



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

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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

25TH JUNE, 2023: THE TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME,  
YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"DO NOT BE AFRAID"**

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: Jer 20:10-13:** Jeremiah expresses confidence that the Lord will protect him.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 69 :8-10, 14, 33-35**  
**IN YOUR GREAT MERCY, ANSWER ME, O LORD.**

**Second Reading: Rom 5:12-15:** Sin came into the world through one person; so salvation came through one person for many.

**Gospel Reading: Mt 10:26-33:** Jesus assures the Twelve that God cares about them.

### Reflection

In this Gospel passage, Jesus might be understood as putting suffering in perspective. The disciples of Jesus are called upon to keep their focus on God. Those who can harm the body do not have ultimate power; God does. Still persecution and suffering cannot be avoided or prevented. But Jesus reassures his disciples that God knows and cares about what happens to his children.

We might not face the same type of persecution, but we do experience difficulties as we endeavor to live a Christian life. Sometimes we let the opinions of others prevent us from doing what we know to be right. We need the reminder that what God thinks about us is more important. **We are reassured by the promise that God cares for us and protects us.**

### Weekly Readings

<b>Mon 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2023</b> Gen 12:1-9 Ps 33:12-13,18-20,22 Mt 7:1-5	<b>Tue 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2023</b> St. Cyril of Alexandria Gen 13:2,5-18 Ps 15:2-5 Mt 7:6,12-14
<b>Wed 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2023</b> St. Irenaeus Gen 15:1-12,17-18 Ps 105:1-4,6-9 Mt 7:15-20	<b>Thurs 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2023</b> Sts. Peter & Paul Acts 12:1-12 Ps 34:2-9 2Tim 4:6-8,17-18 Mt 16:13-19
<b>Fri 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2023</b> Gen 17:1,9-10,15-22 Ps 128:1-5 Mt 8:1-4	<b>Sat 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY, 2023</b> Republic Day Gen 18:1-15 Ps Lk 1:46-50,53-55 Mt 8:5-17

### Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	2Kgs 4:8-11,14-16a
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 89:2-3,16-19
Second Reading	Rom 6:3-4,8-11
Gospel	Mt 10:37-42

### Mass Schedule

<b>St. Thomas More</b>	<b>St. John Fisher</b>
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 FUNCTIONS OF THE SACRAMENTS Continued from last week

#### 1. The function of the sacrament as theocentric

The traditional definition of a sacrament as a visible sign instituted by Christ to give grace, contains three essential Church teachings concerning the sacraments: they are signs; they were instituted by Christ; they give grace. These statements explain each other as well as reveal the essential nature of sacraments which reassures us of God's promises towards us. This function is specially associated with the reformers who laid particular emphasis upon faith as the human correlative to the promise of God. The reformers were deeply aware of the weakness of the falling human nature, and knew that it required considerable assurance concerning God's love and commitment. The sacrament functions therefore to reveal the presence and action of God in His Christ. Aquinas' treatise on the necessity of sacraments, expounds more succinctly on this matter. He explains that, the sacraments are undeniably necessary for man's salvation for the reason that; first, man is drawn to spiritual thing only through the corporeal and sensible things; second, that man being taken up with material things cannot apply spiritual things to himself without the veil; and third, that man is consistently instructed through sensible things.

This confirms the theocentric function of the sacrament as the revelation of God, the promise of God to provide for his people a means to always reach the life of the Divine. The sacrament functions as a guide to man to receive from God's providence the grace necessary of man's own salvation. Through the sacrament man is not only instructed to know God, but we receive exactly what they are meant to signify, the grace of God necessary and profitable for salvation. Wherefore, Hugh of St. Victor avers that, "the sacraments were instituted because of instruction, that through that which is seen without in the sacrament, in the visible species, the human mind may be instructed to recognize the invisible virtue, which consists within the thing of the sacrament." The grace which the sacraments confer are from God, and the person who effects them in men is God in Christ. Therefore, the sacraments function as a revealer of the Divine life, and also as a communicator of salvific grace, that raises us to the mystery that is God. The sacraments have a divine origin and corresponding purpose or intention for their employment.

**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 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

## ORDINARY TIME II

### Ordinary Time 2

- After Pentecost we enter Ordinary Time again.
- During this period, the mystery of Christ in all its fullness is celebrated & reflected on.  
Special Sunday celebrations like Holy Trinity Sunday, Corpus Christi & Christ the King, help accomplish this purpose.
- Solemnity of Christ the King marks the end of the Church Year, & a new cycle begins.
- Themes: Growth, journey in Christ
- Liturgical colour: Green



# Help Us Build

A new Children Service Block @ SS Thomas More & John Fisher Parish

St. Thomas More Catholic Church  
Acc No. 1117000222801  
Bank: NIB Branch Abeka  
Mobile Money: 059 585 0922



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

### DON'T CHANGE THE WORLD

Once upon a time, there was a king who ruled a prosperous country. One day, he went for a trip to some distant areas of his country. When he was back to his palace, he complained that his feet were very painful, because it was the first time that he went for such a long trip, and the road that he went through was very rough and stony.

