace Archbishop D. K. Andoh.
1999, June – September, 2006.	Appointed Dean of Tema – Battor Deanery of the Archdiocese of Accra by His Grace Archbishop D. K. Andoh.
2002	Initiated Catholic Clinic Project for Kordiabe and surrounding villages.
2003	Initiated project on the rehabilitation of irrigation dam at Kordiabe.
2004	Appointed extraordinary Confessor to the Reverend Sisters of
	the Handmaids of the Divine Redeemer, Accra Diocese.
2006, 1st June	Appointed Episcopal Vicar for the Religious in the Accra Diocese by His Grace Archbishop Palmer Buckle.
2009, 6th September to date	Appointed Parish Priest of Christ the King Parish, Accra.
2011, 2nd June	Appointed as Chairman, Board of Trustees, Betterlife Foundation, an NGO for children with Cancer.
2015, 31st January	Sod-cutting for the commencement of a 40-room accommodation for the Lepers at Nkanchina in the Northern Region.
2016, 18th January	Started Soup Kitchen and Under the Bridge Project in Accra.
2016, 30th January	Commissioning of 40room accommodation for the Lepers at Nkanchina.

2017, September	Started building new clinic for the Lepers at Kokofu in the Ashanti Region, but the contract was awarded on 21st August, 2018.
2018, 10th March	Commissioning of a Leprosy Unit at the Kokofu General Hospital for the cured Lepers at Kokofu in the Ashanti Region.
2018, 16th April	Appointed as a member of the Committee for the National Council of Persons with Disabilities (NCPD).
2018, 6th June	Was Chairman for the programme for viewing the latest show by Investigative Journalist, Anas Aremeyaw Anas.
	Awards
1994, 19th November	Awarded Honorary Membership of SOS, Ghana.
2001, 6th January	Conferred with Order of Volta, by former Prresident, Flt. Lt. Jerry John Rawlings.
2005, 19th August	Awarded Millenium Excellence Award for Foreign Personality of the Decade.
2005, 14th November	Given National Award for being the second (2nd) runner up, National Voluntary Blood Donor.
2010, 20th February	Awarded Tema Excellence Award for work with the poor.
2011, 13th April	Awarded by the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice for work in promoting and protecting fundamental Rights of the poor and needy in Ghana.
2011	Award for contributing towards enhancing the Destiny of the Ghanaian Child, by Ministry of Women and Children Affairs.
2013, 3rd July	Gained Ghanaian full citizenship.
2017	Award by Second (2nd) National Philanthropy Forum and Excellence Awards.
2020	Award by EMY Africa Awards
2020	Honorary Doctorate Award by the University of Allied Sciences in Ho, capital of the Volta Region, Ghana.
2021	Lifetime in a Portrait Award of the Decade

APPENDIX TWO

St. Andrew's, Westland Row

EXTRACT FROM BAPTISMAL REGISTERS

Names and Surname: Andrew Patrick Joseph Campbell

Born: 27 March 1946 Baptised: 3 April 1946

Parents' Names: Andrew Campbell — Kathleen Field

Liam A Byrne

Priest of the Parish

ST. ANDREW'S PARISH
-8 MAR 1957
Westland Row Dublin

IDEAL PRODUCTS LTD.,

MANAGING DIRECTOR: M. HARVEY

Wholesale
Grocers, Tobacconists, Confectioners,
Sundriesmen

TELEPHONE: 52335

20 THOMAS STREET,
DUBLIN

OUR REF. MH YOUR REF.

29-7-60.

To Whom it May Concern

Mr.Andrew Campbell ,65 Cloiginn Park Ballyfermot, has been employed by us for the past year. During that period we have found him to be an exemplary young lad. He has been punctual,with a good attendance record and in his work he has shown a steadiness and willingness often absent in those older than himself.

