



VOICEAFRIQUE

CATHOLIC NEWS ANALYSIS

FOLLOWING THE FOOTPRINTS OF GOD IN AFRICA

VoiceAfrique Weekly Update

Catholic News Analysis from Africa by Africans, for Africa and the World
Friday, March 13, 2026

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This week, VoiceAfrique Catholic encourages us to bridge the gap between sacred tradition and the lived realities of our continent. As we journey through Lent, we are invited to see this season not as one of scarcity but as an opportunity to witness the abundance of God's grace within the "caves" and "deserts" of our societies.

From the intellectual discourse of African theology to the quiet acts of solidarity within our neighborhoods, we are challenged to remain "joyfully Christian and truly African." The discussion includes an examination of the role of women in shaping our spiritual identity and highlights the urgent need for a theology that transitions from the classroom to the grassroots—restoring dignity and demanding justice for all.

By Sr. Helen Kasaka, LSMI

Communication Director

Pan African Catholic Theology and Pastoral Network (PACTPAN)

This week's Spotlight: Palaver on Methods and Scope



Professor Mary N. Getui

This week's highlight features an in-depth look at the second installment of the PACTPAN "Palaver" series. Fr. William Orbih and Fr. David Mbugua engage with Professor Mary N. Getui, a distinguished Kenyan theologian. Her extensive career has focused on the intersection of faith, culture, and gender, providing insight that is both ecumenical and relevant to the African context.

A Methodology of Lived Experience

At the heart of Professor Getui's vision is a methodology that integrates Scripture,

Catholic theological ethics, and African contextual theology. She emphasizes that theology bears a profound responsibility to address the concrete realities of African communities. For her, the fundamental question remains: "How can we be African, how can we be Christian, and how can we be contemporary?"

The "Two Wings" of the Church

In discussing the role of women, Professor Getui references Mercy Amba Oduyoye's powerful imagery: for a bird to fly, it needs two wings. She argues that the Church and society have historically struggled to progress because women's leadership has been undervalued. A "renaissance" of the African family is necessary, where both men and women contribute according to their God-given dignity.

Ubuntu in the Age of AI

In a timely warning, Professor Getui addresses the rise of Artificial Intelligence and digital globalization, asserting that theology has a critical role in the digital era. She reminds us that a human being is only a human being through other human beings (Ubuntu), challenging the Church to ensure that digital tools enhance rather than replace the physical, communal heartbeat of the Faith.

A Call to Pastoral Action

To conclude, Professor Getui calls for a shift in theological methodology toward pastoral action. She encourages young scholars to listen to the "unsung heroes" of the continent—the vulnerable and marginalized—to discover where God is truly at work.

Event Logistics & Participation

The Palaver series continues to engage global audiences across multiple time zones, including 7:30 PM EAT, 5:30 PM WAT, and 6:30 PM in South Africa and Eastern DRC. Participants can join the dialogue through the PACTPAN Zoom platform to engage in this framework for meaningful reflection.

Watch the full palaver session on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRJJsPEXxZ4A&t=190s>

Lent is All about Abundance Embracing the Grace of Saturated Life

By SimonMary Asese Ahiokhai

This transformative reflection invites us to rethink the Lenten journey. Instead of viewing it solely through the lens of aridity and penance, Ahiokhai depicts Lent as a season of "saturated life." Drawing on motifs of the desert and the natural season of spring, he illustrates that God's grace is an overflowing presence. The article challenges believers to ensure their Lenten sacrifices extend beyond personal piety and result in tangible acts of solidarity that alleviate violence and scarcity for those in marginalized social contexts.

Read more: <https://voiceafrigue.org/lent-is-all-about-abundance/>

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