

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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

24TH SEPTEMBER, 2023: TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME , YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "GOD'S GENEROSITY HAS NO BOUNDARIES."

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Is 55:6-9: God's ways are far beyond the ways of human beings.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 **THE LORD IS CLOSE TO ALL WHO CALL HIM.**

Second Reading: Phil 1:20c-24,27a: Paul tells the Philippians to live for Christ.

Gospel Reading: Mt 20:1-16a: In the parable of the workers in the vineyard, Jesus teaches about God's generous mercy.

REFLECTION

The landowner hired labourers at different times of the day, and at the end of the day, he paid them all the same wage, regardless of how long they worked. Some may view this as unfair, but the landowner's actions reveal a deeper truth: God's grace is not earned through our efforts or measured by human standards.

This parable reminds us that God's love is abundant and freely given. It's not a reward for our labour but a gift of His grace. We should avoid comparing ourselves to others and feeling entitled to more. Instead, we should approach life with gratitude for the blessings we receive, recognizing that God's ways are higher than our ways.

In a world that often values merit and fairness, this parable challenges us to embrace the boundless generosity of God and to extend that same generosity to others in our lives. Let us be grateful for God's grace, and may we strive to share His love and compassion with all those we encounter on our journey of faith. 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**/

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 25 TH SEPTEMBER, 2023 Ezra 1:1-6 Ps 126:1-6 Lk 8:16-18 Wed 27 TH SEPTEMBER, 2023	Tue 26 TH SEPTEMBER, 2023 St. Januarius, Bishop, Martyr Ezra 6:7-8,12b,14=20 Ps 122:1-5 Lk 8:19-21 Thur 28 TH SEPTEMBER, 2023
St. Vincent de Paul Ezra 9:5-9 Ps Tob 13:2-5,8 Lk 9:1-6	Hui 28 SEFTEMBER, 2023 Ss. Wenceslaus & Lawrence Hg 1:1-8 Ps 150:1-6,9 Lk 9:7-9
Fri 29TH SEPTEMBER, 2023 Ss. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael (Archangels) Dan 7 :9-10,13-14 or Rev 12:7- 12a Ps 138:1-5 Jn 1:47-51	Sat 30 TH SEPTEMBER, 2023 St. Jerome Zec 2:5-9,14-15a Ps Jer 31:10-13 Lk 9:43b-45

Readings for Next Sunday		
First Reading	Ez 18:25-28	
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 25:4-9	
Second Reading	Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-111	
Gospel	Mt 21:28-32	

Mass Schedule		
St. Thomas More	St. John Fisher	
First Mass: 7:00AM	First Mass: 6:30 AM	
Second Mass: 9:30AM	Second Mass: 9:30AM	



KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

WHY DO WE SING GLORIA AT MASS?

The Gloria (Latin for "glory") is a beautiful prayer that we sing towards the beginning of Mass, meant as a way to direct our praises to God in celebration of His coming as a man 2000 years ago.

Confident that the Lord will forgive us our sins, we now sing out, giving praise to God in imitation of the angels in heaven. This prayer of the Mass is actually an ancient hymn with three parts. The first part is the song that the shepherds heard sung by the heavenly choir of angels at the birth of Christ: "And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." Luke 2:13–14. The second part praises God by recalling all his attributes. The third part prays to Jesus, asking Him to save us from our sins.

After calling to mind our sinfulness both in the Confiteor and Kyrie, we now call to mind the Incarnation of God. This is a prayer to God the Father, reminding Him that the Church gathered in this building is the incarnate Body of His Son. To do this, we sing a Christian song... the song the angels sang to the shepherds in Bethlehem.

Monsignor Ronald Knox, in a book called *The Mass in Slow Motion*, written in 1949, spoke of the Gloria as a time to cheer us up after groveling in the first part of the Mass. In case we get too down on ourselves, this prayer is a means to take the focus away from us and turn it again towards God, giving God praise for sending His Son to save us from our sinful plight.

Article by Mike Dubruiel (The How-To Book of The Mass)

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.