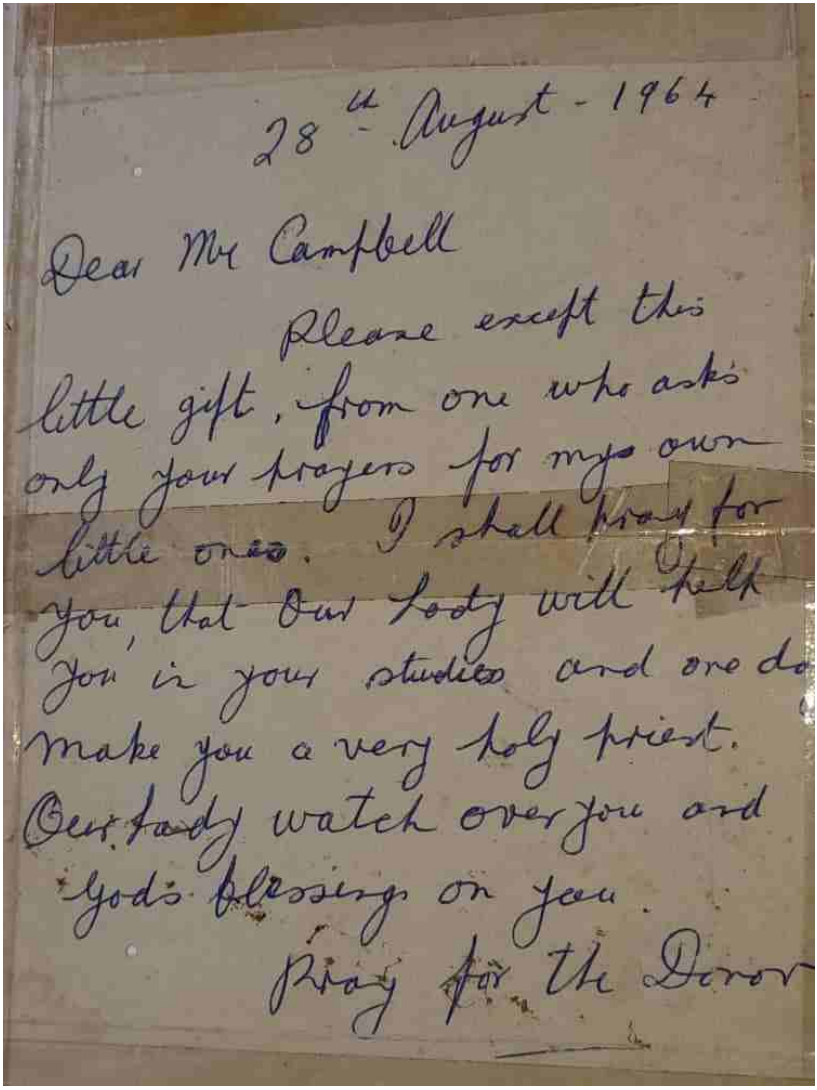
He is leaving us,commendably,to return to receive further education. He gave us very full notice,which we greatly appreciated.

In our opinion he is a very good type and we are sorry to lose him. We have no hesitation in recommending for any position where honesty and reliability are called for.

Yours truly,

MHarvey

Letter from Anonymous Donor of £ 10. 00 for Father Campbell's Three Cassocks in 1964



28th August - 1964

Dear Mr Campbell

Please except this little gift, from one who asks only your prayers for my own little ones. I shall pray for you, that Our Lady will help you in your studies and one day make you a very holy priest. Our Lady watch over you and God's blessings on you.

Pray for the Donor

GHANA'S MOST INFLUENTIAL

In recognition of your nomination and acknowledgement as the ***52nd Most Influential Ghanaian*** *for 2014 as voted by e.TV Ghana's viewers*

FATHER ANDREW
CAMPBELL

e.tv ghana

AKWASI AGYEMAN
MD, GMA BC

Heroes of Change

MTN

Citation

Father Andrew Campbell

You can be easily be referred to as an angel among men. This has nothing to do with your ever present white cassock or your white shinning hair. It is because with you, love has no boundaries.
It is never too much and it never runs out.

You are a Catholic priest who is dedicated to improving the plight of the marginalized and vulnerable in society. With your passion for touching the lives of the less privileged, you initiated many projects that have impacted many people in Ghana.
A large part of your efforts has been focused on the Weija Leprosarium where you have adopted the inmates of the Leprosarium as family and provide food, health care, clothing and all that they need to have a comfortable life. You believe that no human being should have to suffer neglect or abuse.
You live a selfless life to make others happy. You share all that you have.

In the course of the past 40 years you have had a positive impact on the lives of thousands of people living with leprosy and even today you are involved with over 700 of them, with 31 living at Weija.

Father Andrew Nii Lamoy Campbell, it is for this life of love and generosity that MTN Ghana Foundation recognises you as a Hero of Change.

CEO, MTN Ghana

4th April 2014

CITATION

REV. FR. ANDREW CAMPBELL

ST. ROSE'S

YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THERE FOR US, TO INSPIRE AND MENTOR US.

YOU HAVE BEEN A FATHER A BROTHER AND A FRIEND.

TEACHING US SO MANY VIRTUES OF LIFE

REACHING OUT TO THE LESS PRIVILEGED WITH SO MUCH GODLY LOVE.

