



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

27TH NOVEMBER, 2022: THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"BE VIGILANT"**

Rev. Fr. George Obeng Appah (*Parish Priest*) 020-8592020
Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Kwofie (*Assistant Priest*) 020-6355610

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 2:1-5

Isaiah describes his vision in which all nations are gathered together by God in peace.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 122:1-2,3-4,4-5,6-7,8-9

WE SHALL GO REJOICING TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD.

Second Reading: Rom 13:11-14

Be prepared, salvation is near.

Gospel Reading: Mt 24:37-44

Jesus tells his disciples that the coming of the Son of Man will catch many people unprepared and cautions them to be always ready for his coming.

REFLECTION

The passage from Matthew we read today is rather straightforward. No one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are required. The question for us as members of the Christian community, then, is how do we prepare for this? The Gospel speaks more about the manner of waiting, rather than the details of the preparation. Jesus compares the vigilance required of Christians to the vigilance of a homeowner who knows the plans of the thief. If one knows that the thief's action is imminent, one remains watchful and secure his life and property. As Christians, we know *that* our Lord is coming even if we cannot know the precise timing. Jesus calls us to be watchful and vigilant, like the homeowner. If we become relax in our Christian living, we may be caught unprepared.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 28TH NOVEMBER, 2022 Is 4 2-6 Ps 122:1-2,3-4b,4cb-5,6-7,8-9 Mt 8:5-11	Tue 29TH NOVEMBER, 2022 Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17 Lk 10:21-24
Wed 30TH NOVEMBER, 2022 St. Andrew, Apostle Rom 10:9-18 Ps 19:8,9,10,11 Mt 4:18-22	Thurs 1ST DECEMBER, 2022 Is 26:1-6 Ps 118:1,8-9,19-21,25-27a Mt 7:21,24-27
Fri 2ND DECEMBER, 2022 Is 29:17-24 Ps 27:1,4,13-14 Mt 9:27-31	Sat 3RD DECEMBER, 2022 St. Francis Xavier Is 30:19-21,23-26 Ps 147:1-2,3-4,5-6 Mt 9:35-10:1,5a,6-

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Is 11:1-10
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17
Second Reading	Rom 15:4-9
Gospel	Mt 3:1-12

Mass Schedule

<i>St. Thomas More</i>	<i>St. John Fisher</i>
First Mass: 7:00 AM	First Mass: 6:30 AM
Second Mass: 9:30 AM	Second Mass: 9:30 AM



KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

10 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE ADVENT SEASON

Advent is a season that brings to mind the Two Comings of Christ. (Extract from National Catholic Register) Advent is underway.

Most of us have an intuitive understanding of Advent, based on experience, but what do the Church's official documents actually *say* about Advent? Here are some of the basic questions and answers about Advent.

1. What Is the Purpose of Advent?

Advent is a season on the Church's liturgical calendar — specifically, it is as season on the calendar of the Latin Church, which is the largest Church in communion with the pope. Other Catholic Churches — as well as many non-Catholic churches — have their own celebration of Advent. According to the General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar:

Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation [Norms 39].

We tend to think of Advent only as the season in which we prepare for Christmas, or the First Coming of Christ, but as the General Norms point out, it is important that we also remember it as a celebration in which we look forward to the Second Coming of Christ. Properly speaking, Advent is a season that brings to mind the Two Comings of Christ.

2. What Liturgical Colors Are Used in Advent?

Particular days and certain types of celebrations can have their own colors (e.g., red for martyrs, black or white at funerals), but the normal color for Advent is violet. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal provides:

The color violet or purple is used in Advent and Lent. It may also be worn in Offices and Masses for the Dead [346d]. In many places, there is a notable exception for the Third Sunday of Advent, known as *Gaudete* Sunday: **The color rose may be used, where it is the practice, on *Gaudete* Sunday (Third Sunday of Advent) and on *Laetare* Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent).**

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.

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|---------------------------------|-------------|
| St. Thomas More..... | Pray for us |
| St. John Fisher..... | Pray for us |
| All you Angels and Saints | Pray for us |

THE SEASON OF ADVENT-A TIME TO



FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT *Give Hope*

OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK WILL FOCUS ON RESTORING HOPE IN OUR WORLD. THERE ARE MANY WHO ARE FEELING HOPELESS AND ARE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYER. DURING THIS WEEK OF ADVENT, PRAY FOR THE HOPE OF CHRIST TO PENETRATE OUR HEARTS.

SS. THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME 2022

DATE	PROGRAM	VENUE	TIME
Sat. 10 th Dec.	Advent Retreat	SJF	8:00am
Sun. 18 th Dec.	Carol Service/Chorale Night	SJF	4:00pm
Sat. 24 th Dec.	Christmas Vigil	STM	8:00pm
		SJF	7:00pm
Sun. 25 th Dec.	Christmas Day	STM	7:00am
		SJF	6:30am 9:30am
Mon. 26 th Dec.	Mass for the Sick & Aged	STM	8:30am
Fri. 30 th Dec.	Holy Family	STM	7:00pm
Sat. 31 st Dec.	Aseda Night/New Year Virgil	STM	9:00pm
		SJF	9:00pm
Sun. 1 st Jan.	New Year	STM	7:00am
		SJF	7:00am 9:30am



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

THE HUMMINGBIRD STORY

Once there was a great forest fire. All the animals fled to the edge of the forest and froze in fear not knowing what to do. They watched as the flames began destroying the beauty of their home.

