



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

19TH FEBRUARY, 2023: SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **“DO GOOD TO ALL”**

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: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18: Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13
THE LORD IS COMPASSIONATE AND GRACIOUS.

Second Reading: 1Cor 3:16-23: Are you not aware that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

Gospel Reading: Mt 5:38-48: My command to you is: love your enemies, pray for your persecutors.

REFLECTION

Jesus asks his followers to take a different approach by resisting retaliation altogether. The response to a stronger person who slaps us on the cheek, takes us to court, or demands a service of us is not to resist. Similarly, for a weaker person, such as a beggar or borrower, we are to give him or her what he or she asks for. Those who are called to the Kingdom of Heaven are to go beyond the way the world usually works and serve God's kingdom here on earth.

The other difficult demand of those who are called to the kingdom is to embrace the enemy. There is no command in the Old Testament to hate individuals in a personal or vindictive way. But there is a religious stance that calls one to hate evil and to distance oneself from those who participate in evil. In contrast, Matthew emphasizes that love of God and love of neighbor are the fundamental commands on which all else depend. **May we see doing good as our fundamental Christian duty.**

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 20TH FEBRUARY, 2023 Sir 1:1-10 Ps 93:1-5 Mk 9:14-29	Tue 21ST FEBRUARY, 2023 St. Peter Damian Sir 2:1-11 Ps 37:3-4,18-19,27-28b,39-40b Mk 9:30-37
Wed 22ND FEBRUARY, 2023 Ash Wednesday Joel 2:12-18 Ps 51:3-6,12-14,17 2Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6,16-18	Thurs 23RD FEBRUARY, 2023 St. Polycarp Deut 30:15-20 Ps 102:16-22,29 Mk 8:27-33
Fri 24TH FEBRUARY, 2023 Is 58:1-9a Ps 51:3-6,18-19 Mt 9:14-15	Sat 25TH FEBRUARY, 2023 Is 58:9b-14 Ps 86:1-6 Lk 5:27-32

Readings for Next Sunday 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading	Gen 2:7-9;3:1-7
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 51:3-6,12-14,17
Second Reading	Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12,17-19
Gospel	Mt 4:1-11

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

THE LAW AND GRACE - Part 4

This is seen most clearly when we read the Scriptures, especially the Gospels. When we read the words of Jesus, in particular, we may sit back and be convicted in one way or another on how we have been acting poorly or ways in which we need to improve.

This is good! When this happens, we are letting the deep revelation of God penetrate our consciences and teach us how to act. We may feel “convicted” in the sense that we suddenly realize we have been less than perfect in some area of our life. And we may find, in the Scriptures, a deep calling to work toward more perfect virtue and love.

What’s interesting is that the law of love may, at first, feel like a burden or challenge to us. Or, it may be hard to accept and embrace. But, in the end, if we are open and sincerely seek the truth, we will come to realize that all Jesus says and does makes sense. It’s like a key opening a locked door to a world we had heard about but could not discover on our own.

The revelations Jesus gives us are purifying and freeing to us because they reveal to us what is already hidden within our conscience. They reveal the moral law inscribed within us, and it becomes a joyful discovery.

The law that the Gospels reveal is the law of charity. This law is especially found in the Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount. But we also see this law of charity in the ultimate sacrificial act of love that Jesus offered on the Cross. We read His words and see His free embrace of this sacrifice for us.

In the witness of His Cross, we discover our own calling of sacrificial love and, hopefully, embrace it wholeheartedly.

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 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

UPCOMING SEASON



THOSE IN ARREARS OF LAST YEAR'S HARVEST LEVY, AND PLEDGES ARE ENTREATED TO REDEEM THEM.



How to make all church statutory
payments through MTN momo
Ss Thomas more & John Fisher
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MOTIVATION

DREAM BIG

Lily is a little girl, who is shy and reserved. But she enjoys playing soccer. Her friends and classmates ridicule Lily for her interest in soccer. Nonetheless, she is determined to pursue her passion and become a successful soccer player.

Every day, after returning from school, Lily quickly finishes her homework and practices soccer. Her mother understands the love Lily has for the sport and supports her in every way.