WE WILL FOREVER CHERISH AND REMEMBER YOU. YOU ARE A HEAVENLY

STAR, NEVER STOP SHINING

From
St. Rose's Reach Out Society

Certificate of Appreciation

National Service Personnel (2008/2009)
Noguchi Memorial Institute For Medical Research, NMIMR

This Certificate is awarded to

REV. FR. ANDREW CAMPBELL

In Appreciation and Recognition of Your Generous Contribution Towards The Ho Leprosarium Charity Project

DIRECTOR	PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT
PROF. ALEXANDER K. NYARKO	*CHRISTOPHER Z. ABANA*	*NAA AYELEY MILLS-TETTEY*
NMIMR	NATIONAL SERVICE PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION	NATIONAL SERVICE PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

SAVE A STREET CHILD FOUNDATION

Save a Street Child
Foundation

CITATION OF HONOUR

REV. FATHER ANDREWS CAMPBELL

Sir, we want to express our profound gratitude for your immerse contribution towards this project. You have been a father to the fatherless and have shown great love to the street children.

Your prompt response and participation is highly appreciated by the entire SAVE A STREET CHILD FOUNDATION.

You always give positive response to our call. You consistently give godly advice to the foundation in achieving our aim, to help street children in our country.

We pray for divine blessing through out your endeavors and strongly believe that you will continue to support the foundation achieve it's vision.

Sir, we love you so much.
A WALK AGAINST STREETISM

giving hope to the vulnerable...

LOOK who is

40

YEARS A PRIEST

SPIRITUAL BOUQUET

On the occasion of your Fortieth Anniversary as a priest which fell on December 20, 2010; the Osu Deanery Priests present to you, **Very Reverend Father Andrew Campbell (SVD)** a Spiritual Bouquet.

Holy Mass	-	40
Eucharistic Adoration	-	40 hours
Holy Rosary	-	400 decades
Divine Mercy Chaplet	-	40
Psalms	-	1, 8, 23, 27, 40, 46, 51,90,91,108,121

BAttachie

.....

Date: February 02, 2011

V. Rev. Fr. Blaise Attachie

[Dean, Osu Deanery]

Very Rev. Fr. Andrew CAMPBELL SVD

Congratulations

CITATION OF HONOUR

VERY REV. FR. ANDREW CAMPBELL, SVD

This Citation is presented to Very Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbell, SVD, Parish Priest of Christ the King Church at Cantonments, Accra, for promoting the sale of The Catholic Standard in Parishes you had pastored over the years.

The Board and Management of the Standard Newspapers and Magazines Ltd., publishers of The Catholic Standard, Ghana's National Weekly, on its 75th anniversary celebration, express appreciation for promoting the Paper in your current Parish.

God bless all your endeavours.

Dated: December 8, 2013

Samuel K. Asubonteng
Board Chairman

Isaac Fritz Anubah
Managing Director

EMPEROR GAZA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

in association with

The National Council on Persons with Disability

PRESENT

DAANNAA EXCELLENCE AWARDS

For Persons with Disability

CITATION OF HONOR

Presented To

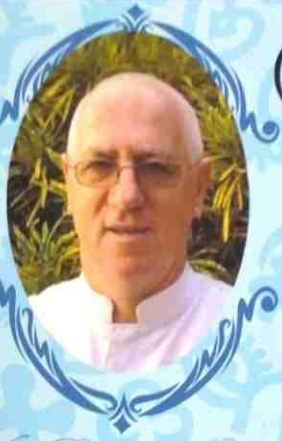
REV. FR. ANDREW CAMPBELL

In recognition of your selfless contribution to the help of people living with leprosy,
the needy and less privileged in Ghana and across the African continent.
Just like Mother Theresa, your passion for charity and commitment to what you do makes you
a global Icon in the field of charity and a mentor for many around the world.
The sincere care, genuine love, sense of empathy, solution-oriented deeds
and outstanding style of leadership which you demonstrate in
charity defy all odds to make you a gift to our nation, Ghana.

In recognition of your grounds-breaking achievements in Charity,
we at EGIF appreciate your good works with this Excellence Award.
Emperor Gaza International Foundation believes that your achievements and life-story
would serve as a source of motivation and empowerment for others;
more especially the youth, all less privileged in society and the world at large.
Indeed! You are a generational blessing.
Ayekoo!

With the Technical Support of:

Dated 8th December, 2013



Citation

IN HONOUR OF OUR SCHOOL FOUNDER

Very Reverend fr. Andrew Nii Lantey Campbell **(SVD)**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1977, OUR MOTHERLAND WARMLY RECEIVED THIS YOUNG PRIEST FROM THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND TO WORK HERE AS A MISSIONARY.

