



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

9TH JANUARY, 2022: THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THEME FOR THE WEEK: " **JOHN THE BAPTIST, THE GREAT MODEL OF OUR 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/
030-2436199

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Is 40:1-5, 9-11

Isaiah tells the people to prepare a way for the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 104:1-4, 24-25, 27-30

BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL! O LORD MY GOD, HOW GREAT YOU ARE!

Second Reading: Tit 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Jesus Christ saved us and renewed us with his Holy Spirit.

Gospel Reading: Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Jesus is baptized by John.

REFLECTION

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In today's Gospel, as in the other Gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism, we hear John the Baptist address the confusion of the people who thought that John might be the Messiah. John the Baptist typifies a truthfulness of selflessness and humility. Again, the baptism of Jesus is considered a manifestation of God in Jesus, another "epiphany." On this, the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God: the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. **May we have a renewed relationship with all we encounter.**

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 10TH JANUARY, 2022 1 Sam 1:1-8 Ps 116:12-19 Mk 1:14-20	Tue 11TH JANUARY, 2022 1 Sam 1:9-20 Ps 1 Sam 2:1,4-8 Mk 1:21-28
Wed 12TH JANUARY, 2022 St. Marguerite Bourgeoys 1 Sam 3:1-10, 19-20 Ps 40:2,5,7-10 Mk 1:29-39	Thu 13TH JANUARY, 2022 St. Hilary 1 Sam 4:1-11 Ps 44:10-11,14-15,24-25 Mk 1:40-45
Fri 14TH JANUARY, 2022 1 Sam 8:4-7,10-22a Ps 89:16-19 Mk 2:1-12	Sat 15TH JANUARY, 2022 1 Sam 9:1-4,17-19;10:1a Ps 21:2-7 Mk 2:13-17

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Is 62:1-5
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 96:1-3, 7-10
Second Reading	1 Cor 12:4-11
Gospel	Jn 2:1-11

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 - PART 3

Setting up the Christmas crèche in our homes helps us to relive the history of what took place in Bethlehem. Naturally, the Gospels remain our source for understanding and reflecting on that event. At the same time, its portrayal in the crèche helps us to imagine the scene. It touches our hearts and makes us enter into salvation history as contemporaries of an event that is living and real in a broad gamut of historical and cultural contexts.

In a particular way, from the time of its Franciscan origins, the nativity scene has invited us to “feel” and “touch” the poverty that God’s Son took upon himself in the Incarnation. Implicitly, it summons us to follow him along the path of humility, poverty and self-denial that leads from the manger of Bethlehem to the cross. It asks us to meet him and serve him by showing mercy to those of our brothers and sisters in greatest need (cf. *Mt 25:31-46*).

4. I would like now to reflect on the various elements of the nativity scene in order to appreciate their deeper meaning. First, there is the background of a starry sky wrapped in the darkness and silence of night. We represent this not only out of fidelity to the Gospel accounts, but also for its symbolic value. We can think of all those times in our lives when we have experienced the darkness of night. Yet even then, God does not abandon us, but is there to answer our crucial questions about the meaning of life. Who am I? Where do I come from? Why was I born at this time in history? Why do I love? Why do I suffer? Why will I die? It was to answer these questions that God became man. His closeness brings light where there is darkness and shows the way to those dwelling in the shadow of suffering (cf. *Lk 1:79*).

The landscapes that are part of the nativity scene also deserve some mention. Frequently they include the ruins of ancient houses or buildings, which in some instances replace the cave of Bethlehem and become a home for the Holy Family. These ruins appear to be inspired by the thirteenth-century *Golden Legend* of the Dominican Jacobus de Varagine, which relates a pagan belief that the Temple of Peace in Rome would collapse when a Virgin gave birth. More than anything, the ruins are the visible sign of fallen humanity, of everything that inevitably falls into ruin, decays and disappoints. This scenic setting tells us that Jesus is newness in the midst of an aging world, that he has come to heal and rebuild, to restore the world and our lives to their original splendour.

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

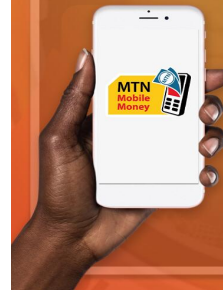
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



MERRY CHRISTMAS



**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

SHAKE OFF YOUR PROBLEMS

A man's favorite donkey falls into a deep precipice. He can't pull it out no matter how hard he tries. He therefore decides to bury it alive.

Soil is poured onto the donkey from above. The donkey feels the load, shakes it off, and steps on it. More soil is poured.

It shakes it off and steps up. The more the load was poured, the higher it rose. By noon, the donkey was grazing in green pastures.

After much shaking off (of problems) and stepping up (learning from them), One will graze in GREEN PASTURES.

YOUTH CORNER

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

IMPRESS 0266 11 55 11 / 0206 76 29 50

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: 3rd Publication between:**
 - ❖ Kwabena Frimpong Mensah & Ruby Bour-Donkor.
5. We would like to inform you that the Health workers will be coming today to administer the second dose for those who took before and first jabs for those who have not taken at all after all Masses.
6. The Charismatic Renewal is invite you to a Night of Songs and Eulogies in honour of the late Mr. EK Peter Dzagbo on the 23rd January, 2022 at SJF at 3:30pm. Attire: White.
7. The Metropolitan Archbishop of Accra, Most Rev. John Bonaventure Kwofie will be paying a pastoral visit to our parish community on 25th January 2022. He will celebrate mass with the community at SJF at 7.00pm.
8. The funeral details of Mr. EK Peter Dzagbo Is as follows:
 - Friday 28th January, 2022: Family Gathering at his residence at Achimota at 7:00pm.
 - Saturday 29th January, 2022: Pre-burial rites at SJF at 8:00am and Burial Mass at 9:00am. Attire: Black.
 - Sunday 30th January, 2022: Thanksgiving Mass at SJF at 10:30am. Attire: Black & White.

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 JAN. WEEK1
SUNDAY	906.20
MONDAY	1834.20
TUESDAY	1049.00
WEDNESDAY	828.00
THURSDAY	1689.00
FRIDAY	640.00
SATURDAY	905.50
JAN. BORN	157.20
TOTAL	8009.10

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM JAN. WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	2696.90
TITHE	152.00
TOTAL	2848.90

FINANCE CORNER – ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF JAN. WEEK1
SUNDAY	3225.00
MONDAY	2098.00
TUESDAY	993.00
WEDNESDAY	1405.00
THURSDAY	1349.20
FRIDAY	3156.60
SATURDAY	1063.00
JAN. BORN	320.00
TOTAL	13609.80

SUNDAY	SJF JAN. WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	4128.90
TITHE	230.00
TOTAL	4358.90

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.



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

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

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