



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

28TH NOVEMBER, 2021: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"KEEP YOUR HEADS HIGH."**

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 33:14-16

The Lord will fulfill his promises to Israel and Judah.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14

TO YOU, O LORD, I LIFT UP MY SOUL.

Second Reading: 1 Thes 3:12--4:2

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be holy and to please God.

Gospel Reading: Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Jesus teaches his disciples to be vigilant so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes in glory.

REFLECTION

Jesus' predictions about the end times may sound dire, but in effect, it is to help us be ready and prepared for his coming. Jesus doesn't seek to put fear in us but strengthens us to stand firm in the face of tribulations. In his person and in his message, those who heard Jesus found strength and consolation. Like the first Christians, we may encounter events and circumstances that could lead us to despair. Through prayer, however, we find strength and consolation in Jesus' words and in his continuing presence with us to endure all things and to witness to the action of God in our world.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 29TH NOVEMBER, 2021 Is 2:1-5 Ps 122:1-9 Mt 8:5-11	Tue 30TH NOVEMBER, 2021 St. Andrew, Apostle Rom 10:9-18 Ps 19:2-5 Mt 4:18-22
Wed 1ST DECEMBER, 2021 Is 25:6-10 Ps 23:1-6 Mt 15:29-37	Thu 2ND DECEMBER, 2021 Is 26:1-6 Ps 118:1,8-9,19-21,25-27 Mt 7:21,24-27
Fri 3RD DECEMBER, 2021 St. Francis Xavier Is 29:17-24 Ps 27:1,4,13-14 Mt 9:27-31	Sat 4TH DECEMBER, 2021 Is 30:19-21,23-26 Ps 147:1-6 Mt 9:35--10:1,5a,6-8

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Bar 5:1-9
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 126:1-2,2-3,4-5,6
Second Reading	Phil 1:4-6,8-11
Gospel	Lk 3:1-6

Mass Schedule

<i>St. Thomas More</i>	<i>St. John Fisher</i>
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

ADVENT

Advent is the period preceding the Christmas season. It begins on the Sunday nearest November 30, the feast day of St. Andrew the Apostle, and covers four Sundays. Because the day it begins changes from year to year, so does the length of each Advent season.

The word advent, from Latin, means the coming for centuries, Advent has been a time of spiritual reflection as well as cheer and anticipation. Even as the Christmas season has become more secular-with advertisers urging holiday gift-givers to buy and buy some more-Advent still brings joy and the observance of ancient customs. Christian families find quiet moments lighting candles in the Advent wreath, and children use Advent calendars to count the days until Christmas.

The History of Advent

Advent has probably been observed since the fourth century. Originally, it was a time when converts to Christianity readied themselves for baptism.

During the middle Ages, Advent became associated with preparation for the Second Coming. In early days Advent lasted from November 11, the feast of St. Martin, until Christmas Day. Advent was considered a pre-Christmas season of Lent when Christians devoted themselves to prayer and fasting. The Orthodox Eastern Church observes a similar Lenten season, from November 15 until Christmas, rather than Advent.

Advent is as a season to prepare for the two comings of the Lord.

1. The Second Coming of the Lord
2. Jesus' first coming as an infant born king

Advent Wreaths

Advent wreaths have their origins in the folk traditions of northern Europe, where in the deep of winter people lit candles on wheel-shaped bundles of evergreen. Both the evergreen and the circular shape symbolized ongoing life. The candlelight gave comfort at this darkest time of the year, as people looked forward to the longer days of spring.

Later, Eastern European Christians adopted this practice. By the sixteenth century, they were making Advent wreaths much as we know them today. An advent wreath traditionally contains four candles-three purple and one rose. Purple dyes were one so rare and costly that they were associated with royalty; the Roman Catholic Church has long used this color around Christmas and Easter to honor Jesus. The three purple candles in the Advent wreath symbolize hope, peace, and love. These candles are lit on the first, second, and fourth Sundays of Advent. The rose candle, which symbolizes joy, is usually lit on the third Sunday.

