

SS. THOMAS MORE AND JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH, ACHIMOTA.

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

18TH APRIL. 2021: THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "SENT OUT TO ANNOUNCE GOOD NEWS"

Rev. Fr. George Obeng - Appah *(Parish Priest)* **020-8592020** Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Kwofie (Assistant Priest) **0206355610**

St Thomas More Catholic Church - **030-3931800** SS Thomas More and John Fisher Catholic Church - **030-3939862**

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

Peter preaches that Jesus has been raised from the dead and calls upon the people to repent.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 4:2, 4, 7-9

LIFT UP THE LIGHT OF YOUR FACE ON US, O LORD.

Second Reading 1Jn 2:1-5a

Those who know God keep his commandment s.

Gospel Reading Lk 24:35-48

Jesus appears again to his disciples and shares a meal with them.

REFLECTION

Luke's report of the Last Supper and the meals that Jesus shared after his Resurrection unveil for us the significance of the Eucharist. Having shared a meal with his disciples, Jesus now uncovers for them the significance of what was written about him in the Scriptures. So, too, our celebration of the Mass is an encounter with Jesus, through the Word and the Sacrament of the Eucharist. As Jesus commissions his disciples to be witnesses to what Scriptures foretold, our celebration of the Eucharist commissions us. Like the disciples, we are sent to announce the good news of Jesus' forgiveness of sins.

| Weekly Readings | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Mon 19 TH APR, 2021 | Tue 20 TH APR, 2021 | |
| Acts 6:8-15 | Acts 7:51-8:1a | |
| Ps 119:23-24,26-27,29-30 | Ps 31:3-4,6-8,17,21 | |
| Jn 6:22-29 | Jn 6:30-35 | |
| Wed 21 ST MAR, 2021 | Thu 22 ND APR, 2021 | |
| St. Anselm, Bishop & Doctor | Acts 8:26-40 | |
| of the Church | Ps 66:8-9,16-17,29 | |
| Acts 8:1b-8 | Jn 6:44-51 | |
| Ps 66:1-7 | | |
| Jn 6:35-40 | | |
| Fri 23 RD APR, 2021 | Sat 24 TH APR, 2021 | |
| St. George, Martyr; | St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen | |
| St. Adalbert, Bishop & Martyr | Acts 9:31-42 | |
| Acts 9:1-20 | Ps 116:12-17 | |
| Ps 117:1-2 | Jn 6:60-69 | |
| Jn 6:52-59 | | |

| Readings for Next Sunday | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| First Reading | Acts 4:8-12 | |
| Responsorial Psalm | Ps 118:1,8-9,2123,26,28- 29 | |
| Second Reading | 1Jn 3:1-2 | |
| Gospel | Jn 10:11-18 | |

| Mass Schedule | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|--|
| St. Thomas More | St. John Fisher | |
| First Mass: 7:00 am | First Mass: 6:30 am | |
| Second Mass: 9:00 am | Second Mass: 8:30 am | |
| | Third Mass: 10:30 am | |



KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

COMPENDIUM OF THE SOCIAL DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH

GOD'S PLAN OF LOVE FOR HUMANITY

I. GOD'S LIBERATING ACTION IN THE HISTORY OF ISRAEL

a. God's gratuitous presence contd.

Against the background of universal religious experience, in which humanity shares in different ways, God's progressive revelation of himself to the people of Israel stands out. This revelation responds to the human quest for the divine in an unexpected and surprising way, thanks to the historical manner — striking and penetrating — in which God's love for man is made concrete. According to the Book of Exodus, the Lord speaks these words to Moses: "I have seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters; I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey" (Ex 3:7-8). The gratuitous presence of God — to which his very name alludes, the name he reveals to Moses, "I am who I am" (Ex 3:14) — is manifested in the freeing from slavery and in the promise. These become historical action, which is the origin of the manner in which the Lord's people collectively identify themselves, through the acquisition of freedom and the land that the Lord gives them.

The gratuitousness of this historically efficacious divine action is constantly accompanied by the commitment to the covenant, proposed by God and accepted by Israel. On Mount Sinai, God's initiative becomes concrete in the covenant with his people, to whom is given the Decalogue of the commandments revealed by the Lord (cf. Ex 19-24). The "ten commandments" (Ex 34:28; cf. Deut 4:13; 10:4) "express the implications of belonging to God through the establishment of the covenant. Moral existence is a response to the Lord's loving initiative. It is the acknowledgment and homage given to God and a worship of thanksgiving. It is cooperation with the plan God pursues in history ...to be continued

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 payer through Christ our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

PRAYER FOR AN END OF THE CORONA VIRUS – COVID 19

Almighty and merciful Father, who show your love to all your creation. We come before you asking for a quick control of the Coronavirus currently ravaging our world.

Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus in various parts of the world. Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead and consolation to the bereaved families.

We pray that an effective medicine to combat the sickness be speedily found. We pray for the relevant governments and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. Look upon us in your mercy and forgive us our failings. Amen.

UP COMING EVENT

THANKSGIVING MASS FOR

REV. SR. MARTHA

AWUBAWUNI

COMES OFF ON

SUNDAY 25TH APRIL, 2021

DURING THE 7:00AM MASS AT

STM AND THE 10:30AM MASS



MOTIVATION

AT SJF.

A CLEVER BOY

A man with his donkey carrying two sacks of wheat was on his way to the market. After a little while he was tired and they rested under a tree.

