



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

28TH MAY, 2023: PENTECOST SUNDAY, YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"THE SPIRIT Poured OUT"**

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 2:1-11: The Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles gathered in Jerusalem.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34

LORD, SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT AND RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

Second Reading: 1Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13: We are all one in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading: Jn 20:19-23: Jesus appears to his disciples and gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit.

REFLECTION

Pentecost, 50 days after the Passover, was the festival when the Jews thanked God for the harvest and for the Law. The apostles and the relatives of Jesus were "awaiting the promise of the Father" (Acts 1:4). Pilgrims had come from every corner of the Empire, and God chose this time to fulfil Joel's prophecy of the last days (Jl. 2:28-32). The wind and fire recalled the giving of the Law at Sinai (Ex. 19:16). The many languages understood, cancelled out the confusion of Babel (Gn. 11:9). God's creative Spirit that "moved over the waters" (Gn. 1:2), the Spirit promised as a source of renewal in the future (Ez. 36:26), was poured out over renewed Israel. **The Spirit received is for the building up of the Body of Christ, for the strengthening of ministries and for the forgiveness of sin. We all have received the Holy Spirit, yet we need to fan into flame the gifts we have received from Him.**

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 29TH MAY, 2023 BVM, Mother of the Church Gen 3:9-15,20 or Acts 1:12-14 Ps 121:1-8 Jn 19:25-34	Tue 30TH MAY, 2023 Sir 35:1-12 Ps 50:5-8,14,23 Mk 10:28-31
Wed 31ST MAY, 2023 The Visitation of the BVM... Zeph 3:14-18 or Rom 12:9-16 Ps Is 12:2-6 Lk 1:39-56	Thurs 1ST JUNE, 2023 St. Justin, Martyr Sir 42:15-25 Ps 33:2-9 Mk 10:46-52
Fri 2ND JUNE, 2023 Sts. Marcellinus & Peter Sir 44:1,9-13 Ps 150:1-6,9 Mk 11:11-26	Sat 3RD JUNE, 2023 St. Charles Lwanga & Companions Sir 51:12cd-20 Ps 19:8-11 Mk 11:27-33

Readings for Next Sunday TRINITY SUNDAY

First Reading	Ex 34:4b-6,8-9
Responsorial Psalm	Ps Dan 3:52-56
Second Reading	2Cor 13:11-13
Gospel	Jn 3:16-18

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 *(Continued from last week)*

The Firstborn Priesthood before the Law of Moses

Before God gave the Law to Moses at Mount Sinai, the father of the family exercised the office of priest. The father handed on his priesthood to his firstborn son by way of a blessing. Saint Thomas Aquinas regards this “primogeniture priesthood” of the firstborn sons as an institution established in natural law. Thomas wrote that natural law guided men to understand this “fatherly” notion of priesthood. The father of the family received a natural charge to teach his family and provide atonement for the sins of his wife and children. The firstborn son naturally became the primary heir and religious head of the extended family. He took his father’s place as the mediator and judge for his family’s religious and legal customs. We see several examples of this paternal priesthood in the book of Genesis. Noah offered blood sacrifices (Gen 8:20) on behalf of his family. Likewise, Abraham and Jacob offered blood sacrifices (Gen 15:9; 22:1-13; 31:54). Isaac offered his own body in sacrifice (Gen 22).

The story about Jacob outwitting his brother for their father’s dying blessing is a story of how Jacob received the covenantal blessings and paternal “ordination” from his father Isaac (cf. Gen 27). The most striking example of paternal priesthood is found in the narrative about Job: Job would send and sanctify them [his family], and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all; for Job said, “It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts.” Thus, Job did continually (Job 1:5).

Job’s fatherhood is intimately bound to his priesthood. The father bore the spiritual authority of his family. The Catholic custom of calling priests “Father,” then, derives from this ancient and natural association between priestly mediation and natural fatherhood.

Excerpt from Taylor Marshall, The Crucified Rabbi: Judaism and the Origins of Catholic Christianity, 2009

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE ONE, HOLY, AND APOSTOLIC CATHOLIC CHURCH

Receive the **Holy Spirit**.
If you **forgive** the **sins** of any, they are **forgiven** them; if you retain the **sins** of any, they are retained.

John 20:23

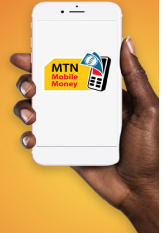
UPCOMING EVENT

SS. THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER PARISH FEAST DAY WATCH OUT!!!



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

SHORT MOTIVATIONAL QUOTES

- “Just one small positive thought in the morning can change your whole day.” — **Dalai Lama**
- “Opportunities don't happen, you create them.” — **Chris Grosser**
- “Love your family, work super hard, live your passion.” — **Gary Vaynerchuk**
- “It is never too late to be what you might have been.” — **George Eliot**
- “Don't let someone else's opinion of you become your reality” — **Les Brown**
- “If you're not positive energy, you're negative energy.” **Mark Cuban**
- “I am not a product of my circumstances. I am a product of my decisions.” — **Stephen R. Covey**
- “Do the best you can. No one can do more than that.” — **John Wooden**
- “If you can dream it, you can do it.” — **Walt Disney**
- “Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.” — **Theodore Roosevelt**

YOUTH CORNER

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ACCRA
Accra Archdiocesan Catholic Youth Council
Presents

KILLS DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR II

Graphic Designing & Music Reading 2

10th JUNE 2023 | 8:00 am
Catholic Youth Formation
Centre - Lashibi
Fee: GHc50.00

Register via: <https://bit.ly/aadcycskillsdevelopment>

Call for further information on 0246464358 / 0208513145 / 0547255615

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 Holy Family Akan Kuo Society will have their monthly meeting next Sunday 4th June, 2023 at STM after the 9:30am Mass.
 - The St. Francis of Assisi, Nigerian Community will also have their monthly meeting next Sunday 4th June, 2023 at SJF after the 9:30am Mass.
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 visit.
5. Catechism Class had 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. Fr. will be away from Tuesday 30th May to Friday 14th July for his annual leave. For any pastoral assistance, kindly see Fr. Kwofie.

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	STM MAY WEEK3
SUNDAY	1807.50	20.00	2.00
MONDAY	1756.00	35.00	-----
TUESDAY	1951.00	25.00	-----
WEDNESDAY	758.50	-----	-----
THURSDAY	747.00	800.00	22.00
FRIDAY	816.00	20.00	-----
SATURDAY	1331.00	-----	-----
MAY BORN	348.00	-----	-----
TOTAL	9515.00	900.00	24.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM MAY WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	2011.40
SECOND COLLECTION	1165.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	500.00
TITHE	100.00
TOTAL	3776.40

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF MAY WEEK1	SJF MAY WEEK2	SJF MAY WEEK3
SUNDAY	1074.00	-----	-----
MONDAY	1819.50	-----	-----
TUESDAY	2164.70	-----	-----
WEDNESDAY	533.00	200.00	5.00
THURSDAY	1049.00	10.00	100.00
FRIDAY	6106.00+£10	150.00	-----
SATURDAY	1159.70	1000.00	200.00
MAY BORNES	272.00	-----	-----
TOTAL	14327.60	1360.00	305.00

SUNDAY	SJF MAY WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	3460.20
SECOND COLLECTION	1786.50
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	570.00
TOTAL	5816.70

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

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