

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF TECHIMAN

A Brief History of the Diocese

The Catholic Diocese of Techiman was created by the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI on December 28, 2007. It was carved out of the Catholic Dioceses of Sunyani and Konongo-Mampong. Most Rev. Dominic Yeboah Nyarko, the first Bishop of the Diocese, was ordained on March 29, 2008. He took canonical possession of the Diocese on that same day.

The Diocesan area lies between longitudes ($1^{\circ} 49'W$ $0^{\circ} 15'E$) and latitudes ($6^{\circ} 15'N$ and $8^{\circ}45'N$), covering total surface area of 22,952 square kilometers which is about 10% of the total surface area of Ghana, making it the second largest Diocese, after Damongo. The Diocese shares boundaries with Sunyani Diocese to the west, Kumasi Archdiocese, Konongo-Mampong Diocese and Donkorkrom Vicariate to the south, Jasikan Diocese to the east, and Yendi Diocese and Tamale Archdiocese to the north. It is co-terminus with the Bono East Region in Ghana.

Figure 1a: Bono East Region in Ghana



Figure 1b: MMDAs in Bono East Region



There are eleven municipal and district assemblies in Bono East Region. These are Atebubu-Amanten Municipal, Kintampo Municipal, Kintampo South District, Nkoranza North District, Nkoranza South Municipal, Pru East District, Pru West District, Sene East District, Sene West District, Techiman North District and Techiman Municipal Assemblies.

Total and Population

Accordance to the 2021 Ghana population census, the diocesan area has a total population of 1,203,400 representing 3.9% of the national total.

Catholic Population

The estimated catholic population of 193,747 includes lapsed Catholics who reside in the diocesan area but are not listed in the record books of the parishes and the diocesan Chancery. For according to the diocesan Chancery's database, the average annual total number of active catholic population for the period 2013-2022 is 87,857; and this includes the average annual new baptized Catholics of 3,943. Obviously, the active catholic population in the diocesan area is less than the total population of lapsed Catholics which is estimated at 105,890 (54.6%). This, therefore, calls for the intensification pastoral activities.

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Parishes and Stations

There are 30 parishes and 364 stations, indicating an average of 13 stations per parish. 27 are handled by Diocesan priests and 3 are handled by Religious priests (SVD and Divine Word Missionaries)

Deaneries

The parishes in the Diocese are grouped into six (6) Deaneries. Each deanery is headed by a Dean, who oversees several neighbouring parishes and quasi-parishes for effective pastoral ministry. Table 2 below gives the names of the deaneries and their respective Deans and component parishes.

Table 2: Deaneries and Component parishes.

Deanery	Parishes & Quasi-Parishes
Techiman	Cathedral, Kenten, Tuobodom & Offuman (4)
Grotto	Asueyi-Grotto, Krobo, Akrofuom, Aworowa (4)
Abourso	Abourso, Nsuta, Tanoso, Mt. Camel[Hansua]
Nkoranza	Nkoranza, Bonsu, Hospital Chaplaincy, Busunya, Kranka, Jerusalem Grotto (6)
Kintampo	Kintampo, Kintampo Magazine Kyeremankuma, Jema, New Longoro (5)
Atebubu	Atebubu, Amantin, Yeji, Prang, Kwame Danso

Diocesan Priests

Ordained and incardinated into the Diocese, diocesan priests work mostly in parishes and institutions in good collaboration with the Local Ordinary. The total number of the Techiman diocesan priests is 53, including the Bishop, 11 of whom are based abroad (2 in Austria, 3 in Italy and 6 in the USA).

Religious Priests

There are eight (8) Religious (expatriate) Priests working in the Diocese. Six belong to the Divine Word Missionaries (SVD), who work in three parishes, and two are Benedictine Monks, based in Kristobuase Monastery.

Catechists

There are so many men and women devoted to the ministry of Catechists. Below is the breakdown:

	Male	Female	Total
Full-time	13	5	18
Part-time	228	22	250
Voluntary	152	33	185
Total	393	60	453

Major Seminarians

The total number of major Seminarians of the Diocese is 80. Table 7 below has the breakdown. These major seminarians are being trained at the various institutions: St. Peter's, St. Victor's and St. Gregory Seminaries in Cape Coast, Tamale and Kumasi respectively. One (1) of the seminarians is studying in Rome.

Table 7: Major Seminarians and Their Institutions of Study

Training Institution	Number of seminarians
St. Peters Seminary, Cape Coast	12
St. Paul's Seminary, Accra	15
St. Gregory the Great Seminary, Kumasi	33
St. Victor Seminary, Tamale	10
St. Augustine Seminary	9
Rome	1
Total	80

This year the main aim is Seminarians formation. With the many seminarians, and, as the youngest diocese in Ghana, paying for their tuition has become a challenge. Last year, some students were rejected because of my bishop's and the diocese's inability to afford their tuition. It is 9 years of formation and approximately 1,300 dollars per student annually. In the coming 2023/2024 academic year, my Bishop will be spending 104,000 USA Dollars (One hundred and four thousand dollars) on Seminarians' tuition and formation. We are hoping to raise the necessary funds through this appeal to be able to cater for the Seminarians.

I, Rev. Fr. John Kwaku BROBBEY, from the Diocese of Techiman, but, working at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in West Des Moines, has been assigned by my bishop to help raise the necessary funds to be able to train more priests for both the local church and the needs of other dioceses abroad, especially, in the United States of America. Please, help us with your donations to fiscally and effectively train those major seminarians for both the local and the global Roman Catholic Church. There are possibilities for some people to adopt and train some seminarians until they become priests. Partial scholarships and sponsorships are equally possible. Any kind of help which you can individually and collectively give our bishop/diocese will be greatly appreciated. We assure of our prayers and Masses, and, may God richly bless all of you for helping our diocese. Thanks a million!

Missionary Cooperative Program 2023

About Our Organization

Name of Mission Organization: Catholic Diocese of Techiman (Ghana)

U.S. Contact/Mission Representative: Rev. Emmanuel Baffoe

Mailing Address: 2 Green Street, Mount Kisco, NY 10549

Telephone: 914-471-1832

Email: baffoeemma@gmail.com

About Our Speaker

The speaker for appeals will be a Priest, in the person of: Rev. John Kwaku Brobbey

Distribution of Funds

Please, the most secure and preferred means of sending money to our organization is by Mail (U.S. only):

Mail Information (U.S. remittance only)

Make check payable to: Catholic Diocese of Techiman

Mailing Address: 2 Green Street

City: Mount Kisco

State: New York

Zip: 10549

With much blessings, ever, thank you for your support to the Catholic Diocese of Techiman.