

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

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## **WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

15TH AUGUST, 2021: THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "MARY'S ACT OF FAITH"

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 Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab

The sign of God's salvation will be a woman clothed with the sun.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 45:10-12, 16

ON YOUR RIGHT STANDS THE QUEEN IN GOLD OF OPHIR.

Second Reading: 1Cor 15:20-27

Christ has redeemed Adam's sin.

Gospel Reading: Lk 1:39-56

Mary greets Elizabeth and sings God's praise.

#### REFLECTION

Today's Gospel highlights Mary's faith. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to all. Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan of salvation.

#### **WEEKLY READINGS**

MON 16 <sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2021	TUE 17 <sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2021
ST. STEPHEN OF HUNGARI	JGS 6:11-24A
JGS 2:11-19	PS 85:9,11-14
PS 106:34-37,39-40,44	MT 19:23-30
MT 19:16-22	
WED 18 <sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2021	THU 19 <sup>TH</sup> AUGUST. 2021
JGS 9:6-15	ST. JOHN EUDES
PS 21:2-7	JGS 11:29-39A
MT 20:1-16	PS 40:5,7-10
	MT 22:1-14
FRI 20 <sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2021	SAT 21 <sup>ST</sup> AUGUST, 2021
ST. BERNARD	ST. PIUS X
RUTH 1:1,3-6,14B-16-22	RUTH 2:1-3,8-11;4:13-17
PS 146:5-10	PS 128:1-5
MT 22:34-40	MT 23:1-12

Readings for Next Sunday	
First Reading	Jos 24:1-2a,15-17
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 34;2-3,16-23
Second Reading	Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a,25-32
Gospel	Jn 6:60-69

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 DOCTRINE SOLIDARITY – PART II

In the present condition of global society, where injustices abound and growing numbers of people are deprived of basic human rights and considered expendable, the principle of the common good immediately becomes, logically and inevitably, a summons to solidarity and a preferential option for the poorest of our brothers and sisters. This option entails recognizing the implications of the universal destination of the world's goods, but, as I mentioned in the Apostolic Exhortation Evangelii Gaudium, it demands before all else an appreciation of the immense dignity of the poor in the light of our deepest convictions as believers. We need only look around us to see that, today, this option is in fact an ethical imperative essential for effectively attaining the common good. (Pope Francis, *On Care for Our Common Home* [Laudato Si'], no. 158)

To love someone is to desire that person's good and to take effective steps to secure it. Besides the good of the individual, there is the good that is linked to living in society: the common good. It is the good of "all of us", made up of individuals, families and intermediate groups who together constitute society. ... To desire the common good and strive towards it is a requirement of justice and charity. (Pope Benedict XVI, *Charity in Truth* [Caritas in Veritate], no. 7)

It is good for people to realize that purchasing is always a moral—and not simply economic— act. Hence the consumer has a specific social responsibility, which goes hand-in- hand with the social responsibility of the enterprise. Consumers should be continually educated regarding their daily role, which can be exercised with respect for moral principles without diminishing the intrinsic economic rationality of the act of purchasing... It can be helpful to promote new ways of marketing products from deprived areas of the world, so as to guarantee their producers a decent return. (Pope Benedict XVI, *Charity in Truth* [Caritas in Veritate], no. 66)

At another level, the roots of the contradiction between the solemn affirmation of human rights and their tragic denial in practice lies in a notion of freedom which exalts the isolated individual in an absolute way, and gives no place to solidarity, to openness to others and service of them. . . It is precisely in this sense that Cain's answer to the Lord's question: "Where is Abel your brother?" can be interpreted: "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" (Gen 4:9). Yes, every man is his "brother's keeper", because God entrusts us to one another. (St. John Paul II, *The Gospel of Life* [Evangelium Vitae], no. 19)

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.

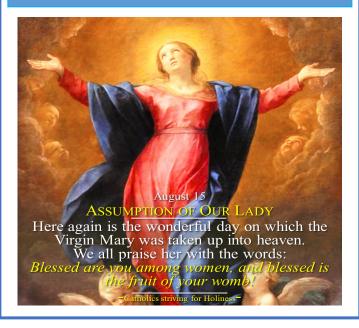
We humbly beseech you to help us win back our Land in this dispute. Save us from violence, discord and confusion and the evil plans of our adversaries.

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.

