

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: SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Singing: First Mass: Ave Maria

Second Mass: Youth Choir

Offertory and Bidding Prayers:

First Mass: Alogboshie Community

Second Mass: Amalgamated Community

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday 6:15am
Wednesday 6:15am (STM) & 7:00pm (SJF)
Thursday 7.00pm (Ascension)
Friday 6.15am (1st Friday)
Saturday 6.30 (1st Saturday)

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

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

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

3. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday at STM

4. Thursday 5th May is the solemnity of Ascension. There will be mass at STM at 7.00pm

5. Friday is the 1st Friday of the month. There will be mass at STM at 6.15am.

6. There will be mass and infant baptism at STM on Sat. at 6.30am.

7. Marriage Banns: (2nd) Ebenezer Ayindoo and Stella Nyaaba.

8. The funeral arrangement for the late Mr. Thomas Kingsley Acheampong is as follows; Burial mass: 4th June at SJF at 8:00am, final funeral rite follows at SJF after interment at the Achimota cemetery, Sunday 5th June thanksgiving mass at SJF at 9:30am; family gathering after mass at the church grounds.

9. The funeral arrangement of Mrs. Rose Gidigah, mother of Paul Yaw, a chorister is as follows: Burial service: Saturday 21st May 2016, at Danyi Doodoo Amanfrom. Thanksgiving service: Sunday 22nd May 2016, at the SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church. Danyi Doodoo Amanfrom.

ADVERT

A parishioner has a piece of land at Dawhenya for sale. Interested persons should contact the following numbers for details: 0244605874/0277122442.

QUIZ

Last Week: Which is the longest book in the Bible?

Ans: Psalms(150 chapters)

This Week: Which king of Israel purchased a hill from Shemer and then named the city which he built thereon "Samaria"?

Quote

It is good to dream big but your dreams will never see the light of day if you sleep big too.

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: 030-3931800 (STM)
Rev. Fr. George Obeng-Appah (Priest-in-charge) Tel: 020-8592020 0303939862(SJF)

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



MAY 1ST 2016: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THEME FOR THE WEEK: SEEING WITH THE EYES OF FAITH



TODAY'S READINGS

1st Reading: Acts 15:1-2,22-29.

Many Gentiles had accepted Christianity; but the big question is, how much Jewish law and traditions do these converts need? The problem was solved by a Council.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 67:2-3, 5-6

LET THE PEOPLE PRAISE YOU, O GOD; LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU!

2nd Reading: Rev. 21:10-14,22-23.

The author of Revelation allows us to see a vision of the Church at the end of time, the Lord God and the Lamb of God will be the temple of the new Holy City.

GOSPEL: Jn 14:23-29.

The gospel contains yet another portion of Christ's farewell discourse at the last supper. It is dominated by the thought of His imminent departure.

Reflection

Easter is God's invitation to see with the eyes of faith. Christ is asking us to believe what he told us: "I will seem to go away sometimes, but I will come back." The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that faith is a virtue infused by God into our souls to make us capable of living as his children and meriting eternal life... By faith, we freely commit our entire selves to God. So faith changes the way we see the world. God is present in every moment, and at every moment we can freely commit ourselves to him. He's trying to help us see something of his presence in all the individual events of our lives. Easter is a call to see with renewed eyes of faith.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

❖ **Mon 2ND MAY, 2016**

Acts 16:11-15/ Ps 149:1-6, 9/
Jn 15:26-16:4a

❖ **Tues 3rd May, 2016**

1Cor 15:1-8/Ps 18:2-5/
Jn 14:6-14

❖ **Wed 5TH May, 2016**

Acts 17:15,22-18:1/ Ps 148:1-2,11-14/
Jn 16:12-15

❖ **Thu 6th May, 2016**

Acts 1:1-11/ Ps 46:2-3,6-9/
Lk 24:46-53

❖ **Fri 7th May, 2016**

Acts 18:9-18/ Ps 46:2-7/
Jn 15:20-23

❖ **Sat 8th May, 2016**

Acts 18:23-28/Ps 46:2-3,8-10/
Jn 16:23b-28

8TH MAY, 2016
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

1st Reading: Acts 7:55-60

Resp. Ps : Ps 96:1-2,6-7,9

2nd Reading: Rev 22:12-14,16-17,20

Gospel : Jn 17:20-26

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

Summary of the post-Synodal apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love) on love in the family

Therefore, while clearly stating the Church's teaching, pastors are to avoid judgements that do not take into account the complexity of various situations, and they are to be attentive, by necessity, to how people experience and endure distress because of their condition".

