

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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

24TH OCTOBER, 2021: THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "FAITH HEALS"

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**/ **030-2436199**

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Jer 31:7-9

The Lord declares himself to be the Father of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 126:1-6

WHAT GREAT DEEDS THE LORD WORKED FOR US! INDEED WE WERE GLAD.

Second Reading: Heb 5:1-6

Christ was made high priest by God.

Gospel Reading: Mk 10:46-52

Jesus restores sight to the blind man, Bartimaeus.

REFLECTION

Today we continue to read from Mark's Gospel. In this Gospel, we find evidence of Jesus' fame in the sizable crowd that accompanies him as he journeys to Jerusalem. Jesus' reputation as a healer has preceded him. When the blind man, Bartimaeus, hears that Jesus of Nazareth is passing by, he calls out to him, asking for his pity. Jesus heals him based on his faith. The success of Jesus' healing power throughout Mark Gospel has often been correlated with the faith of the person requesting Jesus' help. However when faith is absent Jesus is unable to heal; we see this after his rejection in Nazareth.

May our faith in Jesus Christ bring about our healing.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 25 TH OCTOBER, 2021	Tue 26 TH OCTOBER, 2021
Rom 8:12-17	Rom 8:18-25
Ps 68:2,4,6-7,20-21	Ps 126:1-6
Lk 13:10-17	Lk 13:18-21
Wed 27 TH OCTOBER, 2021 Rom 8:26-30 Ps 13:4-6 Lk 13:22-30	Thu 28 TH OCTOBER, 2021 Sts. Simon & Jude, Apostle Eph 2:19-22 Ps 19:2-5 Lk 6:12-16
Fri 29 TH OCTOBER, 2021	Sat 30 TH OCTOBER, 2021
Rom 9:1-5	Rom 11:1-2a,11-12,25-29
Ps 148:12-15,19-20	Ps 94:12-15,17-18
Lk 14:1-6	Lk 14:1,7-11

Readings for Next Sunday	
First Reading	Deut 6:2-6
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 18: 2-4,47,51
Second Reading	Heb 7:23-28
Gospel	Mk 12:28b-34

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**

LITURGICAL YEAR

Church year, also called liturgical year, annual cycle of seasons and days observed in the Christian churches in commemoration of the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ and of his virtues as exhibited in the lives of the saints.

Origins of the church year Religious times and seasons

The church year has deep roots in the primitive human impulse to mark certain times with sacral significance and ritual observance. These are times when conscious attention is given to the mysterious forces that surround and involve all living creatures in the natural and inexorable cycles of light and darkness; labour and rest; birth, growth, decay, and death.

Two interrelated cycles have had primary importance in the shaping of religious calendars. One is cosmic: the phases of the moon and the solar equinoxes and solstices. The other is the periodic succession of the seasons of nature that determines times of sowing and reaping. Both cycles speak to the mystery of birth, death, and rebirth and to human dependence upon the fecundity of life given in the natural creation.

Jewish background

The Jewish religious year, grounded in the divinely revealed Law of the Hebrew Bible, was the foundation for the church year of Christians. It is a lunar-month calendar stemming from the primitive nomadic life of the Hebrews, with its chief festival at the first full moon of spring, known later as the Passover. Grafted onto this calendar after the settlement of the Hebrew tribes in Palestine were the agricultural festivals—dependent upon "the early and later rains"—the first fruits at Passover, the first harvest at Shavuot, or the Festival of Weeks, and the autumn harvest at Sukkoth, or the Feast of Tabernacles or Booths.

Of uncertain origin, but prior to the monarchical period (11th-6th century BCE), the Hebrews observed a seven-day week, of which the last day, or Sabbath, was a holiday and day of rest. Whatever its original purpose, it became transformed into a sacral day, consecrated to Yahweh, the one God of the Hebrews, and increasingly surrounded with restrictions upon all activity other than worship. In the time of Jesus (1st century CE), "keeping holy the sabbath day" was a principal hallmark of adherence to Judaism.

