

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: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Singing Schedule:

First Mass: Youth Choir

Second Mass: Akan Kuo

Third Mass: Main Choir

Offertory and Bidding Prayers:

First Mass: Alogboshei Community

Second Mass: Christian Mothers Association

Third Mass: Amalgamated Community

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday 6:15am

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

Thursday 6:15am

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

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. "THE WORD IN SEASON AND OUT OF SEASON" a book written by Rev. Fr. John Kobina Louis is on sale, a copy goes for Ghc20.00

4. Morning mass will be celebrated at SJF on Saturdays at 6.15am starting from the 9th of March.

5. St. John Fisher office hours: 9am-1pm and 2pm-6pm

6. The funeral arrangement of Madam Afia Gyamfuah mother of Nana Yaw Aboagye a member of YCW is as follows; Saturday 30th March; burial mass at St. Paul's Catholic Church, Nynahin Ashanti at 9.00am. Sunday 31st March; Thanksgiving mass at St. Paul's Catholic Church, Nynahin Ashanti at 8.30am

QUIZ

Last week: The Eucharist is said to be under what species?

Ans: Bread and wine

This Week: How many days of Lent are there?

QUOTE

Let today be the day you give up who you've been for who you can become

- *Anonymous*

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

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

10TH MARCH, 2019: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

THEME FOR THE WEEK: FAITHFUL AMID TEMPTATION

TODAY'S READINGS

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Moses instructs the people to recall the deeds of the Lord at the presentation of first fruits of harvest.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 92:1-2,10-15

BE WITH ME, O LORD, WHEN I AM IN DISTRESS

2nd Reading: Romans 10:8-13

The confession of faith in Jesus Christ brings justification and salvation, to Jew and Greek alike.

Gospel: Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

Jesus is led by the Spirit into the desert, and is tempted by the devil.

Reflection

Today we remember how Jesus kept God's highest commandment: *"You shall love the Lord, your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength"*, comprising total determination in serving God his whole life and putting himself at God's disposal. The love of Jesus for God and God's people was total; but this does not mean that it was any easier for him to practice than it is for us. He too had to struggle, to choose between God and self.

The tension of it is spelled out in the dramatic story of the temptation Jesus faced during his time of prayer in the desert. There he spent forty days working out the meaning of his life, trying to figure out what God wanted of him. In the process he came face to face with certain fundamental choices.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

❖ **Mon 11TH MARCH, 2019**
Lev 19:1-2,11-18
Ps 19:8-10,15
Mt 25:31-46

❖ **Tues 12TH MARCH, 2019**
Is 55:10-11
Ps 34:4-7,17-20
Mt 6:7-15

❖ **Wed 13TH MARCH, 2019**
Jon 3:1-10
Ps 51:3-4,12-13,19-20
Lk 11:29-32

❖ **Thu 14TH MARCH, 2019**
Est 4:1,3-5:12-15
Ps 138:1-3,7-8
Mt 7:7-12

❖ **Fri 15TH MARCH, 2019**
Ez 18:21-28
Ps 130:1-8
Mt 5:20-26

❖ **Sat 16TH MARCH, 2019**
Deut 26:16-19
Ps 119:1-2,4-5,7-8
Mt 5:43-48

17TH MARCH, 2019 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

1st Reading: Gen 15:5-12,17-18

Resp. Ps: Ps 27:1,7-9,14-15

2nd Reading: Phil 3:17-4:1

Gospel: Lk 9:28-36

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

THE BLESSED EUCHARIST AS A SACRAMENT

The Sacrament of Penance

Penance is a sacrament of the New Law instituted by Christ in which forgiveness of sins committed after baptism is granted through the priest's absolution to those who with true sorrow confess their sins and promise to satisfy for the same.

It is called a "sacrament" not simply a function or ceremony, because it is an outward sign instituted by Christ to impart grace to the soul.

As an outward sign it comprises the actions of the penitent in presenting himself to the priest and accusing himself of his sins, and the actions of the priest in pronouncing absolution and imposing satisfaction.

This whole procedure is usually called, from one of its parts, "confession", and it is said to take place in the "tribunal of penance", because it is a judicial process in which the penitent is at once the accuser, the person accused, and the witness, while the priest pronounces judgment and sentence.

The grace conferred is deliverance from the guilt of sin and, in the case of mortal sin, from its eternal punishment; hence also reconciliation with God, justification.

Finally, the confession is made not in the secrecy of the penitent's heart nor to a layman as friend and advocate, nor to a representative of human authority, but to a duly ordained priest with requisite jurisdiction and with the "power of the keys", i.e., the power to forgive sins which Christ granted to His Church

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

By way of further explanation, it is needful to correct certain erroneous views regarding this sacrament which not only misrepresent the actual practice of the Church but also lead to a false interpretation of theological statement and historical evidence.

From what has been said it should be clear: that penance is not a mere human invention devised by the Church to secure power over consciences or to relieve the emotional strain of troubled souls;

it is the ordinary means appointed by Christ for the remission of sin. Man indeed is free to obey or disobey, but once he has sinned, he must seek pardon not on conditions of his own choosing but on those which God has determined, and these for the Christian are embodied in the Sacrament of Penance.

This power belongs to God alone; but He can and does exercise it through the ministrations of men. Since He has seen fit to exercise it by means of this sacrament, it cannot be said that the Church or the priest interferes between the soul and God; on the contrary, penance is the removal of the one obstacle that keeps the soul away from God.

It is not true that for the Catholic the mere "telling of one's sins" suffices to obtain their forgiveness. Without sincere sorrow and purpose of amendment, confession avails nothing, the pronouncement of absolution is of no effect, and the guilt of the sinner is greater than before.

To be continued.....

MOTIVATION

Your reaction matters more than what happens to you

"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 boiled 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.

MOTIVATION

'Look closer,' he said, 'and touch the potatoes.' She did and noted that they were soft. 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 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?'

FINANCE CORNER