

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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

8TH JANUARY, 2023: THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "SEARCH 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 60:1-6: Jerusalem shall be a light to all nations.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

ALL NATIONS ON EARTH SHALL FALL PROSTRATE BEFORE YOU, O LORD.

Second Reading: Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6: Gentiles are coheirs in the promise of Christ.

Gospel Reading: Mt 2:1-12: The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.

REFLECTION

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

The Magi in today's gospel reading represent the entire world. They come with gifts and themselves pay homage to him. What is our search for the Lord like? Do we give ourselves completely to him? The gifts they present to Jesus are symbolic of his ministry.

Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death. The most important of the gift is the gifts of their presence and homage to Jesus. May we search for the Lord and make available our time, talent and treasure to the Lord.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 9 TH JANUARY, 2023	Tue 10 TH JANUARY, 2023
Baptism of the Lord	Heb 2:5-12
Is 42:1-4,6-7 or Acts 10:34-38	Ps 8:2ab,5,6-7,8-9
Ps 29:1-2,3-4,3,9-10	Mk 1:21-28
Mt 3:13-17	
Wed 11 TH JANUARY, 2023	Thurs 12 [™] JANUARY, 2023
Heb 2:14-18	Heb 3:7-14
Ps 105:1-2,3-4,6-7,8-9	Ps 95:6-7c,8-9,10-11
Mk 1:29-39	Mk 1:40-45
Fri 13 TH JANUARY, 2023	Sat 14 TH JANUARY, 2023
St. Hilary, bp, dr	BVM
Heb 4:1-5,11	Heb 4:12-16
Ps 78:3,4bc,6c-7,8	Ps 19:8,9,10,15
Mk 2:1-12	Mk 2:13-17

Readings for Next Sunday 2nd Sunday In Ordinary Time		
First Reading	Is 49: 3, 5-6	
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 40:2,4,7-8,8-9,10	
Second Reading	1Cor 1:1-3	
Gospel	Jn 1:29-34	

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

3 TAKEAWAYS FROM POPE FRANCIS' LETTER TO YOUNG PEOPLE

by Nathan Stanley

This is a historic week. This week we've observed the anniversary of the death of Pope St. John Paul II. We've also seen the Church release the Apostolic Exhortation "Christus Vivit," or "Christ Lives" (CV).

In the opening paragraphs, Pope Francis states that "With great affection, I address this Apostolic Exhortation to all Christian young people. It is meant to remind you of certain convictions born of our faith, and at the same time to encourage you to grow in holiness and in commitment to your personal vocation" (CV 3).

This Apostolic Exhortation was born following his time of reflection and prayer in October 2018 with bishops throughout the world during the Synod on Young People, Faith and Vocational discernment.

"Christus Vivit" is a historic document: It's the first-ever Vatican document on young people. Just last week, I was blessed to be with a group of Church leaders in the United States. This group gathered to reflect upon the recent synod and the upcoming Apostolic Exhortation.

I was very excited to start diving into the Holy Father's letter to young people. I have only been able to start reading, but below are a few key themes that have struck me during my initial reading of "Christus Vivit."

1. Jesus was a young person.

Pope Francis writes, "It is important to realize that Jesus was a young person. He gave his life when he was, in today's terms, a young adult" (23).

This is a beautiful line for all young people to pray through. Jesus, our savior, took on human flesh and walked among us. He grew up and lived as a young person and even gave his life at the age of 33, as young adult man. As Christians, we are called to imitate Jesus. This is a call to total self-giving; it is not something that we should wait to answer until we are old, but something that especially starts in our youth. Pope Francis is inviting the youth of the today to live with that same sacrificial 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.

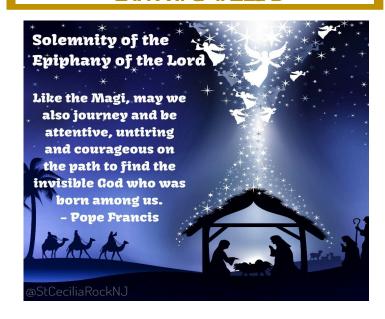
For the Court of Justice, we pray that you will give them the spirit of Wisdom and Understanding that they may discern the truth and impartially administer the law in the fear of you alone. May they not yield to deceit and acts of bribery and corruption but uphold the truth and let justice prevail.

May your Mother Mary intercede for us and may the Archangel Michael defend us in battle. We make our payer through Christ our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

GLORY TO THE NEW BORN KING



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD





MOTIVATION

DEEP QUOTES ABOUT LIFE

- "Life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced." ~ Soren Kierkegaard
- "Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength, while loving someone deeply gives you courage."
 Lao Tzu
- "Always remember that you are absolutely unique.
 Just like everyone else." ~ Margaret Mead
- "Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant." ~ Robert Louis
 Stevenson
- "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." ~ Eleanor Roosevelt
- "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn." ~ Benjamin Franklin
- "You know you're in love when you can't fall asleep because reality is finally better than your dreams." ~Dr. Seuss
- "Don't handicap your children by making their lives easy." ~ Robert A. Heinlein
- "If my life is going to mean anything, I have to live it myself." ~Rick Riordan
- "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can." ~ Arthur Ashe

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.
- 2. There will be Morning Mass at SJF from Mondays to Friday at 6:15am starting from tomorrow Monday 9th January, 2023
- 3. Tomorrow is the feast of the baptism of the Lord. , There will be morning mass at SJF at 6.15am and evening mass at STM at 7.00pm.

4. Marriage Banns:

3rd 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.

5. The funeral arrangements:

- 1. Mrs. Elizabeth Abla 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.
- 2. Mr. Peterson Kwashie Apedo, a member of the Alogboshie community is as follows:
- Friday 3rd February, 2023: Wake-keeping as his residence at Alogboshie.
- Saturday 4th February, 2023: Burial Mass at SJF at 7:30am. Interment: Achimota Public Cemetery
- Sunday 5th February, 2023: 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 <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 <u>at least 6 months</u>.

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: Besohw §! 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

STM
JAN.
WEEK1
902.00
1682.50
1016.30
855.20
725.70
1052.00
983.00
111.00
7327.70

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM JAN. WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	2215.70
TITHE	3060.00
31 ST NIGHT COLLECTION	2333.10
31 st THANKSGIVING	15,907.90
TOTAL	23516.70

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

	SJF
WEEKDAYS	JAN.
	WEEK1
SUNDAY	2019.00
MONDAY	3749.00
TUESDAY	2298.00
WEDNESDAY	
	1344.00+\$
	2
THURSDAY	2999.50
FRIDAY	6868.00
SATURDAY	1635.50
JAN. BORNS	685.00
TOTAL	21598.00+
	\$2

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF JAN. WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	5903.40
TITHE	305.00
31 ST NIGHT COLLECTION	4780.40
31 ST	27617.30+
THANKSGIVING	\$300
TOTAL	38606.10+ \$300

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.