



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

21ST MAY, 2023: SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "JESUS PRAYS FOR HIS DISCIPLES"

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 1:12-14: After Jesus' ascension to heaven, the apostles return to Jerusalem and gather in prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8a

I BELIEVE I SHALL SEE THE LORD'S GOODNESS IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING.

Second Reading: 1Pt 4:13-16: If you suffer for Christ, you will be blessed.

Gospel Reading: Jn 17:1-11a: Jesus prays for his disciples.

REFLECTION

In today's Gospel, Jesus prays to the Father on behalf of his disciples and all believers. He acknowledges that his time on earth is coming to an end, and he entrusts his followers into the loving care of God. Jesus recognizes the challenges they will face in the world, and he asks the Father to protect them and sanctify them by the truth.

This prayer of Jesus holds a profound message for each one of us today. We too face trials and tribulations in our lives. We encounter the brokenness of the world and the darkness that surrounds us. But just as Jesus interceded for his disciples, he intercedes for us as well. He prays for our protection, our strength, and our sanctification.

In the midst of our struggles, we can find solace and hope in the fact that Jesus never leaves us alone. He is always present, always interceding on our behalf.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 22ND MAY, 2023 St. Rita of Cascia Acts 19:1-8 Ps 68:2-7 Jn 16:29-33	Tue 23RD MAY, 2023 Easter Weekday Acts 20:17-27 Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 Jn 17:1-11a
Wed 24TH MAY, 2023 Easter Weekday Acts 20:28-38 Ps 68:29-30,33-36 Jn 17:11b-19	Thurs 25TH MAY, 2023 St. Bede the Venerable Acts 22:30;23:6-11 Ps 16:1-2,5,7-11 Jn 17:20-26
Fri 26TH MAY, 2023 St. Philip Neri Acts 25:13b-21 Ps 103:1-2,11-12,19-20 Jn 21:15-19	Sat 27TH MAY, 2023 St. Augustine of Canterbury Acts 28:16-20,30-31 Ps 11:5-6,8 Jn 21:20-25

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Acts 2:1-11
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 104:1,24,29-31,34
Second Reading	1Cor 12:3b-7,12-13
Gospel	Jn 20:19-23

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

JEWISH KOHENIM, CATHOLIC PRIESTS

Sacrifice requires a priest. Since the Eucharist is a sacrifice, as we observed in the previous chapter, we would rightly expect the New Covenant to have priests as well. The Hebrew word for “priest” is kohen, meaning one who offers sacrifice. If you have ever had a Jewish friend with the last name of Kohen, Kohan, Cohn, Kahn, Kohn, Coen, or Cahn, it is likely that your Jewish friend possesses a priestly ancestry. *Kohenim* (plural of kohen) were the priests of the Old Covenant. These priests exercised their sacred ministry through a divinely established hierarchy. In our democratic and egalitarian society, we often resist notions of hierarchy. However, hierarchy is built into the very nature of creation: The hierarchy of creatures is expressed by the order of the “six days” from the less perfect to the more perfect (Catechism of the Catholic Church no. 342).

The natural order of creation is hierarchical because nature is oriented toward efficiency, and efficiency is accomplished through a chain of command. This is why mankind possesses a natural tendency toward hierarchical structures. Whenever victory, survival, or success becomes necessary, mankind invariably conforms to a hierarchical structure. Football teams, the military, and the Catholic Church organize themselves into clear hierarchies, not because hierarchy is contrary to nature, but because hierarchy appropriately conforms to nature. Any military unit would undoubtedly be defeated in war if it were to function under democratic principles. If a football team were to vote as to which play to run, there would be chaos leading to defeat. For this reason, hierarchy also proves to be efficient in the most important of human tasks: the salvation of souls.

Christians may wish to ignore the natural principle of hierarchy, but both the nation of Israel and the Church of Jesus Christ are monarchical and hierarchical. Neither Israel nor the Church existed as democratic republics. Christ was not elected—the Father enthroned Him as King of Kings. Beginning with creation, we see that Adam was placed as both lord and priest over creation. By virtue of the incarnation, Christ was made “a little lower than the angels” (Ps 8:5) to become the perfect mediator between God and creation. Although Christ is a Divine Person, He nevertheless assumed a human nature and united this human nature to his divinity (without blending or confusing the two). The divine hierarchy of redemption flows from the incarnation of Christ since all of creation is submitted to Him.

To be continued.

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 payer 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

“WE ARE EASTER PEOPLE AND ALLELUIA IS OUR SONG”

HAPPY EASTER
from the Besohwe Family

May this Easter be a time for us to come together, love one another, and share our blessings. May the spirit of Easter fill our hearts with love and joy, and encourage us to reach out to those in need with open arms.

