

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

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# **WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

20TH MARCH, 2022: THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR C

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "A CALL TO CONVERSION
AND REPENTANCE"

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: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15

God speaks to Moses from the burning bush and sends him to the Israelites.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 11
THE LORD IS COMPASSIONATE AND GRACIOUS.

Second Reading: 1Cor 10:1-6, 10-12

Paul teaches that the Scriptures were written to set an example for us.

Gospel Reading: Lk 13:1-9

Jesus preaches a lesson on repentance.

#### REFLECTION

Beloved, the third Sunday of the Season of Lent, our Sunday Gospel prepares us to hear Lent's call to conversion and repentance. Jesus has been teaching about the Kingdom of God. In this parable of the fig tree, we find an image of God's patience and hopefulness as he prepares his Kingdom. God calls us to repent, and it is within his power to punish us for our failure to turn from our sinfulness. And yet God is merciful. He delays punishment and tends to us so that we may yet bear the fruit he desires from us.

#### **WEEKLY READINGS**

Tue 22 <sup>ND</sup> MARCH, 2022
Dan 3:25,34-43
Ps 25:4-9
Mt 18:21-35
Thu 24 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2022
Jer 7:23-28
Ps 95:1-2,6-9
Lk 11:14-23
Sat 26 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2022
Hos 6:1-6
Ps 51:3-4,18-21
Lk 18:9-14

Readings for Next Sunday		
First Reading	Josh 5:9a,10-12	
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 34:2-7	
Second Reading	2Cor 5:17-21	
Gospel	Lk 15:1-3,11-32	

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

# MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2022

"Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all" (Gal 6:9-10) - Part 3

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

#### 2. "Let us not grow tired of doing good"

Christ's resurrection enlivens earthly hopes with the "great hope" of eternal life, planting the seed of salvation in our present time (cf. BENEDICT XVI, Spe Salvi, 3; 7). Bitter disappointment at shattered dreams, deep concern for the challenges ahead and discouragement at the poverty of our resources, can make us tempted to seek refuge in selfcenteredness and indifference to the suffering of others. Indeed, even our best resources have their limitations: "Youths grow tired and weary, the young stumble and fall" (/s 40:30). Yet God "gives strength to the weary, he strengthens the powerless... Those who hope in the Lord will regain their strength, they will soar on wings like eagles; though they run they will not grow weary, though they walk they will never tire» (Is 40:29, 31). The Lenten season calls us to place our faith and hope in the Lord (cf. 1 Pet 1:21), since only if we fix our gaze on the risen Christ (cf. Heb 12:2) will we be able to respond to the Apostle's appeal, "Let us never grow tired of doing good" (Gal 6:9).

Let us not grow tired of praying. Jesus taught us to "pray always without becoming weary" (Lk 18:1). We need to pray because we need God. Thinking that we need nothing other than ourselves is a dangerous illusion. If the pandemic has heightened the awareness of our own personal and social fragility, may this Lent allow us to experience the consolation provided by faith in God, without whom we cannot stand firm (cf. Is 7:9). No one attains salvation alone, since we are all in the same boat, amid the storms of history; [2] and certainly no one reaches salvation without God, for only the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ triumphs over the dark waters of death. Faith does not spare us life's burdens and tribulations, but it does allow us to face them in union with God in Christ, with the great hope that does not disappoint, whose pledge is the love that God has poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (cf. *Rom* 5:1-5). **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.

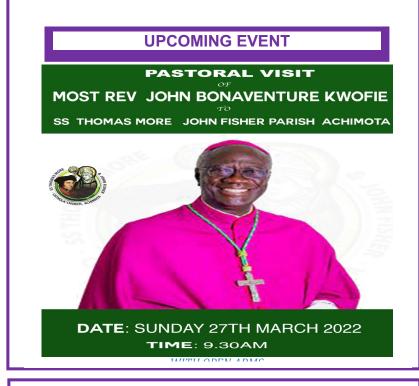
For the Court of Justice, we pray that you will give them the spirit of Wisdom and Understanding that they may discern the truth and impartially administer the law in the fear of you alone. May they not yield to deceit and acts of bribery and corruption but uphold the truth and let justice prevail.