Chapter four: "Love in marriage" (89-164)

The fourth chapter treats love in marriage, which it illuminates with St. Paul's Hymn to Charity in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. This opening section is truly a painstaking, focused, inspired and poetic exegesis of the Pauline text. It is a collection of brief passages carefully and tenderly describing human love in absolutely concrete terms. The quality of psychological introspection that marks this exegesis is striking.

The psychological insights enter into the emotional world of the spouses – positive and negative – and the erotic dimension of love. This is an extremely rich and valuable contribution to Christian married life, unprecedented in previous papal documents. This section digresses briefly from the more extensive, perceptive treatment of the day-to-day experience of married love which the Pope refuses to judge against ideal standards: "There is no need to lay upon two limited persons the tremendous burden of having to reproduce perfectly the union existing between Christ and his Church, for marriage as a sign entails 'a dynamic process...', one which advances gradually with the progressive integration of the gifts of God".

On the other hand, the Pope forcefully stresses the fact that conjugal love by its very nature defines the partners in a richly encompassing and lasting union, precisely within that "mixture of enjoyment and struggles,

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

tensions and repose, pain and relief, satisfactions and longings, annoyances and pleasures" which indeed make up a marriage.

The chapter concludes with a very important reflection on the "transformation of love" because "Longer life spans now mean that close and exclusive relationships must last for four, five or even six decades; consequently, the initial decision has to be frequently renewed".

As physical appearance alters, the loving attraction does not lessen but changes as sexual desire can be transformed over time into the desire for togetherness and mutuality: "There is no guarantee that we will feel the same way all through life. Yet if a couple can come up with a shared and lasting life project, they can love one another and live as one until death do them part, enjoying an enriching intimacy".

Chapter five: "Love made fruitful" (165-198)
The fifth chapter is entirely focused on love's fruitfulness and procreation. It speaks in a profoundly spiritual and psychological manner about welcoming new life, about the waiting period of pregnancy, about the love of a mother and a father.

It also speaks of the expanded fruitfulness of adoption, of welcoming the contribution of families to promote a "culture of encounter", and of family life in a broad sense which includes aunts and uncles, cousins, relatives of relatives, friends.

Amoris Laetitia does not focus on the so-called "nuclear" family" because it is very aware of the family as a wider network of many relationships. The spirituality of the sacrament of marriage has a deeply social character. And within this social dimension the Pope particularly emphasises the specific role of the relationship between youth and the elderly, as well as the relationship between brothers and sisters as a training ground for relating with others.

To be continued.....

MOTIVATION

STRUGGLES OF OUR LIFE

Once upon a time a daughter complained to her father that her life was miserable and that she didn't know how she was going to make it. She was tired of fighting and struggling all the time. It seemed just as one problem was solved, another one soon followed. Her father, a chef, took her to the kitchen. He filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Once the three pots began to boil, he placed potatoes in one pot, eggs in the second pot and ground coffee beans in the third pot.

He then let them sit and boil, without saying a word to his daughter. The daughter, moaned and impatiently waited, wondering what he was doing. After twenty minutes he turned off the burners. He took the potatoes out of the pot and placed them in a bowl. He pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. He then ladled the coffee out and placed it in a cup.

Turning to her, he asked. "Daughter, what do you see?" "Potatoes, eggs and coffee," she hastily replied. "Look closer", he said, "and touch the potatoes." She did and noted that they were soft.

MOTIVATION

He then asked her to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg.

Finally, he asked her to sip the coffee. Its rich aroma brought a smile to her face.

"Father, what does this mean?" she asked. He then explained that the potatoes, the eggs and coffee beans had each faced the same adversity-the boiling water. However, each one reacted differently. The potato went in strong, hard and unrelenting, but in boiling water, it became soft and weak.

The egg was fragile, with the thin outer shell protecting its liquid interior until it was put in the boiling water. Then the inside of the egg became hard. However, the ground coffee beans were unique. After they were exposed to the boiling water, they changed the water and created something new.

"Which one are you?" he asked his daughter. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a potato, an egg, or a coffee bean?"

Moral: In life, things happen around us, things happen to us, but the only thing that truly matters is how you choose to react to it and what you make out of it. Life is all about leaning, adopting and converting all the struggles that we experience into something positive