HE WAS WELCOME AT THE HOLY SPIRIT CATHEDRAL BY THE THEN BISHOP DOMINIC ANDOH WHO LATER TRANSFERRED HIM TO THE SACRED HEART PARISH – KORLE WOGON AS A PARISH PRIEST.

HE BECAME SO AFFECTIONATE WITH THE INDEGIONS THAT AFTER MASS HE WOULD GO ROUND THE COMMUNITY TO FRATERNISE.

DURING THOSE TIMES HE SAW THAT THERE WERE NO COMMERCIAL / VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS AROUND THE AREA TO GIVE EDUCATION TO THE YOUTH AFTER THEIR ELEMENTARY SO IN 1980 HE BROUGHT INTO BEING SACRED HEART VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE TO UNDERTAKE COURSES IN BUSINESS ACCOUNTING, SECRETARIAL AND DRESS MAKING. TO ENSURE ITS SMOOTH OPERATION, HE BECAME THE VERY FIRST PRINCIPAL.

NOT RELENTING ON HIS DREAM TO GET MORE YOUTH TO ACQUIRE VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL SKILLS, HE FOUGHT TIRELESSLY TO GET THE CHIEFS AND PEOPLE OF JAMES TOWN TO RELEASE THIS CURRENT SITE WHICH USED TO BE A CEMETARY AND CONVERTED IT TO THIS BEAUTIFUL EDIFICE NOW CALLED SACRED HEART TECHNICAL INSTITUE (SAHTECH).

REVEREND FR. ANDY CAMPBELL. YOUR VISION 32 YEARS AGO AND INGENUITY HAS GIVEN MOTHER GHANA TODAY A REVEREND FATHER, REVEREND SISTERS AND BROTHERS, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS, SECRETARIES, SECURITY PERSONELS IN THE ARMED FORCES, NAVY, FIRE SERVICES, POLICE AMONG OTHERS.

ON THIS 3RD NOVEMBER, 2012 THAT WE COMMEMORATE OUR FOUNDERS DAY (FR. ANDREW NII LANTEY CAMPBELL'S (SVD) DAY) WE THE OLD STUDENTS HERE IN AFTER CALLED SHAPSA SAYS THANK YOU VERY MUCH AND MAY YOUR MAKER ALWAYS FIND FAVOUR WITH YOU.

LAWRENCE L. LARTEY
(PRESIDENT)

GABRIEL ADDO
(SECRETARY)

e.tv ghana
GHANA'S MOST INFLUENTIAL 2015
In recognition of your nomination
and acknowledgement as the
11th Most Influential
Ghanaian
for 2015 as voted by
the public
REV. FATHER CAMPBELL
AKWASI AGYEMAN
MD, GMABC

ROTARACT CLUB OF ACCRA - LABONE
SPONSORED BY ROTARY CLUB OF ACCRA - LABONE
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
Awards this
Certificate of Honour
ROTARACT CLUB
To: REV. FATHER CAMPBELL
As the SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOUR
During the:
PRESIDENTIAL CHARITY BALL
Rotary President
Rotary / Rotaract year
2005 / 06
Rotaract President
Fellowship Through Service

Republic of Ghana

MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Certificate of Merit

DISTRICT AWARD

23RD NATIONAL FARMERS' DAY CELEBRATION

This Certificate is awarded to

REV. FATHER ANDREW CAMPBELL (SPECIAL AWARD)

of TEMA

In recognition of his/her outstanding contribution towards

THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN GHANA

Given this day the FRIDAY 7TH DEC. 2007 *at* KORDIABE

Hon. Ernest . A. Debrah
Minister of Food & Agriculture

GHANA FEDERATION OF THE DISABLED

presents this

Plaque of Honour

to

Rev. Father Campbell

In recognition of your exemplary initiative towards the eradication of leprosy and support for persons with disability in Ghana.

GFD President

(Samuel Kwesi Asare)

Executive Director

(Rita Kyeremaa Kusi)

2009 DISABILITY AWARDS

3rd December International Day of Persons With Disability

CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANISATION

GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH, COMM. 2, TEMA

DATE: 23RD DECEMBER 2007

CITATION IN HONOUR OF

VERY REV. FR. ANDREW CAMPBELL

This award is in recognition f your dedicated services to this Organisation over the years.

Your support to the Organisation in divers ways has won the admiration of the Executives and the entire membership.

Your contribution both in cash and in kind has been recognized and your pieces of advise and continuous prayers have been grately appreciated.

