

## 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 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: 6:30 AM AT SJF  
SECOND MASS: 7:00 AM AT STM  
THIRD MASS: 9:30 AM AT SJF

## NEXT SUNDAY: THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### **Singing Schedule:**

First Mass: Youth Choir  
Second Mass: Chari SM  
Third Mass: Main Choir

### **Offertory and Bidding Prayers:**

First Mass: CYC  
Second Mass: Charismatic Renewal  
Third Mass: Knights and Ladies of Marshall

## WEEKDAY MASS

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

**SLOGAN: Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher: Besohwɛ!**  
**Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher.: Justice and Truth!!**  
**Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher: Pray for us!**

## 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. Receipts for such payments will be issued later for collection.

3. The Youth Choir presents chorale praise concert dubbed JU-BI-LA-TE. Venue: St. Thomas More, Date: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Time: 3:30pm.

4. Parishioners interested in joining Sacred Heart of Jesus Confraternity should contact 0245956282.

5. Society of St. Vincent de Paul is reminding Charismatic Renewal of their visitation to the sick and aged to Achimota Basic School part of New Achimota and Abofu in the month of June and Knight of St. John to Alogboshie in the month of July.

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## QUIZ

**Last week:** Which of the three Persons of the Trinity is said to be the love that binds them?

**Ans:** The Holy Spirit

**This Week:** The body and blood of Christ is present under what species?

## QUOTE

*God dwells in our midst, in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar*  
- St. Maximillian Kolbe

## 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

**23RD JUNE, 2019: CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY**

**THEME FOR THE WEEK: COMMUNION IN THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST**

## TODAY'S READINGS

**1st Reading:** Genesis 14:18-20.

The foreshadowing of the Eucharist is seen in offering bread and wine by the priest, Melchizedek.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 109:1-4**

**YOU ARE A PRIEST FOR EVER IN THE LINE OF MELCHIZEDEK**

**2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

The Eucharist we celebrate is the presence of Christ's Body and Blood, and we re-enact the death by which he saved us.

**GOSPEL:** Luke 9:11b-17.

Jesus provides a celebration meal for the people who followed him to the desert, to hear his word. In the Eucharist, the Church continues the mission of Christ to teach and nourish the People of God.

## Reflection

We honour the real presence and appreciate the Holy Eucharist as a channel of grace on the solemnity of the Body and blood of Christ under the species of bread and wine, the food that makes us live forever in Jesus Christ. When we receive from the Lord's table we unite ourselves to Jesus Christ, who makes us sharers in his body and blood. Ignatius of Antioch calls it the "one bread that provides the medicine of immortality, the antidote for death, and the food that makes us live forever in Jesus Christ". When you approach the Table of the Lord, what do you expect to receive? Healing, pardon, comfort, and rest for your soul? The Lord has much more for us, more than we can ask or imagine. As bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens us in charity and enables us to break with disordered attachments to creatures and to be more firmly rooted in the love of Christ.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

❖ **Mon 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2019**

**Is 49:1-6**

**Ps 139:1-3, 13-15**

**Acts 13:22-26**

**Lk 1:57-66, 80**

❖ **Tues 25<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2019**

**Gen 13:2, 5-18**

**Ps 15:2-5**

**Mt 7:6, 12-14**

❖ **Wed 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2019**

**Gen 15:1-12, 17-18**

**Ps 105:1-4, 6-9**

**Mt 7:15-20**

❖ **Thu 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2019**

**Gen 16:1-12, 15-16**

**Ps 106:1-5**

**Mt 7:21-29**

❖ **Fri 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2019**

**Ez. 34:11-16**

**Ps 23:1-6**

**Rom 5:5-11**

**Lk 15:3-7**

❖ **Sat 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2019**

**Acts 12:1-11**

**Ps 34:2-9**

**Mt 16:13-19**

**30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2019**

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** 1Kgs 19:16b, 19-21

**Resp. Ps: Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Gal. 5:1; 13-18

**Gospel:** Lk 9:51:62

## KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

### THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL AND THE ARIAN HERESY

First Ecumenical Council of the Catholic Church, held in 325 on the occasion of the heresy of Arius (Arianism). As early as 320 or 321 St. Alexander, Bishop of Alexandria, convoked a council at Alexandria at which more than one hundred bishops from Egypt and Libya anathematized Arius. The latter continued to officiate in his church and to recruit followers. Being finally driven out, he went to Palestine and from there to Nicomedia. During this time St. Alexander published his "Epistola encyclica", to which Arius replied; but henceforth it was evident that the quarrel had gone beyond the possibility of human control. Sozomen even speaks of a Council of Bithynia which addressed an encyclical to all the bishops asking them to receive the Arians into the communion of the Church. This discord, and the war which soon broke out between Constantine and Licinius, added to the disorder and partly explains the progress of the religious conflict during the years 322-3.

