

Daily Story Calendar

October 2022

OCTOBER 1: Abreha

300s, Ancient Christian Church, Ethiopia

Today is the Feast Day of Saints 'Abreha and 'Asbeha in the Catholic Church. Ethiopian tradition generally places the introduction of Christianity into the country in the reign of 'Abreha and 'Asbeha.

OCTOBER 2: Samuel Olaniyi Egbbinade Oladitan

1920-2018, Baptist, Nigeria

During a lifetime of Christian ministry, Samuel Oladitan served in pastoral roles all over Nigeria, was active in the Nigerian Baptist Convention, and authored several books.

OCTOBER 3: Daniel Mbele Manteka

1915-2011, CEFMC, Congo.

Daniel Mbele Manteka suffered in his work of expanding and planting churches. He risked fierce animals such as elephants, leopards, lions, snakes, and others. Sometimes he got sick while traveling to evangelize. But God protected him.

OCTOBER 4: Massié Cécile Coulibaly

1970-2021, Evangelical Mennonite Church of Burkina Faso, Burkina Faso.

Cécile Massié Coulibaly (née Poda) could be described as a woman orchestra! She learned to sing, dance, and even play the drum after her conversion to the Christian faith.

OCTOBER 5: Augustine Chingwala Musopole

1948-2021, Presbyterian, Malawi

Augustine Chingwala Musopole was particularly known for his uMunthu theology. He took uMunthu as the core, organizing principle for his theology and used this concept as a prism through which to view all of life and every dimension of the Christian faith. This is uMunthu – the discovery that we are “made in the image of God in love, with love, through love and for love.”

OCTOBER 6: Francesco Borghero

1830-1892, Catholic Church, Benin

A pioneer Catholic missionary in Dahomey, Francesco Borghero, lived in Africa for only four years and despite his doubts about the mission he founded, it prospered, and Christianity spread east to Lagos and the Niger, and west to Togoland and the Gold Coast (Ghana), Ivory Coast, and Liberia. The expansion was based largely on Borghero’s study of the coast during his voyages of exploration.

OCTOBER 7: Yesero Tebba Olowo

1917-1999, Anglican Church, Uganda

Living and working in a troubled period of Uganda’s history, Yesero Tebba Olowo was one of the leaders who resisted the brutal rule of General Idi Amin. He was an organized, well-read man who spent long hours studying and writing handwritten manuscripts, mostly sermons and religious thought. He never published any of his manuscripts which remain in handwritten form.

OCTOBER 8: Elizabeth Coles Bouey

1890-1957, Baptist, Liberia

An African American missionary in Liberia, Elizabeth Coles returned to the United States and founded the National Association of Ministers’ Wives, of which she was the President for 17 years.

OCTOBER 9: Tiéba Traoré

1958-1994, Evangelical Mennonite Church of Burkina Faso, Burkina Faso

Tiéba Traoré was an evangelist and a church leader who spent all his life in his village of Kotoura and yet engaged in a lifelong commitment to the evangelism of neighboring villages. His perseverance and leadership of the church at Kotoura kept this first congregation of the Evangelical Mennonite Church in Burkina Faso stable and vibrant during his lifetime.

OCTOBER 10: Givule Floribert Matungulu

1945-2019, Communauté des Eglises des Frères Mennonites au Congo (CEFMC), République Démocratique du Congo

Matungulu is remembered for his Mennonite spirit. Calm and gentle, he was a peacemaker, a unifier, and a comforter in his community. He loved his community, encouraged responsible partnerships with the mother churches, and was the bearer of solutions.

OCTOBER 11: Fanny Marrion Coppin

1837-1913, African Methodist Episcopal Church, South Africa

Fanny Marrion Coppin was an African American educator and missionary who served as the President of the African Methodist Episcopal Women's Home and Foreign Mission Society for several years.

OCTOBER 12: Patrick Seyon

1938-2020, Catholic Church, Liberia

In 1981, while serving as a vice-president at the University of Liberia, he was jailed on false accusations of plotting to overthrow the government of Samuel Doe. After his release, he moved to Boston, Massachusetts, where he taught for a few years, as a lecturer and scholar at Harvard University.

OCTOBER 13: Sophia Odunlami

1900-1981, Aladura Church, Anglican Communion Nigeria

Sophia Odunlami impacted the emergence of the Aladura Movement in Nigeria. She was right there at the heart at the beginning of the movement. She also played vital roles in the transformation of the indigenously formed Prayer Band (Egbe Aladura) in Southwest Nigeria into a formidable African Pentecostal Movement.

OCTOBER 14: Janice McLaughlin

1942-2021, Catholic Church (Maryknoll Sisters), Zimbabwe, Kenya

After a few months of her arrival in Rhodesia, Janice McLaughlin was arrested and charged with violation of the Law and Order Maintenance Act. After being deported to the United States, she returned to serve refugees from Zimbabwe living in Mozambique. She later went on to write a Ph.D. dissertation on the Catholic church and the Zimbabwe liberation war at the University of Zimbabwe.

OCTOBER 15: Daniel Adewuyi Ige

1933-2020, Baptist, Nigeria

Daniel Adwuyi Ige served as a Deacon at the First Baptist Church Sokoto and was a strategic contributor to the spread of the Christian faith in North Nigeria.

OCTOBER 16: Edward Wilmot Blyden

1832-1912, Presbyterian, Liberia

In 1887 Edward Wilmot Blyden wrote a major work, *Christianity, Islam, and the Negro Race*. He also wrote many other books, pamphlets, and articles in which he sought to vindicate the Negro race. The roots of the philosophy of *négritude*, Pan-Africanism, African nationalism, and African Christian theology can be traced to Blyden's idea of African personality.

