

PASTORAL CARE

Sacrament of Confession: Every Saturday from 6.00pm to 7.00pm

Sacrament of Baptism of Infants: *First Saturday of every month. Please call at the Church's office for a baptismal form. Instructions: Thursday preceding the date for baptism.*

Visitation of the Sick and Aged: *Thursdays at 7.00 am. Contact the office if you have a sick or aged Person(s) to be visited.*

Sacrament of Marriage: Arrangements must be made at least six months to a year with the priests. The couple or one of them must be a registered member of the Church for at least 6 months.

Consultation of Priests: Monday, Tuesday Wednesdays (In the Evenings) Time: 6.30 - 8.00 pm. In case of any emergency call on the Priest.

Church office hours: Mon. to Thur.: 10am -2pm & 5 pm - 8pm: Sat. 6 pm to 8pm: Sun: 9 am -1.30: Friday: Off Duty

SUNDAY MASS: FIRST MASS - 7:00AM AT STM, SECOND MASS - 9:30AM AT SJF

NEXT SUNDAY: SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME.

Singing: First Mass: Main Choir

Second Mass: Akan Kuo

Offertory and Bidding Prayers:

First Mass: Christian Mothers
Second Mass: KSJl

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday 6:15am
Wednesday 6:15am
Thursday 6:15am

UPCOMING EVENT

25TH JULY : ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS

SLOGAN: St. Thomas More: Besohwɛ! St. Thomas More:

Justice and Truth!!

St Thomas More: Pray for us!!!

SLOGAN: St John Fisher: Besohwɛ!
St John Fisher: Justice and Truth!!
St John Fisher: Pray For Us!!!

THANKS FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US. HAVE A BLESSED WEEK.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. There is Bible sharing this and every Wednesday at 7; 00pm at STM.

2 Parishioners are to take note that the monthly encounter with the Lord has been moved from the last Sunday of the month to the last Friday of every month time 6:30pm-8:30pm.

QUIZ

- What is the most common papal name? Twenty-one popes have adopted it, beginning in 523A.D.
Ans. John
- What is the smallest country in the world?
Ans. The Vatican City

QUOTE

Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up.
Thomas Edison

THEME FOR THE YEAR

SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT LORD
AND RENEW THE FACE OF OUR
PARISH!

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH, ACHIMOTA & ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH, NEW ACHIMOTA

P.O. BOX AH 283, ACHIMOTA-ACCRA

Website: www.thomasmoreachimota.com E-mail: besohwe@yahoo.com Office Tel: 020-1775453
Rev. Fr. George Obeng-Appah (Priest-in-charge) Tel: 020-8592020 030-3931800

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

13TH JULY, 2014: FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - A



THEME FOR THE WEEK:



TODAY'S READINGS

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1st Reading: Is 55:10-11

God's word, spoken through the prophets is like rain which brings fertility to the earth. If we just listen, it will bear fruit in us.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 64:10-14

2nd Reading: Rom 8:18-23

All creation eagerly waits for God to reveal his glory - especially those who believe in Christ. Even problems can be seen as "groaning in labor pains," preparing for new birth.

Gospel: Mt 13:1-23

The basic parable is that of the Sower and the seed. What is sown is the word of God, and the good soil is the heart of the individual believer, receptive to the message.

Reflection

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon 14TH July, 2014

Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9,16-17,21,23
Mt 10:34-11:1

❖ Tues 15TH July, 2014 (Bonaventure)

Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-8
Mt 11:20-24

❖ Wed 16TH July, 2014

Is 10:5-7, 13-16; Ps 94:5-10, 14-15
Mt 11:25-27

❖ Thu 17TH July, 2014

Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Ps 102:13-21
Mt 11:28-30

❖ Fri 18TH July, 2014

Is 38:1-6,21-22,7-8;
Ps Is 38:10-12,16; Mt.12:1-8

❖ Sat 19TH July, 2014

Mic 2:1-5; Ps 9:1-4,7-8,14
Mt 12:14-21

20TH JULY, 2014

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME.

