## MISSIONARY COOPERATION PLAN FOR 2017: THE APOSTOLIC VICARIATE OF DONKORKROM, GHANA

Each summer, we host a **Mission Appeal** here in the parish on behalf of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. This year we are hosting the Appeal on the weekend of July 29-30. Our Missionary is Rev. John Baptist Panpogee, former Vocations Director who is home from Rome during the summer. He will resume his post-graduate studies in Rome in the Fall.

Some essential facts about Donkorkrom, Ghana, Africa:

- Donkorkrom is a Rural District located in what is known as the "Afram Plains" in the Eastern Region of Ghana. It is one of the most isolated and economically impoverished islands in Ghana. The District covers an area of 4,285 square km.
- It has a population of about 160,000 inhabitants, mostly peasant farmers and fishermen.
- On January 19, 2010, Pope Benedict XVI, raised the Apostolic Prefecture of Donkorkrom to the rank of an Apostolic Vicariate with the same name and territory. The Most Reverend Gabriel Edoe Kumordji, SVD, was appointed Bishop of the Vicariate.
- Catholics are about 17,000 (10%) and are also growing rapidly, distributed in 7 parishes and 98 Mission Stations, served by 12 priests (3 diocesan *Fidei Donum* priests and 9 religious of the Society of the Divine Word), 110 catechists and 7 religious nuns.

As an Apostolic Vicariate and essentially a provisional ecclesiastical entity, the Vicariate is still in the process of becoming a diocese. Donations received from the 2017 Missionary Cooperation Plan will go directly toward: The completion of the construction of the Cathedral; the training of seminarians, catechists, and lay leaders; and the construction of Basic Schools

"The Church without borders, mother to all, spreads throughout the world a culture of acceptance and solidarity in which no one is seen as useless, out of place, or disposable." -- Pope Francis

