

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

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

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

27TH MARCH, 2022: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR C

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "RETURN HOME"

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:* Josh 5:9a, 10-12 The Israelites celebrate the Passover in the Promised Land.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 34:2-7 TASTE AND SEE THAT THE LORD IS GOOD.

*Second Reading:* 2Cor 5:17-21 Paul preaches our reconciliation with Christ.

#### Gospel Reading: Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Jesus teaches about forgiveness in the parable of the Prodigal Son.

#### REFLECTION

The parable Jesus tells in today's Gospel is unique to the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has been teaching the crowds as he journeys to Jerusalem. As he teaches, the Pharisees and scribes complain and challenge Jesus because he is welcoming sinners at his table. Today we hear the third of three parables that Jesus tells in response to his critics. These three familiar parables—the lost sheep, the lost coin, and today's parable of the prodigal son—invite us to consider the depth of God's mercy and love. Dearly beloved, God is inviting us to return to friendship with Him. Through establishing a relationship with God and upon realizing our foolish ways like the prodigal son, may our sins be forgiven. **May we disembark from where sin has taken us to and return home to eternal Joy.** 

#### WEEKLY READINGS

| Tue 29 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2022 |
|----------------------------------|
| Ez 47:1-9,12                     |
| Ps 46:2-3,5-6,8-9                |
| Jn 5:1-16                        |
|                                  |
| Thu 31 <sup>st</sup> MARCH, 2022 |
| Ex 32:7-14                       |
| Ps 106:19-23                     |
| Jn 5:31-47                       |
|                                  |
| Sat 2 <sup>ND</sup> APRIL, 2022  |
| Jer 11:18-20                     |
| Ps 8:2-3,9-12                    |
| Jn 7:40-53                       |
|                                  |

| Readings for Next Sunday |             |  |
|--------------------------|-------------|--|
| First Reading            | ls 43:16-21 |  |
| Responsorial Psalm       | Ps 126:1-6  |  |
| Second Reading           | Phil 3:8-14 |  |
| Gospel                   | Jn 8:1-11   |  |

| 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 4

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Let us not grow tired of uprooting evil from our lives. May the corporal fasting to which Lent calls us fortify our spirit for the battle against sin. Let us not grow tired of asking for forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, knowing that God never tires of forgiving. [3] Let us not grow tired of fighting against concupiscence, that weakness which induces to selfishness and all evil, and finds in the course of history a variety of ways to lure men and women into sin (cf. <u>Fratelli Tutti</u>, 166). One of these is addiction to the digital media, which impoverishes human relationships. Lent is a propitious time to resist these temptations and to cultivate instead a more integral form of human communication (<u>ibid</u>., 43) made up of "authentic encounters" (<u>ibid</u>., 50), face-to-face and in person.

Let us not grow tired of doing good in active charity towards our neighbours. During this Lent, may we practise almsgiving by giving joyfully (cf. 2 Cor 9:7). God who "supplies seed to the sower and bread for food" (2 Cor 9:10) enables each of us not only to have food to eat, but also to be generous in doing good to others. While it is true that we have our entire life to sow goodness, let us take special advantage of this Lenten season to care for those close to us and to reach out to our brothers and sisters who lie wounded along the path of life (cf. Lk 10:25-37). Lent is a favourable time to seek out - and not to avoid - those in need; to reach out - and not to ignore – those who need a sympathetic ear and a good word; to visit – and not to abandon – those who are lonely. Let us put into practice our call to do good to all, and take time to love the poor and needy, those abandoned and rejected, those discriminated against and marginalized (cf. Fratelli *Tutti*, 193).

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



WE ARE REMINDED AND ENCOURAGED TO REDEEM OUR PLEDGES AND PAY OUR HARVEST LEVY OF GH¢100 PER ADULT, GH¢50 PER WORKING YOUTH AND GH¢20 OR MORE PER CHILD.



# MOTIVATION

#### INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES FOR LENT

- As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst...'Repent and believe' Jesus tells us. What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor -- He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you. -Blessed Teresa of Calcutta
- Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. So if you pray, fast; if you fast, show mercy; if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others. If you do not close your ear to others, you open God's ear to yourself. - St. Peter Chrysologus
- It is not just about giving up our favorite food but it's about going further and giving up things like hatred and unforgiveness. You need to clean your heart and prepare yourself for purity. - Amanda Jobs
- You cannot be proud and expect to be transformed away from your sins. You need to humble yourself and have a spirit of repentance within you. Then you will see real change. - Mable Vine
- We all came from dust and to dust we shall return. Even

# **YOUTH CORNER**

#### LENTEN INSPIRATION

#### THE VINEYARD OF SOULS

Love has three and only three intimacies: speech, vision and touch. These intimacies God has chosen to make his love intelligible to our poor hearts. God has spoken: He told us that he loves us: that is Revelation. God has been seen: that is the Incarnation. God has touched us by his grace: that is Redemption. Well indeed, therefore, may he say: "What more could I do for my vineyard than I have done? What other proof could I give of my love than to exhaust myself in the intimacies of love? What else could I do to show that my own Sacred Heart is not less generous than your own?

