

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 @ 5pm

Visitation to 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: (STM) Monday, Tuesday and Fridays (In the Evenings) Time: 6.30 - 8.00 pm. (SJF) **Wednesdays at 5:00pm.** In case of any emergency call on the Priest.

Church office hours: STM - Mon. to Thur.: 8am -1pm & 2 pm - 4pm: Sat. 4 pm to 8pm: Sun: 9 am -1.30pm: SJF - Monday & Wednesday 10am - 6pm; Sat 4pm-6pm; Sunday 12pm-2pm

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

NEXT SUNDAY: PASSION SUNDAY (PALM SUNDAY)

Singing: First Mass: Main Choir

Second Mass: Chari SM

Offertory and Bidding Prayers:

One Mass: CYC

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday 6:15am
Wednesday 6:15am (STM) & 7:00pm (SJF)
Thursday 6:15am

UPCOMING EVENT

18th March 2016: Way to the Cross

SLOGAN: Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher: Besohwé!

Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher.: Justice and Truth!!

Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher : Pray for us!

THANKS FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US.
HAVE A BLESSED WEEK.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. All those who were baptised from the 7th March, 2015 to 5th September, 2015 should kindly pick their cards from the church office.

2. The Harvest Committee reminds all parishioners who made pledges during the 2015 Harvest to kindly redeem them.

3. Bible's are available at the office for Ghc 26.

4. All those who were confirmed last year Nov 29th should see the secretary with an amount of Ghc 10 for stole fee and collect their baptismal cards.

5. Achimota E/W Abofu community will meet after first mass all members are to take note.

6. Saturday 19th March is the solemnity of St. Joseph the husband of Mary. There will be morning mass at STM at 6.30am.

ADVERT

L'Ange piano school

For tutorials on how to play the piano or how to read and interpret music, pick a form from any of the church offices at STM AND SJF. For enquiries call L'Ange music school on 0271555200 or 0555527927

QUIZ

Last Week: After his misadventure at sea, God sent Jonah to the great Assyrian capital of Nineveh. What was the message Jonah gave to the Ninevites?

Ans: Forty days more and Nineveh will be destroyed.

This Week: How many visions were revealed to Amos?

QUOTE

A successful woman is the one who can build a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at her.

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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



MARCH 13 TH 2016: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

THEME FOR THE WEEK: THE SECOND CHANCE



TODAY'S READINGS

1st Reading: Is 43:16-21.

The prophet assures his fellow-exiles in Babylon that there will be a new Exodus, and their life as God's special people will be renewed.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 126:1-2,2-3,4-5,6

What great deeds the Lord worked for us!

Indeed we were glad.

2nd Reading: Phil 3:8-14.

We tend to see holiness as something that we can achieve by our own efforts. Paul sees it above all as a gift, given in the power of Christ's resurrection.

GOSPEL: Jn 8:1-11.

When asked to judge the woman caught in adultery, Jesus told her accusers to look to their own sins before condemning her.

Reflection

In Christ there is hope for even the greatest sinner. God doesn't take pleasure in the destruction of the sinner but rather in his conversion. In Jewish law, the three gravest sins were murder, idolatry, and adultery. All three were punishable by death. This woman is caught in the act of adultery. She is expecting death. Maybe she's wishing she had a second chance. The cruelty of the Pharisees must be terrible for her. And the crowd is mocking her. But Jesus does not condemn her. He doesn't ignore or excuse her sin - he acknowledges it and actually tells her to "go and sin no more. He gives her another chance. Do you need a second chance? Jesus is ready to offer it to you. He is waiting for you at the confessional.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

❖ **Mon 14TH MARCH, 2016**

Dan 13:1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62/
Ps 23:1-6/
Jn 8:12-20

❖ **Tues 15TH MARCH, 2016**

Num 21:4-9/
Ps 102:2-3,17-22/
Jn 8:21-30

❖ **Wed 16TH MARCH, 2016**

Dan 3:14-20,91-92,95/
Ps 3:53-57/
Jn 8:31-42

❖ **Thu 17TH MARCH, 2016**

Gen 17:3-9/ Ps 105:4-9/
Jn 8:51-59

❖ **Fri 18TH MARCH, 2016**

Jer 20:10-13/
Ps 18:2-7/
Jn 10:31-42

❖ **Sat 19TH MARCH, 2016**

2Sam 7:4-5,12-14,16/
Ps 89:2-5,28,29/
Lk 2:41-51

20TH MARCH, 2016
PASSION SUNDAY

1st Reading: Is 50:4-7

Resp. Ps : Ps 21:8-9,18-21,24-25

2nd Reading: Phil 2:6-11

Gospel : Lk 22:14-23:56

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

BULL OF INDICTION OF THE EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY
By Pope Francis

But the mercy of God is stronger than even this. It becomes indulgence on the part of the Father who, through the Bride of Christ, his Church, reaches the pardoned sinner and frees him from every residue left by the consequences of sin, enabling him to act with charity, to grow in love rather than to fall back into sin.

