

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 8p: Sun: 9 am -1.30: Friday: Off Duty

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

NEXT SUNDAY: Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Singing: First Mass: Youth Choir
Second Mass: Ave Maria

Offertory: First Mass: Alogboshie
Second Mass: Achimota Town

WEEKDAY MASS

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

UPCOMING EVENT

- August 24, 2013: Visit to Amasaman Hospital

SLOGAN: St. Thomas More: Besohwe! St. Thomas More: Justice and Truth!!
St Thomas More: Pray for us!!!

SLOGAN: St John Fisher: Besohwe!
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 STM at 7:00pm
2. A young man with IATA diploma in consultancy and managing the Travel Business is seeking employment. Anybody who can assist him should contact him on 0244477948.
3. A parishioner with certificate in Health Assistant (Clinical) is looking for employment as a nurse in a hospital or clinic. Anybody who can be of help should please contact him on 0248941100.
4. A graduate with Diploma and Degree in marketing is looking for employment. Anybody who can assist should please contact him on 0242152862.
5. The details of the **final funeral rites** of **Lawyer Simon Yao Yegbey** father of **Madam Felicia Mawulawoe Yegbey** are as follows; Friday August 30, Wake keeping at his residence at shashie, Saturday, August 31st, burial Mass at Mary Mother of Good Council Parish at Airport West near the residence of the former president Kuffour, Sunday September 1, Thanksgiving Mass at Mary Mother of Good Council Parish.

QUIZ

Answer to last week's: Extra Ordinary Minister of baptism: Anyone

This week's: Who is the Ordinary Minister of the sacrament of confirmation?

QUOTE

Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which one has overcome while trying to succeed.

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: 0201-775453
Rev. Fr. George Obeng-Appah (*Priest-in-charge*) Tel: 0208-592020
Rev. Fr. Blaise Bobi-Attachie

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



18TH AUGUST, 2013: TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- C
THEME FOR THE WEEK: **Courage in Conflict**



TODAY'S READINGS

1st Reading: Jer 38:4-6,8-10

. Jeremiah is charged with treason and thrown into the cistern to die. But a foreigner, a eunuch, acts on his behalf.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 40:2-4,18
LORD, MAKE HASTE TO HELP ME!

2nd Reading: Heb 12:1-4

. We should persevere in the faith, because we are "surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses." Like Christ we must learn to endure.

Gospel: Lk 12:49-53

The message of Christ brings fire to the earth and calls for complete loyalty. This can cause dissension, even disruption of lives.

Reflection

Jeremiah and Jesus lived and died trying to change the course of human history, by denouncing evil and doing good. Jeremiah warned that if people continued in their evil, the nation would fall: but for saying that, he was thrown into a muddy cistern to die. Could we have the same fearlessness and courage to speak and act for what is just, true and good? Why fear when the Lord is near? Fear is the dark room where negatives are developed. We need courage for standing for what is right. Courage is the thing; all goes if courage goes.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

❖ **Mon 19th August, 2013**

Jgs2:11-19;Ps106:34-37,39-40,44;Mt 19:16-22

❖ **Tues 20th August, 2013**

Jgs 6:11-24; Ps 85:9,11-14; Mt 19:23-30

❖ **Wed 21st August, 2013**

Jgs9:6-15; Ps21:2-7; Mt 20:1-16

❖ **Thur 22nd August,2013**

Jgs 11:29-39; Ps40:5,7-10; Mt 22:1-14

❖ **Fri 23rd August,2013**

Ruth 1:1,3-6,14-16,22; Ps 146:5-10; Mt 22:34-40

❖ **Sat 24th August,2013 (Bartholomew, Apostle)**

Rev 21:9-14; Ps 145:10-13,17-18; Jn 1:45-51

25^{HT} AUGUST, 2013

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading: Am 8:4-7

Resp. Ps : 113:1-2,4-8

2nd Reading: 1Tim 2:1-8

Gospel : Lk 16:1-13

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Assumption celebrates the happy departure of Mary from this life and the assumption of her body into heaven. It is the principal feast of the Blessed Virgin.

History

Although probably not unknown in the early Church, the earliest references to the Assumption of the Virgin Mary appear in the 4th (or possibly late 3rd) century in Liber Requie Mariae (The Book of Mary's Repose), and in the writings of a Bishop Meliton. St. John of Damascus (d. AD 755) relates a tradition where, during the Council of Chalcedon (AD 451), the emperor Marcian and his wife wished to find the body of Mary. He tells how all the apostles had seen her death, but her tomb was empty upon inspection.

