



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

16TH JULY, 2023: FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"Receptive Hearts"**

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: Is 55:10-11: The Word of the Lord shall achieve its purpose.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 65:10-14

THE SEED THAT FELL INTO GOOD SOIL YIELDED A HUNDRED FOLD.

Second Reading: Rom 8:18-23: Together with all of creation, we await God's redemption.

Gospel Reading: Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9: Jesus teaches that the kingdom of heaven is like seed that has been sown on good soil.

REFLECTION

Jesus shares a parable about a sower who scattered seeds, symbolizing the spreading of God's word. The seeds fell on different types of soil, representing various responses to the message. Some seeds produced abundant fruit, while others were hindered by thorns, rocky ground, or birds. Jesus explains the meaning of each element, highlighting the importance of receptive hearts for the growth and understanding of God's teachings. Having a receptive heart implies being open to God's word and making room to accommodate it no matter how tough it might be. The fertile soil has its limitations, but the seed grows only because the soil is receptive.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 17TH JULY, 2023 Ex 1:8-14,22 Ps 124:1-8 Mt 10:34-11:1	Tue 18TH JULY, 2023 Ex 2:1-15a Ps 69:3,14,30-31,33-34 Mt 11:20-24
Wed 19TH JULY, 2023 Ex 3:1-6,9-12 Ps 103:1-4,6-7 Mt 11:25-27	Thurs 20TH JULY, 2023 St. Apollinaris Ex 3:13-20 Ps 105:1,5,8-9,24-27 Mt 11:28-30
Fri 21ST JULY, 2023 St. Lawrence of Brindisi Ex 11:12-12:14 Ps 116:12-13,15-18 Mt 12:1-8	Sat 22ND JULY, 2023 St. Mary Magdalene Song 3:1-4b or 2Cor 5:14:17 Ps 64:2-6,8-9 Jn 20:1-2,11-18

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Wis 12:13,16-19
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 86:5-6,9-10,15-16a
Second Reading	Rom 8:26-27
Gospel	Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

Mass Schedule

<i>St. Thomas More</i>	<i>St. John Fisher</i>
One Mass: 7:00 AM	One Mass: 9:00 AM



KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

DIVINE REVELATION: THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE AND FAITH

Many questions arise from the notion of revelation as the Divine communication of self. For instance, the bugging question of what meaning should be ascribed to revelation, when and where did such revelation occur, how can the veracity of such revelation be discerned and importantly, how does revelation enter into the human experience? If revelation is to be understood as Divine self-communication, how does man partake in such communication, what is his role in the process and ultimately, how does he respond? It is the goal of this paper to identify certain elements, as discussed by theologians, regarding the human experience of Divine revelation. The essential concepts to grasped herein, are the place of reason (intellectual enlightenment) and the role of faith (assenting will), in the supreme and sole act of God.

These highlight the fundamental response of man to the Divine self-communication, as positive and beneficial, wherefore, the revelation is the salvation story of man.

In Karl Rahner's definition of theology is grasped the fundamental elements of divine revelation: "theology is the conscious and methodical explanation and explication of divine revelation *received* and grasped in *faith* [emphasis mine]" (Rahner, 1975). By reception, allusion is made to the human experience in the Divine self-communication, as being the terminus of God's self-communication, for revelation is essentially infused into the human experience. Revelation is ultimately, a communication, identifiable, between God and man, requiring a response granted by God in the powers of man. Thus, man's response is through the gift of faith given by God. The essay expounds on the human experience as the terminus of God's self-communication – thus, Revelation is an event of history and history and at once transcendence and immanence.

REVELATION, WHAT IS IT?

Concerning revelation itself, the council Fathers wrote: "In his goodness and wisdom God chose to reveal Himself and to make known to us then hidden purpose of his will by which through Christ, the Word made flesh, man might in the Holy Spirit have access to the Father and come to share in the divine nature" (Dei Verbum, DV. 2). Revelation is essentially a dialogue between God and man, a religious experience, an encounter with God in which God addresses man, speaks to him, opens His heart to him about his personal life and His plan of salvation. The acts and Word of God properly considered revelation, may be called, anthropomorphic, for just as a man in his actions and words reveal his inward being, so also God.

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

Revelation is simply the exposition and identity of God, by God to man. Thus, it is in the very nature of the acts and Word of God (*verbum incarnatum*) that He "anthropomorphises himself" (Auberlen, 1867). This communication of God to man arrives its terminus in the human experience, completed in faith.

