

## 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: Thursdays 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 & 2pm - 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: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Singing Schedule:

First Mass: Youth Choir  
Second Mass: Ave Maria  
Third Mass: Akan Kuo

### Offertory and Bidding Prayers:

First Mass: December Borns  
Second Mass: December Borns  
Third Mass: December Borns

## 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. Pledges can be redeemed through Mobile Money Number 0558362191. Receipts for such payments will be issued later for collection.
2. Parishioners are reminded to pay the 2019 Harvest levy of GHs 20.00 per adult, GHs 10 per youth and GHs 5.00 per child. All Harvest contributions should be paid at the harvest desk.
3. Catholic Institute of Business and Technology (CIBT) presents friends making fundraising, dubbed "an evening with CIBT chancellors, past and present. It will be an unforgettable evening of music and entertainment by Ramblers International Band, poetry recital, buffet dinner and dance. Date : 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019 from 5:00pm to 9:00pm at the Holy Spirit Cathedral.
4. Catechism class for Baptism and First Communion begins today at both STM and SJF. Interested parishioners should register at the parish office and attend the class.
5. **Marriage Banns: (3<sup>rd</sup>)** Raymond Daari-Nabie and Lucy Atideka. Kingsley Mensah Ampah and Matilda Nstri

## ADVERT

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## QUOTE

**Readiness is when your desire is stronger than your distractions.**  
Prichard Skip

## SS. THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH ACHIMOTA

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Rev. Fr. George Obeng - Appah (*Priest-in-charge*) Tel: 020-8592020 **030-3939862(SJF)**

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**24TH NOVEMBER, 2019: SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE.**

**THEME FOR THE WEEK: ARE YOU READY?**

## TODAY'S READINGS

### 1st Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-3

David is anointed king of Israel as the Lord had said.

### Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 122:1-2,4-5

**LET US GO REJOICING TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD.**

### 2nd Reading: Colossians 1:12-20

Hymn to Jesus as the first-born of all creation who delivered us from the Kingdom of darkness.

### Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

Jesus is crucified under the title King of the Jews.

## Reflection

Hurray! A day of great joy it is for us. Christ our King is the one whom we celebrate. A King who is an irony and whose reign seems contradictory. A King who leads us into battle and promises us victory and a place at his side. He does that by dying on the Cross. Jesus' death on the Cross brings us victory and gives us a share in the Kingdom of God. He crucifies sin and death and sets us free.

He wills that we come to where He is and live with him. Indeed he gains freedom for us, so that we can assume our true identity as children of God while we find newness in Him. He is King because it was through him that all things came to be and he has dominion over everything.

Our readiness will be seen in our plea to him. What will you ask for? We are to be like the repentant thief who asks for a place with The King in His Kingdom. His Kingdom already begins from here, when we come into his presence in the Temple. Are you always glad to be in His presence. How ready are you to meet the King?

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

### ❖ Mon 25<sup>TH</sup> NOV. 2019

Dan 1:1-6,8-20  
Ps 3:53-57  
Lk 21:1-4

### ❖ Tues 26<sup>TH</sup> NOV. 2019

Dan 2:31-45  
Ps 3:58-62  
Lk 21:5-11

### ❖ Wed 27<sup>TH</sup> NOV. 2019

Dan 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28  
Ps 3:63-68  
Lk 21:12-19

### ❖ Thu 28<sup>TH</sup> NOV. 2019

Dan 6:12-28  
Ps 3:69-75  
Lk 21:12-19

### ❖ Fri 29<sup>TH</sup> NOV. 2019

Dan 7:2-14  
Ps 3:76-82  
Lk 21:29-33

### ❖ Sat 30<sup>TH</sup> NOV. 2019

Rom 10:9-18  
Ps 19:2-5  
Mt 4:18-22

**1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2019**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year A)**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

**Resp. Ps:** Ps. 122:1-2,4-5

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Romans 13:11-14

**Gospel:** Luke Matthew 24:37- 44

## KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

### THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

- David Bennett

Pope Pius XI instituted The Feast of Christ the King in 1925, to be celebrated throughout the universal church, in his encyclical Quas Primas. He connected the increasing denial of Christ as king to the rise of secularism throughout much of Europe. At the time of Quas Primas, many Christians (including Catholics) began to doubt Christ's authority and existence, as well as the Church's power to continue Christ's authority.

Pius XI, and the rest of the Christian world, witnessed the rise of non-Christian (or nominally Christian) dictatorships throughout Europe, and saw Catholics being persuaded by these earthly leaders. These dictators also often attempted to assert authority over the Church. Just as the Feast of Corpus Christi was instituted when devotion to the Eucharist was at a low point, the Feast of Christ the King was instituted during a time when respect for Christ and the Church was waning, when the feast was needed most.

Pius hoped the institution of the feast would have various effects. They were:

1. That nations would see that the Church has the right to freedom, and immunity from the state
2. That leaders and nations would see that they are bound to give respect to Christ
3. That the faithful would gain strength and courage from the celebration of the feast, as we are reminded that Christ must reign in our hearts, minds, wills, and bodies .

Today, the same distrust of authority exists, although the problem has gotten worse. Individualism has been embraced to such an extreme, that for many, the only authority is the individual self. The idea of Christ as ruler is rejected in such a strongly individualistic system. Also, many balk at the idea of kings and queens, believing them to be antiquated and possibly oppressive. Some even reject the titles of "lord" and "king" for Christ because they believe that such titles are borrowed from oppressive systems of government. However true these statements might be (some kings have been oppressive), these individuals miss the point:

## KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

Christ's kingship is one of humility and service. Jesus said:

You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to become great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:42-45, NAB).

Pilate said to Jesus, "Are you the King of the Jews?"... Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here." So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world to testify to the truth (John 18:33b, 36-37).

Thus, Jesus knew the oppressive nature of secular kings, and in contrast to them, he connected his role as king to humble service, and commanded his followers to be servants as well. In other passages of Scripture, his kingdom is tied to his suffering and death. While Christ is coming to judge the nations, his teachings spell out a kingdom of justice and judgment balanced with radical love, mercy, peace, and forgiveness. When we celebrate Christ as King, we are not celebrating an oppressive ruler, but one willing to die for humanity and whose "loving-kindness endures forever." Christ is the king that gives us true freedom, freedom in Him. Thus we must never forget that Christ radically redefined and transformed the concept of kingship.

Christ the King Sunday used to be celebrated on the last Sunday of October, but since the calendar reforms of 1969, the feast falls on the last Sunday of Ordinary Time, which is the Sunday before Advent. It is fitting that the feast celebrating Christ's kingship is observed right before Advent, when we liturgically wait for the promised Messiah (King).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Advent Retreat for the parish comes off from Wed. 18<sup>th</sup> –Fri. 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

Carols Service will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of Dec 2019.

The Kpehe Deanery Youth Council presents **Biz Plug 2019**. This is a Business Fair for businesses to display their products and get customers to buy them while attending a seminar on how to start and sustain a business.

**Date: 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

**Time: 10a.m – 4p.m**

**Venue: St. Thomas More Cath. Ch., Achimota**

**If you wish to join the fair please contact the Youth Executives.**

### QUESTIONS FOR BIBLE SHARING

Text: Luke Matthew 24:37-44

1. What does this passage tell you?
2. What does Jesus expect us to do differently from the people in the time of Noah and the house holder?

NB: Kindly prepare well, come along with your Bible and join us to share the Word of God.

## PRAYER FOR GOD'S INTERVENTION IN OUR LAND CASE

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