



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

27TH AUGUST, 2023: TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"A NEW ORDER"**

Rev. Fr. George Obeng Appah (*Parish Priest*) 020-8592020
Rev. Fr. Clement Quagraine (*Assistant Priest*) 024-8329194

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 22:19-23: God will remove Shebna from his office as master of the palace.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8bc

**O LORD YOUR MERCIFUL LOVE IS ETERNAL,
DISCARD NOT THE WORK OF YOUR HANDS**

Second Reading: Rom 11: 33-36: Paul sings praise to God.

Gospel Reading: Mt 16:13-20: Simon Peter acknowledges Jesus as the Christ and is given the key to the Kingdom of Heaven.

REFLECTION

No one can experience Jesus for you. Jesus establishes a new order of relationship when he asks "Who do you say that I am?" In the order, God is no longer the veiled being of the Jewish tradition, but a personal God with whom everyone should have a personal experience. Each of us must grapple with the question of Jesus' identity; how and what we feel when we think of Him. However, we are faced with varied experiences of Jesus, just like the disciples. Thus, Jesus offers us a paradigm in Peter's confession, so that, no matter our varied experiences we must all come to the one truth that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 28TH AUGUST, 2023

St. Augustine, Bishop

1Thes 1:1-5,8b-10

Ps 149:1-6,9

Mt 23:13-22

Tue 29TH AUGUST, 2023

The Beheading of John the Baptist

1Thes 2:1-8

Ps 139:1-6

Mk 6:17-29

Wed 30TH AUGUST, 2023

1Thes 2:9-13

Ps 139:7-12

Mt 23:27-32

Thur 31ST AUGUST, 2023

1Thes 3:7-13

Ps 90:3-4,12-14,17

Mt 24:42-51

Fri 1ST SEPTEMBER, 2023

1Thes 4:1-8

Ps 97:1-2,5-6,10-12

Mt 25:1-13

Sat 2ND SEPTEMBER, 2023

1Thes 4:9-11

Ps 98:1,7-9

Mt 25:14-30

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Jer 20:7-9
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 63:2-6,8-9
Second Reading	Rom 12:1-2
Gospel	Mt 16:21-27

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

THE NATURE OF THE PAPAL PRIMACY

Chapter 3 of the dogmatic constitution on the Church of Vatican Council I (Pastor aeternus) is the principal document of the Magisterium about the content and nature of the primatial power of the Roman Pontiff. Chapter 4 is a development and defining of one particular characteristic of this primatial power, namely the Pope's supreme teaching authority, i.e. when the Pope speaks *ex cathedra* he teaches the doctrine of the faith infallibly. The Magisterium of the Roman Pontiff is one of the chief elements of his primatial authority.

A. Primacy of jurisdiction

The primacy spoken about by Vatican I is a primacy of jurisdiction. The word jurisdiction underlines the binding power of the authority which Christ has conferred on the Pope in the Church. It demands obedience of all the faithful. It is in opposition to a primacy of honour (Primus inter pares) and to a primacy of direction which might be endowed with the power of advising and guiding, but not with the power of commanding. The word, as is obvious, has its roots in judicial language. But what is defined by the Council transcends judicial categories and can be understood more fully in the light of the properties which the Council assigns to the primatial power of the Pope. The Pope's power is

- i) Universal: it extends to the whole Church, i.e. to all the members of the Church (pastors and faithful) as to all the various matters which can arise;
- ii) Ordinary: it is not extraordinary, which would mean that it can be used only in exceptional circumstances; nor is it delegated, that is, it belongs inherently to the office of Pope and is not delegated to him by someone else;
- iii) Supreme: meaning that it is not subordinated to any other authority;
- iv) Full: it takes in all questions which might arise in the life of the Church, and does so from every point of view;
- v) Immediate: it need not be exercised through intermediaries and where necessary can have the most practical applications.

B. Bishop of the Catholic Church

The authority of the Pope is truly episcopal. This feature is very important because it connects the juridical terminology in which the aforementioned properties are expressed, with the sacramental and ministerial meaning which the term *episcopo*, has in the New Testament. The Pope is indeed a bishop, and his power has an episcopal character and a pastoral purpose. It is not concerned with human or political matters but is rather a power for fulfilling the threefold mission of teaching, sanctifying and leading to God the flock of Christ. For this reason, Pope Paul VI delighted in calling himself Bishop of the Catholic Church and under this title he signed the various documents of Vatican II. Undoubtedly, he is bishop of Rome, and not of Dublin or Cologne, but as bishop of Rome he is also Pope, successor to Peter, and has, over all the Church (over all diocese and all members of the Church), the office which is proper to a bishop.

