

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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

2ND MAY, 2021: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "JESUS ABIDES WITH US FOREVER"

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 9:26-31

Paul is accepted by the apostles at Jerusalem.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 118: 22:26-28, 30-32

YOU ARE MY PRAISE, LORD, IN THE GREAT ASSEMBLY.

Second Reading 1Jn 3: 18-24

God commands us to believe in Jesus Christ and to love one another.

Gospel Reading Jn 15:1-8

Jesus teaches that he is the vine and that his disciples are the branches.

REFLECTION

Beloved, Jesus teaches his disciples in today's gospel that his relationship with them will not end after his death; he will remain with them always. This unity between Jesus and his disciples is the basis for their ability to continue to do the work that he began. Similarly, Jesus' presence with us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to continue the work of love and reconciliation that he began.

Jesus also teaches his disciples about the importance of the words he has taught them. Just as Jesus will remain in the disciples, so too will his words. We come to know Jesus through the Scriptures, the living Word of God. Our commitment to be Christ's disciples is sustained through God's Word. His commitment is also strengthened by our life of prayer and nourished by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist, Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in his name.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 3 RD MAY, 2021 Sts. Philip and James, Apostles 1Cor 15:1-8 Ps 19:2-3;34-5 Jn 14:61-14	Tue 4TH MAY, 2021 Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-13,21 Jn 14:27-31a
Wed 5TH MAY, 2021 Acts 15:1-6 Ps 122:1-2,3-4ab,4cd-5 Jn 15:1-8	Thu 6 TH MAY, 2021 Acts 15:7-21 Ps 96:1-2a,2b-3,10 Jn 15:9-11
Fri 7 TH MAY, 2021 Acts 15:22-31 Ps 57:8-9,10,12 Jn 15:12-17	Sat 8 TH MAY, 2021 Acts 16:1-10 Ps 100:1b-2,3,5 Mt 15:18-21

Readings for Next Sunday		
First Reading Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-4		
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 98:1-4	
Second Reading	1Jn 4:7-10	
Gospel	Jn 15:9-7	

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

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING Life and Dignity of the Human Person

Human life and Dignity. The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and euthanasia. The value of human life is being threatened by cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and the use of the death penalty. The intentional targeting of civilians in war or terrorist attacks is always wrong. Catholic teaching also calls on us to work to avoid war. Nations must protect the right to life by finding increasingly effective ways to prevent conflicts and resolve them by peaceful means. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.

Scriptures

Gen1:26-31 - God created man and woman in his image.

Deu 10:17-19 - God loves the orphan, the widow, and the stranger.

Ps 139:13-16 - God formed each of us and knows us intimately.

Proverbs 22:2 - The Lord is the maker of both rich and poor.

Lk 10:25-37 - The Good Samaritan recognized the dignity in the other and cared for his life.

Jn 4:1-42 - Jesus broke with societal and religious customs to honor the dignity of the Samaritan woman.

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.

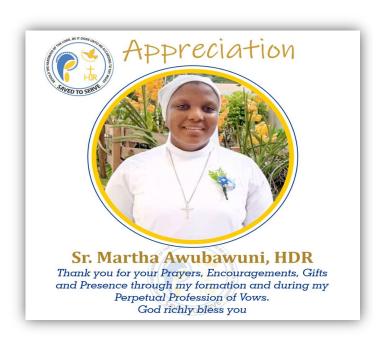
May your Mother Mary intercede for us and may the Archangel Michael defend us in battle. We make our payer through Christ our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

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.





MOTIVATION

STOP CHASING HAPPINESS

"An old man lived in the village. The whole village was tired of him; he was always gloomy, he constantly complained and was always in a bad mood. The longer he lived, the viler he became and more poisonous were his words. People did their best to avoid him because his misfortune was contagious. He created the feeling of unhappiness in others.

But one day, when he turned eighty, an incredible thing happened. Instantly everyone started hearing the rumor: 'The old man is happy today, he doesn't complain about anything, smiles, and even his face is freshened up.'

