



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

P.O. BOX AH 283, Achimota-Accra

Website: www.thomasmorejohnfisher.com

Email: besohwe@yahoo.com

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

9TH APRIL, 2023: EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD, YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY! ALLELUIA!"**

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: Acts 10:34a, 37-43: Peter preaches about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE; LET US REJOICE IN IT AND BE GLAD.

Second Reading: Col 3:1-4 or 1Cor 5:6b-8: Having been raised by Christ, be concerned with what is above.

Gospel Reading: Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10: Mary of Magdala finds that the stone has been removed from Jesus' tomb.

REFLECTION

Christ has risen in fulfillment of his promise: *"I will rise on the third day."* The battle is over. There is no controversy because Jesus is Lord! Today, we celebrate the triumph of good over evil, of light over darkness, and of peace over chaos. We celebrate hope, patience and the fulfillment of God's Promise to his people. We also celebrate the uniqueness of our religion, the resurrection of our Lord. Through his resurrection, Jesus affirms that he is the Lord of the living and the dead. One question that we must ask ourselves this Easter Sunday is: *Did I resurrect with Christ this Easter?* Today's Gospel tells us that Jesus left the linen cloths in the grave. In other words he did not cling to any "worldly" thing or allowed them to pull him down. If we must rise with Christ, we must equally be ready to detach ourselves from all unnecessary things that pull us down spiritually. Through our Lenten observances we died with Christ. So let us rise with him through the power of the Holy Spirit.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 10TH APRIL, 2023 Octave of Easter Acts 2:14,22-33 Ps 16:1-3,2a,5,7-11 Mt 28:8-15	Tue 11TH APRIL, 2023 Octave of Easter Acts 2:36-41 Ps 33:4-5,18-20,22 Jn 20:11-18
Wed 12TH APRIL, 2023 Octave of Easter Acts 3:1-10 Ps 104:1-4,6-9 Lk 24:13-35	Thurs 13TH APRIL, 2023 Octave of Easter Acts 3:11-26 Ps 8:2,5-9 Lk 24:35-48
Fri 14TH APRIL, 2023 Octave of Easter Acts 4:1-12 Ps 118:1-2,4,22-27 Jn 21:1-14	Sat 15TH APRIL, 2023 Octave of Easter Acts 4:13-21 Ps 118:1,14-21 Mk 16:9-15

Readings for Next Sunday - Divine Mercy Sunday

First Reading	Acts 2:42-47
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 118:2-4,13-15,22-24
Second Reading	1Pt 1:3-9
Gospel	Jn 20:19-31

Mass Schedule

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



KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

THE EARTH'S MOST SERIOUS WOUND (THE EMPTY TOMB)

In the history of the world, only one tomb has ever had a rock rolled before it, and a soldier guard set to watch it to prevent the dead man within from rising: that was the tomb of Christ on the evening of the Friday called Good. What spectacle could be more ridiculous than armed soldiers keeping their eyes on a corpse? But sentinels were set lest the Dead walk, the Silent speak, and the Pierced Heart quicken to the throb of life. They said He was dead; they knew He was dead; they would say He would not rise again; and yet they watched! They openly called Him a deceiver. But, would He still deceive? Would He. Who "deceived" them into believing they won the battle, Himself win the war for life and truth and love? They remembered that He called His Body the Temple and that in three days after they destroyed It, He would rebuild It; they recalled, too, that He compared Himself to Jonas and said that as Jonas was in the belly of the whale for three days, so would He be in the belly of the earth for three days and then would rise again. After three days Abraham received back his son Isaac, who was offered in sacrifice; for three days Egypt was in a darkness that was not of nature; on the third day God came down on Mount Sinai. Now, once again, there was worry about the third day. Early Saturday morning, therefore, the chief priests and the Pharisees broke the Sabbath and presented themselves to Pilate, saying:

Sir, we have recalled it to memory that this deceiver, while He yet lived, said, I am to rise again after three days. Give orders, then, that His tomb shall be securely guarded until the third day, or perhaps, His disciples will come and steal Him away. If they should then say to the people, He has risen from the dead, this last deceit will be more dangerous than the old. (MATTHEW 27:63, 64)

Their request for a guard until the "third day" had more references to Christ's words about His resurrection than it did to the fear of the Apostles stealing a corpse and propping it up like a living thing in simulation of a resurrection. But Pilate was in no mood to see this group, for they were the reason why he had condemned Innocent Blood. He had made his own official investigation that Christ was dead; he would not submit to the absurdity of using Caesar's armies to guard a dead Jew. Pilate said to them:

You have guards; away with you, make it secure as you best know how. (MATTHEW 27:65)

The watch was to prevent violence; the seal was to prevent fraud. There must be a seal, and the enemies would seal it. There must be a watch, and the enemies must keep it. The certificates of the death and Resurrection must be signed by the enemies themselves. The Gentiles were satisfied through nature that Christ was dead; the Jews were satisfied through the Law that He was dead.