OCTOBER 17: Margaret Helen Monroe

1929-2008, Catholic Church (Maryknoll Sisters), Tanzania

From 1969 to the late 1990s, Margaret Helen Monroe worked at the Makoko Family Center in Tanganyika. The Center offered classes on the Bible, gave training in farming, animal husbandry, and childcare, and sponsored many income-generating projects.

OCTOBER 18: Dorcas Akintunde

1961-2011, Protestant, Nigeria

Dorcas Akintunde was an Associate Professor in New Testament and Women Studies and the Acting Head of the Department of Religious Studies, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria. She published over forty-five articles in learned journals, as well as several books and monographs.

OCTOBER 19: Emmanuel El-Fadle

1909, Maronite Catholic Church of Lebanon, South Africa

In 1905, Father Emmanuel El-Fadle was sent from Kharatha-Elzawye, Lebanon to South Africa to serve as a priest for the Lebanese community. He served the community as a spiritual leader and a social facilitator.

OCTOBER 20: Alma Hazel Rohm

1925-2015, Nigerian Baptist Convention, Nigeria

Alma Hazel Rohm fondly referred to as "Mama Rohm" was the longest-served American missionary from the Southern Baptist Convention to Nigeria. His Royal Majesty, Oba Omotoso Abimbola II, Oluwo of Iwo Land conferred on Rohm the chieftaincy title of Iya Ni Isin Ilu Iwo (Mother in the Service of the town) on January 15, 1982.

OCTOBER 21: Alfredo Cambonde

1932-2019, Evangelical Synodal Church of Angola

Alfred Cambonde led the Evangelical Church of the Southwest of Angola as General Secretary for 12 years. He wrote a book about the history of the IESA denomination, Ociseleko (Treasure) in the Umbundu language.

OCTOBER 22: Samra Krestos

1400-, Orthodox Church Ethiopia

Born into a wealthy and pious family from a frontier province in the Christian Ethiopian empire, Samra Krestos became a nun and lived the life of a hermit. She later gave up the life of a hermit and founded a monastery. She withdrew once again into solitude, standing in a pit for three years and in the lake for another three years. When death was near, she told a scribe named Filəppos her life story and thirty of her visions.

OCTOBER 23: Anita Marie MacWilliam

1930-2012, Catholic Church (Maryknoll Sisters), Tanzania

Anita Marie MacWilliam served as Head of Terminology and Translation at the Institute for Kiswahili Research at the University of Dar es Salaam, co-authored an English-Swahili dictionary, served as a founding member of the Women's Research and Documentation Project and the Translation Association of Tanzania, and authored many articles on linguistics, women, social justice, and multiculturalism.

OCTOBER 24: John Wesley Shungu

-2007, Methodist, Democratic Republic of Congo

John Wesley Shungu was a bishop and the first indigenous episcopal leader of the United Methodist church. When he came to the United States in 1965, he told a congregation in Harlem that "the fact that I am standing before you as the product of a missionary school is a credit to you and your work," according to a report in The New York Times.

OCTOBER 25: Andrea Lungwa

1900s, Anglican Communion (CMS), Tanzania

Loved by CMS missionaries, Andrew Lunwa, a humble teacher at Mpwapwa, made a substantial contribution to the establishment of the church in Tanzania. Several years after his death, a pastor's house was built and named after him at Mvumi in the 1960s.

OCTOBER 26: Afua Kuma

1908-1987, Presbyterian, Church of Pentecost, Catholic Church, Ghana

Madam Afua Kuma of Ghana (baptized Christiana Gyane), was one of the first modern African female oral theologians who, “represent[s] the women who weave lyrics about Jesus and pour their hearts out in prayer and praise at all times and in all places, the women whose theology gets ‘reduced’ into writing by those who can write.”

OCTOBER 27: Yared

500s, Ancient Christian Church, Ethiopia

Yaréd, the Deacon, was a writer and musician who became a saint of the Ethiopian Church. He became a deacon at the church of Mädhané-Alām and became Ethiopia’s first composer of church music.

OCTOBER 28: Sebubi Sekopo

1810-1891, London Missionary Society, Botswana, South Africa

Sebubi and several others established a community run on Christian principles a few miles northeast of Kanye in Tlohorong, where they practiced irrigated farming. They christened their settlement “Ranaka” (a shortened Tswana version of “we reside by the word of God”) and managed to attract a number of other southern Tswana Christians.

OCTOBER 29: Wellington Mulwa

1918-1979, Africa Inland Church, Kenya

Wellington Mulwa was the first bishop of the African Inland Church when he assumed the title in 1973. During the 1970s, Mulwa was the leader of the largest Protestant denomination in Kenya. The work and ministry of Mulwa have been expunged from the official histories of the mission due, in part, to his contentious relationship with influential members of the AIM community.

OCTOBER 30: Caleb Oyelayo Adeogun

1932-2015, Seventh-Day Adventist, Nigeria

Caleb Oyelayo Adeogun was a pastor, teacher, evangelist, and church administrator. In 1976 he became the first Nigerian to be elected as the Executive Secretary and in 1984 as the President of the Nigeria Union Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Maryland, Lagos.

OCTOBER 31: Rosemary Guillebaud

1915-2004, Anglican Communion (CMS), Burundi

Rosemary Guillebaud served as a Bible translator in Ruanda-Urundi (present-day Burundi) where she completed the Urundi Bible in the Rundi language. Her translation work impacted hundreds of thousands of people.

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August 2022

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