



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

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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

4TH DECEMBER, 2022: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT,  
YEAR A

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **“PREPARE A WAY FOR  
THE LORD”**

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 11:1-10

A descendent of Jesse will usher in a time of peace.

*Responsorial Psalm:* Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

**IN HIS DAYS SHALL JUSTICE FLORISH,  
AND GREAT PEACE FOR EVER,**

*Second Reading:* Rom 15:4-9

Both Jews and Gentiles glorify God for the salvation found in Christ Jesus.

*Gospel Reading:* Mt 3:1-12

John the Baptist appears in Judea preaching a message of repentance.

### REFLECTION

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord in the Gospel reading of today is a key theme of this Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord. Are we really preparing a way for the Lord by our words and deeds? May the Lord find us always prepared when he visits us. May our shortcomings, and inadequacies not hinder our meeting the Lord. May we be heralds of his coming to all we encounter.

### WEEKLY READINGS

<b>Mon 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022</b> Is 35: 1-10 Ps 85:9ab-10,11-12,13-14 Lk 5:17-26	<b>Tue 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022</b> <b>St. Nicholas</b> Is 40:1-11 Ps 96:1-2,3,10ac,11-12,13 Mt 18:12-14
<b>Wed 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022</b> <b>St. Ambrose</b> Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-2,3-4,8,10 Mt 11:28-30	<b>Thurs 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022</b> <b>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Gn 3:9-15,20 Ps 98:1,2-3ab,3cd-4 Eph 1:3-6,11-12 Lk 1:26-38
<b>Fri 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022</b> <b>St. Juan Diego</b> Is 48:17-19 Ps 1:1-2,3-4,6 Mt 11:16-19	<b>Sat 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022</b> <b>Our Lady of Loreto</b> SIR 48:1-4,9-11 Ps 80:2ac,3b,15-16 Mt 17:9a,10-13

#### Readings for Next Sunday

<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Is 35:1-6a,10</b>
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>Ps 146:6-7,8-9,9-10</b>
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Jas 5:7-10</b>
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Mt 11:2-11</b>

#### Mass Schedule

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



## KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

### 10 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE ADVENT SEASON - Contd

#### 3. Is Advent a Penitential Season?

We often think of Advent as a penitential season because the liturgical color for Advent is violet, like the color of Lent, which *is* a penitential season. However, in reality, Advent is *not* a penitential season. Surprise! According to the Code of Canon Law (No. 1250): “The penitential days and times in the universal Church are every Friday of the whole year and the season of Lent.”

Although local authorities can establish additional penitential days, this is a complete listing of the penitential days and times of the Latin Church as a whole, and Advent is not one of them.

#### 4. When Does Advent Begin and End?

According to the General Norms (No. 40): “Advent begins with Evening Prayer I of the Sunday falling on or closest to 30 November and ends before evening prayer I of Christmas.”

The Sunday on or closest to Nov. 30 can range between Nov. 27 and Dec. 3, depending on the year. In the case of a Sunday, Evening Prayer I is said on the evening of the preceding day (Saturday). According to the General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours:

“Evening prayer, celebrated immediately before Mass, is joined to it in the same way as morning prayer. Evening prayer I of solemnities, Sundays, or feasts of the Lord falling on Sundays may not be celebrated until after Mass of the preceding day or Saturday. “

This means that Advent begins on the evening of a Saturday falling between Nov. 26 and Dec. 2 (inclusive), and it ends on the evening of Dec. 24, which holds Evening Prayer I of Christmas (Dec. 25).

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 ADVENT-A TIME TO PREPARE

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT *Share Peace*

AS WE FOCUS ON PEACE THIS WEEK, WE ARE REMINDED THAT OUR HEARTS GROW AS WE WORK FOR A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH OTHER AND THE LORD. WE WILL MAKE PEACE AN ACTION BY OUR GESTURES OF KINDNESS AND PRAYERS.



## SS. THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME 2022

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

## MOTIVATION

### The Window Story - A Bible Illustration

A young couple moved into a new neighborhood. The next morning while they are eating breakfast, the young woman saw her neighbor hanging the wash outside.

