



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

1ST JANUARY, 2023: THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **“MARY, MOTHER OF GOD”**

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: Nm 6:22-27: God gives a blessing for the Israelites.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)

O GOD, BE GRACIOUS AND BLESS US.

Second Reading: Gal 4:4-7: God sent his Son to make us children of God.

Gospel Reading: Lk 2:16-21: The shepherds find Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem.

REFLECTION

Beloved, the reading tells us at least three things about Mary as a mother. First, Mary is described as a reflective person, keeping the reports of the shepherds in her heart. Second, we are reminded of how obedient Mary was to God when she named the baby Jesus as the angel Gabriel had directed. Third, this reading shows Mary and Joseph faithfully observing their Jewish tradition by having Jesus circumcised.

Mary's faithfulness to God is evident in all three of these things. Her reflection upon the events in her life indicates that she was a person of prayer. This life of prayer made possible her obedience to God and God's will, even if the outcome was not clear. Finally, her faithfulness to a community of faith grounded her relationship with God and enabled her to participate in God's plan of salvation.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 2ND JANUARY, 2023 Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen 1Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98:1,2-3ab,3cd-4 Jn 1:19-28	Tue 3RD JANUARY, 2023 The Holy Name of Jesus 1Jn 2:29 – 3:6 Ps 98:1, 3cd-4,5-6 Jn 1:29-34
Wed 4TH JANUARY, 2023 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton 1Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:1,7-8,9 Jn 1:35-42	Thurs 5TH JANUARY, 2023 St. John Neumann 1Jn 3:11-21 Ps 100:1b-2,3,4,5 Jn 1:43-51
Fri 6TH JANUARY, 2023 St. André Bessette 1Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147:12-13,14-15,19-20 Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38	Sat 7TH JANUARY, 2023 St. Raymond of Peñafort 1Jn 5:14-21 Ps 149:1-2,3-4,5,6a,9b Jn 2:1-11

Readings for Next Sunday Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading	Is 60:1-6
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 72:1-2,7-8,10-11,12-13
Second Reading	Eph 3:2-3a,5-6
Gospel	Mt 2:1-12

Mass Schedule

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



KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

10 FACTS ABOUT MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

1. The Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary to ask her if she would become the Mother of God.
2. With only one question needing to be answered, not because she lacked faith, but because she simply did not understand how the incarnation would happen because she was a virgin consecrated to God, she committed herself to the Will of God.
3. Mary conceived the Body of Jesus in her womb when she told the Angel Gabriel that she would do the Will of God.
4. Mary abandoned herself to God's Will and trusted that He would accomplish what was needed to allow her to bring forth her Son. For example, Joseph was her chosen husband, but when he realized that she was pregnant and that he was not the father, he had decided to divorce her quietly so that she would not be stoned to death as Mosaic Law prescribed. An angel was sent to Joseph in a dream assuring him that the child to be born was the Son of God.
5. Mary's life was not free of sufferings. She suffered a great deal. Can you imagine fleeing the town of Bethlehem in the middle of the night because an angel was sent to Joseph in a dream telling Joseph to take the Child and His Mother and escape to Egypt. Travel was not safe in those days, much less, in the dark of night. Having just had a baby that did not make travel easier for the Holy Family.
6. At some point in her life, Mary became a widow. We don't know when or how Joseph died, but he was blessed to die in the arms of Jesus and Mary.
7. Mary led a very ordinary life. I am assuming that she cooked and cleaned, maybe she even had a small vegetable garden. She had friends and relatives in town. She was social. She loved her family. She did not stand out in the crowd, but she and Joseph raised Jesus to be a good Jew and follow the law.
8. Mary was the impetus that pushed Jesus to perform His first public miracle. At the wedding in Cana, when Mary told Jesus that the couple had run out of wine, He asked her, "What does this have to do with me, woman?" She simply told the waiters, "Do whatever He tells you." She knew He would not say no. I'm sure Jesus smiled because He knew He could not say no to His Mother. He performed His first public miracle turning the water into wine. The couple was saved from disgrace. His Apostles were astonished.
9. Mary was with her Son when He died. Before Jesus died on the cross, He gave His Mother to the world. He made sure she was taken care of by John, the Beloved Apostle, and in giving His Mother to John, He gave His mother to us.
10. Tradition holds that before Jesus appeared to His Believers, after His Resurrection, He appeared to His Mother. Can you imagine the joy of the Reunion! Jesus had overcome death. He had completed His Mission of Salvation. He showed His Mother His Love!

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

GLORY TO THE NEW BORN KING



HAPPY FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD



PRAYER TO MARY MOTHER OF GOD

Mary, Mother of God my mother, Queen of Peace, ask your Son Jesus to give me the gift of peace. Pray for me for peace; peace in my heart, peace of mind and of soul, peace in my family, peace with all whom I meet, the peace of Jesus.

I put all my hopes in thee, all my salvation. Receive me as thy servant and cover me with the mantle of thy protection, thou the Mother of mercy!

Amen.



