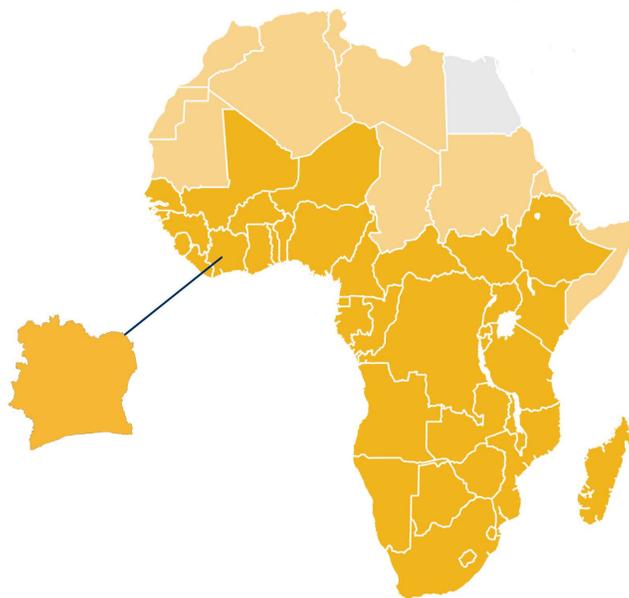


NMI Central

NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

24 January 2024

Africa Region



Cote d'Ivoire

Cote d'Ivoire (The Ivory Coast) was a composition of small kingdoms between the 15th and 19th centuries. In 1844, France established a protectorate there, until in 1960 Cote d'Ivoire achieved independence from France. The relationship between the two countries remains close, and French remains the official language. The production of cocoa and resources and foreign investment have driven economic growth that has led Cote d'Ivoire to be one of the most prosperous states in West Africa. However, various power struggles since the 1980s have caused ongoing economic decline. In 1987, the Church of the Nazarene began its work, and as the statistics below indicate, there has been a significant effort to plant new churches across the country.



20,067 Members



60 Fully Organized Churches; 148 Not Yet Organized Churches



98 District Licensed and 68 Ordained Ministers on 1 District

PRAYER



- Pray for the Lord's protection of the newly ordained.
- Pray that the Lord will provide the necessary resources to exercise their ministry effectively.
- Pray that God will grant these new ordinands wisdom in the face of many obstacles that arise in ministry, and that they will keep the faith as they bear witness for Christ.

PRAISE



- Praise God for the presence of the Church of the Nazarene in the cities, towns, and villages of the Ivory Coast.
- Praise God for the tremendous work that He is doing in and through the local missionaries in the Ivory Coast.



On Sunday, 22 October 2023, Dr. Filimão Chambo, 42nd General Superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene, ordained 16 new elders and deacons of the church. The ordination service took place at the Trinité-Riviera Church of the Nazarene in Abidjan. The districts named this special day after “Daniel Gomis”, Regional Director for Africa, for his exemplary nature and his loyalty to the Church of the Nazarene.



The 16 ordinands made a declaration of faith and commitment to the service of God through the Church of the Nazarene, and with the laying on of hands by the general superintendent Dr. Chambo, each began a new chapter in their life of ministry.

District Superintendent, Rev. Maloula André-Aimé announced that two deacons and 11 elders from Cote d’Ivoire, as well as three elders from Guinea-Conakry, each having completed their Course of Study through Theological Institute of the Nazarene (ITN), were eligible and approved for ordination. Of these 16, six profess a call to missions.

General Superintendent Chambo offered wise counsel to these newly ordained elders and deacons, stating: “You have just received a call to continue your mission of preaching and teaching the Word of God.” Chambo urged each ordinand to work in community, reminding them that when a person responds to the call of God, he must work with the local church as a servant of others, not being served.

For his part, the Africa Regional Director, Dr. Daniel Gomis, said he was happy to see this special occasion bear his name. He encouraged each ordinand to keep the faith and be obedient to succeed in their new mission.

Ordination holds a place of great significance in the Church of the Nazarene. The ceremony or liturgy follows the Manual of the Church and is therefore the same around the world.



Over 300 relatives and friends of the ordinands, from Abidjan and the interior of the country were in attendance for this special service of ordination. God continues to call men and women to ministry and missions in each generation, and in every context.

Could You Serve?

Is God calling you to serve on the Africa Region? For more information, click [here](#).

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