St. Thomas More...... Pray for us
St. John Fisher..... Pray for us
All you Angels and Saints ..... Pray for us

### HAPPY FEAST DAY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY





## **Help Us Build**

A new Children Service Block @ SS Thomas More & John Fisher Parish

St. Thomas More Catholic Church Acc No. 1117000222801 Bank: NIB Branch Abeka Mobile Money: 059 585 0922



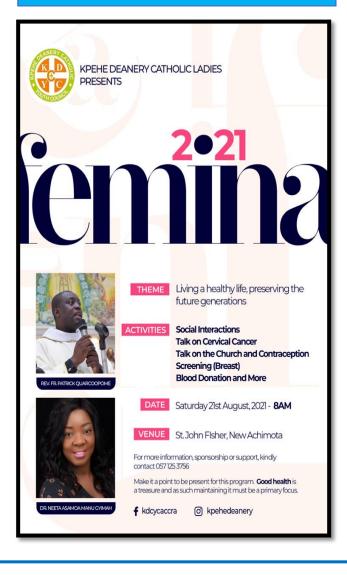
#### **MOTIVATION**

#### WAIT...WHAT?

A carpenter who was nearing retirement told his boss that he was ready to end his career and spend his time with his wife and family. He would miss his work, but he felt it was time to spend his time with the people who were important to him. His boss was saddened by this news, as this carpenter had been a good, reliable employee for many years. He asked the carpenter if he could do him a favor and build just one more house. The carpenter reluctantly conceded, even though his passion for building had faded. While he was building this last house, his normal work ethic faded and his efforts were mediocre, at best. He used inexpensive and inferior materials and cut corners wherever he could. It was a poor way to finish such a dedicated career that he once had. When the carpenter was finished, his boss came to look at the house. He gave the key to the carpenter and said, "This house is my gift to you for all of the hard work you have done for me over the years." The carpenter was astonished. What a generous gift this was to receive from his boss, but if he had known he was building a house for himself, he would have made his usual efforts to create a high-quality home.

The Moral: The same idea applies to how you build your life. Every day that you wake up offers an opportunity for you to put your best foot forward, yet we often do mediocre work, saving the more important things for "another" day. Then one day, we find ourselves shocked that our lives aren't what we had hoped they would be. The "house" we built to live in has a lot of flaws due to a lack of effort. However, you can't go back and rebuild it in a day or two. As people say, "Life is a do-it-yourself project." Your attitude and choices help build the life you will live tomorrow. Build carefully.

#### YOUTH CORNER



#### **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. Marriage Banns:  $\mathbf{3}^{\text{RD}}$  **Publication** between Valentine Mba and Augustina Mba.
- 5. The St. Vincent de Paul Society has resumed the Community and Society visitations to their wards (Sick & Aged). The month of August's visitation will be done by the Charismatic Renewal and the month of September by the Northern Union.
- 6. The funeral arrangement of Mr. Johnson Amankwah is as follows: Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021: Funeral Mass at SJF at 8.00am. Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2021: Thanksgiving mass at SJF at 10.30am
- 7. The Funeral details of the Mr. John Kwame Anani Akpalu, father of Genevieve Akpalu of the Youth Choir and brother of Gifty Ivy Akpalu of the St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Society is as follows: Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2021, Burial Mass at SJF at 9:00am. Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2021, Thanksgiving Mass at SJF at 8:30am Mass.
- 8. The funeral details of the Mr. A. Y. Abebrese is as follows: Thursday  $2^{nd}$  September, 2021. Laying in state at SJF at 7:00am and Pre-Burial Mass at 9:00am. Saturday  $4^{th}$  September, 2021. Laying in state at family house Buoho, Ashanti Region and Burial Mass at St. Mary's Sanctuary, Buoho, Ashanti Region. Sunday  $5^{th}$  September, 2021. Thanksgiving Mass at Buoho, Ashanti Region.
- 9. The death is reported of Mad. Paulina Afi Kuagben, mother of Mrs. Marianne Dzagbo of the Main Choir. Funeral details will be announced later.

#### **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 <u>at least</u> 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!

THANKS FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US. HAVE A BLESSED WEEK.

#### FINANCE CORNER - ST. THOMAS MORE

WEEKDAYS	STM AUGUST WEEK1	STM AUGUST WEEK2
SUNDAY	377.00	
MONDAY	1035.50	40.00
TUESDAY	397.00	50.00
WEDNESDAY	1064.30	20.00
THURSDAY	1089.90	
FRIDAY	729.40	100.00
SATURDAY	1238.00	
AUGUST BORN	76.00	
TOTAL	6007.10	210.00

## Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM AUGUST WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	1486.50
SECOND COLLECTION	926.80
TOTAL	2413.30

### FINANCE CORNER – ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF AUGUST WEEK1	SJF AUGUST WEEK2
SUNDAY	1862.00+\$200	
MONDAY	1355.00	1520.00
TUESDAY	703.00	5070.00
WEDNESDAY	1171.80	1020.00
THURSDAY	1881.00+\$4	450.00
FRIDAY	6344.00	110.00
SATURDAY	735.00	205.00
<b>AUGUST BORN</b>	174.00+\$100	
TOTAL	14226.50+\$304	8375.00

## Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF AUGUST WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	2312.20+100F
SECOND COLLECTION	1334.30
TITHE	300.00
TOTAL	3946.50+100F

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.