Finally, Constantine, having conquered Licinius and become sole emperor, concerned himself with the re-establishment of religious peace as well as of civil order. He addressed letters to St. Alexander and to Arius deprecating these heated controversies regarding questions of no practical importance, and advising the adversaries to agree without delay. It was evident that the emperor did not then grasp the significance of the Arian controversy. Hosius of Cordova, his counsellor in religious matters, bore the imperial letter to Alexandria, but failed in his conciliatory mission.

Seeing this, the emperor, perhaps advised by Hosius, judged no remedy more apt to restore peace in the Church than the convocation of an ecumenical council. The emperor himself, in very respectful letters, begged the bishops of every country to come promptly to Nicaea. Several bishops from outside the Roman Empire (e.g., from Persia) came to the Council. It is not historically known whether the emperor in convoking the Council acted solely in his own name or in concert with the pope; however, it is probable that Constantine and Sylvester came to

## KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

an agreement. In order to expedite the assembling of the Council, the emperor placed at the disposal of the bishops the public conveyances and posts of the empire; moreover, while the Council lasted he provided abundantly for the maintenance of the members. The choice of Nicaea was favourable to the assembling of a large number of bishops. It was easily accessible to the bishops of nearly all the provinces, but especially to those of Asia, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Greece, and Thrace.

The sessions were held in the principal church, and in the central hall of the imperial palace. A large place was indeed necessary to receive such an assembly, though the exact number is not known with certainty. Eusebius speaks of more than 250 bishops, and later Arabic manuscripts raise the figure to 2000 - an evident exaggeration in which, however, it is impossible to discover the approximate total number of bishops, as well as of the priests, deacons, and acolytes, of whom it is said that a great number were also present.

St. Athanasius, a member of the council speaks of 300, and in his letter "Ad Afros" he says explicitly 318. This figure is almost universally adopted, and there seems to be no good reason for rejecting it. Most of the bishops present were Greeks; among the Latins we know only Hosius of Cordova, Cecilian of Carthage, Mark of Calabria, Nicasius of Dijon, Donnus of Stridon in Pannonia, and the two Roman priests, Victor and Vincentius, representing the pope.

The assembly numbered among its most famous members St. Alexander of Alexandria, Eustathius of Antioch, Macarius of Jerusalem, Eusebius of Nicomedia, Eusebius of Caesarea, and Nicholas of Myra. Some had suffered during the last persecution; others were poorly enough acquainted with Christian theology. Among the members was a young deacon, Athanasius of Alexandria, for whom this Council was to be the prelude to a life of conflict and of glory

*To be continued...*

## MOTIVATION

### THE LAW OF SUCCESS BY NAPOLEON HILL

Again you are reminded of the importance of Lesson Nine of this course, through the aid of which you may avail yourself of this "better way" of promoting yourself.

Thousands of people walked over the great Calumet Copper Mine without discovering it. Just one lone man used his "imagination," dug down into the earth a few feet, investigated, and discovered the richest copper deposit on earth.

You and every other person walk, at one time or another, over your "Calumet Mine." Discovery is a matter of investigation and use of "imagination."

This course on the Fifteen Laws of Success may lead the way to your "Calumet," and you may be surprised when you discover that you were standing right over this rich mine, in the work in which you are now engaged. In his lecture on "Acres of Diamonds," Russell Conwell tells us that we need not seek opportunity in the distance; that we may find it right where we stand!  
THIS IS A TRUTH WELL WORTH REMEMBERING!

## PRAYER FOR GOD'S INTERVENTION IN OUR LANDCASE

Almighty and Merciful Father, we thank you for our faith and for the gift of our church community. We thank you for how far you have brought us as a parish. You have been our refuge in times past and our hope for years to come.

We humbly beseech you to help us win back our Land in this dispute. Save us from violence, discord and confusion and the evil plans of our adversaries.

For the Court of Justice we pray that you will give them the spirit of Wisdom and Understanding that they may discern the truth and impartially administer the law in the fear of you alone. May they not yield to deceit and acts of bribery and corruption but uphold the truth and let justice prevail.

May your Mother Mary intercede for us and may the Archangel Michael defend us in battle. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

St. Thomas More..... Pray for us

St. John Fisher..... Pray for us

All you Angels and Saints ..... Pray for us

## FINANCE CORNER

Thank You All for Your Generosity. May God Bless You