"That laundry is not very clean," she said. "She doesn't know how to wash correctly. Perhaps she needs better laundry soap."

Her husband looked on, but remained silent. Every time her neighbor would hang her wash to dry, the young woman would make the same comments.

About one month later, the woman was surprised to see a nice clean wash on the line and said to her husband, "Look, she has learned how to wash correctly. I wonder who taught her this?" The husband said, "I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows. And so it is with life. What we see when watching others depends on the purity of the window through which we look."

#### Lessons from the Window Story:

##### Be Careful of Judging Others

The lesson from the window story is obvious, before we judge others while looking out the window, let us look in a mirror first and clean our own windows.

##### Moral of the Window Story:

Our perspective of others as well as the world varies according to how clean we keep our windows.

## YOUTH CORNER

**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

**Thank you**  
 for making our youth month a memorable one  
 We appreciate the support and participation  
 Until next year, lets keep getting involved  
*God bless you all*

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## 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:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Publication between: Robert Parfait Tchio Mbonga, son of Etienne Mbonga and Memouna Mounde AND Joyce Anchang Mafor, daughter of John Nqong Anchang and Juliana Njombe.  
  
3<sup>rd</sup> 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
- Our Advent Retreat comes off this Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2022 at SJF at 8:00am. We are all encouraged to participate fully.
- The investiture for Sir Oteng Gyasi and the new Papal awardees will take place this Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December at the Holy Spirit Cathedral at 10.00am. We are all invited.
- The funeral arrangements of Mr. Godwin Fenu**, father of Mad. Peace Fenu, a member of the Christian Mothers Association and Ushers Ministry.
  - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2022: Laying in state at his residence at Nsawam.
  - Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2022: Burial Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Nsawam.
  - Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> 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	STM NOV. WEEK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSITIONS
SUNDAY	560.00	-----	20.00	-----	580.00	4 <sup>TH</sup>
MONDAY	1675.00	-----	50.00	10.00	1735.00	2 <sup>ND</sup>
TUESDAY	942.00	600.00	-----	100.00	1642.00	3 <sup>RD</sup>
WEDNESDAY	378.20	5.00	60.00	10.00	453.20	6 <sup>TH</sup>
THURSDAY	1705.00	50.00	-----	10.00	1765.00	1 <sup>ST</sup>
FRIDAY	363.00	100.00	20.00	-----	483.00	5 <sup>TH</sup>
SATURDAY	130.00	200.00	-----	-----	330.00	7 <sup>TH</sup>
NOV. BORNS	246.00	-----	-----	-----	246.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5999.20</b>	<b>955.00</b>	<b>150.00</b>	<b>130.00</b>		

### Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM NOV. WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	2107.00
SECOND COLLECTION	1133.70
TITHE	1360.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4600.70</b>

# FINANCE CORNER – ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF NOV. WEEK1	SJF NOV. WEEK2	SJF NOV. WEEK3	SJF NOV. WEEK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSITIONS
SUNDAY	1177.00	20.00	120.00	-----	1317.00	6 <sup>TH</sup>
MONDAY	2506.00	-----	-----	900.00	3406.00	1 <sup>ST</sup>
TUESDAY	605.90	1050.00	60.00	200.00	1915.90	3 <sup>RD</sup>
WEDNESDAY	846.00	300.00	-----	100.00	1246.00	7 <sup>TH</sup>
THURSDAY	1554.00	-----	100.00	-----	1654.00	4 <sup>TH</sup>
FRIDAY	1213.00	2160.00	15.00	-----	3388.00	2 <sup>ND</sup>
SATURDAY	920.00	-----	200.00	200.00	1320.00	5 <sup>TH</sup>
NOV. BORNS	226.00	-----	-----	-----	226.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9047.90</b>	<b>3530.00</b>	<b>495.00</b>	<b>1400.00</b>	<b>14472.90</b>	

SUNDAY	SJF NOV. WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	2918.60
SECOND COLLECTION	1758.60
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4677.20</b>

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER.**




**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

 Stm\_sf\_youth  
  Thomasmorejohnfisher.com  
  SS Thomas More And John Fisher



## 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**