If we answer these questions right, then we will begin to repay love with love. Then we will return speech with speech which will be our prayer; vision with vision which will be our faith; touch with touch which will be our communion.

#dynamicatholic #lantaninaniration

## **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<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> March due to Deanery Lenten Confession.

# 3. On Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the Morning Mass at STM.

4. Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2022 is the First Friday of the month. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at SJF after the morning and Stations of the Cross and Mass both at STM & SJF at 7:00pm.

5. Have you registered for the Catholic Professionals Network Retreat? There will be interesting discussions on Marriage and Family Life, Spiritual Development, the Four Areas of Parish Growth, Financial Support and Networking by very Experienced Resource Persons.

- Date: 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2022
- Venue: Adoagyiri
- Time: 7:00am 2:00pm Transport, Breakfast & Lunch are free. Contact: 0244993397 to be registered free.

6. The funeral details of Opanyin Joseph William Quayson, father of Joseph William Quayson Jnr. of the CCR is as follows: 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: Besohwξ! Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher: Justice and Truth!! Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher: Pray for us!

**MORE** 

THANKS FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US. HAVE A BLESSED WEEK.

|           | FINANCE CORNER - ST. THOMAS |             |             |  |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| WEEKDAYS  | STM<br>MAR.                 | STM<br>MAR. | STM<br>MAR. |  |
|           | WEEK1                       | WEEK2       | WEEK3       |  |
| SUNDAY    | 1350.00                     | 1025.00     | 150.00      |  |
| MONDAY    | 1410.00                     |             |             |  |
| TUESDAY   | 1117.00                     |             | 1020.00     |  |
| WEDNESDAY | 639.00                      | 500.00      | 215.00      |  |
| THURSDAY  | 1120.00                     |             | 150.00      |  |
| FRIDAY    | 713.00                      |             | 140.00      |  |
| SATURDAY  | 620.00                      |             | 40.00       |  |
| MAR. BORN | 255.00                      |             |             |  |
| TOTAL     | 7224.00                     | 1525.00     | 1715.00     |  |

#### Details of Last Sunday's Collections

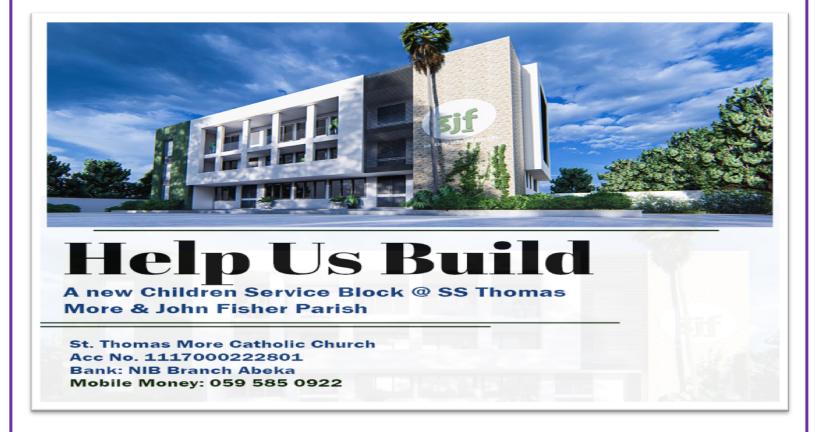
| SUNDAY               | STM<br>MAR.<br>WEEK3 |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| MAIN<br>COLLECTION   | 2205.50              |
| SECOND<br>COLLECTION | 1245.30              |
| TOTAL                | 3450.80              |

# FINANCE CORNER – ST. JOHN FISHER

|           | SJF          | SJF    | SJF     |
|-----------|--------------|--------|---------|
| WEEKDAYS  | MAR.         | MAR.   | MAR.    |
|           | WEEK1        | WEEK2  | WEEK3   |
| SUNDAY    | 923.00+\$100 | 215.00 | 10.00   |
| MONDAY    | 2690.00      |        |         |
| TUESDAY   | 1110.00      | 30.00  | 5000.00 |
| WEDNESDAY | 621.00       | 100.00 | 50.00   |
| THURSDAY  | 2111.50+£10  | 200.00 |         |
| FRIDAY    | 3851.00      |        | 20.00   |
| SATURDAY  | 755.50       | 5.00   | 5.00    |
| MAR. BORN | 224.00       |        |         |
| TOTAL     | 13083.93     | 550.00 | 5085.00 |

| Collections          |                      |  |
|----------------------|----------------------|--|
| SUNDAY               | SJF<br>MAR.<br>WEEK3 |  |
| MAIN<br>COLLECTION   | 2579.10              |  |
| SECOND<br>COLLECTION | 1572.50              |  |
| TITHE                | 50.00                |  |
| TOTAL                | 4201.60              |  |

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



Details of Last Sunday's