And we therefore award you with this CITATION *at the occasion of our 40th Anniversary for your immense contribution to the progress of this Organisation.*

God Richly Bless You

Congratulations

Cr. Rita Tatata Ayine
(Chairman)

Snr. Cr. Sarah Ofori
(Deanery Chairman)

SOS Ghana

SOS Children's Village Association of Ghana

Certificate of Honorary Membership

This Certificate is awarded on 19th. Nov.'94 to

Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbell

for Outstanding Contributions to Child Welfare in Ghana

Mr. Nick Opoku
Chairman

Dr. Enchill Kofi Asare
National Coordinator

Millennium Excellence Awards

FOREIGN EXCELLENCE PERSONALITY OF THE DECADE

This certificate confirms and acknowledges such that all may know that

Father Andrew Campbell

An international personality in the true service of the Ghanaian society has worked in Ghana and has imparted high level and rich experience to the nation.

This honour is bestowed on you this day **30th December 1999** in recognition of your excellent achievement.

By this you are a **Millennium Excellence Awards Recipient**.

Secretary National Planning Committee

Chairman National Planning Committee

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

SACRED HEART CONFERENCE

Citation

REV. FATHER ANDREW CAMPBELL

"The heights that great men attained was not achieved by sudden flight but by....."

The Recognition attained and Achievements registered by the St. Vincent De Paul Society (Sacred Heart Conference) in the Love and Care of the Poor, the Aged, and the Needy especially in the establishment and operation of the

St. Vincent De Paul Centre

for the Aged have been possible due to your practical and positive thoughts and most especially your untiring deeds.

For us, (The Sacred Heart Conference - S.V.P.) Your Name

REV. FATHER ANDREW CAMPBELL

HAS BEEN *ENGRAVED* IN

GOLD

St. Vincent De Paul Society

3/1/99

Mr. Joe Ashianor
President
St. Vincent De Paul Society
Sacred Heart Conference

Millennium Excellence Awards

Humanitarian Award

This certificate acknowledges and confirms that all may know that

Rev. Father Campbell

was a nominee for the Millennium Excellence Awards 2005.

This honour is bestowed on you this day 27th July 2005 in recognition of your excellent achievement.

Dr. Kwabena Duffuor
Chairman, Board of Governors

Mr. Ashim Morton
Chairman, Excellence Awards Foundation

Certificate

MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTIVITY INSTITUTE
ACCRA - GHANA

This Certificate is awarded to

ANDREW CAMPBELL (REV. FR.) S.V.D.

for participating in an in-plant course

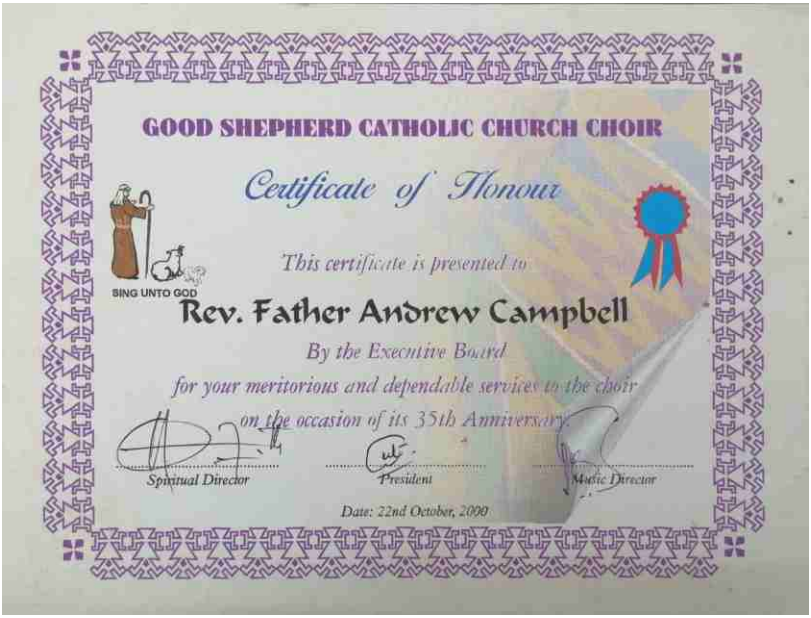
on EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE SKILLS

