



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**4TH JUNE, 2023: THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY
TRINITY SUNDAY, YEAR A.**

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "THREE PERSONS, ONE GOD"

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: Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9: Moses pleads for God's mercy on Mt. Sinai.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps Dan 3:52-56

YOU ARE TO BE PRAISED AND HIGHLY EXALTED FOR EVER.

Second Reading: 2Cor 13:11-13: Paul urges the Corinthians to live in peace with one another and with God.

Gospel Reading: Jn 3:16-18: God sent his Son into the world to save the world.

Reflection

Today's Gospel is from the beginnings of John's Gospel. The passage we read follows Jesus' conversation with a Pharisee, Nicodemus, about what it means to be born of both water and the spirit. Nicodemus approaches Jesus at night and acknowledges Jesus as a teacher from God. Jesus tells him that only those who are born from above will see the Kingdom of God. The reading calls our attention to the action of God, who reveals himself in three persons: God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God the Father, out of love for the world, sent his Son into the world in order to save it. Through the death and resurrection of the Son, we have been given the gift of the Holy Spirit. As three persons, God acts always as a God of love; he does not condemn the world but acts to save it. The Gospel also calls attention to the response that is required of us. **God's love for us calls us to respond in faith by professing our belief in God's son, Jesus, and the salvation that he has won for us. This profession of faith is a sign of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.**

Weekly Readings

Mon 5TH JUNE, 2023

St. Boniface, Bis. Rel. Martyr
Tob 1:1,3;2:1-8
Ps 112:1-6
Mk 12:1-12

Tue 6TH JUNE, 2023

St. Norbert, Bishop...
Tob 2:9-14
Ps 112:1-2,7-9
Mk 12:13-17

Wed 7TH JUNE, 2023

Tob 3:1-11a,16-17a
Ps 25:2-9
Mk 12:18-27

Thurs 8TH JUNE, 2023

Tob 6:10-11;7:1,9-17;8:4-9a
Ps 128:1-5
Mk 12:28-34

Fri 9TH JUNE, 2023

Sts. Ephrem of Syria
Tob 11:5-17
Ps 146:2,7-10
Mk 12:35-37

Sat 10TH JUNE, 2023

Tob 12:1,5-15,20
Ps Tob 13:2,6-8
Mk 12:38-44

Readings for Next Sunday **CORPUS CHRISTY**

First Reading	Deut 8:2-3,14b-16a
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 148:12-15,19-20
Second Reading	1Cor 10:16-17
Gospel	Jn 6:51-58

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

CHRISTIANITY AND THE TRINITY

It is evident in the prologue of the gospel according to John, that, there is an essential relationship between the incarnate Word and God (Jn. 1:1-5, 14), and also that, some people are marked for some filial relationship with God on the basis of their faith, “to those who accept him, he gave power to become children of God” (Jn. 1:12, NAB). This acceptance by faith is not merely a verbal confession, but requires a specific way of life, wherefore, those who were seen with this specific way of life in relation to Christ, were called Christians (Acts 1:26), and the filial relationship is a roping into the Divine life. This life is witnessed to in the revelation of Scripture, the starting point being Matt. 28:19-20, attesting to a Trinitarian baptism that frees us from sin and opens us to the Spirit that comes to dwell in us and giving us the courage to call God ‘Father’ (Rom. 8:14-17). To be Christian, therefore, is acknowledging God as Trinity in whose life we are roped into, and in whose name we are baptised.

A critical analysis of the foundational Scripture of Christians reveals that, Christ instituted a way of life – the way of love, and by following his teaching and example, those men seen to be Christ like were called Christians (Acts 1:26). As seen in the introduction, the initiation of a person into this way of life, is done by baptism (Matt. 28:19-20), which ushers one into participation in the Divine life of the Triune God. Thus, one becomes a Christian by the profession of faith in Christ which raises men up to participation in his divine filial relationship with the Father. In similar vein, the existence of the Trinity is revealed in the Scripture, as scholars like Edmund Hill have proven. The relationship between Christianity and the Trinity, even on the level of their source of proof, is undeniable. To prove what it means to be a Christian, we must turn to the Scripture; similarly, to prove the Trinity, we must dig through the Scripture. If what it means to be Christian, involves believe in the God revealed by Scripture and this God revealed by Scripture is a Trinity of persons, then it means that, to be Christian one must of necessity believe in the Trinity. Some people however, ascribe to themselves the name Christian and yet deny the Trinity, probably without understanding implications. The identity of the Christian cannot be detached from the Trinity.

NO TRINITY, NO CHRISTIANITY

Having discussed the link between the Trinity and Christianity, I elaborate on some few points to that prove that there can be no Christianity without the doctrine of Trinity.

First, Christianity thrives on the foundation given to it by divine revelation in the Scripture. One of the basic foundations is the Trinitarian view of God, as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. According to Edmund Hill, this is a mystery that is prepared in the Old Testament and revealed in the New Testament in the person of Christ. The whole Scripture is God’s self-communication, thus, to deny his nature revealed in the Scripture is to deny the entire revelation of God. Without God therefore, there can be no true Christianity, for we will begin to question issues like creation, the identity of Jesus and the possibility of salvation without a deity.