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 SEASON OF GRACE







# **MOTIVATION**

#### CATHOLIC QUOTES FOR LENT

- "(Lent) is a period of spiritual 'combat' which we must experience alongside Jesus, not with pride and presumption, but using the arms of faith: prayer, listening to the word of God and penance. In this way we will be able to celebrate Easter in truth, ready to renew the promises of our Baptism." -Pope Benedict XVI
- "Nothing great is ever achieved without much enduring."St. Catherine of Siena
- "You learn to speak by speaking, to study by studying, to run by running, to work by working, and just so, you learn to love by loving. All those who think to learn in any other way deceive themselves." -St. Francis de Sales
- "Show me your hands. Do they have scars from giving? Show me your feet. Are they wounded in service? Show me your heart. Have you left a place for divine love?" -Ven. Fulton Sheen
- ➤ "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." -Lamentations 3:22-23

## YOUTH CORNER

#### LENTEN INSPIRATION

#### **HUMILITY ADDS CHARACTER**

There are certain psychological and spiritual conditions which are essential for the discovery of truth, and the most important of these is the virtue of humility. Humility is not a want of moral force; rather humility is a recognition of the truth about ourselves. To explore the Truth in all its complexity there must come moments when we confess ignorance, when we frankly admit that we were mistaken or bigoted or prejudiced. These admissions are painful, but they actually enrich character just as much as all approximations to falsehood forfeit it. If we are proud, covetous, conceited, selfish, lustful, constantly wanting our own way, it is far better to come face to face with our own ugliness than live in a fool's paradise.

#dynamicatholic #lenteninspiration #besohwe

## **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**. .
- 2. There will be no Evening Mass at SJ F on  $16^{th}$ ,  $23^{rd}$  &  $30^{th}$  March due to Deanery Lenten Confession.
- 3. There is Stations of the Cross and Mass, at STM and SJF every Friday at 7:00pm during the Season of Lent.
- There will be free dental health screening today 20<sup>th</sup> March at SJF after all the Masses.
- 5. The Archbishop will pay a pastoral visit to our parish on Sunday 27th March. We shall have two masses on that day. 7.00am at STM and 9.30am at SJF. We are all encouraged to attend the 9.30am mass in our parish cloth. The parish cloth is on sale at the parish offices. All societies, Communities, Groups and Individuals are reminded to bring offertory items.
- 7. For how long have you been worshipping God? Can you tell the character of God? Can you attempt a description of who He truly is? The Young Christian Workers Movement invites you to this beautiful discussion at their monthly meeting today after Mass. Come and let's feast on God's Word.
- 8. The funeral details of the following are as follows:
- Mr. Robert Atali & Mrs. Adelaide Akorkor Atali members of the Christian Village Community: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2022: Wake keeping at their residence, Christian Village behind Kingdom Hall. Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2022: Burial Mass at STM at 8:00am. Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2022: Thanksgiving Mass at STM at 7:00am.
- Mr. Ayettey Peter Komla Senyo father of Mr. John Ten Senyo, Choir Master of the Ave Maria Singing Group: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2022: Wake keeping at Sts. Peter & Paul at Dzindzisu Kejebi branch at 8:00pm. Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2022: Burial Mass at Sts. Peter & Paul at Dzindzisu Kejebi branch at 9:00am. Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2022: Thanksgiving Mass at 9:00am at the same venue.
- Opanyin Joseph William Quayson, father of Joseph William Quayson Jnr. Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2022: Laying in State at Roman Hill opposite St. Lawrence Cath. Church Abura, Cape Coast at 5:00pm. Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2022: Burial Mass at St. Lawrence Cath. Church, Abura, Cape Coast at 8:30am. Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2022: Memorial & Thanksgiving Mass at 9:00am at the same venue.

### 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	MAR.	MAR.
	WEEK1	WEEK2
SUNDAY	1350.00	1025.00
MONDAY	1410.00	
TUESDAY	1117.00	
WEDNESDAY	639.00	500.00
THURSDAY	1120.00	
FRIDAY	713.00	
SATURDAY	620.00	
MAR. BORN	255.00	
TOTAL	7224.00	1525.00

# Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM MAR. WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	1759.40
SECOND COLLECTION	945.80
TITHE	250.00
TOTAL	2955.20

# FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

	SJF	SJF
WEEKDAYS	MAR.	MAR.
	WEEK1	WEEK2
SUNDAY	923.00+\$100	215.00
MONDAY	2690.00	
TUESDAY	1110.00	30.00
WEDNESDAY	621.00	100.00
THURSDAY	2111.50+£10	200.00
FRIDAY	3851.00	
SATURDAY	755.50	5.00
MAR. BORN	224.00	
TOTAL	13083.93	550.00

## Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF MAR. WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	3329.40
SECOND COLLECTION	1989.60
TITHE	200.00
TOTAL	5519.00

#### THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.