The whole village gathered around the man and asked him, "What happened to you?"

The old man replied, 'Nothing special. Eighty years I've been chasing happiness and it was useless. And then I decided to live without happiness and just enjoy life.

That's why I'm happy now."

YOUTH CORNER

ORIGINS OF CATHOLICISM

(Excerpts from the Crucified Rabbi, by Taylor Marshall)

Mary as Queen Mother of Jerusalem

This Jewish Gebirah possessed a powerful influence over the kingdom. This power and authority flowed from her status as the mother of the Davidic king, not from her own personal importance. Rightly understood, the Queen Mother held a political office and signified the legitimate genealogy of the king. King Solomon the Wise instituted the formal place of the Queen Mother when he ascended to the throne of his father King David. One of the first things King Solomon did after his enthronement was to place a throne at his right hand and enthrone his mother as the Gebirah:

So Solomon sat upon the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was firmly established ...So [his mother] Bathsheba went to King Solomon, to speak to him on behalf of Adonijah. And the king rose to meet her, and bowed down to her; then he sat on his throne, and had a seat brought for the king's mother; and she sat on his right (1 Kings 2:12-19).

To be continued...

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. May is the month of Rosary. We are being reminded and encouraged to pray the rosary.
- 5. Marriage Banns: 1st Publication between Michael Omari and Gloria Tandor. 3rd Publication between Victor Annor-Blay and Hannah Donkor.
- **6.** 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. Dress Code: Black. Sunday 9th May 2021: Thanksgiving mass at SJF at 10.30am. Dress Code: Black & White.
- 7. The funeral Mass of Mr. George Gyedu-Adomako will be held on Saturday 29th May, 2021 at SJF at 8:00am.
- 8. The death is reported of Mr. Matthew Ketorwoglo a former parishioner. The funeral arraagement is as follows: Saturday 29th May, 2021: burial mass at St. John of God, Armahia near the Christian University College on the main Dodowa road at 8:00am. Sunday 30th May, 2021: Thanksgiving mass at St. John of God at 9:00am.

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> 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 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

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



FINANCE CORNER - ST. THOMAS MORE

WEEKDAYS	STM APRIL WK1	STM APRIL WK2	STM APRIL WK3	STM APRIL WK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSI- TIONS
SUNDAY	745.90				745.90	5 TH
MONDAY	1034.00	90.00			1124.00	4 TH
TUESDAY	704.10	600.00			1304.10	2 ND
WEDNESDAY	1812.00	10.00	55.00		1877.00	1 ST
THURSDAY	1067.70	80.00			1147.70	3 RD
FRIDAY	628.70	1.00			629.70	6 TH
SATURDAY	541.00				541.00	7 TH
APR. BORN	36.00				36.00	
TOTAL	6569.40	781.00	55.00		7405.40	

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM APRIL WK 4
MAIN COLLECTION	1782.70
SECOND COLLECTION	1068.80
TOTAL	2851.50

FINANCE CORNER – ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF APRIL WK1	SJF APRIL WK2	SJF APRIL WK3	SJF APRIL WK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSI- TIONS
SUNDAY	1797.60+£5				1825.60	6 TH
MONDAY	4711.00	200.00		1.00	4912.00	1 ST
TUESDAY	2265.40		5.00		2270.40	4 TH
WEDNESDAY	1231.10			501.00	1732.10	7 TH
THURSDAY	2170.00	100.00			2270.00	5 TH
FRIDAY	3972.20	100.00	195.00	11.00	4278.20	2 ND
SATURDAY	3482.50+\$1 00	23.00			4065.5	3 RD
APR. BORN	360.00				360.00	
TOTAL	19989.80 +£5+\$100	423.00	200.00	513.00	21713.80	

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF APRIL WK 4
MAIN	
COLLECTION	2997.80
SECOND COLLECTION	1484.40
TITHE	620.00
TOTAL	5102.20

All foreign currencies have been converted into cedis

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL.