



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

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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

10TH SEPTEMBER, 2023: TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **“TOGETHER, WE ARE BETTER.”**

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/

### TODAY'S READINGS

*First Reading:* Ez 33:7-9: The Son of Man is appointed as guardian of Israel.

*Responsorial Psalm:* Ps 95:1-2, 6-9

**O THAT TODAY YOU WOULD LISTEN TO HIS VOICE! HARDEN NOT YOUR HEARTS.**

*Second Reading:* Rom 13:8-10: The Law is summarised in the commandment to love your neighbour as yourself.

*Gospel Reading:* Mt 18:15-20: Jesus teaches his disciples how to settle disputes in the Church.

### REFLECTION

In today's gospel reading, we reflect on Jesus' teaching on how to resolve conflicts, particularly with a brother or sister who has wronged us. Jesus has always taught us that He desires unity among us. He prayed this to His Father in heaven in the Last Supper. And He asked this not just once but four times, to emphasise unity as essential in a community of believers (John 17:20-23).

He knows that conflicts will arise among us and He advises us today that reconciliation should be our goal when disagreements become cumbersome. He wants us to strive for unity because this is essential to fulfil God's greatest commandment of love.

### WEEKLY READINGS

<b>Mon 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023</b> Col 1:24- 2:3 Ps 62:6-7,9 Lk 6:6-11	<b>Tue 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023</b> The Holy Name of the BVM Col 2:6-15 Ps 145:1-2,8-11 Lk 6:12-19
<b>Wed 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023</b> St. John Chrysostom Col 3:1-11 Ps 145:10-11 Lk 6:20-26	<b>Thur 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023</b> The Triumph of the Cross Num 21:4-9 Ps 78:1-2,34-38 Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17
<b>Fri 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023</b> Our Lady of Sorrows 1Tim 1:1-2,12-14 Ps 16:1-2a,5,7-8,11 Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35	<b>Sat 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023</b> Ss. Cornelius & Cyprian 1Tim 1:15-17 Ps 113:1-7 Lk 6:43-49

#### Readings for Next Sunday

<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Sir 27:30-28:7</b>
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>Ps 103:1-4,9-12</b>
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Rom 14:7-9</b>
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Mt 18:21-35</b>

#### Mass Schedule

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



## KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

### THE NATURE OF THE PAPAL PRIMACY Continued from last week

#### E. The Pope, Vicar of Christ

The primacy of the Pope is a mystery in the economy of salvation. And to this mystery belong those internal statutes just previously spoken about. 'In his chief ministry the Pope is obliged by the objective rules of faithfulness which derive from the revealed word of God, from the fundamental constitution of the Church and by Tradition.' He has the necessary divine assistance to carry out his office. But this does not relieve him of a very grave responsibility before Christ whom God has appointed to judge everyone, alive or dead (Acts 10:42). It demands of the holder of the office of bishop of the Catholic Church humility, prudence and holiness and of the faithful continual prayer to God for the head of the Church on earth.

However, and this is important, on earth there is no external tribunal, neither in the Church nor in civil society to which one can appeal against his decisions. The Pope must look for advice, take the steps which prudence demands in the delicate function of governing the Church, listen to the opinion of his brother bishops, etc., but 'the judgement of the apostolic See, whose authority is unsurpassed, is not subject to review by anyone, nor is anyone allowed to pass judgement on his decisions. Therefore, those who say that it is permitted to appeal to an ecumenical council from the decisions of the Roman Pontiff (as to an authority superior to the Roman Pontiff) are far from the straight path of truth.'

We reach here, perhaps, the nerve center of all teaching about the primacy. It is what most brings out the fact that we are faced with a 'mystery of faith' and not with 'an organizational factor' in the Church ascertainable by the natural light of human reason. But it also brings us to take our stance on what is the ultimate basis of the whole mystery, a basis which is centered on Christ himself. The basis of the primacy is, on the one hand, its historical institution be Christ, but on the other, it is the actual presence today of Christ in the primatial acts of the Pope.

'The relation of the primacy to Christ is not only historical-causal but also actual-causal, for in the activity of the Pope Christ himself is audible and visible. Of the Pope it can truly be said: he acts in the person of Christ.' With theological wisdom St. Catherine of Siena called the Pope the 'gentle Christ on earth' but at the same time, conscious of the moral responsibility of the Pope, she urged him to exercise with fortitude his 'service of unity' in the Church, that is to say, to be faithful to his most important mission.

## PRAYER FOR GOD'S INTERVENTION

From the time when St. Clement of Rome intervened in the affairs of the church of Corinth to re-establish peace in that troubled community down to our own days with its contemporary methods for governing the universal Church, the Roman Pontiffs have been the instruments willed by Christ for maintaining unity among the bishops and for keeping the multitude of the faithful, that is to say, the Church, in a unity of faith and communion. The ways of exercising the primacy have varied with time, but its substance does not change for it is immutable. Accordingly, the primacy cannot be watered down in the wake of 'episcopal' or 'democratic' ideals.