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Remain In My Love

- John 15:9 -

PENTECOST NOVENA AD2023

THURS. 18TH - FRI. 26TH MAY
06:30pm | St. Thomas More
 Each Day GA-246-1294

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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

POPE JOHN PAUL II QUOTES

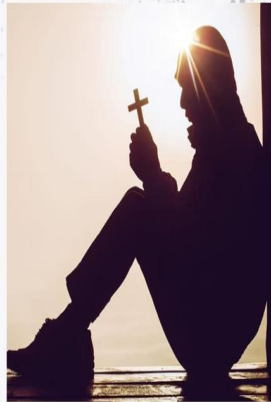
- ❖ I plead with you--never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged. Be not afraid.
- ❖ Let us remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm, and look forward to the future with confidence.
- ❖ The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being.
- ❖ Prayer can truly change your life. For it turns your attention away from yourself and directs your mind and your heart toward the Lord. If we look only at ourselves, with our own limitations and sins, we quickly give way to sadness and discouragement. But if we keep our eyes fixed on the Lord, then our hearts are filled with hope, our minds are washed in the light of truth, and we come to know the fullness of the Gospel with all its promise and life.
- ❖ If you want peace, work for justice. If you want justice, defend life.
If you want life, embrace truth.
- ❖ There is no evil to be faced that Christ does not face with us. There is no enemy that Christ has not already conquered. There is no cross to bear that Christ has not already borne for us, and does not now bear with us.
- ❖ Allow the light and the healing presence of Christ to shine brightly through your lives. In that way, all those who come in contact with you will discover the loving kindness of God.

YOUTH CORNER



SS. Thomas More & John Fisher Parish

THEME
FORGIVING AND RECEIVING FORGIVENESS
 JOHN 20:19-23



YOUTH MASS

28th May | **9:30AM @ SS. Thomas More & John Fisher**

stm.sjf_youth | SS. Thomas More & John Fisher | stm.sjf_youth

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. We are reminded to pay our Church Dues, Welfare Dues and Building Fund. Kindly check the notice board for more details. Those in arrears of Harvest Levy and pledges are entreated to redeem them.
2. **May is the month of the Rosary. We are being reminded and encouraged to pray the Rosary.**
3. **Meetings:**
 - The Young Christian Workers Movement will have their monthly meeting today at STM after the 7:00am Mass.
 - The Christian Mothers Association will also have their monthly meeting at STM after the 9:30am Mass.
 - Members of New Achimota, Akweteyman, Kofevi Com. and Achimota Town Comm. will meet today at SJF after the 9:30am Mass. Members are entreated to be in attendance.
4. St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind the St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Society of their visitation to **10** Wards in Kissehman this month, and to CCR, **10** Wards in June. Parishioners are to check the SSVF Gallery notice boards to see pictures of visitations.
5. Catechism Class has resumed at St. Thomas More. Parents are reminded to pick up forms from the Parish office for their children for the Sacraments of Baptism & First Communion.
6. **Vacancy! Vacancy!! Vacancy!!!** The St. Thomas More Catholic Church Co-operative Credit Union needs an Account Officer. Qualification: HND, Diploma or 1st Degree. Experienced: Excel and Word (Microsoft Suite). Pensioners are also encouraged to apply. Kindly submit application to the Manager at the STM CCU office. Deadline: 25th May, 2023.
7. Fr. Emmanuel Kwofie has been transferred to Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Afuaman as Priest in Charge. We congratulate him on his new appointment and wish him the best in his new assignment. The date for his send-off will be announced later.

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 MAY WEEK1	STM MAY WEEK2
SUNDAY	1807.50	20.00
MONDAY	1756.00	35.00
TUESDAY	1951.00	25.00
WEDNESDAY	758.50	-----
THURSDAY	747.00	800.00
FRIDAY	816.00	20.00
SATURDAY	1331.00	-----
MAY BORN	348.00	-----
TOTAL	9515.00	900.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM MAY WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	2933.30 +\$21
SECOND COLLECTION	3150.50
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	1170.00
TITHE	410.00
TOTAL	7896.90


FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF MAY WEEK1	SJF MAY WEEK2
SUNDAY	1074.00	-----
MONDAY	1819.50	-----
TUESDAY	2164.70	-----
WEDNESDAY	533.00	200.00
THURSDAY	1049.00	10.00
FRIDAY	6106.00+£10	150.00
SATURDAY	1159.70	1000.00
MAY BORN	272.00	-----
TOTAL	14327.60	1360.00

SUNDAY	SJF MAY WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	3951.50
SECOND COLLECTION	4144.40
TITHE	150.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	1520.00
TOTAL	9765.90

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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