PRAYER FOR GOD'S INTERVENTION IN OUR LAND

A study of this truly episcopal power is the simplest way of understanding more deeply the nature of papal authority. The apostle Peter, he who was charged by Christ with looking after the flock, is he who has the most vivid awareness that his ministry is to be a mere instrument in the hands of Christ, head of the Church. 'The primacy of Peter in leading and serving the Christian people was going to be a pastoral primacy, a primacy of love. The nature and efficacy of the pastoral function of the apostolic primacy would be based on the undying love of Peter for Jesus.' Accordingly, it is Peter who encourages the shepherds of the Church to exercise their ministry with their eyes fixed on Christ, so that when the chief shepherd appears you will be given the crown of unfading glory (1 Peter 5:4). The work of bishops consists in making it easy for the faithful, and for all men, to turn, not to the shepherds of the Church, but to the shepherd and guardian of your souls (Christ) (1 Peter 2:25).

Christ is the Shepherd; Christ is the Bishop. This is Peter's message because when Jesus promised him the primacy Peter heard him speak of my Church, not your Church. All bishops, with Peter at their head, are vicars, that is, they take the place of Christ on earth. To enable them to fulfil their mission of service he conferred on them the necessary power.

To be continued

ORDINARY TIME II



UPCOMING PROGRAM

LAITY WEEK CELEBRATION FROM 18TH - 22ND SEPTEMBER, 2023 @ STM.



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

THE BLIND GIRL

The star of this story is the blind girl. Unfortunately, this girl hated herself – purely based on the fact that she was blind. Her boyfriend, who she loved dearly, was always there for her. She would say many times that she would marry him if only she could see the world.

One day, whether it be a miracle or the great power of science, she was finally able to see everything. The story states that this was only made possible through a kind donation. Her dream came true, and she could now see her boyfriend. He asked her to marry him, as that was her promise.

However, the girl was shocked to discover that her boyfriend was also blind. She refused to marry him and broke his heart. He walked away in tears.

The girl later discovered that her boyfriend was the donor, and with the donation, he lost his sight.

Moral of the Story: *When our circumstances change, our mind changes too. Not only do you have to stay true to yourself and appreciate everything as you never know what's happening behind closed doors.*

YOUTH CORNER

LIFE IS A PATH OF DISCIPLINED GRACE.
It is discipline because there is work for us to do. It is grace because the life of God which we enter into is a gift which we can never earn.

Discipline in and of itself does not make us righteous, it merely places us before God.

The transformation is God's work.

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).
- Thursday 31st August, 2023** is the Thursday preceding the 1st Friday of September. We are reminded of the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the Morning Mass at STM and Adoration at 7:00pm.
- Friday 1st September, 2023** is the First Friday of the month. We are also reminded that there will be morning Mass at STM and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the Morning Mass at SJF and Adoration at 7:00pm.
- Saturday 2nd September, 2023** is the First Saturday of the month. There will be Grotto devotion at SJF at 4:00pm. We are encouraged to come and seek for the Motherly intercession of our Lady of Grace for the month of September.
- Marriage Banns: 2nd** Publication between: **Michael Davis** son of (Mr. Anthony Eric Davis, & Mrs. Juliana Brobbey). And **Joy Tiekü** daughter of (Mr. Padmond Tiekü, and Mrs. Comfort Agyekum).
- Funeral Arrangements of:**
 - Mr. Joseph Kwame Attah**, was a former Catechist and a member of the Alogboshie Community is as follows:
 - > **Saturday 9th September, 2023:** Burial Mass at SJF at 8:00am
Attire: Black and White.
 - > **Sunday 10th September, 2023:** Thanksgiving Mass at SJF at 9:30am.
 - Mr. Eric Wowornyo**, son of Mad. Susanna Kwame is as follows:
 - > **Saturday 9th September, 2023:** Reception of body & Burial Mass at SJF at 8:00am.
 - > **Sunday 10th September, 2023:** Thanksgiving Mass at SJF at 9:30am.

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	STM AUG. WEEK2	STM AUG. WEEK3
SUNDAY	855.00	20.00	-----
MONDAY	962.00	20.00	-----
TUESDAY	581.00	20.00	1000.00
WEDNESDAY	892.50	-----	10.00
THURSDAY	698.00	-----	-----
FRIDAY	838.00	-----	120.00
SATURDAY	398.00	-----	
AUG. BORNIS	135.00	-----	
TOTAL	5359.50	60.00	1130.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM AUG. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	2399.90
SECOND COLLECTION	1388.90
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	2210.00
TOTAL	5998.80

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF AUG. WEEK1	SJF AUG. WEEK2	SJF AUG. WEEK3
SUNDAY	1307.00	5.00	-----
MONDAY	1675.00	100.00	500.00
TUESDAY	1300.40	-----	5100.00
WEDNESDAY	510.00	655.00	-----
THURSDAY	2097.50	358.00	20.00
FRIDAY	5057.70+\$2	-----	1.50
SATURDAY	3986.50	1000.00	200.00
AUG. BORNS	233.50	-----	-----
TOTAL	16167.60	2118.00	5821.50

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF AUG. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	4124.50 1500CFA
SECOND COLLECTION	1867.50
TOTAL	6020.50

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.sjf_youth
  Thomasmorejohnfisher.com
  SS Thomas More And John Fisher