Sometimes a fifth candle is placed inside the Advent wreath. This candle is lit on Christmas Day. It is white, the color associated with angels and the birth of Jesus.

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.

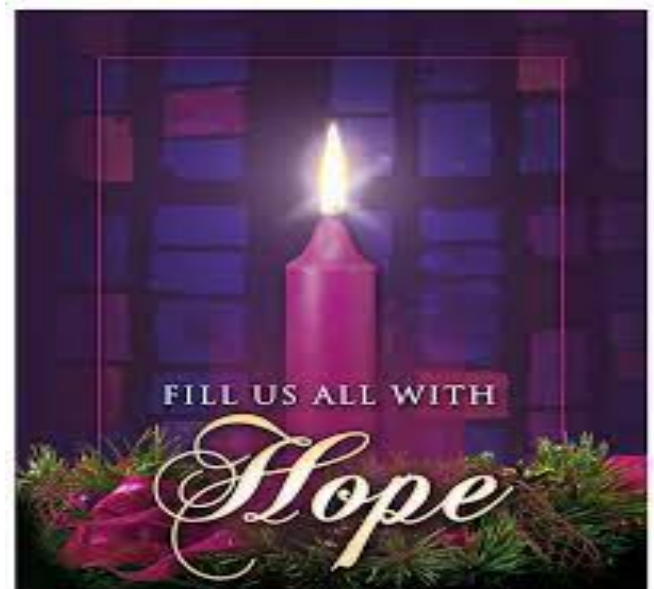
May your Mother Mary intercede for us and may the Archangel Michael defend us in battle. We make our payer through Christ our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

St. Thomas More..... Pray for us

St. John Fisher..... Pray for us

All you Angels and Saints Pray for us

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



SS. THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER PARISH CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME 2021

DATE	PROGRAM	VENUE	TIME
Sat. 27 th Nov.	First Advent Vespers	STM	6:00pm
Wed. 8 th - Fri. 10 th Dec.	Advent Retreat	STM	6:30pm
Sun. 19 th Dec.	Carol Service	SJF	5:00pm
Fri. 24 th Dec.	Christmas Vigil	STM	8:00pm
		SJF	8:00pm
Sat. 25 th Dec.	Christmas Day	STM	7:30am
		SJF	8:30am
Sun. 26 th Dec.	Holy Family	STM	7:00am 9:00am
		SJF	6:30am 8:30am 10:30am
			SJF
Sun. 26 th Dec.	Christmas Concert	SJF	4:00pm
Mon. 27 th Dec.	Mass for the Sick & Aged	STM	9:00am
Fri. 31 st Dec.	New Year Virgil	STM	9:00pm
		SJF	9:00pm
Sat. 1 st Jan.	New Year	STM	8:30am
		SJF	9:30am




How to make all church statutory payments through MTN momo Ss Thomas more & John fisher
059 585 0922

Dail *170#
 Select Option 2
 Select Option 1
 Enter Merchant ID: **247834**
 Enter Amt
 Enter Reference: eg. *Dues*
 Enter your Momo pin
 Send

MOTIVATION

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTES

- ❖ "You've gotta dance like there's nobody watching, love like you'll never be hurt, sing like there's nobody listening, and live like It's heaven on earth." - **William W. Purkey**
- ❖ "Fairy tales are more than true: not because they tell us that dragons exist, but because they tell us that dragons can be beaten." - **Neil Gaiman**
- ❖ "Everything you can imagine is real." - **Pablo Picasso**
- ❖ "When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us." - **Helen Keller**
- ❖ "Do one thing every day that scares you." - **Eleanor Roosevelt**
- ❖ "It's no use going back to yesterday, because I was a different person then." - **Lewis Carroll**
- ❖ "Smart people learn from everything and everyone, average people from their experiences, stupid people already have all the answers." - **Socrates**
- ❖ "Do what you feel in your heart to be right - for you'll be criticized anyway?" - **Eleanor Roosevelt**
- ❖ "Happiness is not something ready made. It comes from your own actions." - **Dalai Lama XIV**
- ❖ "Whatever you are, be a good one." **Abraham Lincoln**