from NOVEMBER 20, 2001 to NOVEMBER 23, 2001

Date NOVEMBER 23, 2001

A.W.K. CAIGUO
Deputy Director

T.K.A. BIBILAZU
Director



GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH CHOIR

Certificate of Honour

SING UNTO GOD

This certificate is presented to

Rev. Father Andrew Campbell

By the Executive Board

for your meritorious and dependable services to the choir

on the occasion of its 35th Anniversary

Spiritual Director | President | Music Director

Date: 22nd October, 2000

Se (Shai) Progress and Development Award

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

This Commendation is presented to

Reverend Father Campbell
of Tema

GIVEN AT DODOWA-SHAI, GHANA

HRM Drolor Bosso Adamtey I
SE NOYAM MATSE
10 SEPTEMBER 2005

ARCHDIOCESE OF ACCRA - HOLY SPIRIT CATHEDRAL PARISH
ADABRAKA, ACCRA

Jubilee Award of Excellence

This Certificate
of Honour and Distinction

is awarded to

Very Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbell

In recognition of your commitment to the service of Holy Mother Church through your invaluable contribution to the well-being and growth of the Holy Spirit Cathedral.

on 1st January day of 2006

+ Charles G. Palmer-Buckle
Most Rev. Gabriel Charles Palmer - Buckle, DD, SVD
Metropolitan Archbishop of Accra

Rev. Pius Kpiegla
Very Rev. Msgr Pius Kpiegla
Cathedral Administrator

FAGRO

Citation

for

FR. ANDREW NII LANTEY CAMPBELL

In recognition of your valuable contributions to FAGRO

This is to appreciate you Reverend Father Andrew Campbell, for your outstanding service and contribution to FAGRO since its inception. You, Father Campbell has been our spiritual pillar and has led prayer sessions throughout our eight year journey.

We always marvel at the willingness and zeal with which you attend to our call.

Father Campbell, we are grateful to our Lord Jesus Christ for your life, He through you has made every program organized under FAGRO, a success one year after the other.

FAGRO has gone through a succession of eight wonderful years, because Father Campbell prayed

FAGRO has had a National reach because, Father Campbell prayed

FAGRO is leading and shaping the Agricultural conversation for development, because Father Campbell prayed

FAGRO is driving and attracting many people into agriculture, because Father Campbell prayed

FAGRO is creating a sustainable platform for agricultural promotions and exhibitions, because Father Campbell prayed

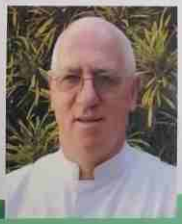
FAGRO is partnering with institutions, agencies and organizations to train and build capacity in agriculture of farmers and other agriprinuers because Father Campbell prayed

FAGRO is leading the crusade to change the thinking and mindset of people to see Agriculture as a business because Father Campbell prayed

FAGRO is attracting Foreign Investors into Ghana's Agricultural sector, because Father Campbell prayed.

FAGRO is attracting the Youth into Agriculture through Rebranding and Projections because Father Campbell continues to pray...

God Richly Bless You



DANGME WEST DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT UNIT

CITATION

YOU EXTENDED YOUR HAND OF FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE DANGME WEST DISTRICT ASSEMBLY & AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN KORDIABE.

FOR THE PERIOD THAT YOU HAVE ASSOCIATED WITH THE DISTRICT, YOU HAVE WORKED TOWARDS POVERTY REDUCTION AND IN CREATING WEALTH FOR THE UNDERPRIVILEGED. YOU HAVE LIVED UP TO YOUR GODLY CALLING TO SERVE HUMAN KIND AND PROVIDE FOR THEIR SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL WELLBEING.

THIS YOU ACHIEVED BY COLLABORATING WITH THE COMMUNITY TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THEIR SELF DEVELOPMENT. SIGNIFICANTLY, YOU CARRIED OUT AN AMBITIOUS PROJECT OF PROVIDING THE **KORDIABE EARTH DAM PROJECT** TO SERVE THE PREDOMINANT FARMING POPULATION AND PROVIDE WATER ALL YEAR ROUND TO SUPPORT AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.

YOUR IMMENSE SUPPORT CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS EXEMPLARY AND WORTH EMULATING BY ALL.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE CELEBRATION OF THE 23RD NATIONAL FARMERS' DAY, WE OFFER YOU, **REV. FATHER ANDREW CAMPBELL** THIS AWARD AS A TOKEN OF OUR APPRECIATION OF YOUR CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN THE DANGME WEST DISTRICT IN PARTICULAR AND GHANA IN GENERAL.

ACCEPT OUR HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS ON THIS OCCASION.

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH
SAKUMONO ESTATE
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

C I T A T I O N

TO

REV. FR. ANDREW CAMPBELL, SVD

Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbell, the Corpus Christi Catholic Church acknowledges your attribute of love and respect for humanity, especially the poor and the needy, finds expression in your charity works.

Your God-fearing and holy attributes are manifested in your spirituality. Your strong faith in God, His Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ and His Holy Catholic Church is amply demonstrated in your actions and words.

