



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

18TH JUNE, 2023: ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME,
YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"CALLED AND SENT"**

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 19:2-6a: God tells Moses that the Israelites will be his special people.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 100:1-3, 5

WE ARE HIS PEOPLE, THE SHEEP OF HIS FLOCK.

Second Reading: Rom 5:6-11: Christ died for us while we were still sinners and reconciled us to God.

Gospel Reading: Mt 9:36-10:8: Jesus sends the twelve apostles to proclaim the kingdom of heaven.

Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus shares his mission to proclaim the kingdom of heaven with his disciples. The signs of the kingdom's presence consist of the work that Jesus has already been doing: the sick are cured, lepers are cleansed, demons are driven out, and the dead are raised to life. The disciples are sent to continue doing the work that Jesus has begun. The Gospel reports that Jesus commissions twelve disciples. Many scholars believe that the twelve disciples symbolize the twelve tribes of Israel. It designates, therefore, continuity between Israel and the Church. Matthew lists the names of the twelve disciples, as do Mark and Luke. Matthew also uses the word apostle when referring to the Twelve. The word apostle means "one who is sent." As Jesus sent his disciples to continue his work and mission, so too the Church is sent by Jesus. The Church is his continuing presence on earth. Every member of the Church is sent by Jesus to contribute to this mission.

Weekly Readings

Mon 19TH JUNE, 2023 St. Romuald 2Cor 6:1-10 Ps 98:1-4 Mt 5:38-42	Tue 20TH JUNE, 2023 2Cor 8:1-9 Ps 146:2,5-9 Mt 5:43-48
Wed 21ST JUNE, 2023 St. Aloysius Gonzaga 2Cor 9:6-11 Ps 112:1-4,9 Mt 6:1-6,16-18	Thurs 22ND JUNE, 2023 Sts. John Fisher & Thomas More 2Cor 11:1-11 Ps 111:1-4,7-8 Mt 6:7-15
Fri 23RD JUNE, 2023 2Cor 11:18,21-30 Ps 34:2-7 Mt 6:19-23	Sat 24TH JUNE, 2023 The Nativity of John the Baptist Is 49:1-6 Ps 139:1-3,13-15 Acts 13:22-26 Lk 1:57-66,80

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Jer 20:10-13
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 69:8-10,14,33-35
Second Reading	Rom 5:12-15
Gospel	Mt 10:26-33

Mass Schedule

ST. JOHN FISHER	
ONE MASS	8:30 AM



KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

THE FUNCTIONS OF THE SACRAMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The Council of Trent discussing the problem of justification in order to rule out error, draws attention to the functions of the sacrament when it states that, the most holy sacraments are the means “through which all true justice either begins, or begun is increased or being lost is repaired.” By this, the Council fathers teach that the sacraments of themselves effect, what they truly represent in those who receive them, the justification and sanctification that proceeds from the paschal mystery of Christ. The sacraments have a telos (end) not easily distinguished from their efficacy.

By sacraments, I mean the full range of possibilities described by the Church as sacrament, namely, Christ (the primordial sacrament of God), the Church (the fundamental sacrament of Christ) and the seven sacraments; and by doing so, I proffer that all sacraments find their end in the paschal mystery of Christ, without which we cannot speak of any proper function of the sacraments. In this essay, I attempt a discussion on the functions of the sacraments as theological (grace) and ecclesiological (faith and unity of persons) with the view also that, all these functions can be assumed into one basic function found in the paschal mystery of Christ, which is the conferment of grace.

FUNCTION(S) OF THE SACRAMENT

Discussion on the sacrament by St. Augustine and Paul Tillich reveals primarily that, the sacrament serves functions that are both theocentric and ecclesiological. For Augustine, “people cannot be united in any religion, whether it be true or false, unless they are brought together through a common sharing of some visible signs or sacraments” This reveals an ecclesiological function of the sacraments, which serves as a means for the gathering of a people. The sacraments become a *conditio sine qua non* for any true understanding of God and in fact, religion itself. This is easily linked to the notion of the “Church as a sacrament of Christ.” In Tillich’s view, “any object or event is sacramental in which the transcendent is perceived to be present.”

This presents a theocentric functionality of a sacrament, such that, a sacrament reveals that which it signifies (God), whose presence cannot be perceived by the human powers without some aids, usually referred to as sacrament. These views remain valid, insofar as the sacraments we celebrate today, represent what they communicate. It is no mystery then, that the Council Fathers of the Second Vatican Council state that “the purpose of the sacraments is to sanctify men, to build up the Body of Christ and to give worship to God” on the basis that, they are signs that instruct men about God, they presuppose faith, nourish, strengthen and express it. **To be continued.**

PRAYER FOR GOD'S INTERVENTION IN OUR LAND CASE

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

LET'S CELEBRATE OUR FATHERS



SS Thomas More & John Fisher Parish
wishes all father's a

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

1st Timothy 5:8

UPCOMING EVENT



Feast Day
★ Celebration ★

Thurs. 22 **JUN. 2023** Sun. 25

MARRIAGE SEMINAR & TALK ABOUT OUR PATRON SAINTS
@ STM - 6:30PM

HOLY MASS & CLIMAX
@ SJF - 8:30AM

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How to make all church statutory payments through MTN momo
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059 585 0922

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Select Option 2
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Enter Merchant ID: **247834**
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MOTIVATION

FOCUS ON THE GOOD THINGS IN LIFE

"Two friends were walking through the desert. At one stage in their journey, they had an argument and one friend slapped the other one in the face.