This idea of revelation brings to bear its paradox as once transcendence and immanence; for it is both the transcendent activity by which God from all eternity decrees to save man and also the immanent and free divine activity, temporal in effect, by which God intervenes in the story of humanity manifested in the plan of salvation.

Being solely an action of God, it must not however be overlooked, the human experience relevant to the action and result of revelation. Thus, Ratzinger (Benedict XVI) opines, "Revelation...refers to the act in which God shows himself, not to the objectified result of this act, hence *the receiving subject is always also a part of the concept of revelation*. Where there is no one to perceive "revelation", no revelation has occurred, because no veil has been removed. By definition, *revelation requires a someone who apprehends it...*" [emphasis mine]

ORDINARY TIME II





JOIN US FOR BIBLE SHARING

Get to learn more about the holy scriptures with us!

EVERY WEDNESDAY
7PM-8PM
ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH,
ACHIMOTA

You will gain a much deeper understanding of the word of God and apply these scriptural truths to your everyday life.

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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



MEETING & THANKSGIVING

25TH PRIESTLY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF VERY REV. FR. JOHN KOBINA OBENG AMOAH

Very Rev. Fr. John Kobina Obeng Amoah was born on 4th July, 1967 at Ajumako Bisease to Mr. John Dwamina Amoah and Mrs. Martha Amoah who passed on some six years ago. His elder brother is Mr. Richard Ebo Amoah popularly known as Cheeeeeesssss, of Amalgamated Community.

Rev. Fr. John Amoah and his family worshipped at St Thomas for many years and was Mass Server until his call to the priesthood. He's a true son of Saints Thomas More and John Fisher. His ordination was the second in St. Thomas More now SS. Thomas More and John Fisher but third in line after the ordination of Rev. Fathers Frederick Agyemang and Mathias Kotoka Amuzu the previous year.

He was ordained Deacon on 14th July, 1997 and Priest the following year Saturday 18th July, 1998 by His Grace Most Rev. Dominic Kodwo Andoh of blessed memory. He is currently the Dean of Osu Deanery, Parish Priest of St. Anthony Catholic Church and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church Nungua and Quaye- Nungua.

On Sunday 23rd July, 2023, Very Rev. Fr. John Kobina Obeng Amoah is coming home for thanksgiving at St. John Fisher at 9:00 am. All Societies, Communities, Groups and individual are expected to make presentations.

YOUTH CORNER

WHAT TO DO WHEN ANGRY

1. **Just walk away:** When feeling overwhelmed by an emotion such as anger the best thing to do is just leave. This will prevent your emotion from carrying you away and leading to worse things.
2. **Take deep breaths:** Try to relax and take deep breaths in and out it will make you feel less angered.
3. **Talk about it:** Instead of doing something crazy try talking to the person who is making you angry but make sure you are calm when doing it.
4. **Don't let the angry control you:** Don't do anything you'll regret when you calm down

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 has resumed at both Sts. Thomas More & John Fisher after the 7:00am @STM and after 9:30am Mass @ SJF. 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 SSVF Gallery notice boards to see pictures of visit.
4. Sunday, 23rd July, 2023 is the 25th Priestly Anniversary Thanksgiving Mass of Rev. Fr. John Amoah. We shall have one Mass at STM at 7:00am and also one Mass at SJF at 9:00am. Communities, Societies, Groups and individuals are reminded to come with their Gifts for presentations at the 9:00am Mass at SJF. We are encouraged to be at the 9:00am Mass at SJF to celebrate with our son.

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	STM JULY WEEK2
SUNDAY	1047.00	-----
MONDAY	1499.00	-----
TUESDAY	1747.50	25.00
WEDNESDAY	1342.00	35.00
THURSDAY	1712.50	-----
FRIDAY	993.00	100.00
SATURDAY	1872.00	-----
JULY BORN	89.00	-----
TOTAL	10302.00	160.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM JULY WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	2066.00
SECOND COLLECTION	1718.70
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	230.00
TITHE	460.00
TOTAL	4474.70

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF JULY WEEK1	SJF JULY WEEK2
SUNDAY	1307.00	420.00
MONDAY	2852.00	-----
TUESDAY	657.00	1.00
WEDNESDAY	848.40	220.00
THURSDAY	1552.50	220.00
FRIDAY	1026.50	4000.00
SATURDAY	1971.00	1000.00
JULY BORN	168.10	-----
TOTAL	10382.50	5861.00

SUNDAY	SJF JULY WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	3409.80
SECOND COLLECTION	1811.70
TITHE	250.00
TOTAL	5471.50

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

 Stm.sj_youth |
  Thomasmorejohnfisher.com |
  SS Thomas More And John Fisher



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