



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

P.O. BOX AH 283, Achimota-Accra

Website: [www.thomasmorejohnfisher.com](http://www.thomasmorejohnfisher.com)

Email: [besohwe@yahoo.com](mailto:besohwe@yahoo.com)

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

13TH AUGUST, 2023: NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
, YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"ANCHORED IN FAITH"**

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:* 1Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a: The Lord appears to Elijah in a whisper.

*Responsorial Psalm:* Ps 85:9-14:

**LET US SEE, O LORD, YOUR MERCY,  
AND GRANT US YOUR SALVATION.**

*Second Reading:* Rom 9:1-5: Paul speaks of the blessings that have come to the Israelites.

*Gospel Reading:* Mt 14:22-33: Jesus walks on water, and the disciples acknowledge him as the Son of God.

### REFLECTION

Today, we are invited to examine our own faith journey. Like the disciples, we may face storms and challenges that test our faith, but Jesus reminds us to take courage, trust in Him, and step out in faith. Even when we falter, we can call out to Him, knowing that He is ever-present and ready to save us. Ultimately, by recognizing Jesus as the Son of God, we can find solace and strength, knowing that He walks with us through the storms of life, guiding us safely to the shores of His love and grace. In life's storms, God's gentle presence brings comfort, just as He whispered to Elijah and rescued Peter. With unwavering faith, we can overcome trials. God is always with us, inviting us to trust Him and anchor our faith in His love.

### WEEKLY READINGS

**Mon 14<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**  
St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe  
Deut 10:12-22  
Ps 148:12-15,19-20  
Mt 17:22-27

**Tue 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**  
The Assumption of the BVM  
Rev 11:19a;12:1-6a,10ab  
Ps 45:10-12,16  
1Cor 15:20-27  
Lk 1:39-56

**Wed 16<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**  
Deut 34:1-12  
Ps 66:1-3,5,8,16-17  
Mt 18:15-20

**Thur 17<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**  
Jos 3:7-10a,11,13-17  
Ps 114A:1-6  
Mt 18:21-19:1

**Fri 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2023**  
Jos 24:1-13  
Ps 136:1-3,16-18,21-22,24  
Mt 19:3-12

**Sat 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2023**  
St. John Eudes  
Jos 24:14-29  
Ps 15:1-2,5,7-8  
Mt 19:13-15

### Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Is 56:1,6-7
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 67:2-3,5-6,8
Second Reading	Rom 11:13-15,29-32
Gospel	Mt 15:21-28

### Mass Schedule

<i>St. Thomas More</i>	<i>St. John Fisher</i>
First Mass: 7:00AM	First Mass: 6:3 AM
Second Mass: 9:30AM	Second Mass: 9:30AM



## KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

### WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

#### 1) What is the Assumption of Mary?

The Assumption of Mary is the teaching that: The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory [Pius XII, *Munificentissimus Deus* 44].

#### 2) What level of authority does this teaching have?

This teaching was infallibly defined by Pope Pius XII on Nov. 1, 1950 in the bull *Munificentissimus Deus* (Latin, "Most Bountiful God"). As Pius XII explained, this is "a divinely revealed dogma" (ibid.). This means that it is a dogma in the proper sense. It is thus a matter of faith that has been divinely revealed by God and that has been infallibly proposed by the Magisterium of the Church as such.

#### 3) Does that mean it is an "ex cathedra" statement and that we have to believe it?

Yes. Since it is a dogma defined by the pope (rather than by an ecumenical council, for example), it is also an "ex cathedra" statement (one delivered "from the chair" of Peter). Because it is infallibly defined, it calls for the definitive assent of the faithful. Pope John Paul II explained: The definition of the dogma, in conformity with the universal faith of the People of God, definitively excludes every doubt and calls for the express assent of all Christians [General Audience, July 2, 1997]. Note that all infallibly defined teachings are things we are obliged to believe, even if they aren't defined "ex cathedra" (by the pope acting on his own). The bishops of the world teaching in union with the pope (either in an ecumenical council or otherwise) can also infallibly define matters, but these aren't called "ex cathedra" since that term refers specifically to the exercise of the pope's authority as the successor of St. Peter. (It's Peter's *cathedra* or "chair" that symbolizes the pope's authority.)

#### 4) Does the dogma require us to believe that Mary died?

It is the common teaching that Mary did die. In his work, *Fundamentals of Catholic Dogma*, Ludwig Ott lists this teaching as *sententia communior* (Latin, "the more common opinion"). Although it is the common understanding of that Mary did die, and although her death is referred to in some of the sources Pius XII cited in *Munificentissimus Deus*, he deliberately refrained from defining this as a truth of the faith. John Paul II noted: On 1 November 1950, in defining the dogma of the Assumption, Pius XII avoided using the term "resurrection" and did not take a position on the question of the Blessed Virgin's death as a truth of faith. The Bull *Munificentissimus Deus* limits itself to affirming the elevation of Mary's body to heavenly glory, declaring this truth a "divinely revealed dogma."

To be continued

## PRAYER FOR GOD'S INTERVENTION IN OUR LAND

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



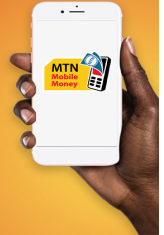
*Living Ordinary Time*  
"REMEMBER THE MARVELS  
THE LORD HAS DONE!"

**TUESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2023**  
**"THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION**  
**OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY."**  
**THERE WILL BE**  
**MORNING MASS AT SJF AT 6:15AM**  
**& EVENING MASS AT STM**  
**AT 7:00PM BEGINNING WITH**  
**ROSARY PRAYERS AT 6:30PM.**



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

### BUILDING YOUR HOUSE

An elderly carpenter was ready to retire. He told his employer-contractor of his plans to leave the house-building business to live a more leisurely life with his wife and enjoy his extended family. He would miss the paycheck each week, but he wanted to retire. They could get by. The contractor was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal favor.

The carpenter said yes, but over time it was easy to see that his heart was not in his work. He resorted to shoddy workmanship and used inferior material. It was an unfortunate way to end a dedicated career. When the carpenter finished his work, his employer came to inspect the house. Then he handed the front-door key to the carpenter and said, "This is your house... my gift to you." The carpenter was shocked! What a shame! If he had only known he was building his own house, he would have done it all so differently.

So it is with us. We build our lives, a day at a time, often putting less than our best into the building. Then, with a shock, we realize we have to live in the house we have built. If we could do it over, we would do it much differently. But, you cannot go back. You are the carpenter, and every day you hammer a nail, place a board, or erect a wall.

Someone once said, *"Life is a do-it-yourself project." Your attitude, and the choices you make today, helps build the "house" you will live in tomorrow. Therefore, build wisely!*

## YOUTH CORNER

### HOW TO BOOST YOUR MOOD

1. Put down your phone and other devices.
2. Play songs that you like and try to dance and sing along
3. Write some of the things you are grateful for.
4. Meditate
5. Go outside for a few minutes.
6. Talk to your friends and family.
7. Treat yourself to something nice

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 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 fulfill all other Church Financial Obligations. (e.g., Church Dues, Welfare Dues and Building Fund).
- 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** and Knights and Ladies of Marshall to **8 Wards** in Alogboshie **Group B** this month. Parishioners are to check the SSVF Gallery notice boards to see pictures of visit.
- Marriage Banns:** 2nd Publication, between **Prince Boe, son of Emmanuel Frank Boe & Regina Kafui Kwadzodza**. And **Eunice Akpene Domie**, daughter of Edward Yao Domie & Christiana F. A Domie.
- The death is reported of** Mr. Gershon Kwaku Binewoatsor. He was the father of Rev. Fr. John Blewusi. Funeral Arrangements will be communicated later.
- Funeral Arrangements:**
  - Mr. Vincent K. Louis**, father of Most Rev. John Kobina Louis is as follows:  
Burial Mass: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at the Holy Spirit cathedral at 9.30am.  
Reception of the body will be at 7.00am.
  - Mad. Elizabeth Adzoa Ackie**, a member of the New Achimota Kopevi Akwehman Achimota Town Community and St. Vincent de Paul Ward is as follows:
    - **Friday 25th August, 2023:** Family gathering from 7:00pm to 10:00pm at hse no. 603/26 behind Liliput School.
    - **Saturday 26th August, 2023:** Reception of body & Filing past at 8:00am and Burial Mass at 9:00am. Attire: Black & White
  - Mr. Michael Elicot Malm**, father of Mrs. Justin Martey of the Main Choir & Alogboshie Community Is as follows:
    - **Friday 25th August, 2023:** Wake keeping from 7:00pm at Alogboshie.

## 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: 9:00am - 1:00pm & 2:00pm - 5:00pm**

**Sunday: 9:00am - 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 AUG. WEEK1
SUNDAY	855.00
MONDAY	962.00
TUESDAY	581.00
WEDNESDAY	892.50
THURSDAY	698.00
FRIDAY	838.00
SATURDAY	398.00
AUG. BORNS	135.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5359.50</b>

### Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM AUG. WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	2526.30
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	980.00
TITHE	230.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3736.30</b>

# FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

## Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF AUG. WEEK1
SUNDAY	1307.00
MONDAY	1675.00
TUESDAY	1300.40
WEDNESDAY	510.00
THURSDAY	2097.50
FRIDAY	5057.70+\$2
SATURDAY	3986.50
AUG. BORNES	233.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16167.60</b>

SUNDAY	SJF AUG. WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	3916.90
OFFERTORY ENVELOPS	400.00
TITHE	260.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4576.90</b>

**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\_of\_youth    @ Thomasmorejohnfisher.com    f 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**