

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

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# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

20TH FEBRUARY, 2022: SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "LOVE ALL"

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/

### **TODAY'S READINGS**

First Reading: 1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

David does not kill Saul.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13

THE LORD IS COMPASSIONATE AND GRACIOUS

Second Reading: 1 Cor 15:45-49

As we bear the image of Adam, so we will bear the image of the one from heaven.

Gospel Reading: Lk 6:27-38

Jesus teaches his disciples to be merciful as God is merciful.

### **REFLECTION**

Today's gospel reading is a continuation of the teaching that began in last Sunday's gospel. We continue to hear Jesus' Sermon on the Plain. These words from Jesus' teaching are familiar to us. They constitute the crux and the challenge of what it means to be a disciple: Love your enemies, turn the other cheek, give to those who ask, do unto others, lend without expecting repayment, judge not lest you be judged. Beloved, God loves us beyond our expectations, beyond anything we can possibly imagine. In response to God's love, we are to love as God loves and be ready and willing to forgive.

### **WEEKLY READINGS**

Mon 21 <sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022	Tue 22 <sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022
St. Damian, Bishop	The Chair of Peter, Apostle
Jas 3:13-18	1 Pt 5:1-4
Ps 19:8-10,15	Ps 23:1-6
Mk 9:14-29	Mt 16:13-19
Wed 23 <sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022	Thu 24 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022
St. Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr	Jas 5:1-6
Jas 4:13-17	Ps 49:14-20
Ps 49:2-3,6-11	Mk 9:41-50
Mk 9:38-40	
Fri 25 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022	Sat 26 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022
Jas 5:9-12	Jas 5:13-20
Ps 103:1-4,8-9,11-12	Ps 141:1-3,8
Mk 10:1-12	

Readings for Next Sunday		
First Reading	Sir 27:4-7	
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 92:2-3,13-16	
Second Reading	1 Cor 15:54-58	
Gospel	Lk 6:39-45	

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

### ESCHATOLOGY (ON THE LAST THINGS) part 2

As for the Rapture, the meaning of 1 Thes 4:15-17 is that at the return of Christ (v.15) and the General Resurrection of the Dead (v.16), those who survive the persecution of the Antichrist will have no advantage in being resurrected over those who died before His Coming [CCC1001]. All will go to meet Him and be with Him forever (v.17; cf. Rev 20:17-21:27).

The Catechism provides us with a general order of events at the End [CCC 673-677]. Chronologically they are,

- 1. The full number of the Gentiles come into the Church
- 2. The "full inclusion of the Jews in the Messiah's salvation, in the wake of the full number of the Gentiles" (#2 will follow quickly on, in the wake of, #1)
- 3. A final trial of the Church "in the form of a religious deception offering men an apparent solution to their problems at the price of apostasy from the truth." The supreme deception is that of the Antichrist.
- 4. Christ's victory over this final unleashing of evil through a cosmic upheaval of this passing world and the Last Judgment.

As Cardinal Ratzinger recently pointed out (in the context of the message of Fatima), we are not at the end of the world. In fact, the Second Coming (understood as the physical return of Christ) cannot occur until the full number of the Gentiles are converted, followed by "all Israel."

Approved Catholic mystics (Venerables, Blessed and Saints, approved apparitions) throw considerable light on this order, by prophesying a minor apostasy and tribulation toward the end of the world, after which will occur the reunion of Christians. Only later will the entire world fall away from Christ (the great apostasy) and the personal Antichrist arise and the Tribulation of the End occur.

Although this is not Catholic doctrine, arising as it does from private revelation, it conforms to what is occurring in our time, especially in light of Our Lady of Fatima's promise of an "Era of Peace." This "Triumph of the Immaculate Heart" (other saints have spoken of a social reign of Jesus Christ when Jesus will reign in the hearts of men) would seem to occur prior to the rise of the Antichrist. The optimism of the Pope for the "New Evangelization" and a "Civilization of Love" in the Third Millennium of Christianity fits here, as well. This would place us, therefore, in the period just before the events spoken of in the *Catechism*, that is, on the verge of the evangelization of the entire world. Other interpretations are possible, but none seem to fit the facts as well, especially when approved mystics are studied, instead of merely alleged ones.