Festivals commemorating the death of the Blessed Virgin Mary were common from the 5th century onwards, although the exact dates were never universally fixed. In AD 556 the patriarch of Alexandria, Theodosius, attests to two popular Marian feasts in Egypt: Mary's death (January 16) and Assumption (August 9). Theodosius understood Mary to have died before being assumed, and according to the feast dates in Egypt at the time, she was assumed 206 days after her death. In AD 600, the emperor Mauricius decreed that the Assumption was to be celebrated on August 15. Soon, the Church in Ireland adopted this date, and it was later introduced in Rome. As the cult of Mary grew in the West, there was more pressure for the Catholic Church to define the exact nature of the Assumption. Pope Pius did this in 1950.

The Orthodox Church teaches that the Virgin Mary died a fully human death before being assumed, and celebrates the feast accordingly. According to various traditions known in the East, St. Thomas was not around when Mary passed away, just as he was absent when Jesus was raised from the dead.

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

Because he was three days late to Mary's funeral, he requested to see Mary's body. However, when her tomb was opened, her body was not found. This is not viewed as a resurrection like her Son's, but as the first fruits of our own bodily resurrection. In one of the most complicated of Christian Hymns (utilizing all 8 tones) the Orthodox are shown the story of her journeying to heaven as her pall-bearers. The apostles act as her pall-bearers. As she arrives in heaven, she is the first given the task of all the glorified saints, that of praying for us to her Son and our Lord. As a part of the interior mysteries of the Orthodox Church, the Assumption is not a point of dogma or debate, yet it is a commonly accepted belief among Orthodox Christians.

Protestants have overwhelmingly rejected the Assumption of Mary theologically and devotionally, probably because it is not explicitly spelled out in the bible. Many Reformation denominations (like Anglicanism and Lutheranism) have set aside August 15th as a day to commemorate the Blessed Virgin Mary, although without the explicit context of the Assumption. However, the Assumption of Mary is an ancient belief certainly fitting the honor of the one chosen to bear the Son of God. This dogma is solidly within the biblical tradition of holy and unique individuals being taken bodily to heaven (like Elijah and Enoch). She who is "Mother of the Lord," "full of grace," and whom "all generations shall call blessed" is certainly worthy of this honor. Church Father John of Damascus describes the importance of celebrating the Assumption quite well:

Let us then also keep the solemn [Assumption] feast today to honour the joyful departure of God's Mother... Thus, recognizing God's Mother in this Virgin, we celebrate her falling asleep, not proclaiming her as God - far be from us these heathen fables - since we are announcing her death, but recognizing her as the Mother of the Incarnate God...

Mary assumed into Heaven: *Pray for us*

YOUTH CORNER

How to Be a Proper Young Lady

.If you have fair skin, lather on the sunscreen, and preserve your own kind of beauty. Tanning is not only unhealthy, but it can look bad when it starts to peel.

.For those who are olive skinned and can achieve a tan after some time in sun, be cautious, as ugly tan lines are almost as bad as a sunburn, and need to be avoided. You do want to avoid being pitch. Don't try to look like a bear. A pitch bear. As pitch as ugly suntans.

For clothing, know what looks best on you. This can be anything from colors to textures of fabric that look stunning on you. Wear clothing appropriate for the occasion. Don't wear anything that isn't clean or neat, that doesn't go well with another piece of clothing you are wearing, or that is excessively embellished. When buying clothes, look for quality. You should also have your own personal style. Don't wear clothing just to be popular, or to fit into a social norm.

YOUTH CORNER

Remember that knowledge is power. A proper young lady needs to be well read. Jane Austen, George Orwell, Shakespeare, Bronte, Dickens, Oscar Wilde, Henry James, and Virginia Woolf are all good examples of people you should read. Some of the classics can be a trying read, but you must get through them. There are websites with abundant notes on all of these books, so, even if you do not understand them, in time you will.

.Try to read at least two different newspapers every other day; knowing what is going on in the world around you from multiple points of view is vital.

.Having a wide knowledge of music and art is also encouraged, music particularly more so these days. Do not limit yourself to what the local radio station blurts out. Be adventurous and go discovering. Listen to classical and renaissance music, as it is very rich in history and culture.

.If you are still in school, keeping up your studies is very important. As much as possible, study things that you like and are good at. But do make sure to do your best at all subjects, and try to be interested in them. Above all, do not pretend to know a great deal about something that you don't. The truth will come out in the most embarrassing way. **(To be continued)**

FINANCE CORNER

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

DETAILS OF LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION
