# First Annual Marian Congress

# Take Mary Into Our Hearts & Homes

Renewing Our Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Personally and as a Diocese

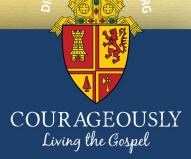
*"May Mary's example be our strength, light and our guide." – Bishop Gregory Parkes* 

# Save the Date

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2019 9 A.M. - 5 P.M. 4 P.M. Mass of Renewal Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle 5815 5th Ave N, St. Petersburg

For more information, visit **www.dosp.org/heartofmary** 

in Cooperation with the International Consecrated Marian Society



# Schedule

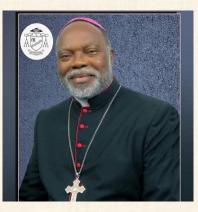
Time	Activity	Location
8:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m.	Registration	Parish Hall
9:00 a.m.—9:30 a.m.	Praise and Worship Led by Freedom to Worship Ministry	Parish Hall
9:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m.	Rachel Dutilly "Mary: A Gift from Jesus" A Personal Testimony	Parish Hall
10:45 a.m.—11:45 a.m.	Fr. Carlos Rojas "Marian Consecration as a Covenant of Love" From the Gospel of John 19:26-27	Parish Hall
11:45 a.m.—12:45 p.m.	Lunch and Fellowship	Parish Hall
1:00 p.m.—2:30 p.m.	GregMary Ajide "Mary: Our Refuge in Time of Danger" Eucharistic Exposition, Adoration and Benediction	Parish Hall
2:30 p.m.—4:00 p.m.	Rosary, Prayer and Preparation for Mass	Parish Hall
4:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.	Mass and Prayer of Consecration	Cathedral

## **Main Celebrant & Homilist of the Mass of Renewal**

#### Most Reverend William Amove Avenya Bishop of the Diocese of Gboko , Nigeria

Most Reverend William Amove Avenya was born on June 21, 1955 in Benue State, Central Nigeria. He attended Mount St. Gabriel Secondary School, Makurdi, Benue State and later St. Augustin's Major Seminary, Jos, Plateau State in Central Nigeria.

He also attended Manchester University, England, where he completed his doctorate in Education in 1989. Bishop Avenya was ordained a priest on May 30, 1981, appointed Auxiliary



Bishop of Makurdi Diocese on November 28, 2008 and consecrated on January 24, 2009. With the creation of Gboko Diocese (from Makurdia Diocese) on December 29, 2012, His Excellency was appointed its first Bishop. He was installed as Bishop of Gboko on February 24, 2013.

# **Message from Bishop Gregory Parkes**

#### **Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

In May of last year I consecrated the Diocese of St. Petersburg, Florida to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle. It was a deeply moving experience to see the Cathedral church filled to capacity. Many people and priests from parishes throughout the Diocese came to be a part of this spiritual moment.

St. John Paul II reminds us that, "The Immaculate Virgin invites us not to fix our eyes on her but to pass beyond, and as much as possible, to enter into the mystery in which she was conceived: the mystery of God who is One and Three, full of grace



and fidelity. As the moon shines with the light of the sun, so the immaculate splendor of Mary is totally relative to that of the Redeemer. The Mother leads us to her Son; passing through her, we reach Christ."

We need Mary's maternal love and intercession to bring us back from sin into the merciful love of God.

This year I invite you to be a part of our First Annual Marian Congress and Renewal of the Consecration of the Diocese of St. Petersburg to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on Saturday, May 11, 2019, at the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle.

The theme for this year will be to *Take Mary Into Our Hearts and Homes* and entrust ourselves to her care, through the renewal of our Consecration to her Immaculate Heart. The day will begin at 9:00 a.m. with three conferences as well as Eucharistic Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction. At 4:00 p.m., the Mass to renew our Consecration to the Blessed Mother will begin. I have invited Bishop William Amove Avenya, of the Diocese of Gboko, Nigeria to be the Main Celebrant of the Mass.

I pray that the Lord's abundant blessings be upon you as you prepare for our Marian Congress, and your own personal consecration to Mary and the renewal of our consecration as a Diocese.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

+ Antales

Most Reverend Gregory L. Parkes Bishop of St. Petersburg



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# **Conference Presenters**

#### **Rachel Dutilly**



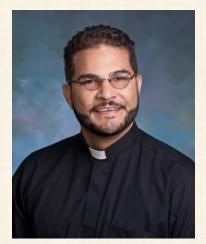
Originally from New Hampshire, Rachel Dutilly was a Sister of Holy Cross from 1967 to 1993. During this time she taught in elementary and secondary schools, worked as Pastoral Minister with Native Americans in Montana, taught in a government school in Bhutan and was a missionary in Bangladesh. Rachel's experience also includes being a phone counselor at a Women's Center, cofounder of Bethel House of Prayer and a counselor at Maria Goretti, a women's residence in Montreal. After returning to the USA in 1996, she worked as a Special Education Director and teacher in her hometown and had the privilege of being an Easter Seals foster mom to a little girl with Down's Syndrome. Rachel is a Spiritual Director certified by the Mercy Center in Colorado and a Certified Riso-Hudson Enneagram teacher/counselor. She moved to Florida in 2005 and is a member of Blessed Trinity Catholic Church.

### **GregMary Ajide**



GregMary is from Anambra State, Nigeria. He manifested a great love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary early in his childhood. Formerly, he was the Awka Diocesan Coordinator of the Marian Movement of Priests and Associates (MMP), and Secretary of the Blue Army of Our Lady in his parish where he also led the Laity Council. He currently runs a Marian Center and Apostolate well known as Virgo Clemens International (VCI). He is a renowned Marian Crusader who goes out among the people delivering talks and conducting retreats. GregMary states that he was mysteriously called to the vineyard of God by the Blessed Virgin and is blessed with Heavenly visitations and Marian miracles of the sun. He has written some very beautiful books about Mary that have been approved for publication by Ecclesiastical authority.

#### **Father Carlos Rojas**



Father Carlos Rojas was born in Boston, Massachusetts and raised in Puerto Rico. At age 15, he migrated with his family to Tampa. He graduated from St. John Vianney Seminary in Miami where he received a BA in Philosophy and then St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach where he received a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Theology. Father Rojas was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of St. Petersburg on May 20, 2006. He is a certified Spiritual and Retreat Director from the Institute of Priestly Formation from Creighton University. He recently completed a pontifical certificate in Marian Studies from the International Marian Research Institute from the University of Dayton, Ohio. He considers himself a Marian Diocesan Priest with the mission of raising children into Christ Jesus in partnership with Mary, in the spirit of St. Joseph, chaste spouse of Mary.

Limited scholarships are available on a "first-come, first-served basis" for those who cannot afford the Marian Congress fee of \$25. Please contact Mercedes Cedeño at 727-344-1611 to request a scholarship.