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

ORDINARY TIME

Ordinary Time

- Liturgical Color
 - - Growth, hope, and life
- Occurs twice in the year
 - Between Christmas and Lent
 - Between summer and the fall
 - Pentecost-Feast of Christ the King
- Purpose
 - To recall the life of Jesus
 - Reminded that God is always there to help us live as Christians





MOTIVATION

THE RIGHT PLACE

A mother and a baby camel were lying around under a tree. Then the baby camel asked, "Why do camels have humps?" The mother camel considered this and said. "We are desert animals so we have the humps to store water so we can survive with very little water." The baby camel thought for a moment then said, "Ok...why are our legs long and our feet rounded?" The mama replied, "They are meant for walking in the desert." The baby paused. After a beat, the camel asked, "Why are our eyelashes long? Sometimes they get in my way." The mama responded, "Those long thick eyelashes protect your eyes from the desert sand when it blows in the wind. The baby thought and thought. Then he said, "I see. So the hump is to store water when we are in the desert, the legs are for walking through the desert and these eye lashes protect my eyes from the desert then why in the Zoo?"

The Lesson: Skills and abilities are only useful if you are in the right place at the right time. Otherwise they go to waste.

YOUTH CORNER

ANNOUNCEMENTS!!!

As part of the activities for the youth month in November, the PYC will be having a donation at the Weija leprosarium.

Parishioners are encouraged to assist with donation of provisions, boxes of nose masks, gallons of sanitizers and any other form of help.

There will be donation table outside for collections. Kindly contact Marius Bodakpui:

0200296574/0241671942 for further details.

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 **059 585 0922**. Receipts for such payments will be issued later for collection.
- 2. 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.
- 3. We are encouraged to redeem our pledges and pay our harvest contributions of GHC100 per adult, GHC50 per working youth and GHC20 or more per child.
- **4**. We shall continue our rosary prayers both at STM and SJF at 6:30pm. We are encouraged to fully participate.
- 5. Sunday school will resume on the 7th of November, 2021. Parents and guardians are to take note.
- 6. A parishioner is looking for a two or three Bedroom apartment, preferably at Pillar2, K-boat or Dome. Kindly call **0242906199** if you can be of help.

PASTORAL CARE

Sacrament of Confession: Every Saturday from 6.00pm to 7.00pm

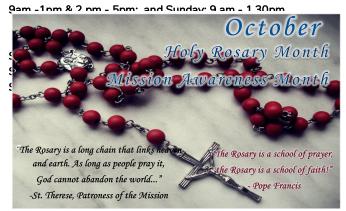
Sacrament of Baptism of Infants: First Saturday of every month. Please call at the Church's office for a baptismal form. Instructions: Thursday preceding the date for baptism @ 5pm

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:



FINANCE CORNER - ST. THOMAS MORE

WEEKDAYS	STM OCT. WEEK1	STM OCT. WEEK2	STM OCT. WEEK3
SUNDAY	848.50	50.00	200.00
MONDAY	394.20	220.00	
TUESDAY	1299.90	107.00	40.00
WEDNESDAY	707.40	105.00	505.50
THURSDAY	1042.00		
FRIDAY	938.00	130.00	
SATURDAY	824.40		
OCT. BORN	134.20		
TOTAL	6188.60	612.00	745.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM OCT. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	1543.80
SECOND COLLECTION	896.70
TITHE	30.00
TOTAL	2470.50

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF OCT. WEEK1	SJF OCT. WEEK2	SJF OCT. WEEK3
SUNDAY	1167.90+\$100	2030.00	350.50
MONDAY	1135.00	1350.00	600.00
TUESDAY	772.00	100.00	
WEDNESDAY	719.50	70.00	
THURSDAY	1514.00	200.00	
FRIDAY	2042.00	3160.00	10.00
SATURDAY	971.50	925.00	10.00
OCT. BORN	595.00		
TOTAL	8916.90+\$100	7835.00	970.50

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF OCT. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	2672.70
SECOND COLLECTION	1494.60
TITHE	100.00
TOTAL	4267.30

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