And they went and made the tomb secure, a putting seal on the stone and setting a guard over it. (MATTHEW 27:66)

PRAYER FOR GOD'S INTERVENTION IN OUR LAND

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

CHRIST IS RISEN, HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!



Our Parish will evangelize and make donations to the Nsawam Prisons as our Lenten Project this year on the 29th April, 2023. We are therefore encouraged to support in Cash and Kind to compliment the Song Ministration by the Youth Choir. Kindly donate through: the Parish Secretariats, Lenten Project Boxes at the entrance of the church or via Parish MoMo, Ref. Nsawam Prisons.



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 ABOUT EASTER

- ✚ "Let the resurrection joy lift us from loneliness and weakness and despair to strength and beauty and happiness." - *Floyd W. Tomkins*
- ✚ "If Easter says anything to us today, it says this: You can put truth in a grave but it won't stay there." - *Clarence W. Hall*
- ✚ "Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song." - **Pope John Paul II**
- ✚ "We proclaim the resurrection of Christ when his light illuminates the dark moments of our existence." - **Pope Francis**
- ✚ "Faith makes all things possible. Love makes all things easy." - **Dwight L. Moody**
- ✚ "But from this earth, this grave, this dust, my God shall raise me up, I trust." - **Walter Raleigh**
- ✚ "No pain, no palm; no thorns, no throne; no gall, no glory; no cross, no crown." - **William Penn**
- ✚ "Easter is the demonstration of God that life is essentially spiritual and timeless." - *Charles M. Crowe*

YOUTH CORNER

HOW CLIMATE CHANGE IS AFFECTING THE FOOD YOU EAT.

An adept way I can present the food value chain for your understanding, is to ask you to think about how food moves from the farm to your mouth. Drawing a line to track that progression is what we would call the food value chain. There are many facets of the food value chain; Production, value addition distribution and many more. However, the article will focus on food production. The food production industry is essential to the entire chain and at the heart of climate change effects.

The food production industry is critical to every country's economy and livelihood. A significant portion of the economy in countries like China come from agriculture. The same said of Ghana. Unfortunately, the World Food Programme has noted that less than one percent of Ghana's cultivated land is irrigated. Meaning farmers depend heavily on rain to feed agriculture.

Many staple foods produced annually depend on the long known understanding of the duration of the wet and dry seasons in Ghana to forecast crop seasons. Thus, making crop production vulnerable to climate change. During the recent years, Ghana has been experiencing a reduction in rainfall and also climate variability. These variations make it difficult for farmers to predict rainfall and properly plan crop seasons. This is definitely a threat to food security.

To be continued.

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. St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind the Akan Kuo of their visitation to **8** Wards in Achimota group B this month, and St. Theresa of the Child Jesus to **10** Wards in Kissehman in May. Parishioners are to check the SSVP Gallery notice boards to see pictures their visitations.
3. Our Parish will evangelize and make donations to the Nsawam Prisons as our Lenten Project this year on the **29th April, 2023**. We are therefore encouraged to support in cash and kind to compliment the song ministration by the Youth Choir that day. Kindly donate through: the Parish Secretariats, Lenten Project Boxes at the entrance of the church or Parish MoMo No: **059 585 0922** with Ref. Nsawam Prisons.
4. Funeral Arrangements of **Mr. Clement T. Zuolo** a member of the Amalgamated Community and Knights and Ladies of Marshall is as follows:
 - **Saturday 13th May, 2023:** Pre-burial Mass: at 8:00am at St. John Fisher Catholic Church, New Achimota.
 - **Friday 19th May, 2023:** Laying In state at Lawra-Tongoh, Upper West Region.
 - **Saturday 20th May, 2023:** Traditional Morning, burial and funeral rites at Lawra-Tongoh.
 - **Sunday 21st May, 2023:** Thanksgiving Mass at 9:00am at St. Catherine of Sienna Catholic Church at Babile-Lawra.
 - **Sunday 4th June, 2023:** Final Thanksgiving Mass at 9:30am at St. John Fisher Catholic Church, New Achimota.

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 APR. WEEK1
SUNDAY	902.50
MONDAY	1041.50
TUESDAY	1469.00
WEDNESDAY	763.00
THURSDAY	341.00
FRIDAY	775.00
SATURDAY	444.00
APR. BORNS	329.00
TOTAL	6065.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM APR. WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	2235.90
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	420.00
TITHE	2710.00
TOTAL	5365.90


FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF APR. WEEK1
SUNDAY	1493.00
MONDAY	3643.50
TUESDAY	1053.00
WEDNESDAY	1277.00
THURSDAY	1361.50
FRIDAY	2219.5+500CFA
SATURDAY	1467.00
APR. BORNS	724.00
TOTAL	13248.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF APR. WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	4538.70
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	350.00
TITHE	350.00
TOTAL	5238.70

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

Acc No. 1117000222801 Bank: NIB Branch Abeka | Mobile Money: 059 585 0922

