

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 an emergency, call on the Priest.

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

SUNDAY MASS

FIRST MASS - 6:30AM AT SJF

SECOND MASS: 7:00 AM- STM

THIRD MASS: 9:30AM AT SJF

NEXT SUNDAY: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Singing Schedule:

First Mass:

Second Mass:

Third Mass:

Offertory and Bidding Prayers:

First Mass: All Parishioners

Second Mass: All Parishioners

Third Mass: All Parishioners

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday 6:15am

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

Thursday 6:15am

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

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. There is Bible sharing within mass this and every Wednesday evening at SJF at 7.00pm. Come and deepen your knowledge in the Holy Scriptures.

2. Parishioners who made pledges during 2018 Harvest are kindly reminded to redeem them. Pledges can be redeemed through Mobile Money Number 0558362191 with the name St. Thomas More. Receipts for such payments will be issued later for collection.

3. Are you celebrating an anniversary or birthday and wants to make a donation to your church? Make a donation towards the rectory project. All cheques should be written in the name of St. Thomas More Catholic Church.

4. Funeral Arrangements

- Mrs. Cecilia Akolgo Aduko Amuna
Saturday 19th January: Burial Mass at STM at 8.00am

Sunday 20th January: Thanksgiving mass at STM at 7.00am

- Madam Cecilia Acheampong
Friday 25th January 2019: Laying in state at her residence, no. 34th Close, South Odorkor Estates
Saturday 26th January: Burial Mass at the Holy Spirit Cathedral, Adabraka.
Sunday 27th January: Thanksgiving Mass at the Holy Spirit Cathedral, Adabraka

QUIZ

Last week: When does the Christmas season begin?

Ans: The Vigil Mass on the 24th Dec.

This Week: What does the Epiphany of the Lord reveal about Jesus?

QUOTE

*Blessed is the season which
engages the world in a
conspiracy of love*

- Hamilton Wriaht Marble

SS. THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH, ACHIMOTA

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Rev. Fr. George Obeng - Appah (Priest-in-charge) Tel: 020-8592020

Rev. Fr. Bright Elorm Fumey (Assistant Priest) Tel: 0245904620

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

6TH JANUARY, 2019: SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
THEME FOR THE WEEK: *BE GUIDED BY THE LIGHT*

TODAY'S READINGS

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

The glory of the Messiah rises upon all nations, bringing light to dispel the darkness on the earth.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13

**ALL NATIONS ON EARTH SHALL FALL
PROSTRATE BEFORE YOU, O LORD**

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

St. Paul tells of membership of the Gentiles in the body Christ, who brings salvation to all with no racial distinction.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi visit the baby Jesus in the manger, bearing gifts that reveal the child's life.

Reflection

Today's solemnity invites us like the Magi to follow the star to see the baby Jesus. The manifestation of Christ as Messiah is what the prophet Isaiah tells of as the light that dispels darkness on the earth. This same light represented by the star guides the magi to the manger where the infant lay. As rain falls on all, even the wicked, so light shines on all, even those to whom the Messianic message is alien. St Paul tells us that the membership in the body of Christ is not based on race but on Christ's light which shines in the life of all men. We are called upon today to be lights in our little corners, to make followers of our light, which manifests Christ to those who like the Gentiles are alien to the gospel message. Are you a light worthy to be followed? Are you guided yourself by the light of Christ? Be guided by the star to the infant king.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

❖ Mon 7TH JANUARY, 2019

1Jn 3:22-4:6

Ps 2:7-8,11-12

Mt 4:12-17,23-25

❖ Tues 8TH JANUARY, 2019

1Jn 4:7-10

Ps 72:1-4,7-8

Mk 6:34-44

❖ Wed 9TH JANUARY, 2019

1Jn 4:11-18

Ps 72:1-2,11-14

Mk 6:45-52

❖ Thu 10TH JANUARY, 2019

1Jn 4:19-5:4

Ps 72:1-2,15-16,18

Lk 4:14-22

❖ Fri 11TH JANUARY, 2019

1Jn 5:5-13

Ps 148:13-16,20-21

Lk 5:12-16

❖ Sat 12TH JANUARY, 2019

1Jn 5:14-21

Ps 150:1-6,9

Jn 3:22-30

13TH JANUARY, 2019
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

1st Reading: Is 40:1-5,9-11

Resp. Ps: Ps 104:1-4,25-26,28-30

2nd Reading: Tit 2:11-14;3:4-7

Gospel: Lk 3:15-16,21-22

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The three principle truths;

