



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

9TH JULY, 2023: FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME,
YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"FINDING SOLACE IN JESUS"**

Rev. Fr. George Obeng Appah (*Parish Priest*) 020-8592020

St. Thomas More Catholic Church - 030-3931800

SS. Thomas More and John Fisher Catholic Church - 030-3939862/
030-2436199

Today's Readings

First Reading: Zec 9:9-10: The Lord shall come to reign in Zion.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14
I WILL BLESS YOUR NAME FOREVER, MY KING AND MY GOD.

Second Reading: Rom 8:9, 14-17: Those in whom the Spirit of God dwells must now live according to the Spirit.

Gospel Reading: Mt 11:25-30: Jesus prays in thanks to God, who has revealed himself to the lowly.

Reflection

Jesus invites us to find rest and solace in Him. He acknowledges the burdens we carry, the struggles we face, and He offers to share our yoke, to lighten our load. Jesus assures us that the demands of God are not beyond our strength. He invites us to turn to Him, to place our trust in Him, and to seek His help when life becomes overwhelming. This message is profoundly relevant in our own lives. We too encounter moments when we feel overwhelmed, burdened by the challenges and trials that come our way. We may face personal struggles, societal unrest, or the weight of expectations and responsibilities. In those moments, it is easy to rely solely on our own strength, to become consumed by worry and doubt.

Weekly Readings

Mon 10TH JULY, 2023 Gen 28:10-22a Ps 91:1-4,14-15 Mt 11:25-30	Tue 11TH JULY, 2023 St. Benedict, Abbot, Rel. founder Gen 32:23-33 Ps 17:1-3,6-8,15 Mt 9:32-38
Wed 12TH JULY, 2023 Gen 41:55-57;42:5-7a,17-24a Ps 33:2-3,10-11,18-19 Mt 10:1-7	Thurs 13TH JULY, 2023 St. Henry, married Man, ruler Gen 44:18-21,23b;45:1-5 Ps 105:16-21 Mt 10:7-15
Fri 14TH JULY, 2023 St. Camillus de Lellis, Presbyter Gen 23:1-4,19;24:1-8,62-67 Ps 37:3-4,18-19,27-28,39-40 Mt 10:16-23	Sat 15TH JULY, 2023 St. Bonaventure, Bishop, Rel. & Doc. Gen 49:29-32;50:15-26a Ps 105:1-4,6-7 Mt 10:24-33

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Is 55:10-11
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 64:10-14
Second Reading	Rom 8:18-23
Gospel	Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

Mass Schedule

St. Thomas More	St. John Fisher
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

We can say that, the other functions of communion and revelation mentioned, are but latent functions of the sacrament, this however does not diminish these functions, for without a gathering in faith, it will be impossible to celebrate the sacrament. Moreover, Christ himself said, “when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself” (Jn. 12:32 NAB), indicating his paschal mystery that brings people to him. Christ not only instituted the sacraments, but He determines its end, its function. The function of the sacrament is deduced essentially from his paschal mystery. This is seen in the theological reflection that the purpose of the incarnation is the paschal mystery. Thus, the function of the sacrament draws from the incarnation of Christ who himself becomes the primordial sacrament of God. If the purpose of Christ’s incarnation culminates in the paschal mystery, then the purpose of the sacrament is to reveal and give Christ who is the primal sacrament of effective grace. The sacrament functions to give the grace from Christ’s paschal mystery, thus we see the dynamic sacramental connection between the Incarnate Word, the Church and the sacraments.

CONCLUSION

To understand this essential relationship between the realities, borne from their specific function, then we must accept the caution to be mindful that, ‘as realities, the sacraments are always signs and the holiness they effect is in us through their signification.’ The sacraments are ordained to signify our sanctification, says Aquinas, and it is to be considered in three ways, that “the very cause of our sanctification is Christ’s passion; the form of our sanctification is grace and virtues and the ultimate end of our sanctification, is eternal life.” The sacraments give us a share in the community that is the church and also a sharing in the Divine life of the Trinity, being roped in primarily through the sacrament of baptism.

