



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

P.O. BOX AH 283, Achimota-Accra

Website: [www.thomasmorejohnfisher.com](http://www.thomasmorejohnfisher.com)

Email: [besohwe@yahoo.com](mailto:besohwe@yahoo.com)

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

5TH MARCH, 2023: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **“REMEMBER YOUR  
TABOR MOMENTS”**

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:** Gen 12:1- 4a: God promises Abram a great blessing.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22

**MAY YOUR MERCIFUL LOVE BE UPON US,  
AS WE HOPE IN YOU, O LORD.**

**Second Reading:** 2Tim 1:8b-10: Through God's grace we are called to holiness.

**Gospel Reading:** Mt 17:1-9: Jesus is transfigured on the mountain in the presence of Peter, James, and John.

### Reflection

We have all had mountaintop experiences, moments we felt God was with us. God gave them to us for a reason, just as he gave this one to Peter, James, and John for a reason. Jesus knew that his passion, crucifixion, and death were coming up. He knew that those events would shake his followers' faith. He gave them this mountaintop experience of his glory so that later on, when the cross appeared, they could remember it and be strengthened by the memory. Jesus knows that following him is demanding - no one can escape life's crosses. Following his Commandments requires self-mastery and self-sacrifice. He wants to remind us that even those hardships are part of his plan. Today and throughout this week, he wants us to think about our mountaintop experiences, so that we can renew our faith in his goodness, wisdom, and desire to bless us.

### Weekly Readings

<b>Mon 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023</b> Independence Day Dan 9:4b-10 Ps 79:8-9,11,13 Lk 6:36-38	<b>Tue 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023</b> Sts. Perpetua & Felicity Is 1:10,16-20 Ps 50:8-9,16-17,21,23 Mt 23:1-12
<b>Wed 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023</b> St. John of God Jer 18:18-20 Ps 31:5-6,14-16 Mt 20:17-28	<b>Thur 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023</b> St. Frances of Rome Jer 17:5-10 Ps 1:1-4,6 Lk 16:19-31
<b>Fri 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023</b> Gen 37:3-4,12-13a,17b-28 Ps 105:16-21 Mt 21:33-43,45-46	<b>Sat 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023</b> Mic 7:14-15,18-20 Ps 103:1-4,9-12 Lk 15:1-3,11-32

### Readings for Next Sunday

<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Ex 17:3-7</b>
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>Ps 95:1-2,6-9</b>
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Rom 5:1-2,5-8</b>
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-16,19-26,39-42</b>

### Mass Schedule

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



## KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

### Message of the Holy Father for Lent 2023

#### ***Theme: Lenten Penance and the Synodal Journey - contd***

Dear brothers and sisters!

The disciples' experience on Mount Tabor was further enriched when, alongside the transfigured Jesus, Moses and Elijah appeared, signifying respectively the Law and the Prophets (cf. *Mt 17:3*). The newness of Christ is at the same time the fulfilment of the ancient covenant and promises; it is inseparable from God's history with his people and discloses its deeper meaning. In a similar way, the synodal journey is rooted in the Church's tradition and at the same time open to newness. Tradition is a source of inspiration for seeking new paths and for avoiding the opposed temptations of immobility and improvised experimentation.

The Lenten journey of penance and the journey of the Synod alike have as their goal a transfiguration, both personal and ecclesial. A transformation that, in both cases, has its model in the Transfiguration of Jesus and is achieved by the grace of his paschal mystery. So that this transfiguration may become a reality in us this year, I would like to propose two "paths" to follow in order to ascend the mountain together with Jesus and, with him, to attain the goal.

The first path has to do with the command that God the Father addresses to the disciples on Mount Tabor as they contemplate Jesus transfigured. The voice from the cloud says: "Listen to him" (*Mt 17:5*). The first proposal, then, is very clear: we need to listen to Jesus. Lent is a time of grace to the extent that we listen to him as he speaks to us. And how does he speak to us? First, in the word of God, which the Church offers us in the liturgy. May that word not fall on deaf ears; if we cannot always attend Mass, let us study its daily biblical readings, even with the help of the internet.

In addition to the Scriptures, the Lord speaks to us through our brothers and sisters, especially in the faces and the stories of those who are in need. Let me say something else, which is quite important for the synodal process: listening to Christ often takes place in listening to our brothers and sisters in the Church. Such mutual listening in some phases is the primary goal, but it remains always indispensable in the method and style of a synodal Church.

## KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH


On hearing the Father's voice, the disciples "fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Rise, and do not be afraid.' And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone" (*Mt 17:6-8*). Here is the second proposal for this Lent: do not take refuge in a religiosity made up of extraordinary events and dramatic experiences, out of fear of facing reality and its daily struggles, its hardships and contradictions. The light that Jesus shows the disciples is an anticipation of Easter glory, and that must be the goal of our own journey, as we follow "him alone". Lent leads to Easter: the "retreat" is not an end in itself, but a means of preparing us to experience the Lord's passion and cross with faith, hope and love, and thus to arrive at the resurrection. Also on the synodal journey, when God gives us the grace of certain powerful experiences of communion, we should not imagine that we have arrived – for there too, the Lord repeats to us: "Rise, and do not be afraid". Let us go down, then, to the plain, and may the grace we have experienced strengthen us to be "artisans of synodality" in the ordinary life of our communities.

Dear brothers and sisters, may the Holy Spirit inspire and sustain us this Lent in our ascent with Jesus, so that we may experience his divine splendour and thus, confirmed in faith, persevere in our journey together with him, glory of his people and light of the nations.