It is in James 2:20 that we are told, "But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?" Indeed, for the entire period that you shepherded this church, you succeeded in encouraging us to appreciate the biblical significance of faith in action as indicated in this scripture and for this we shall forever remember you.

Your mastery of the art of communication was always at its best during your Sunday Sermons. Through the use of teaching aids (e.g. newspaper clips, toys, etc.) you succeeded in pressing home your useful points much to the amazement of your congregation. We still have reminiscences of your vivid, practical homilies on subjects bordering on "Effective Marriages", "Happy Family Life", "Abortions", "Promiscuity", HIV/AIDS", "Indecent Dressing to Church (e.g. Acapulco dress)", etc.

Your preaching and teachings have gone a long way to have a more positive impact on the lives of most parishioners at Corpus Christi.

Your remarkable role in the growth of the church at Sakumono is appreciated by all parishioners. It was during your tenure of office as Parish Priest that this Temple has been brought to its present state. It was during your tenure that Holy Child JSS was completed. It was again during your tenure that we cut the sod and commenced work on the Parish Hall/ Rectory Project. Today it stands out as a magnificent edifice and it is habitable. You are the kingpin of the Corpus Christi Secondary School.

It is in recognition of your distinguished leadership qualities, your amazing spirituality, exemplary charity works, inexhaustible strength in carrying out projects, as well as your significant contribution to the physical and spiritual growth of the congregation of Corpus Christi Catholic Church at Sakumono that we all doff our hats and say, "Father Ayekoo. AD MULTOS ANNOS.

MAY THE GOOD LORD BLESS YOU ABUNDANTLY IN HIS VINEYARD.

Dated at Sakumono on Sunday, 1st June, 2003.

ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE
P. O. BOX GP 247,
ACCRA, GHANA, W. AFRICA.

TEL: 021- 222728
FAX:233-21-231619

Ref. No. A/10/a/17.

10th March, 2005.

The Secretary,
Irish Missionary Resource Service,
Dublin.

Dear Secretary,

RECOMMENDATION IN FAVOUR OF REV. FR. ANDREW CAMPBELL, SVD.

Reference to a request by Rev. Fr. Andrew Campbell, an Irish Divine Word Missionary Priest for funds from the Irish Missionary Resource Service towards the construction of two-storey classroom block for St. John Bosco Basic School at Tema, I write to give my support on the urgency of the project. I have given my approval for the project to proceed on the Good Shepherd Catholic Church compound.

Rev. Fr. Campbell, the Parish Priest at Good Shepherd Catholic Church has accomplished so much for the Catholic Church in Ghana over the past 30 years. During his 7 years at Tema, he has built an administrative block, parish hall complex, two outstation Chapels and currently working on another Chapel. Under his leadership, the Church has just commissioned a dental unit and is also rehabilitating a Dam with assistance from CARITAS.

Fifteen years ago, as parish Priest of Sacred Heart Church, Accra, and Local Manager of Sacred Heart Vocational Institute, Rev. Fr. Campbell petitioned the Irish Government for assistance to build a three-storey block. You generously donated £50,000 towards this project. The project was successfully implemented and as a result over 3,000 students have graduated with technical and vocational skills.

He is very efficient in planning, supervision and monitoring development projects. Rev. Fr. Campbell is a visionary and uses his time rather judiciously. I have every confidence in him that he will make the best use of any funds provided towards the project. I therefore give this project my blessing.

Your in the Service of Christ,

+.....
Most Rev. Dominic K. Andoh, DD., JCD.,
ARCHBISHOP OF ACCRA.

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN

Personal

REPUBLIC OF GHANA

In case of reply the
Number and date of this
Letter should be quoted

Our Ref: DOC/C.1/2/Vol. 9

Your Ref: .....

P. O. BOX M. 273
MINISTRIES
ACCRA
Tel.: 021-223425

25th February, 2010

FATHER CAMPBELL
CHRIST THE KING PARISH
ACCRA

Dear Partner,

CRC@20 PARTNER APPRECIATION DAY

To climax the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Department of Children with support from UNICEF is organising a Partner Appreciation Event to acknowledge individuals and organizations who have in diverse ways contributed to the development and wellbeing of children in the country.

We are happy to inform you that **you** have been identified to receive a **Meritorious** Award for **Promoting the Welfare of Children** in Ghana during this upcoming event scheduled for 18th March 2010.

We would be grateful if you could give us a Profile [not more than 250 words] of yourself including your contributions to promoting the welfare of children in Ghana over the past decade. It will be appreciated if we could get this information **by 10th March 2010** through rutheccdsec@yahoo.co.uk or call 021 223425 / 021 229095

We count on your usual corporation.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Ms. Mariama Yayah
Ag. National Director

THANK YOU FATHER CAMPBELL

Dear Father Campbell,

I'd just like to say thank you for the talks you've been giving our school, St. Roses. I believe you came at the right time, God's time to teach us about the Holy Spirit and how to live during long vac, also in our daily life. And when God willing I see my mum over the long vac I'll make swe to tell her and people all about you, so they may also learn too. I'm in 1I, & saw your face after the retreat night before lunch and you didn't look so happy, I just wanted to say sorry for the noise. Some didn't care but I did. I hope to see you Monday 20th December at the International Conference Center if not I'll send you a message some how God willing. I love what you do for the poor and the lepers, if it was in my power I'd give so much, but I'm still under parentle control. Once again thank you, and may God richly bless you, and may you live long to do His will. Amen.

Yours faithfully,

A young girl

You make God so real
You make prayer look like a chatline
You make sin so evil
You make tears look like that of joy
You bring laughter to a sadheart.
Your presence here is nothing to
compare to
The leaves rattle because you are
talking about God's greatness
The days seem longer because of your
dedication, love and care. I thank God
because ~~who~~ you are wonderful and
special.

To: Father Campbell.

This ambulance was donated by children in the North of Italy, through Gigi Fusini, a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The children decided to donate the money for their Christmas gifts to purchase the vehicle for the PMLCH in Accra.

LIFE PATRON
H.E JOHN AGYEKUM KUFUOR

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:
MOST REV. DR. ABOAGYE-MENSAH

PROF. (MRS) MIRANDA GREENSTREET

AMBASSADOR ALEX NTIM ABANKWA

HON. KWAME AMPORFO TWUMASI

DR. JOYCE ARYEE

DR. ISAAC OWUSU MENSAH

REV.DR.NANAYAA DWUSU-PREMPEH

MR. KOFI GYAN

Inspiring Generations for a Better World

INITIATORS OF CHANGE FOUNDATION · I · C · F ·

20th February, 2021

FATHER ANDREW CAMPBELL
ACCRA

Dear FATHER,

NOMINATION TO RECEIVE A "LIFETIME IN A PORTRAIT AWARD" AS COMPASSIONATE LEADER OF THE DECADE

The Life Patron, Board of Trustees, and Management of the Initiators of Change Foundation (ICF) present their compliments and best wishes to you.

This year marks exactly ten years of the establishment of our foundation. As part of the 10th anniversary celebrations, the Foundation is honouring distinguished Ghanaians in a special edition of the "Lifetime In A Portrait Award" dubbed the **Lifetime In A Portrait Award Of The Decade**.

This edition of our annual award is to honor Ghanaians who have contributed exceptionally towards the development of the country as Public Servants and those who have projected the shining image of Ghana amongst the international community through their outstanding service to humanity.

The Initiators of Change Foundation has the pleasure to nominate you for its special edition of the prestigious LIFETIME IN A PORTRAIT AWARD as our **COMPASSIONATE LEADER OF THE DECADE** in recognition and appreciation of the **positive impact your leadership as CHAIRMAN OF LEPERS COMMITTEE has made on society.**

P.O.Box KD 841, Kanda, Accra-Ghana Tel: +233 505719369 || +233 243 571237
Email: **initiators2014@gmail.com** Website: www.initiatorsfoundation.org

3D IMPRESSION - FRONT VIEW

3D IMPRESSION - AERIAL VIEW

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Maria Marciana Kuusaana is a History lecturer at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, in the Department of History and Political Studies. She teaches some aspects of Regional History and History of Christianity in Ghana, and has interest in compiling biographies.

ABOUT THE BOOK

The book is a narrative of the missionary journey of Rev. Father Andrew Campbell, SVD. Irish by birth, he arrived in Ghana at the tender age of twenty-five as a newly-ordained Catholic Priest of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD) in October 1971. He is popularly called the Lepers' Priest because of his concern for their welfare.

However, he can best be described as a humanitarian extraordinaire, having reached out to the needy and neglected of all categories in Ghana. He has been able to draw from the upper crust of Ghanaian society, ranging from heads of state, chiefs, elites, artistes, distinguished sportsmen, corporate groups, among others, to support the poor and needy, and has been overwhelmingly successful in this regard. He has won the hearts of Ghanaians, as well as people from beyond the shores of Ghana. This biography which has been compiled to commemorate his fifty years in Ghana, is a detailed account of how he has been able to achieve this much for the underprivileged in Ghanaian society.

ISBN: 978-9988-3-2877-1

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