



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

P.O. BOX AH 283, ACHIMOTA-ACCRA Website: www.thomasmorejohnfisher.com/Email: besohwe@yahoo.com

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

19TH DECEMBER, 2021: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "MARY'S ROLE IN SALVATION HISTORY."

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: Mic 5:1-4

The ruler of Israel is promised to come from Bethlehem.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

O GOD, BRING US BACK; LET YOUR FACE SHINE ON US, AND WE SHALL BE SAVED.

Second Reading: Heb 10:5-10

Through his obedience to God's will, Christ consecrated all.

Gospel Reading: Lk 1:39-45

Mary visits Elizabeth, who sings praise to Mary and her child.

REFLECTION

On this the last Sunday before Christmas, our Gospel reading prepares us to witness Christ's birth by showing us how Jesus was recognized as Israel's long-awaited Messiah even before his birth. It is appropriate in this season of Advent that we consider the role of Mary in God's plan of salvation. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. 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 everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 20TH DECEMBER, 2021 Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-2,3-4ab,5-6 Lk 1:26-38	Tue 21ST DECEMBER, 2021 St. Peter Canisius Sg 2:8-14 or Zeph 3:14-18a Ps 33:2-3,11-12,20-21 Lk 1:39-45
Wed 22ND DECEMBER, 2021 1 Sam 1:24-28 Ps 1Sam 2:1,4-5,6-7,8 Lk 1:46-56	Thu 23RD DECEMBER, 2021 St. John of Kanty Mal 3:1-4,23-24 Ps 25:4-5,8-10 Lk 1:57-66
Fri 24TH DECEMBER, 2021 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8b-12,14a,16 Ps 89:2-5,27,29 Lk 1:67-79	Sat 25TH DECEMBER, 2021 The Nativity of the Lord Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1-6 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	1Sam 1:20-22,24-28
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 84:2-3,5-6,9-10
Second Reading	1Jn 3:1-2,21-24
Gospel	Lk 2:41-52

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

APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION (2013) "THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL"

1. The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew. In this Exhortation I wish to encourage the Christian faithful to embark upon a new chapter of evangelization marked by this joy, while pointing out new paths for the Church's journey in years to come.

I. A joy ever new, a joy which is shared

2. The great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience. Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades. This is a very real danger for believers too. Many fall prey to it, and end up resentful, angry and listless. That is no way to live a dignified and fulfilled life; it is not God's will for us, nor is it the life in the Spirit which has its source in the heart of the risen Christ.

There are Christians whose lives seem like Lent without Easter. I realize of course that joy is not expressed the same way at all times in life, especially at moments of great difficulty. Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved. I understand the grief of people who have to endure great suffering, yet slowly but surely we all have to let the joy of faith slowly revive as a quiet yet firm trust, even amid the greatest distress: "My soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is... But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness... It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord" (Lam 3:17, 21-23, 26).

Extract of the Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation
Evangelii Gaudium, The Joy of the gospel

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



CHRISTMAS EVENTS

SS THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER PARISH
CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

Date	Program	Venue	Time
Sat. 27 th Nov.	First Advent Vespers	STM	6.00pm
Wed. 8 th -Fri.10 th	Advent Retreat	STM	6.30pm
Sun. 19 th Dec	Carol Service	SJF	5.00pm
Fri. 24 th Dec.	Christmas Vigil	STM SJF	8.00pm 8.00pm
Sat. 25 th Dec.	Christmas Day	STM SJF	7.30am 8.30am
Sun. 26 th Dec.	Holy Family	STM SJF	7.00am 9.00am 6.30am 8.30am 10.30am
Sun. 26 th Dec.	Christmas Concert	SJF	4.00pm
Mon. 27 th Dec.	Mass for the Sick and Aged	STM	9.00am
Fri. 31 st Dec.	New Year Vigil	STM SJF	9.00pm 9.00pm
Sat. 1 st Jan.	New Year	STM SJF	8.30am 9.30am

STM: (GA-246-1294) | SJF: (GA-301-1234)

© Stim_of_youth f Ss Thomas More And John Fisher t Thomasmorejohnfisher.com

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

059 585 0922

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



MOTIVATION

THE REAL MEANING OF PEACE

There once lived a king who announced to prize the artist who would paint the best painting depicting peace. Many great painters sent the king several of their best art pieces. One of the pictures among the various master pieces was of a calm lake perfectly mirroring peacefully towering snow-capped mountains. Overhead was a blue clear sky with fluffy clouds. The picture was perfect. Most of the people who viewed the pictures of peace from various artist thought that it was the best among all.