## SEASON OF A SECOND CHANCE



# 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**  
**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

### INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES FOR LENT

- "God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy." **Pope Francis**
- "During Lent, let us find concrete ways to overcome our indifference." **Pope Francis**
- "Lenten fasts make me feel better, stronger, and more active than ever." **Catherine of Genoa**
- "Nothing great is ever achieved without much enduring. **St. Catherine of Siena**
- "During these 40 days, let me put away all my pride. Let me change my heart and give up all that is not good within me. Let me love God with all that I am and all that I have." **Genesis Grain**
- "Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. So if you pray, fast; if you fast, show mercy, if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others. If you do not close your ear to others, you open God's ear to yourself." **St. Peter Chrysologus**
- "O lord, make this Lenten season different from the other ones. Let me find you again. Amen." **Henri Nouwen**

## YOUTH CORNER

There was a foreigner in Ghana who decided to go shopping at one the local markets. As a foreigner with barely any understanding of the terrain, and with no guidance from a local, he set off to the market. He hired a taxi from his hotel to the market but unknown to him, he had forgotten his wallet in the hotel room.

He made the driver wait for him and went into the market to shop. He came across a nicely decorated shop which seemed to have everything he needed. After buying everything from the shop, he realized his wallet was not with him. He became embarrassed and confused. What made it worse was the growing scowl and agitation of the shop owner's face as she realized what had happened. She became hostile and started to reign insults on the man drawing the attention of all the nearby sellers and customers. The taxi driver who had driven him to the market attempted to pay the shop owner on behalf of the foreigner, and to his surprise, the shop owner had compounded the prices of the goods to an astronomical level because she knew the man would not know the accurate price.

The taxi driver became livid and started to question the shop owner to the hearing of all. When she realized what was happening, she became embarrassed and apologetic towards the foreigner and the taxi driver. But it was too late, everyone had seen the kind of person she was and everyone vowed not to buy from a rude and dishonest shop.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 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.
  - The Accra Zoological Gardens is inviting all parishioners to a five-day Eco Fun Fair event scheduled from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 at the Zoo in the Achimota Forest Reserve. There will also be Bouncy Castle, Hula Hoop, Soccer Board, Face Painting and others. Come and have fun and experience the wild in the city.
  - St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind the PYC of their visitation to 8 Wards in Achimota group A in March and Akan Kuo to 8 Wards in Achimota group B in April.
  - The funeral arrangements:**  
**Mr. Samuel Oduro Boamah**, husband of C/Insp retired Mrs. Martha Boamah of the Amalgamated Community and KSJI:
    - Saturday 11th March, 2023:** Laying in State/File Past at his residence, Ebenezer Junction Sowutuom Accra from 4:00am to 5:40am and at Trinity Prebyterian Church of Ghana, Kwashieman at 6:00am and Burial Service at 8:00am.
    - Sunday 12th March, 2023:** Thanksgiving Service at Trinity Prebyterian Church of Ghana, Kwashieman at 8:00am and Family Gathering at his residence, Ebenezer Junction, Suwutuom Accra from 12:00pm to 6:00pm.
- Mrs. Dinah Amponsah Baiden & Eng. Emmanuel Kwesi Baiden:**
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2023:** Wake keeping & Laying in state at their residence, point2, Kwabenya.
  - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2023:** Viewing & File past at the Pentecost International Worship Centre (PIWC) – Atomic at 7:00am and Burial Service at 8:00am.
  - Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2023:** Thanksgiving Service at the Pentecost International Worship Centre (PIWC) – Atomic at 7:00am and Burial Service at 8:00am.

## 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	STM FEB. WEEK3	STM FEB. WEEK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSITIONS
SUNDAY	1255.00	207.00	-----	20.70	1482.70	3 <sup>RD</sup>
MONDAY	1321.00	-----	-----	-----	1321.00	5 <sup>TH</sup>
TUESDAY	1497.00	520.00	-----	-----	2017.00	2 <sup>ND</sup>
WEDNESDAY	658.00	55.00	-----	5.00	718.00	7 <sup>TH</sup>
THURSDAY	1540.00	-----	600.00	-----	2140.00	1 <sup>ST</sup>
FRIDAY	824.00	-----	-----	-----	824.00	6 <sup>TH</sup>
SATURDAY	1462.00	-----	-----	-----	1462.00	4 <sup>TH</sup>
FEB. BORNS	392.00	-----	-----	-----	392.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8949.00</b>	<b>782.00</b>	<b>600.00</b>	<b>25.70</b>	<b>10356.70</b>	

### Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM FEB. WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	2054.60
SECOND COLLECTION	1091.70
REVIVAL ENVELOPE	30.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3176.30</b>



## FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF FEB. WEEK1	SJF FEB. WEEK2	SJF FEB. WEEK3	SJF FEB. WEEK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSITIONS
SUNDAY	1375.00	355.00	5.00	50.00	1785.00	5 <sup>TH</sup>
MONDAY	2078.00	50.00	4100.00	700.00	6928.00	1 <sup>ST</sup>
TUESDAY	796.00	20.00	1120.00	50.00	1986.00	4 <sup>TH</sup>
WEDNESDAY	567.00	450.00	76.00	10.00	1103.00	7 <sup>TH</sup>
THURSDAY	2652.00	200.00	-----	-----	2852.00	3 <sup>RD</sup>
FRIDAY	5957.00	450.00	461.00	-----	6868.00	2 <sup>ND</sup>
SATURDAY	783.00	200.00	-----	380.00	1363.00	6 <sup>TH</sup>
FEB. BORNS	206.00	-----	-----	-----	206.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14414.00</b>	<b>1725.00</b>	<b>5762.00</b>	<b>1190.00</b>	<b>23091.00</b>	

### Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF FEB. WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	3688.70
SECOND COLLECTION	2220.40
31 <sup>ST</sup> DEC. ENVELOPE	10.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5919.10</b>

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



# 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**