



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

26TH DECEMBER, 2021: THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY &
JOSEPH, YEAR C

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "THE FAMILY, THE CRADLE
OF HUMAN LIFE."

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: 1Sam 1:20-22, 24-28

Hannah dedicates her son, Samuel, to the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10

**BLESSED ARE THEY WHO DWELL IN YOUR
HOUSE, O LORD.**

Second Reading: 1Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

We are God's children now.

Gospel Reading: Lk 2:41-52

The boy Jesus is found in the Temple.

REFLECTION

The family remains the natural cradle of human life. In the family, life is given, received, lived and enjoyed in love. In the family, life actualises its true meaning. Coming to us in our nature, God also affirmed and blessed this fount of life by willing that His Eternal Son be born in a true human family of Mary and Joseph; hence the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. May our families continue to draw strength from the fount of grace and love in the Holy Family of Nazareth; Amen.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 27TH DECEMBER, 2021 St. John, Apostle & Evangelist 1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 Jn 20:2-8	Tue 28TH DECEMBER, 2021 The Holy Innocents, Martyrs 1 Jn 1:5-2:2 Ps 124:2-5, 7-8 Mt 2:13-18
Wed 29TH DECEMBER, 2021 St. Thomas Becket 1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-3, 5-6 Lk 2:22-35	Thu 30TH DECEMBER, 2021 1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-10 Lk 2:36-40
Fri 31ST DECEMBER, 2021 St. Sylvester I, Pope 1Jn 2:18-21 Ps 96:1-2, 11-13 Lk 1:67-79	Sat 1ST JANUARY, 2022 Mary, Mother of God Num 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Is 60:1-6
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13
Second Reading	Eph 3:2-3, 5-6
Gospel	Mt 2:1-12

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 LETTER *ADMIRABLE SIGNUM* OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS ON THE MEANING AND IMPORTANCE OF THE NATIVITY SCENE

1. The enchanting image of the Christmas crèche, so dear to the Christian people, never ceases to arouse amazement and wonder. The depiction of Jesus' birth is itself a simple and joyful proclamation of the mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God. The nativity scene is like a living Gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture. As we contemplate the Christmas story, we are invited to set out on a spiritual journey, drawn by the humility of the God who became man in order to encounter every man and woman. We come to realize that so great is his love for us that he became one of us, so that we in turn might become one with him.

With this Letter, I wish to encourage the beautiful family tradition of preparing the nativity scene in the days before Christmas, but also the custom of setting it up in the workplace, in schools, hospitals, prisons and town squares. Great imagination and creativity is always shown in employing the most diverse materials to create small masterpieces of beauty. As children, we learn from our parents and grandparents to carry on this joyful tradition, which encapsulates a wealth of popular piety. It is my hope that this custom will never be lost and that, wherever it has fallen into disuse, it can be rediscovered and revived.

2. The origin of the Christmas crèche is found above all in certain details of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, as related in the Gospels. The evangelist Luke says simply that Mary "gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn" (2:7). Because Jesus was laid in a manger, the nativity scene is known in Italian as a *presepe*, from the Latin word *praesepe*, meaning "manger".

Coming into this world, the Son of God was laid in the place where animals feed. Hay became the first bed of the One who would reveal himself as "the bread come down from heaven" (Jn 6:41). Saint Augustine, with other Church Fathers, was impressed by this symbolism: "Laid in a manger, he became our food" (Sermon 189, 4). Indeed, the nativity scene evokes a number of the mysteries of Jesus' life and brings them close to our own daily lives.

But let us go back to the origins of the Christmas crèche so familiar to us. We need to imagine ourselves in the little Italian town of Greccio, near Rieti. Saint Francis stopped there, most likely on his way back from Rome where on 29 November 1223 he had received the confirmation of his Rule from Pope Honorius III. Francis had earlier visited the Holy Land, and the caves in Greccio reminded him of the countryside of Bethlehem. It may also be that the "Poor Man of Assisi" had been struck by the mosaics in the Roman Basilica of Saint Mary Major depicting the birth of Jesus, close to the place where, according to an ancient tradition, the wooden panels of the manger are preserved. **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 prayer 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

MOST HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH, PRAY FOR US.



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	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
		SJF	9.00am
		SJF	6.30am
		SJF	8.30am
		SJF	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	9.00pm
		SJF	9.00pm
Sat. 1 st Jan.	New Year	STM	8.30am
		SJF	9.30am

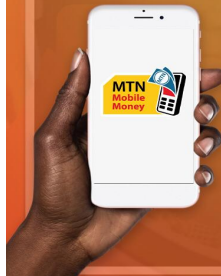
STM: (GA-246-1294) | SJF: (GA-301-1234)

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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

YOU FEAR WHAT PEOPLE SAY

One major thing holding people back from achieving success is fear. We've all been there. You're getting anywhere with what you truly want to do because you're worried what others will have to say about it.

Maybe you have friends who would think you're mad to do something so different to what 'the group' are used to, or possibly you're embarrassed to share your business with friends and family because they might think it's silly and ridiculous.

The honest answer? Yes, there will be people who don't support you and who think your ideas are beyond possible; but it's not their place to say and neither is it yours to listen. You are capable of whatever you believe you are capable of, and if you listen to others and let it get to you, that's when your dreams will crumble.

YOUTH CORNER

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

PERFORMS

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

26th
Dec 2021

4pm
Venue: SS Thomas More &
John Fisher Parish



ARE YOU UNEMPLOYED
LOOKING TO GET A SKILL

**THE YOUTH
SKILL UP
PROJECT**

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

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



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. **Marriage Banns: 2nd Publication between:**
 - ❖ Patrick Asante Opare & Esther Amma Benewaa
 - ❖ Eric Amankwah Otu & Naada Yaba Someah-Kwaw
5. 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.
6. 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 8am.
 - Sunday 9th January, 2022: Thanksgiving Mass at STM at 9:00am.
7. The death is reported of Mr. Joseph William Quayson Snr., father of Joseph William Quayson Jr., of the Charismatic Renewal. 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 ***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	STM DEC. WEEK3
SUNDAY	340.00	170.00	-----
MONDAY	615.20	10.00	20.00
TUESDAY	1292.00	110.00	-----
WEDNESDAY	1225.00	300.00	5.00
THURSDAY	875.00	10.00	-----
FRIDAY	1016.00	140.00	100.00
SATURDAY	954.00	110.00	-----
DEC. BORN	128.00	-----	-----
TOTAL	6445.20	850.00	125.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM DEC. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	1598.20
SECOND COLLECTION	985.40
TOTAL	2583.60

FINANCE CORNER – ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF DEC. WEEK1	SJF DEC. WEEK2	SJF DEC. WEEK3
SUNDAY	1404.00	2.00	755.00
MONDAY	1505.00	-----	-----
TUESDAY	554.00	100.00	5005.00
WEDNESDAY	630.00	50.00	10.00
THURSDAY	1431.00	120.00	50.00
FRIDAY	2953.50	2.00	50.00
SATURDAY	500.00	20.00	-----
DEC. BORN	242.90	-----	-----
TOTAL	9220.40	294.00	5870.00

SUNDAY	SJF DEC. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	1756.10
SECOND COLLECTION	1204.20
TITHE	320.00
TOTAL	3280.30

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

Instagram: @Stm_sjf_youth
 Website: Thomasmorejohnfisher.com
 Facebook: 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