The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything he wrote in the sand, 'Today my best friend slapped me in the face.'

They kept on walking until they found an oasis, where they decided to have a wash. The one who had been slapped got stuck in a mire and started drowning, but his friend saved him. After he had recovered from his shock, he wrote on a stone, 'Today my best friend saved my life.'

The friend who slapped and saved his best friend asked him, 'After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand and now, you write in stone, why?'

The other friend replied, 'When someone hurts us we should write it down in sand where winds of forgiveness can erase it away. But, when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it.'"

YOUTH CORNER

YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP - Final Part

Funding can go through local governments to support businesses in localities. Alternatively, the government can support existing non-profit organizations in youth development. Some of these organizations have business hubs and incubators that work and train young businesses. With government support, these hubs could extend their services to many more people and support them till they grow into big brands.

Lastly, there is a need to develop learning programmes that strengthen the skills and expertise of young people in entrepreneurship. According to Cova Advisory in South Africa, five out of seven businesses fail within their first year of operation. (Business Tech, 2021). Some reasons for these failures include lack of understanding of running a business, undefined business goals and values, lack of adequate planning, inability to build reliable teams, and many more. Thus, there is a need for proper briefing and preparation for young people before they venture into entrepreneurship.

To conclude, we believe that the growth of businesses in a country ties into increasing GDP. Thus, governments need to do more groundwork than simply suggesting entrepreneurship as the next best alternative.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 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.
- Meetings:**
 - The Young Christian Workers Movement will have their monthly meeting today at STM after the 7:00am Mass.
 - The Christian Mothers Association will have their monthly meeting today at STM after the 9:30am Mass.
 - The New Achimota Kopevi Akweteyman Achimota Town Community will have their monthly meeting today at SJF after the 9:30am Mass.
- Marriage Banns: 2nd Publication between:**
 - Stephen Ecklu-Mensah, son of Mr. Emmanuel Mensah Kwame & Matilda Kwame. And Joyce Adjei, daughter of Atsu Senanu Adjei & Esiwonam Dzakpata.
 - Dr. Stephen Dziedzorm Dadugblor, son of John Mensah Dadugblor & Juliana Dadugblor. And Amanda Senam Adwoa Ntow, daughter of Dr. Stephen Ntow & Stella Ntow.
 - Winston Appo, son of Kwesi Appo & Esther Mawusi. And Alice De-Graft Mends, Daughter of Eric De-graft Mends & Sylvia De-Graft Mends.
- St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of their visitation to **10** Wards in Christian Village this month, and Knights of St. John International to **7** Wards in Alogboshie **Group A** next Month. Parishioners are to check the SSVF Gallery notice boards to see pictures of visit.
- WE ARE REMINDED THAT NEXT SUNDAY 25TH JUNE, 2023 IS THE CLIMAX OF OUR PATRON SAINTS FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS. THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE MASS AT SJF AT 8:30AM. WE ARE ENTREATED TO PACK OUR CARS OUTSIDE THE CHURCH PREMISES, POLICE OFFICERS WILL BE AROUND TO SECURE THE PLACE. WE ARE ALL ENCOURAGED TO BE IN OUR CHURCH CLOTH AND ALSO TO BRING OFFERTORY ITEMS. THE CHURCH CLOTH IS AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH OFFICES, A YARD GOES FOR GHS20.00.**

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 JUNE WEEK1	STM JUNE WEEK2
SUNDAY	880.40	1.50
MONDAY	3424.50	210.00
TUESDAY	1598.00	-----
WEDNESDAY	992.00	-----
THURSDAY	404.80	-----
FRIDAY	1034.50	20.00
SATURDAY	930.00	5.00
JUNE BORN	143.00	-----
TOTAL	9407.20	236.50

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM JUNE WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	1905.80
SECOND COLLECTION	1355.80
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	150.00
TOTAL	3411.60


FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF JUNE WEEK1	SJF JUNE WEEK2
SUNDAY	1722.00	-----
MONDAY	1121.20+£50	1000.00
TUESDAY	2020.00	-----
WEDNESDAY	573.00	-----
THURSDAY	1500.00	300.00
FRIDAY	6531.20	-----
SATURDAY	3382.50	-----
JUNE BORN	517.00	-----
TOTAL	17971.90	1300.00

SUNDAY	SJF JUNE WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	3329.40
SECOND COLLECTION	2088.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	100.00
TITHE	400.00
TOTAL	5917.40

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