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

ENCOURAGING QUOTES

- ❖ I can't tell you how many times I've been given a no. Only to find that a better, brighter, bigger yes was right around the corner." — **Arlan Hamilton**
- ❖ "We need to accept that we won't always make the right decisions, that we'll screw up royally sometimes – understanding that failure is not the opposite of success, it's part of success." — **Ariana Huffington**
- ❖ "When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it." — **Henry Ford**
- ❖ "You cannot always control what goes on outside. But you can always control what goes on inside." — **Wayne Dyer**
- ❖ "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." — **Aristotle**
- ❖ "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can." — **Arthur Ashe**
- ❖ "Hustle beats talent when talent doesn't hustle" – **Ross Simmonds**

YOUTH CORNER

KNOW YOUR EXECUTIVES

- PRESIDENT:** Kelvin John Boe
- VICE PRESIDENT:** Charles Tetteh
Akrono
- SECRETARY:** Agnes Ama K. Afful
- ASSISTANT SECRETARY:** Felicia
Naada Korgh
- FINANCIAL SECRETARY:** Dorcas
Asabea Asare
- ORGANISERS:** Mary Adudea Kusenu
& Eugene S. K. Atubra

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.
- There will be Morning Masses at SJF from Monday to Friday at 6:15am starting from tomorrow Monday 2nd January, 2023.
- Marriage Banns:**
2nd Publication between: Stephen Nii Adams, son of Stephen Mensah Adams and Caroline Leone Adjivon Adams AND Barbara Asinah, daughter of John Ransford Bawa and Agnes Angelina Asinah.
- The funeral arrangement:**
 Mrs. Elizabeth Abia Amuzu, mother of Mrs. Grace Gaveh and Sr. Micheline Amuzu is as follows:
 - Monday 16th January, 2023: Receiving of the body and laying in state in her residence at Akweteyman.
 - Tuesday 17th January, 2023: Burial Mass at SJF at 9.00am. Dress Code: Black & White.
 - Sunday, 22nd January, 2023: Thanksgiving Mass at SJF at 9:30am. Dress Code: All White.

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 DEC. WEEK1	STM DEC. WEEK2	STM DEC. WEEK3	STM DEC. WEEK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSITIONS
SUNDAY	1089.50	10.00	-----	10.00	1109.50	5 TH
MONDAY	2760.20	-----	70.00	-----	2830.20	1 ST
TUESDAY	1137.50	140.00	20.00	-----	1297.50	3 RD
WEDNESDAY	697.00	20.00	55.00	5.00	777.00	7 TH
THURSDAY	1184.00	-----	-----	-----	1184.00	4 TH
FRIDAY	979.10	-----	-----	-----	979.10	6 TH
SATURDAY	1316.00	-----	100.00	-----	1416.00	2 ND
DEC. BORNES	83.00	-----	-----	-----	83.00	
TOTAL	9246.30	170.00	245.00	15.00	9676.30	

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM DEC. WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	2779.70
SECOND COLLECTION	1447.50
TITHE	150.00
TOTAL	4377.20

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF DEC. WEEK1	SJF DEC. WEEK2	SJF DEC. WEEK3	SJF DEC. WEEK 4	GRAND TOTAL	POSITIONS
SUNDAY	930.00	-----	21.00	-----	951.00	7 TH
MONDAY	2413.00	30.00	580.00	-----	3023.00	4 TH
TUESDAY	619.00	10000.00	-----	-----	10619.00	1 ST
WEDNESDAY	1122.50	300.00	-----	20.00	1442.50	6 TH
THURSDAY	1570.00	290.00	5.00	160.00	2025.00	5 TH
FRIDAY	1356.00	5000.00	1.00	161.00	6518.00	2 ND
SATURDAY	906.00	100.00	2200.00	-----	3206.00	3 RD
DEC. BORNES	311.00	-----	-----	-----	311.00	
TOTAL	9227.50	15720.00	2807.00	341.00	28095.50	

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF DEC. WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	7388.60
SECOND COLLECTION	4253.20
TITHE	550.00
TOTAL	12191.80

STS. THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER THANKSGIVING COLLECTIONS FOR THE YEAR

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	BIRTHDAY	TOTAL
JANUARY	4141.20	5598.20	4972.00	2449.00	4498.20	4886.60	2418.50	477.20	29440.90
FEBRUARY	1807.20	4537.30	8894.00	2323.90	2827.30	5205.70	2257.00	226.90	29079.30
MARCH	4378.17	4300.00	8402.00	2130.00	3725.26	4964.00	1425.50	479.00	29803.93
APRIL	2264.00	5347.10	2804.60	4667.73	3997.46	6054.10	2317.20	407.00	27859.19
MAY	2423.00	5276.20	9159.00	3181.00	4880.73	6253.00	2632.00	535.00	34339.93
JUNE	2781.00	4855.40	2365.50	2348.00	3458.00	6095.00	2808.00	305.60	25016.50
JULY	3696.00	5518.00	2822.00	2369.50	3634.00	4888.50	6242.40	421.00	29591.40
AUGUST	9604.00	4677.00	4245.50	2334.00	3865.50	4503.30	2687.90	1500.90	33418.10
SEPTEMBER	2118.70	5447.20	13044.70	1904.10	3442.02	4204.00	1743.90	656.00	32560.62
OCTOBER	2656.30	4856.00	11135.80	2374.00	3799.00	6316.70	2349.50	499.00	33986.30
NOVEMBER	1897.00	5141.00	3557.90	1699.20	3419.00	3871.00	1650.00	472.00	21707.10
DECEMBER	2060.50	5853.20	11916.50	2219.50	3209.00	7497.10	4622.00	394.00	37771.80
TOTAL	39827.07	61406.60	83319.50	29999.93	44755.47	64739.00	33153.90	7373.60	364575.07
POSITIONS	5TH	3RD	1ST	7TH	4TH	2ND	6TH		

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE YEAR 2022.