But when the king announced the winner, everyone was shocked. The picture which won the prize had a mountains too but it was rugged and bare. The sky looked very angry, there were lightning. This did not look peaceful at all. It looked like the artist has mistakenly submitted his painting depicting storm rather than peace. But if anyone looked closely at the painting, he could see a tiny bush growing in the cracks in the rock. In the bush a mother bird had built her nest. In the midst of the rush of angry weather, the bird sat on her nest with peace.

The peace does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise or trouble. Peace means to be in the midst of all the chaos and still be calm in the heart. The real peace is the state of mind, not the state of the surroundings. The mother bird at her calm, despite her chaotic surrounding indeed was the best representation for peace.

YOUTH CORNER

CHILDREN SERVICE
INVITE YOU TO THE
7TH EDITION OF
**JINGLE BELLS
CHRISTMAS**

FRIDAY 24TH DECEMBER, 2021
6:00 PM
ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH
CATHOLIC JUNIOR CLUB

Ss Thomas More & John Fisher Youth Choir
And
The National Symphony Orchestra
PERFORMS

Part One of
**G.F. Handel's
Messiah**

4pm
Venue: St. John Fisher Catholic Church - Achimota
26th
Dec 2021

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. Children Service has resumed and all parents and guardians are reminded to bring their children to church and take them to the Children Service Classes.
3. 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.
4. Our Carols Service comes off today Sunday 19th December, 2021 at SJF at 5:00pm.
5. The STM Credit Union wishes to inform its members that our office at SJF will now be opened every Sunday after all Masses. Existing Members are encouraged to continue saving, while new members are warmly invited to join their happy family.
6. **Marriage Banns:** 1st Publication between Patrick Asante Opare & Esther Amma Benewaa; Eric Amankwah Otu & Naada Yaba Someah-Kwaw
7. The funeral details of Mr. Lucien Agbo is as follows:
 - ❖ Friday 7th January, 2022: Wake-Keeping at Crane Lane, Christian Village at 5:00pm.
 - ❖ Saturday 8th January, 2022: Burial Mass at STM at 8:00am, and Internment at Royal Cemetery, Haatso.
 - ❖ Sunday 9th January, 2022: Thanksgiving Mass at STM 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 **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 DEC. WEEK1	STM DEC. WEEK2
SUNDAY	340.00	170.00
MONDAY	615.20	10.00
TUESDAY	1292.00	110.00
WEDNESDAY	1225.00	300.00
THURSDAY	875.00	10.00
FRIDAY	1016.00	140.00
SATURDAY	954.00	110.00
DEC. BORN	128.00	-----
TOTAL	6445.20	850.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM DEC. WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	1439.90
SECOND COLLECTION	902.10
TITHE	174.20
TOTAL	2516.20

FINANCE CORNER – ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF DEC. WEEK1	SJF DEC. WEEK2
SUNDAY	1404.00	2.00
MONDAY	1505.00	-----
TUESDAY	554.00	100.00
WEDNESDAY	630.00	50.00
THURSDAY	1431.00	120.00
FRIDAY	2953.50	2.00
SATURDAY	500.00	20.00
DEC. BORN	242.90	-----
TOTAL	9220.40	294.00

SUNDAY	SJF DEC. WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	2414.30
SECOND COLLECTION	1676.60
TITHE	250.00
TOTAL	4340.90

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.



SS THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER PARISH

Have You Paid Your Harvest Levy



Payments can be made through **059 585 0922**

Adult	- 100.00
Youth	- 50.00
Kids	- 20.00 or more



📷 Som.sjf_youth 🌐 Thomasmoreandjohnfisher.com 📘 SS Thomas More And John Fisher



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