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

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



MOTIVATION

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES FOR THE DARKEST MOMENTS

1. "It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light." — **Aristotle**
2. "Develop success from failures. Discouragement and failure are two of the surest stepping stones to success." -**Dale Carnegie**
3. "You learn more from failure than from success. Don't let it stop you. Failure builds character." — **Unknown**
4. "Fairytales do not tell children that dragons exist. Children already know that dragons exist. Fairytales tell children that dragons can be killed." – **G K Chesterton**
5. "The bad news is time flies. The good news is you are the pilot." – **Michael Alt Shuler**

YOUTH CORNER

THINGS YOU SHOULD NOT APOLOGIZE FOR

1. **Saying no:** It is completely okay to say no to something or someone that makes you uncomfortable. You can't just go around trying to please everybody.
2. **Spending money on yourself:** Why should you apologize for treating yourself, you should be priority number one. This doesn't mean you should push others aside just for the fun of it.
3. **Someone else:** In case an apology is needed it is not your place to do so on someone else's behalf.
4. **Your priorities:** There is no need to feel sorry for prioritizing things in your life and sticking to it.
5. **Your imperfections:** Everyone has flaws and so long as no one is getting hurt it's okay.
6. **Ending a toxic relationship:** The only person you should apologize to after a toxic relationship is yourself because you have been through a lot.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. We are reminded and encouraged to pay our Harvest levy of GH¢100 per Adult, GH¢50 per working Youth and GH¢20 per child. Those in arrears of Harvest Levy, and pledges are entreated to redeem them and also fulfill all other Church Financial Obligations. (e.g. Church Dues, Welfare Dues and Building Fund).
2. Catechism Class resumes today at St. John Fisher after the 9:30am Mass. Parents are reminded to pick up forms from the Parish office for their children for the Sacraments of Baptism & First Holy Communion.
3. St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind the Knights of St. John International of their visitation to 7 Wards in Alogboshie **Group A** this Month and Knights and Ladies of Marshall to 8 Wards in Alogboshie **Group B** in August. Parishioners are to check the SSVP Gallery notice boards to see pictures of visit.
4. **Sunday, 23rd July is the 25th Priestly Anniversary Thanksgiving Mass of Rev. Fr. John Amoah at the 9:30am Mass at St. John Fisher. Communities, Societies, Groups and individuals are reminded to come with their Gifts for presentations. We are encouraged to be at the 9:30am Mass at SJF to celebrate with our son.**
5. The death is reported of Mrs. Doris Boateng, wife of Mr. Mike Atiadevey, a parishioner. Her One Week observation will be on the 15th July, 2023 at her residence, at Achimota near Jerusalem Spot from 6:00am to 6:00pm. Funeral details 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 JULY WEEK1
SUNDAY	1047.00
MONDAY	1499.00
TUESDAY	1747.50
WEDNESDAY	1342.00
THURSDAY	1712.50
FRIDAY	993.00
SATURDAY	1872.00
JULY BORN	89.00
TOTAL	10302.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM JULY WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	2605.40
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	370.00
TITHE	850.00
TOTAL	3825.40

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF JULY WEEK1
SUNDAY	1307.00
MONDAY	2852.00
TUESDAY	657.00
WEDNESDAY	848.40
THURSDAY	1552.50
FRIDAY	1026.50
SATURDAY	1971.00
JULY BORN	168.10
TOTAL	10382.50

SUNDAY	SJF JULY WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	3451.60
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	20.00
TITHE	420.00
TOTAL	3891.60

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.



SS THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER PARISH

Have You Paid Your Harvest Levy

Payments can be made through **059 585 0922**

- Adult - 100.00
- Youth - 50.00
- Kids - 20.00 or more

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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