When the interschool competitions are announced at the school, Lily decides to participate. She takes part in the selection trials, and her classmates mock her once again. But they are shocked when Lily performs well and the judges select her to represent the school. Lily's commitment and hard work mute every person who mocked her.

Moral of The Story: Determination, strong will, and focus can help you achieve even the toughest of goals, in spite of ridicule by others.

YOUTH CORNER

1. "Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment." – Jim Rohn
2. "For a man to conquer himself is the first and noblest of all victories." – Plato
3. "What lies in our power to do, lies in our power not to do." – Aristotle
4. "You have power over your mind, not outside events. Realize this, and you will find strength." – Marcus Aurelius
5. "Most powerful is he who has himself in his own power." – Seneca
6. "At dawn, when you have trouble getting out of bed, tell yourself: "I have to go to work — as a human being. What do I have to complain of, if I'm going to do what I was born for — the things I was brought into the world to do? Or is this what I was created for? To huddle under the blankets and stay warm?" - Marcus Aurelius

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. We are reminded to pay our Church Dues, Welfare Dues and Building Fund for this year. Kindly check the notice board for more details. Those in arrears of last year's Harvest Levy, and pledges are entreated to redeem them.
2. Members of New Achimota, Kofevi Akweteyman Community will meet today at SJF after the 9:30am Mass. New members are welcomed.

3. The funeral arrangements

Mrs. Margaret Mercy Amankwah a Parishioner is as follows:

- **Thursday 23rd February, 2023:** Laying in state from 4:00am - 8:00am at her Family House, Ntonso and Burial Mass at St. Anthony Parish at Ntonso in the Ashanti Region at 9:00am.
- **Sunday 26th February, 2023:** Thanksgiving Mass at St. Anthony Parish at Ntonso in the Ashanti Region at 9:00am.
- **Sunday 5th March, 2023:** 2nd Thanksgiving Mass at STM at 7:00am.

Mad. Martha Akua Kugbaga Mensah of the Kissehman Community is as follows:

- **Friday 24th February, 2023:** Family gathering at her family house, Kissehman near former Ghana Airways Flats.
- **Saturday 25th February, 2023:** Burial Mass at STM at 8:00am.
- **Sunday 26th February, 2023:** Thanksgiving Mass at STM at 7:00am.

Mrs. Edith Benuyie Boamah, a member of the Main Choir and St. Theresa of the Child Jesus is as follows

- **Friday 3rd March, 2023:** Family gathering at her residence.
- **Saturday 4th March, 2023:** Laying in State and Burial Mass at SJF at 8:00am.
- **Sunday 5th March, 2023:** Thanksgiving Mass at STM 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: 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 FEB. WEEK1	STM FEB. WEEK2
SUNDAY	1255.00	207.00
MONDAY	1321.00	-----
TUESDAY	1497.00	520.00
WEDNESDAY	658.00	55.00
THURSDAY	1540.00	-----
FRIDAY	824.00	-----
SATURDAY	1462.00	-----
FEB. BORNS	392.00	-----
TOTAL	8949.00	782.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM FEB. WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	2495.30
SECOND COLLECTION	1477.80
TITHE	200.00
TOTAL	4173.10

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF FEB. WEEK1	SJF FEB. WEEK2
SUNDAY	1375.00	355.00
MONDAY	2078.00	50.00
TUESDAY	796.00	20.00
WEDNESDAY	567.00	450.00
THURSDAY	2652.00	200.00
FRIDAY	5957.00	450.00
SATURDAY	783.00	200.00
FEB. BORNES	206.00	-----
TOTAL	14414.00	1725.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF FEB. WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	3661.80
SECOND COLLECTION	1792.26
TITHE	280.00
31ST DEC. THANKSGIVING	100.00
TOTAL	5834.06

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

SS Thomas More & John Fisher Parish, Achimota

Help Us Build

A new Children Service Block @ SS Thomas More & John Fisher Parish

"LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME AND DO NOT HINDER THEM FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE "

Matthew 19: 14

St. Thomas More Catholic Church
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