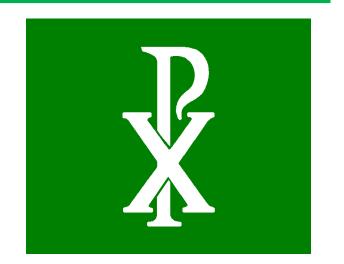
We humbly beseech you to help us win back our Land in this dispute. Save us from violence, discord and confusion and the evil plans of our adversaries.

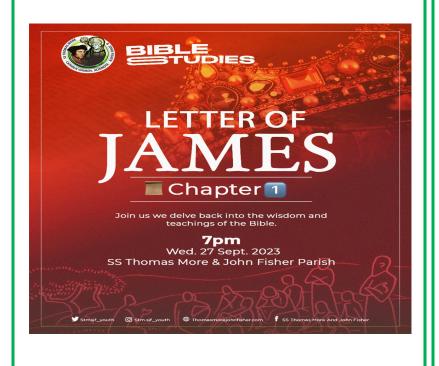
For the Court of Justice, we pray that you will give them the spirit of Wisdom and Understanding that they may discern the truth and impartially administer the law in the fear of you alone. May they not yield to deceit and acts of bribery and corruption but uphold the truth and let justice prevail.

May your Mother Mary intercede for us and may the Archangel Michael defend us in battle. We make our 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







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 ELEPHANT AND THE ANTS

The mighty elephant constantly bullied the tiny ants who once had enough and bit the elephant inside his trunk, leaving him in excruciating pain.

Moral: Treat others with kindness. (EuroKids)

YOUTH CORNER

SETTING AND ACHIEVING GOALS THE RIGHT WAY

1. **Decide**: Determine the goal you want to attain and start working on it. It must be attainable and should have a time limit.

2. **Show commitment**: After deciding on the goal show commitment and dedication to it. This will make it easier for you to be devoted.

3. **Make a plan**: The plan should include when you want to start, how to attain it, challenges you might face and when you expect to finish.

4. Write it down: Putting your goals on paper is beneficial because it lets you know how far you've come and what's left to accomplish.

5. **Tell someone**: Telling your goals will make it harder for you to back out. It should be someone you trust.

6. **Be positive**: Why set goals and be negative about them. Be your number one fan. Motivate yourself into successfully completing them.

7. **Take action**: After all these just begin moving toward your goal.

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).
- Join us as we delve back into the Wisdom and Teachings of the Bible from the Letter of James this Wednesday, 27th September, 2023 at SJF at 7:00pm.

3. Meetings:

- The St. Francis of Assisi, Nigerian Community will have their monthly meeting next Sunday 1st October, 2023 at SJF after the 9:30am Mass.
- The St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Society & Northern Union will have their monthly next Sunday 1st October, 2023 at STM after the 7:00am Mass.
- The Holy Family Akan Kuo will also have their monthly meeting next Sunday 1st October, 2023 at STM after the 9:30am Mass.
- 4. 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.

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 <u>at least six</u> <u>months to a year</u> 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: Besohwξ! 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 SEPT. WEEK1	STM SEPT. WEEK2	STM SEPT. WEEK3
SUNDAY	753.00	50.00	
MONDAY	1184.40	70.00	10.00
TUESDAY	1175.60	40.00	20.00
WEDNESDAY	1388.00	770.00	
THURSDAY	585.70		
FRIDAY	1487.50	140.00	20.00
SATURDAY	447.00		
SEPT. BORNS	56.00		
TOTAL	7077.20	1070.00	50.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections		
SUNDAY	STM SEPT. WEEK3	
MAIN COLLECTION	2106.80+ £40	
SECOND COLLECTION	1411.90	
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	795.00	
TOTAL	4883.30	

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF SEPT. WEEK1	SJF SEPT. WEEK2	SJF SEPT. WEEK3
SUNDAY	1300.00	50.00	2105.00
MONDAY	2267.20+£50	100.00	25.00
TUESDAY	1698.00		
WEDNESDAY	741.50+\$20	920.00	5.00
THURSDAY	2168.50	610.00	
FRIDAY	1564.80	600.00	200.00
SATURDAY	1851.00		200.00
SEPT. BORNS	342.50		
TOTAL	12776.50	2280.00	2535.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF SEPT. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	4046.30
SECOND COLLECTION	2250.00
TITHE	700.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	41.00
TOTAL	7037.30

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