He then ordered his people to cover every road of the entire country with leather.

Definitely, this would need thousands of cows' skin, and would cost a huge amount of money. Then one of his wise servants dared himself to tell the king, "Why do you have to spend that unnecessary amount of money? Why don't you just cut a little piece of leather to cover your feet?"

The king was surprised, but he later agreed to his suggestion, to make a "shoe" for himself.

**Moral Lesson:** *There is actually a valuable lesson of life in this story: to make this world a happy place to live, you better change yourself - your heart; and not the world.*

## YOUTH CORNER

### ESSENTIAL SKILLS TO HAVE

1. **Budgeting:** No matter your income make a budget. Money must be allocated to specific tasks and you should stick to the budget, that way you won't run out of money or spend unnecessarily.
2. **Cooking:** Cooking is an important life skill that everyone should have irrespective of their gender. Everyone needs to eat to survive so everyone needs to know how to cook.
3. **Cleaning skills:** Another skill everyone needs to have is be able to clean. Clean around the house and clean up after ourselves.
4. **Manners:** We must all have manners, learn to say please and thank you. Learn to apologise say excuse me. This helps with daily interactions with others.
5. **Time management:** Everyone must be able to manage their time and put time aside for everything, this prevents procrastination.
6. **Social skills:** One can improve their social skills by pursuing hobbies. Making and maintaining friendships. Having manners also helps with social skills.

## 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.
- This Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July is the First Saturday of the month. We are reminded of our Grotto devotion at SJF at 4:00pm. We are encouraged to come and seek for the help of our Lady of Grace for the month of July, the month of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus.
- Marriage Banns: 3<sup>RD</sup> Publication between**
  - Stephen Ecklu-Mensah, son of Mr. Emmanuel Mensah Kwame & Matilda Kwame. And Joyce Adjei, daughter of Atsu Senanu Adjei & Esiwonam Dzakpata.
  - Stephen Dziedzorm Dadugblor, son of John Mensah Dadugblor & Juliana Dadugblor. And Amanda Senam Adwoa Ntow, daughter of 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.
- Funeral Arrangements:**  
**Mr. Michael D. Beduori**, son of Mr. & Mrs. Beduori of the Kissehman Community is as follows:
  - ❖ Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2023: Wake keeping at the family house Bruku, Nandom in the Upper East at 7:00pm.
  - ❖ Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2023: Burial Mass at the St. Theresa's Minor Basilica, Nandom in the Upper East at 8:00am.
  - ❖ Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2023: Thanksgiving Mass at St. Theresa's Minor Basilica, Nandom in the Upper East at 8:00am.
- Mr. El-Simon Bakuyeya** a parishioner is as follows:
  - ❖ Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2023: Wake keeping at the family house at Vakpo in the Volta Region at 7:00pm.
  - ❖ Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2023: Burial Mass at the St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Vakpo in the V/R at 9:00am.
  - ❖ Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2023: Thanksgiving Mass at St. Peter's Roman

## 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	STM JUNE WEEK3
SUNDAY	880.40	1.50	1.00
MONDAY	3424.50	210.00	-----
TUESDAY	1598.00	-----	5.00
WEDNESDAY	992.00	-----	20.00
THURSDAY	404.80	-----	-----
FRIDAY	1034.50	20.00	-----
SATURDAY	930.00	5.00	20.00
JUNE BORN	143.00	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9407.20</b>	<b>236.50</b>	<b>46.00</b>

### Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM JUNE WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	2742.60
SECOND COLLECTION	3215.20
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	875.00
TITHE	130.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6962.80</b>

# FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

## Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF JUNE WEEK1	SJF JUNE WEEK2	SJF JUNE WEEK3
SUNDAY	1722.00	-----	-----
MONDAY	1121.20+£5 0	1000.00	-----
TUESDAY	2020.00	-----	100.00
WEDNESDAY	573.00	-----	100.00
THURSDAY	1500.00	300.00	-----
FRIDAY	6531.20	-----	320.00
SATURDAY	3382.50	-----	110.00
JUNE BORN	517.00	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17971.90</b>	<b>1300.00</b>	<b>630.00</b>

SUNDAY	SJF JUNE WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	4193.30
SECOND COLLECTION	4804.20
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	160.00
TITHE	50.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9207.50</b>

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.