When he woke up from his nap he could not see the donkey and started searching for the donkey everywhere. On the way he met a boy, he asked the boy, "Have you seen my donkey?" The boy asked, "Is the donkey's left eye blind, his right foot lame and is he carrying a load of wheat?" The man was happy and said, "Yes, exactly!

Where have you

seen it?" the boy answered "I haven't seen it." This made the man very angry and he took the boy to the village chief for punishment.

The judge asked, "Dear boy, if you had not seen at the donkey, how could you described it?" The boy answered, "I saw the tracks of a donkey and the right and left tracks were different from this I understood that the donkey that passed there was limping. And the grass on the right side of the road was eaten but the grass on the left was not. From that I understood that his left eye was blind. There were wheat seeds scattered on the ground and I understood that he must have been carrying a load of wheat. The judge understood the boy's cleverness and told the man to forgive the boy.

This story teaches us that we should not be quick to judge the people.

YOUTH CORNER

WHAT IS IN THE SPIRIT OF GHANA Contd.

In my opinion, the discussions that could help us answer all those questions, and pave a definitive path for the future, are those that are concerned with defining our values and collective conscience about who a Ghanaian is, what a Ghanaian believes in, and how a Ghanaian should behave, and work.

These should be prioritized over the current sentimental discussions about Ghana. Ghana is not only about clothes, food, artworks, and what we vaguely describe as 'our culture'. It is about the spirit of Ghana. On Independence Day, when the president lights up the perpetual flames, symbolically lighting up the spirit of Ghanaians, we must sit back and ask ourselves, what 'spirit' is the president lighting up? Is there even any foundational understanding of the Ghanaian personality and destiny?

Finally, I am of the view that alongside the hard discussions about money, trade, politics, freedom, corruption, apathy towards the government, and other issues that bother the country, there should be deliberate attempts to talk about softer issues like values, beliefs, principles, and ethics. We need a deliberate plan to form the collective conscience of Ghana. I believe these are what makes and drives a person, and thereupon a country. They are indeed the foundations of building a resilient and prosperous nation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. Parishioners who wish to redeem their harvest pledges, pay their church dues and other statutory payments can use the Church's Mobile Money Number 0595850922. Receipts for such payments will be issued later for collection.
- 2. Due to the directive to register worshippers we encourage parishioners to follow the link to register for Mass http://thomasmorejohnfisher.com/#ChurchAttendance. You can also call the priests or send an SMS or WhatsApp with your details to be registered.
- 3. We are encouraged to adhere to all the covid protocols and directives namely: The Online or Manual Registrations, hand washing, checking of temperature, using of hand sanitizer and socially distancing during mass. Let us kindly cooperate with the ushers in keeping our church safe.
- **4.** The Knights and Ladies of the Alter, Lectors and ushers need new members. Interested parishioners should see their presidents or the church secretary to register.
- 5. Marriage Banns 1st Publication between Victor Annor-Blay and Hannah Donkor.
- **6.** Marriage Banns 3rd Publication between Elliot Hoya and Marian Carlien Amuah.
- 7. The funeral details of Mr. Clement Ato Gordon, a member of the Knights and Ladies of Marshal and the Amalgamated Community is as follows:

Saturday 8th May 2021: Pre-burial service at SFJ at 8.00am. The burial mass will be at 9.00am

Sunday 9th May 2021: Thanksgiving mass at SJF at 10.30am

8. Catechism for confirmation is ongoing. Parishioners who wish to receive the sacrament of confirmation on the 16th of May should join the catechism class at STM after the 9.00am and at SJF after the 10.30am mass. No parishioner will be allowed to join the class after today.

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 <u>at least</u> <u>six months to a year</u> 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 Thursday (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: Monday to Thursday: 9am -1pm & 2 pm - 5pm: and Sunday: 9 am - 1.30pm



FINANCE CORNER - ST. THOMAS MORE

| WEEKDAYS | STM APRIL WK1 | STM APRIL WK2 |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| SUNDAY | 745.90 | |
| MONDAY | 1034.00 | 90.00 |
| TUESDAY | 704.10 | 600.00 |
| WEDNESDAY | 1812.00 | 10.00 |
| THURSDAY | 1067.70 | 80.00 |
| FRIDAY | 628.70 | 1.00 |
| SATURDAY | 541.00 | |
| APR. BORN | 36.00 | |
| TOTAL | 6569.40 | 781.00 |

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

| SUNDAY | STM APRIL WK 2 |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| MAIN COLLECTION | 1565.60 |
| SECOND COLLECTION | 901.80 |
| TITHE | 800.00 |
| TOTAL | 3267.40 |

FINANCE CORNER – ST. JOHN FISHER

| WEEKDAYS | SJF APRIL WK1 | SJF APRIL WK2 |
|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| SUNDAY | 1797.60+£5 | |
| MONDAY | 4711.00 | 200.00 |
| TUESDAY | 2265.40 | |
| WEDNESDAY | 1231.10 | |
| THURSDAY | 2170.00 | 100.00 |
| FRIDAY | 3972.20 | 1.00 |
| SATURDAY | 3482.50+\$100 | 23.00 |
| APR. BORN | 360.00 | |
| TOTAL | 19989.80+£5 +\$100 | 423.00 |

| SUNDAY | SJF APRIL WK 2 |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| MAIN COLLECTION | 2222.30 |
| SECOND COLLECTION | 1248.20 |
| TITHE | 50.00 |
| TOTAL | 3520.50 |