1st Reading:

Resp

2nd Reading:

Gospel:

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

The Sacrament of Marriage

A Natural Institution:

Marriage is a practice common to all cultures in all ages. It is, therefore, a natural institution, something common to all mankind.

At its most basic level, marriage is a union between a man and a woman for the purpose of procreation and mutual support, or love. Each spouse in a marriage gives up some rights over his or her life in exchange for rights over the life of the other spouse.

While divorce has existed throughout history, it has been rare until recent centuries, which indicates that, even in its natural form, marriage is meant to be a lifelong, union.

The Elements of a Natural Marriage:As Fr. John Hardon explains in his *Pocket Catholic Dictionary*, there are four elements common to natural marriage throughout history:

1. It is a union of opposite sexes.
2. It is a lifelong union, ending only with the death of one spouse.
3. It excludes a union with any other person so long as the marriage exists.
4. Its lifelong nature and exclusiveness are guaranteed by contract.

So, even at a natural level, divorce, adultery, and "homosexual marriage" are not compatible with marriage, and a lack of commitment means that no marriage has taken place.

A Supernatural Institution:In the Catholic Church, however, marriage is more than a natural institution; it was elevated by Christ Himself, in His participation in the wedding at Cana (John 2:1-11), to be one of the seven sacraments.

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

A marriage between two Christians, therefore, has a supernatural element as well as a natural one. While few Christians outside of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches regard marriage as a sacrament, the Catholic Church insists that marriage between any two baptized Christians, as long as it is entered into with the intention to contract a true marriage, is a sacrament.Can I Get Married in the Catholic Church?

The Ministers of the Sacrament:

How can a marriage between two non-Catholic but baptized Christians be a sacrament, if a Catholic priest does not perform the marriage? Most people, including most Roman Catholics, do not realize that the ministers of the sacrament are the spouses themselves. While the Church strongly encourages Catholics to marry in the presence of a priest (and to have a wedding Mass, if both prospective spouses are Catholic), strictly speaking, a priest is not needed.

The Mark and Effect of the Sacrament:

The spouses are the ministers of the sacrament of marriage because the mark—the external sign—of the sacrament is not the wedding Mass or anything the priest might do but the marriage contract itself. This does not mean the wedding license that the couple receives from the state, but the vows that each spouse makes to the other. As long as each spouse intends to contract a true marriage, the sacrament is performed. The effect of the sacrament is an increase in sanctifying grace for the spouses, a participation in the divine life of God Himself.

The Union of Christ and His Church:

This sanctifying grace helps each spouse to help the other advance in holiness, and it helps them together to cooperate in God's plan of redemption by raising up children in the Faith.

HARVEST 2014

1. Harvest Levy:

Each and every member of the community is required to pay a levy of GHC 10 per adult and GHC 5 per child. Payment should be made at tables set out outside the church after mass.

2. PEWS FOR SJF:

We need 92 pews of different lengths for SJF--an essential condition for dedication in June 2015.

The details are as follows;

CATEGORY-----PRICE-----QTY

Extra Long-----2500-----28

Long-----2000-----10

Medium-----1500-----18

Medium-----1000-----12

Short-----800-----24

Your church needs your contributions.

Individuals, families, societies and communities are encouraged to support the church in this regard. Due recognition will be given.

MOTIVATION

The obstacle in our path

In ancient times, a King had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock.

Some of the king's wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the King for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the stone out of the way.

Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. Upon approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded.

After the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the King indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway.

The peasant learned what many of us never understand! Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve our condition.

FINANCE CORNER

Thank you all for your generosity. May God bless you.

DAYS	1 st Week

DETAILS OF LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Week 4	FIRST MASS	SECOND MASS
Main collection		
2 nd Collection		
Tithe		