

## BISHOP DUNIA VISITS ST. JOACHIM- ST. JOHN, BEACON.

Bishop Gabriel Dunia of Auchi, Nigeria, paid a one-day visit to St. Joachim- St. John Church on Saturday, April 28, 2007. On his arrival at 11 am, he was welcomed by the Pastor, Rev. Fr. David Nolan, the Priests and some Parishioners and was conducted around the Church Premises.

The bishop celebrated the 4.30 pm Mass at St. Joachim's Church, concelebrated by the Pastor and the other Priests of the Church. Before the Mass, the Pastor introduced and welcomed the Bishop. After the prayer after Communion, the Pastor thanked the Bishop for sending his Priests to work in the Parish and for his goodwill. He said he and the parishioners are happy about this development, as it has boosted the parish. While thanking the Bishop for his visit, he wished him safe a journey back home. Earlier during the homily, the Bishop thanked the Pastor and Parishioners for accepting his Priests working with them and for all they have done for them. He described them as good Christians who listen to the voice of Jesus Christ the good Shepherd by showing love to people at the command of Christ. While praying God to bless them, he enjoined the Parishioners to cooperate with the Pastor for the growth and development of the Parish. He prayed God to make the Parish grow from strength to strength.

After the Mass, there were refreshments where the Parishioners met the Bishop and interacted with him.

At the 5.30 Children's Mass in St. John, the Bishop encouraged the Children to be strong in faith to God and to be obedient and respectful to their Parents and Teachers in order to receive the blessings of God and be successful in life.

After the visit, the Bishop left for the Vatican City, Rome, for important Church matters.

Bishop Gabriel Dunia is the Bishop of Fr. Irenaeus Ikhane and Fr. Fabian Eghiabumhe who are on Mission assignment in St. Joachim- St. John Catholic Church, Beacon.