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

Secondly, the denial of the Trinity is the denial of the truth about Jesus who is both God and man. To prove this point, one either denies Jesus’ divinity as in Arianism or confounds the persons of the Trinity. By so doing, the idea of Jesus’ sonship is lost, and consequently, our ‘adopted sonship’ (Eph. 3:20). If Jesus is not son, then Christians cannot be adopted sons, and this distorts the whole idea of salvation in Jesus Christ. Jesus is more than just a man, he had to be God in order to save us, and he always referred to himself as Son in relation to the Father (Matt. 5:16; 6:15, Jn. 1:18; 6:46). More so, the task of Christianity as evangelization and the subsequent initiation of people in the name of the Trinity (Matt. 28:19-20) is flawed and the unity of faith is distorted, because “Christian faith comes about as the Holy Spirit works to unite believers to Christ in his humanity, therefore, bringing us by grace into the Father-Son relationship” and through baptism “in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”, the Holy Spirit leads believers into an ecclesial communion, properly called Christianity.

REFERENCES

- E. Hill, *The Mystery of the Trinity*, (London: Geoffrey Chapman), 1985, pp.11-38
D. Fairbairn, *Life in the Trinity: An Introduction to Theology with the Help of the Church Fathers*, (Illinois: InterVarsity Press), 2009, p. 192.
M. Volf, *After Our Likeness: The Church as the Image of the Trinity*, (Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.), 1998, p.195

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

HOLY TRINITY PRAYER

O! Holy Trinity, You are love, I believe that you are really present in my life.

I give you thanks for your love, O Father!

I give you thanks for the gift of salvation, Lord Jesus Christ!

I give you thanks Holy Spirit for guiding me and giving me strength in my journey of life.

I pray that I may be ever more loving and aware of your presence in my life and find ways to open my heart to be joyfully filled with the love of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

Amen



UPCOMING EVENT

❖ FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

❖ SS. THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER PARISH FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

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

THE STORY OF THE GRATEFUL STARFISHES (INSPIRING STORY ABOUT ATTITUDE)

One morning, an elderly man was walking along the beach when he noticed a young boy picking something off the sand and throwing it into the sea.

As he got closer, the man realized the child was throwing stranded starfishes that had washed up on the shore back into the breaking waves.

Approaching the boy, the man asked what he was doing.

"The starfish will die if they're still on the shore when the sun rises," he replied.

Perplexed, the old man said, "But that's pointless! There are countless miles of beach and thousands of starfish. It doesn't matter how many you return to the water, you can't make a difference."

Unfazed, the boy bent down, picked up another starfish, and tossed it into the sea.

"It matters to this one," he said.

Moral of the story: *No matter the odds of success or the scale of the challenge, your actions can make a difference. It's better to light a candle than curse the dark. Every little counts. Doing something to make a positive change is always better than nothing!*

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. **Meetings:**
 - The Holy Family Akan Kuo will have their monthly meeting today at STM after the 9:30am Mass. Akan New parishioners are welcome.
 - The St. Francis of Assisi, Nigerian Community will also have their monthly meeting today at SJF after the 9:30am Mass. New members are welcome.
3. St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind the **CCR**, of their visitation to **10** Wards in Christian Village this month, and to **KSJI**, **7** Wards in Alogboshie **Group A** in July. Parishioners are to check the SSVP Gallery notice boards to see pictures of visit.
4. 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.

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: Besohwǿ!
 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	STM MAY WEEK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSI- TIONS
SUNDAY	1807.50	20.00	2.00	----	1829.50	3RD
MONDAY	1756.00	35.00	----	----	1791.00	4TH
TUESDAY	1951.00	25.00	----	10.00	1986.00	2ND
WEDNESDAY	758.50	----	----	5.00	763.50	7TH
THURSDAY	747.00	800.00	22.00	1200.00	2769.00	1ST
FRIDAY	816.00	20.00	----	20.00	856.00	6TH
SATURDAY	1331.00	----	----	----	1331.00	5TH
MAY BORN	348.00	----	----	----	348.00	
TOTAL	9515.00	900.00	24.00	1235.00	11674.00	

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM MAY WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	2375.80
SECOND COLLECTION	1306.20
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	330.00
TITHE	200.00
TOTAL	4212.00

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF MAY WEEK1	SJF MAY WEEK2	SJF MAY WEEK3	SJF MAY WEEK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSITIONS
SUNDAY	1074.00	-----	-----	-----	1074.00	6 TH
MONDAY	1819.50	-----	-----	500.00	2319.50	3 RD
TUESDAY	2164.70	-----	-----	20.00	2184.70	4 TH
WEDNESDAY	533.00	200.00	5.00	-----	738.00	7 TH
THURSDAY	1049.00	10.00	100.00	50.00	1209.00	5 TH
FRIDAY	6106.00+£10	150.00	-----	2.00	6407.70	1 ST
SATURDAY	1159.70	1000.00	200.00	22.00	2381.70	2 ND
MAY BORNS	272.00	-----	-----	-----	272.00	
TOTAL	14327.60	1360.00	305.00	594.00	16586.60	

SUNDAY	SJF MAY WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	4592.10
SECOND COLLECTION	2669.80
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	1200.00
TOTAL	8461.90

All Foreign Currencies have been converted into cedis.

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

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