'When the Pope acts in virtue of his office, he represents at one and the same time the whole Church and the entire body of bishops. But one cannot deduce from this that he receives his power from the community of believers or from the bishops. On the contrary, he receives it from Christ.' 'The Pope,' writes Cardinal Ratzinger, 'is not just someone who speaks in the name of the bishops, a kind of mouthpiece they give themselves and which is there to do their bidding. The Pope is where he is, with a direct responsibility before God, to take the place of the Lord, and to ensure the unity of the word and work of Christ, in the same way as Christ gave Peter that same function within the community of the Twelve.'

## ORDINARY TIME II



# BIBLE SHARING RESUMES THIS WEDNESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER, 2023 @ SJF @ 7:00PM.



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 RIGHT PLACE

A mother and a baby camel were lying around under a tree. Then the baby camel asked, "Why do camels have humps?" The mother camel considered this and said, "We are desert animals so we have the humps to store water so we can survive with very little water." The baby camel thought for a moment then said, "Ok...why are our legs long and our feet rounded?" The mama replied, "They are meant for walking in the desert." The baby paused. After a beat, the camel asked, "Why are our eyelashes long? Sometimes they get in my way." The mama responded, "Those long thick eyelashes protect your eyes from the desert sand when it blows in the wind.

The baby thought and thought. Then he said, "I see. So the hump is to store water when we are in the desert, the legs are for walking through the desert and these eyelashes protect my eyes from the desert then why in the Zoo?"

**The Lesson:** *Skills and abilities are only useful if you are in the right place at the right time. Otherwise they go to waste.*

## YOUTH CORNER

### THINGS WE NEED TO DO AS YOUTH

1. **Respect yourself:** When you respect others it will be easy for them to respect you as well. Respect is also earned and reciprocal when you respect people they will respect you back and if you behave well with others you might just earn their respect.
2. **Be grateful:** A little gratitude goes a long way when it is genuine. We should be grateful when something is done for or given to us no matter how small it is. After all it's the thought that counts.
3. **Have good friends:** Most of us learnt this the hard way. You can't just go around making friends with everyone you talk to, that doesn't mean you shouldn't be nice and treat them with respect. Having good friends ensures you are able to attain your goals and your values are still being kept. So get friends who will support your dreams and make sure they also have the same values.
4. **Enjoy the little things in life:** We want to get things done so quickly that we forget about the little things. Relax, take a step back, put your phone down and enjoy nature. Take a walk, talk to someone, laugh, go to the beach and watch the waves, feel the sand between your feet. All these little things could brighten your day and lift your mood.

## 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).
- Meetings:
  - ❖ The New Achimota Kopevi Akweteyman Achimota Town Community will meet next Sunday at SJF after 9:30am Mass.
  - ❖ The Young Christian Workers Movement will meet next Sunday after the 7:00am Mass.
  - ❖ The Christian Mothers Association will meet next Sunday after the 9:30am Mass.
- Marriage Banns:**  
2nd Publication between: **Eugene Nii Ayitey Adade**, son (Mr. Christopher Adade and Mrs. Abigail Adade) And **Selinam Afi Seglah**, daughter of (Mr. Eric Seglah & Mrs. Mary Okine)
- St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind the Northern Union of their visitation to Achimota Group A this month, and to Young Christian Workers to Kissehman in October. Parishioners are to check the SSVP Gallery notice boards to see pictures of visits.
- The death is reported of Mad. Juliana Akweley Kwame was a member of the Alogboshie Community, SSVP Ward, Ave Maria Society and Mother of Faustina Kwame of the Main Choir, Marshallan, Akweteyman/kopevi Community and Ave Maria Society. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.
- Funeral Arrangements of Mr. Geshion Kwaku Biewotsor Blewusi**, was father of Rev. Fr. John Blewusi is as follows:
  - ❖ **Saturday 16th September 2023:** Burial Mass at 9:00am at Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Aflao in the Volta Region.
  - ❖ **Sunday 17th September 2023:** Memorial Service at 9:00am at Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Aflao in the Volta Region.

## 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 SEP. WEEK1
SUNDAY	753.00
MONDAY	1184.40
TUESDAY	1175.60
WEDNESDAY	1388.00
THURSDAY	585.70
FRIDAY	1487.50
SATURDAY	447.00
SEP. BORN	56.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7077.20</b>

### Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM SEP. WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	1966.50
TITHE	2520.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	450.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4936.50</b>

# FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF SEP. WEEK1
SUNDAY	1300.00
MONDAY	2267.20+£50
TUESDAY	1698.00
WEDNESDAY	741.50+\$20
THURSDAY	2168.50
FRIDAY	1564.80
SATURDAY	1851.00
SEP. BORNS	342.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12776.50</b>

### Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF SEP. WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	3386.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3386.10</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	-	<b>100.00</b>
Youth	-	<b>50.00</b>
Kids	-	<b>20.00 or more</b>



Instagram: @Stm.sjf\_youth
Website: Thomasmorejohnfisher.com
Facebook: SS Thomas More And John Fisher