



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

11TH DECEMBER, 2022: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT,
YEAR A

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **“THE SIGNS OF THE
KINGDOM ARE WITH US”**

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 35:1-6a, 10

In the day of the Lord, all sorrow and mourning will cease.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10

COME, LORD, AND SAVE US.

Second Reading: Jas 5:7-10

Be patient, and be ready; the coming of the Lord is near.

Gospel Reading: Mt 11:2-11

Jesus tells John the Baptist of the signs of the kingdom that are being worked through him and praises John as more than a prophet.

REFLECTION

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete* is the Latin word for “rejoice.” This week’s Gospel continues our Advent reflection on the person and message of John the Baptist. Last week we heard John speak about his relationship to the coming Messiah, Jesus. This week, we hear Jesus’ message to John the Baptist, now in prison, about the signs of the kingdom. He also gives an assessment of John’s role in the Kingdom of God and his role in salvation. Salvation is already in our midst as manifest in the miraculous deeds of Jesus and in the Church. Even as we observe our world today, we can find glimpses of God’s work among us. God continues to save humanity if we are obedient to the promptings and direction of the Spirit. This message is indeed a cause for rejoicing.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 12TH DECEMBER, 2022

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec 2: 14-17

Ps Jdt 13:18bcde-19

Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Tue 13TH DECEMBER, 2022

St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

Zep 3:1-2,9-13

Ps 34:2-3,6-7,17-18,19,23

Mt 21:28-32

Wed 14TH DECEMBER, 2022

St. John of the Cross

Is 45:6c-8,18,21c-25

Ps 85:9ab-10,11-12,13-14

Lk 7:18b-23

Thurs 15TH DECEMBER, 2022

Is 54:1-10

Ps 30:2,4,5-6,11-12a,13b

Lk 7:24-30

Fri 16TH DECEMBER, 2022

Is 56:1-3a,6-8

Ps 67:2-3,5,7-8

Jn 5:33-36

Sat 17TH DECEMBER, 2022

Gn 49:2,8-10

Ps 72:1-2,3-4ab,7-8,17

Mt 1:1-17

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Is 7:10-14
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 24:1-2,3-4,5-6,7c,10b
Second Reading	Rom 1:1-7
Gospel	Mt 1:18-24

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 - Contd

5. What Is the Role of Sundays in Advent?

There are four Sundays of Advent. The General Norms (No. 41) state:

“The Sundays of this season are named the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Sundays of Advent.”

We have already mentioned that the Third Sunday of Advent has a special name — *Gaudete* Sunday. *Gaudete* is the Latin word for “Rejoice,” which is the first word of the introit of the Mass for this day.

The Church ascribes particular importance to these Sundays, and they take precedence over other liturgical celebrations. Thus the General Norms (No. 5) state:

Because of its special importance, the Sunday celebration gives way only to solemnities or feasts of the Lord. The Sundays of the seasons of Advent, Lent, and Easter, however, take precedence over all solemnities and feasts of the Lord. Solemnities occurring on these Sundays are observed on the Saturdays preceding.

You also cannot celebrate Funeral Masses on the Sundays of Advent (GIRM 380): Among the Masses for the Dead, the Funeral Mass holds first place. It may be celebrated on any day except for Solemnities that are Holydays of Obligation, Thursday of Holy Week, the Paschal Triduum, and the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and Easter, with due regard also for all the other requirements of the norm of the law.

6. What Happens on Weekdays in Advent?

It is especially recommended that homilies be given on the weekdays of Advent. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (No. 66) states:

On Sundays and Holydays of Obligation there is to be a Homily at every Mass that is celebrated with the people attending and it may not be omitted without a grave reason. On other days it is recommended, especially on the weekdays of Advent, Lent and Easter Time, as well as on other festive days and occasions when the people come to church in greater numbers.

The General Norms (No. 41) also point out a special role for the weekdays of the week preceding Christmas: The weekdays from 17 December to 24 December inclusive serve to prepare more directly for the Lord's birth. This special role is illustrated, for example, by the Scripture readings used in the liturgy on these days.

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 prayer 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 ADVENT SEASON - A TIME TO PREPARE



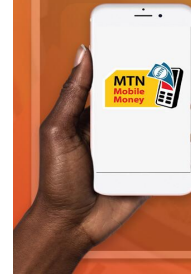
SS. THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 2022

DATE	PROGRAM	VENUE	TIME
Sat. 17 th Dec.	Advent Retreat	STM	8:30am
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	8:00pm
		SJF	8:00pm
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

STORY ABOUT DEBORAH'S FAITH IN HARD TIMES. [JUDGES 4:1-24]

Deborah was known to be a wife, judge, prophetess, and most importantly, a like Mary, Elizabeth, Naomi, and many others, she was powerful woman of Faith. She was a woman who heard from God and would carry out his instructions no matter the difficulty whether it was easy or hard.

One day she was commanded by God to instruct a man named Barak to take with him 10, 000 men to Mount Tabor. There, God would help him and the Israelites defeat the Canaanites army who had been oppressing them for years.

Now even though Barak had his army, he was still afraid to lead them on his own and so he begged Deborah to go with them, which she then agreed, and told them that God had already gone ahead of them. (*Judges 4:14*) It was because of Deborah's faith, her zeal, and acting on God's Word, the Israelites were led to a crushing victory.

Life application: *It's no doubt that we face our own version of difficulties and though we might not be going into a physical war like the Israelites, we will be faced with spiritual attacks. We just have to take God at His Word, because being fearful and drawing back will only hinder*

YOUTH CORNER



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

stm.sf_youth f SS Thomas More And John Fisher thomasmorejohfisher.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. 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.
2. **Marriage Banns:**
2nd Publication between: Robert Parfait Tchio Mbonga, son of Etienne Mbonga and Memouna Moundo AND Joyce Anchang Mafor, daughter of John Ngong Anchang and Juliana Njombe.
3. Our Advent Retreat comes off this Saturday 17th December, 2022 at STM at 8:30am. We are all encouraged to participate fully.
4. **The funeral arrangements:**

Mr. Godwin Fenu, father of Mad. Peace Fenu, a member of the Christian Mothers Association and Ushers Ministry.

- Friday 16th December, 2022: Laying in state at his residence at Nsawam.
- Saturday 17th December, 2022: Burial Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Nsawam.
- Sunday 18th December, 2022: Thanksgiving Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Nsawam.

Mrs. Judith Ernestina Ayorkor Wilson, a member of the Knights and Ladies of Marshal and the Amalgamated Community:

- Tuesday 20th December: Filing Past at 8.00am and Burial Mass at 9.00am at SJF
- Sunday 25th December: Thanksgiving Mass at SJF at 9.30am

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: Besohwê!
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 DEC. WEEK1
SUNDAY	1089.50
MONDAY	2760.20
TUESDAY	1137.50
WEDNESDAY	697.00
THURSDAY	1184.00
FRIDAY	979.10
SATURDAY	1316.00
DEC. BURNS	83.00
TOTAL	9246.30

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM DEC. WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	2556.10
TITHE	230.00
TOTAL	2786.10

FINANCE CORNER – ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF DEC. WEEK1
SUNDAY	930.00
MONDAY	2413.00
TUESDAY	619.00
WEDNESDAY	1122.50
THURSDAY	1570.00
FRIDAY	1356.00
SATURDAY	906.00
DEC. BORNS	311.00
TOTAL	9227.50

SUNDAY	SJF DEC. WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	3706.90
TOTAL	3706.90

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
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Bank: NIB Branch Abeka
Mobile Money: 059 585 0922