YOUTH CORNER




**ARE YOU UNEMPLOYED
LOOKING TO GET A SKILL**

**THE YOUTH
SKILL UP
PROJECT**

■ SOAP MAKING ■ FASHION DESIGNING
 ■ BEAD MAKING ■ MUSHROOM FARMING
 ■ FASCINATORS

INTERESTED YOUTH TO PICK UP APPLICATION FORMS FROM
STM OR SJF CHURCH OFFICES AFTER MASS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
 PAUL - 0242614622 | EUGENE - 0202500170 | SELORM - 0544338487

0266 11 55 11 / 0266 76 29 50

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 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.
- Children Service has resumed and all parents and guardians are reminded to bring their children to church.
- We are reminded and encouraged to redeem our pledges and pay our harvest levy of GHC100 per adult, GHC50 per working youth and GHC20 or more per child and other financial obligations of Church Dues, Welfare Dues, and Building Fund.**
- Marriage Banns: **2nd Publication between:**
 - Roger David Afri & Victorine Akim Djaneye-Kpandja.**3rd Publication between:**
 - Jacob Dominic Dodzi Attiogbe & Eliane Holemion Eдорh.
 - Lawrence Annan Kermah & Yvette Balado
- The funeral details of the late Mad. Comfort Ameyo Sedefia, mother of James Anane Sedefia is as follows:
 - Saturday 4th December, 2021: Burial Service at her residence, Kissehman near formal Ghana Airways flat at 8:00am.
 - Sunday 5th December, 2021: Thanksgiving Service at the Church of Pentecost West Legon Assembly at 9:00am.
- The funeral details of the late Mad. Francisca Abla Addo is as follows:
 - Friday 3rd December, 202: Wake keeping at her residence, Alogboshie.
 - Sunday 5th December, 2021: Thanksgiving Mass at SJF at 10:30am.

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 **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 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: Besohwɛ!
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 NOV. WEEK1	STM NOV. WEEK2	STM NOV. WEEK3
SUNDAY	615.00	-----	-----
MONDAY	695.30	20.00	50.00
TUESDAY	2097.50	5.00	-----
WEDNESDAY	1589.10	5.00	5.00
THURSDAY	1072.00	50.00	310.00
FRIDAY	861.00	75.00	-----
SATURDAY	621.90	20.00	-----
NOV. BORN	70.00	-----	-----
TOTAL	7621.80	175.00	365.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM NOV. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	1651.20
SECOND COLLECTION	1033.30
TITHE	240.00
TOTAL	2924.50

FINANCE CORNER – ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF NOV. WEEK1	SJF NOV. WEEK2	SJF NOV. WEEK3
SUNDAY	1386.00	40.00	200.00
MONDAY	3923.00	50.00	10.00
TUESDAY	1575.00	-----	55.00
WEDNESDAY	938.20	20.00	10.00
THURSDAY	1144.00	10.00	100.00
FRIDAY	923.50	150.00	260.30
SATURDAY	1081.00	500.00	-----
NOV. BORN	341.00	-----	-----
TOTAL	11311.70	770.00	635.30

SUNDAY	SJF NOV. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	2684.20
SECOND COLLECTION	1568.80
TITHE	20.00
TOTAL	4273.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

SS Thomas More & John Fisher Parish, Achimota

Help Us Build

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

"LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME AND DO NOT HINDER THEM FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE "

Matthew 19: 14

St. Thomas More Catholic Church

Acc No. 1117000222801 Bank: NIB Branch Abeka | Mobile Money: 059 585 0922