1. Sacrifice
2. Eucharist
3. Real presence

1. The **SACRIFICE** of the mass

The word *Mass* (*missa*) first established itself as the general designation for the Eucharistic Sacrifice in the West after the time of Pope Gregory the Great (d. 604), the early Church having used the expression the "breaking of bread" (*fractio panis*) or "liturgy" (Acts 13:2, *leitourgountes*); the Greek Church has employed the latter name for almost sixteen centuries. There were current in the early days of Christianity other terms;

- "The Lord's Supper" (*coena dominica*),
- the "Sacrifice" (*prospora, oblatio*),
- "the gathering together" (*synaxis, congregatio*),
- "the Mysteries", and
- (since Augustine), "the Sacrament of the Altar".

With the name "Love Feast" (*agape*) the idea of the sacrifice of the Mass was not necessarily connected. Etymologically, the word *missa* is neither (as Baronius states) from a Hebrew, nor from the Greek *mysis*, but is simply derived from *missio*, just as *oblata* is derived from *oblatio*, *collecta* from *collectio*, and *ulta* from *ultio*. The reference was however not to a Divine "mission", but simply to a "dismissal" (*dimissio*) as was also customary in the Greek rite and as is still echoed in the phrase *lte missa est*. This solemn form of leave-taking was not introduced by the Church as something new, but was adopted from the ordinary language of the day, as is shown by Bishop Avitus of Vienne as late as A.D. 500.

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

In churches and in the emperor's or the prefect's courts, *Missa est* is said when the people are released from attendance.

In the sense of "dismissal", or rather "close of prayer", *missa* is used in the celebrated "Peregrinatio Silvae" at least seventy times and Rule of St. Benedict places after Hours, Vespers, Compline, the regular formula: *Et missae fiant* (prayers are ended). Popular speech gradually applied the ritual of dismissal, as it was expressed in both the Mass of the Catechumens and the Mass of the Faithful, by synecdoche to the entire Eucharistic Sacrifice, the whole being named after the part. The first certain trace of such an application is found in Ambrose. We will use the word in this sense in our consideration of the Mass in its *existence, essence, and causality*.

If the Mass is to be a true sacrifice in the literal sense, it must realize the philosophical conception of sacrifice. Thus the last preliminary question arises: What is a sacrifice in the proper sense of the term? Without attempting to state and establish a comprehensive theory of sacrifice, it will suffice to show that, according to the comparative history of religions, four things are necessary to a sacrifice:

- a sacrificial gift (*res oblata*),
- a sacrificing minister (*minister legitimus*),
- a sacrificial action (*actio sacrificica*), and
- a sacrificial end or object (*finis sacrificii*).

MOTIVATION

Bill Gates on life

To anyone with kids, of any age, or anyone who has ever been a kid, here's some advice Bill Gates dished out at a high school speech about 11 things they did not learn in school. He talks about how feel-good politically correct teachings created a full generation of kids with no concept of reality and how this concept set them up for failure in the real world.

Rule 1: Life is not fair - get used to it.

Rule 2: The world won't care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something BEFORE you feel good about yourself.

Rule 3: You will NOT make 40 thousand dollars a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice-president with a car phone, until you earn both.

Rule 4: If you think your teacher is tough, wait until you get a boss. He doesn't have tenure.

Rule 5: Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity. Your grandparents had a different word for burger flipping - they called it opportunity.

To be continued...

ADVERT

1. Is your child having difficulty in science. Do you want him/her to be a science terror? Integrated Science/Elective Chemistry. Let's talk at your convenience. 0209024393.
2. Fully equipped hospital/Clinic for lease or rental to medical officer. 8 Bedded inpatient and outpatient facilities. For viewing only call 0302916442/0236313067. Ward assistants needed for immediate employment. Interested persons should contact the above numbers.

FINANCE CORNER

Thank You All for Your Generosity. May God Bless You