# 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

#### KEEP CALM AND GROW. IT IS ORDINARY TIME 1

#### ORDINARY TIME

- -During the Church Year, there are two seasons called Ordinary Time
- -The first begins on the Monday **after** the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus, and ends on the day **before** Ash Wednesday
- -Vestments are **GREEN** during Ordinary Time







## **MOTIVATION**

#### MOTIVATIONAL QUOTES FROM THE SAINTS

- Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe. Saint Augustine
- Let us always meet each other with smile, for the smile is the beginning of love. Mother Teresa
- Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible. Francis of Assisi
- Good, better, best. Never let it rest. 'Til your good is better and your better is best\_St. Jerome
- For prayer is nothing else than being on terms of friendship with God. Saint Teresa of Avila
- Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought. Pope John Paul II
- ❖ I am not afraid... I was born to do this. Joan of Arc
- A tree is known by its fruit; a man by his deeds. A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love. Saint Basil
- A good youth ought to have a fear of God, to be subject to his parents, to give honor to his elders, to preserve his purity; he ought not to despise humility, but should love forbearance and modesty. All these are an ornament to youthful years. Saint Ambrose

## **YOUTH CORNER**



Tales of Valentine would not have been complete without you.

The PYC is Super grateful and happy for your presence last evening. it is our prayer and hope that all the lessons learned would be incorporate so our relationships would be improved.

May God bless you and your relationships.

### **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 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 of GH¢2 per month, Welfare Dues of GH¢3 per a month, and Building Fund of GH¢5 per a month.
- 3. Some prefer love over sex and money, others prefer sex over money and love and others money. Which is more important to you? Come listen and share your views on this topic with the Young Christian Workers as they celebrate the month of love at their monthly meeting today at STM after the 7:00am Mass. It promises to be thrilling.
- 4. Publication of Banns: 1st Publication between: Edward Kwawu & Genevieve Elikem Acolatse
- 5. We regret to announce the death of the following parishioners:
  - Mrs. Adriana Ackon of the Achimota Town Community.
  - Mrs. Felicity Acquah. Sister of Mr. Thomas Appiagyei. Their funeral details will be announced later.

### **PASTORAL CARE**

**Sacrament of Confession:** Every Saturday from 5.00pm at SJF and from 6.30pm at STM.

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 @ STM.

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 six</u> <u>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: 9am -1pm & 2 pm - 5pm: and Sunday: 9 am - 1.30pm

SLOGAN: Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher: Besohw §! 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

	STM	STM
WEEKDAYS	FEB.	FEB.
	WEEK1	WEEK2
SUNDAY	556.20	
MONDAY	1053.30	400.00
TUESDAY	1038.00	110.00
WEDNESDAY	1317.00	
THURSDAY	769.10	
FRIDAY	739.00	60.00
SATURDAY	989.00	
FEB. BORN	118.00	
TAT.	2572 22	

# Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM FEB. WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	1788.70
SECOND COLLECTION	1150.20
TITHE	155.00
TOTAL	3093.90

# FINANCE CORNER – ST. JOHN FISHER

SJF SJF FEB. **WEEKDAYS** FEB. WEEK1 WEEK2 SUNDAY 1049.00 2.00 **MONDAY** 2054.00 20.00 **TUESDAY** 6632.00 -----**WEDNESDAY** 691.90 90.00 **THURSDAY** 1738.20 210.00 **FRIDAY** 3936.70 200.00 **SATURDAY** 1053.00 200.00 FEB. BORN 1108.90 **TOTAL** 18263.70 722.00

# Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF FEB. WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	2410.77
SECOND COLLECTION	1523.10
TOTAL	3933.87

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