The Church lives within the communion of the saints. In the Eucharist, this communion, which is a gift from God, becomes a spiritual union binding us to the saints and blessed ones whose number is beyond counting (cf. Rev 7:4). Their holiness comes to the aid of our weakness in a way that enables the Church, with her maternal prayers and her way of life, to fortify the weakness of some with the strength of others. Hence, to live the indulgence of the Holy Year means to approach the Father's mercy with the certainty that his forgiveness extends to the entire life of the believer. To gain an indulgence is to experience the holiness of the Church, who bestows upon all the fruits of Christ's redemption, so that God's love and forgiveness may extend everywhere. Let us live this Jubilee intensely, begging the Father to forgive our sins and to bathe us in His merciful "indulgence."

23. There is an aspect of mercy that goes beyond the confines of the Church. It relates us to Judaism and Islam, both of which consider mercy to be one of God's most important attributes. Israel was the first to receive this revelation which continues in history as the source of an inexhaustible richness meant to be shared with all mankind. As we have seen, the pages of the Old Testament are steeped in mercy, because they narrate the works that the Lord performed in favour of his people at the most trying moments of their history. Among the privileged names that Islam attributes to the Creator are "Merciful and Kind." This invocation is often on the lips of faithful Muslims who feel themselves accompanied and sustained by mercy in their daily weakness.

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

They too believe that no one can place a limit on divine mercy because its doors are always open.

I trust that this Jubilee year celebrating the mercy of God will foster an encounter with these religions and with other noble religious traditions; may it open us to even more fervent dialogue so that we might know and understand one another better; may it eliminate every form of closed-mindedness and disrespect, and drive out every form of violence and discrimination.

24. My thoughts now turn to the Mother of Mercy. May the sweetness of her countenance watch over us in this Holy Year, so that all of us may rediscover the joy of God's tenderness. No one has penetrated the profound mystery of the incarnation like Mary. Her entire life was patterned after the presence of mercy made flesh.

The Mother of the Crucified and Risen One has entered the sanctuary of divine mercy because she participated intimately in the mystery of his love.

Chosen to be the Mother of the Son of God, Mary, from the outset, was prepared by the love of God to be the Ark of the Covenant between God and man. She treasured divine mercy in her heart in perfect harmony with her Son Jesus. Her hymn of praise, sung at the threshold of the home of Elizabeth, was dedicated to the mercy of God which extends from "generation to generation" (Lk 1:50). We too were included in those prophetic words of the Virgin Mary.

This will be a source of comfort and strength to us as we cross the threshold of the Holy Year to experience the fruits of divine mercy.

At the foot of the cross, Mary, together with John, the disciple of love, witnessed the words of forgiveness spoken by Jesus. This supreme expression of mercy towards those who crucified him show us the point to which the mercy of God can reach.

To be continued.....

PROGRAMME FOR EASTER

DATE	PROGRAM	VEN.	TIME
20/3	Passion Sunday	SJF	8am
24/3	Holy Thursday	STM	7pm
25/3	Stations of the cross	STM	7am
	Veneration of the cross	SJF	3pm
26/3	Holy Saturday	SJF	8pm
27/3	Easter Sunday	STM	7am
		SJF	9:30 am
28/3	Easter Monday	SJF	10.30 am

MOTIVATION

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

"When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it."
- Henry Ford

"One has to remember that every failure can be a stepping stone to something better."
- Col. Harland Sanders

"When you get into a tight place and everything goes against you, till it seems as though you could not hang on a minute longer, never give up then, for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn."
- Harriet Beecher Stowe

"A diamond is merely a lump of coal that did well under pressure."
Unknown

"I am grateful for all of my problems. After each one was overcome, I became stronger and more able to meet those that were still to come. I grew in all my difficulties."
- James Cash Penney

FACILITY	PARISHIONERS	OUTSIDERS
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CHILDREN	100.00	200.00
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