Finally a tiny hummingbird flew to a body of water and took a few drops into its beak. It then flew quickly toward the fire allowing the drops to fall on the roaring flames. Over and over the tiny bird continued. Drop by drop. Back and forth. Again and again. The other animals watched from the edge of the forest, and called to the little bird, "What are you doing?"

"The hummingbird replied, "I am doing what I can."

Moral: How often we can become overwhelmed by fear or the sheer size of problems and become paralyzed to do nothing. Or we may compare ourselves to others and feel too small to matter. Small. What we consider to be small and insignificant may actually be huge in God's scheme of things. Have you ever noticed how often God's view and the world's view are opposite? The world says, "Be first!" God says, "Be last." The world says, "Go, go, go!" God says, "Be still." The world says, "Bigger is better!" God says, "Small is important."

The widow giving her offering of two small coins in Luke 21:1-4, was affirmed by Jesus when He said she had given more than all the rest. Jesus went on to say in Luke 16:10, "He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much. In God's hands, small can become big just like in John 6 when a boy's lunch of five loaves and two fish became enough to feed over 5,000 and also have leftovers!

This little hummingbird story can remind us to do what we can. Everything we do for the Lord Jesus matters. It counts! Every word. Every prayer. Every act of kindness. Every hug. Every penny. Small counts in the hands of our BIG God.

YOUTH CORNER



Youth Month 2022

Theme:

Working together for Christ
 Ecc. 12:1 #getinvolved

Nov. 5 | Grotto Devotions
 @ SJF - 4pm

Nov. 12 | Deanery Games
 @ Legon Campus

Nov. 20 | Quiz
 @ STM - 9 :30am

Nov. 26 | Trip & Fun Day Out

Nov. 27 | Thanksgiving
 (Sneaker Sunday)
 @ STM - 7:00am
 Roots Night
 @ SJF - 4:30pm

STM - St. Thomas More, Achimota School, GA-246-1294
 SJF - SS. Thomas More & John Fisher, New Achimota GA-301-1234

@ Stm.sjf_youth f SS Thomas More And John Fisher Thomasmoreandjohnfisher.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We are reminded and entreated to pay our harvest levy of GH¢100 per adult, GH¢50 per working youth, GH¢20 per child or more, redeem our pledges and other financial obligations.
 - Marriage Banns: 2nd Publication between:**
Stephen Annak, son of Stephen Annak and Georgina Andoh
AND Irene Efua Arhin, daughter of Samuel Tony Walker Arhin and Priscilla Felicia Obeng
 - The death is reported of** Mrs. Judith Wilson, member of the Amalgamated Community and wife of Dr. Wilson. Funeral details will be announced later.
 - The funeral arrangements**
Mr. Bernard Bondieu Cofie, a member of the Kissehman Community:
 - Friday 2nd December, 2022: Family Gathering at the Chief's Palace Kissehman. (Asco's House)
 - Saturday 3rd December, 2022: Burial Mass at St. Thomas More Catholic Church at 8:00am.
 - Sunday 4th December, 2022: Thanksgiving Mass at St. Thomas More Catholic Church at 7:00am.
- Mr. Godwin Fenu**, father of Mad. Peace Fenu, a member of the Christian Mothers Association and Ushers Ministry.
- Friday 15th December, 2022: Laying in state at his residence at Nsawam.
 - Saturday 16th December, 2022: Burial Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Nsawam.
 - Sunday 17th December, 2022: Thanksgiving Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Nsawam.

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 **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 NOV. WEEK1	STM NOV. WEEK2	STM NOV. WEEK3
SUNDAY	560.00	-----	20.00
MONDAY	1675.00	-----	50.00
TUESDAY	942.00	600.00	-----
WEDNESDAY	378.20	5.00	60.00
THURSDAY	1705.00	50.00	-----
FRIDAY	363.00	100.00	20.00
SATURDAY	130.00	200.00	-----
NOV. BORNES	246.00	-----	-----
TOTAL	5999.20	955.00	150.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM NOV. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	2141.60
SECOND COLLECTION	1231.20
TOTAL	3372.80

FINANCE CORNER – ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's
Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF NOV. WEEK1	SJF NOV. WEEK2	SJF NOV. WEEK3
SUNDAY	1177.00	20.00	120.00
MONDAY	2506.00	-----	-----
TUESDAY	605.90	1050.00	60.00
WEDNESDAY	846.00	300.00	-----
THURSDAY	1554.00	-----	100.00
FRIDAY	1213.00	2160.00	15.00
SATURDAY	920.00	-----	200.00
NOV. BORNS	226.00	-----	-----
TOTAL	9047.90	3530.00	495.00

SUNDAY	SJF NOV. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	4110.70
SECOND COLLECTION	2752.75
TITHE	120.00
TOTAL	6983.45

THANK YOU FOR ALL 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



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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**