



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

1ST OCTOBER, 2023: TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "OUR LIVES SHOULD SERVE GOD AND NOT IMPRESS HIM."

Rev. Fr. George Obeng Appah (*Parish Priest*) 020-8592020
Rev. Fr. Clement Quagrainne (*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 18:25-28: It is possible to turn from sin and preserve one's life.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 25:4-9

REMEMBER YOUR COMPASSION, O LORD

Second Reading: Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5: Be like Christ who humbled himself and was exalted by God.

Gospel Reading: Mt 21:28-32: Jesus poses a question to the chief priests and elders on the meaning of obedience.

REFLECTION

Beloved, today's gospel tells the story of a man who tasked his sons with working in his vineyard. The first son initially refused his father's command but later repented and went to work. The second son, who appeared obedient, ultimately refused to go to the vineyard. In this gospel narrative, The man symbolizes God, and the sons represent us, God's children. As God's children, we are called to be ready to contribute to the well-being of the Church, which is likened to the vineyard.

At times, we may perceive God's work as burdensome, especially when it requires our time and resources. Consequently, we often hesitate to engage fully. Yet, like the first son, it is never too late to reconsider our decision to work for God. God knows our capabilities even before assigning tasks to us. We should view this as a privilege rather than a burden, always mindful that we can follow the example of the first son.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 2ND OCTOBER, 2023

The Guardian Angels

Zec 8:1-8

Ps 102:16-21,29,22-23

Mt 18:1-5,10

Tue 3RD OCTOBER, 2023

Zec 8:20-23

Ps 87:1-7

Lk 9:51-56

Wed 4TH SEPTEMBER, 2023

St. Francis of Assisi

Neh 2:1-8

Ps 137:1-6

Lk 9:57-62

Thur 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2023

Neh 8:1-4a,5-6,7b-12

Ps 19:8-11

Lk 10:1-12

Fri 6TH OCTOBER, 2023

St. Bruno

Bar 1:15-22

Ps 79:1-5,8-9

Lk 10:13-16

Sat 7TH OCTOBER, 2023

Our Lady of the Rosary

Bar 4:5-12,27-29

Ps 69:33-37

Lk 10:17-24

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading

Is 5:1-7

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 80:9,12-16,19-20

Second Reading

Phil 4:6-9

Gospel

Mt 21:33-43

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 OMIT GLORIA DURING ADVENT AND LENT?

We sometimes recite or sing the Gloria every Sunday at Mass, Solemnities, and Feasts except in Advent and Lent. What is the Church's reason?

Advent is a great season of preparation for a greater mystery: the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. The omission of Gloria, a song that recalls the Lord's first coming, gives us pause during this season to think of what is missing. In reflecting upon what is missing, Advent, which is a penitential season of the Church, calls us to the same conversion that St. John the Baptist called the Jews as they awaited the arrival of the Messiah. Even though the Church sings "Alleluia" during Advent, because the Gloria is a prayer or song of joy, it is suppressed during Advent and is not heard until the vigil Mass on Christmas Eve. Therefore, since Gloria is the Mother of all Carols, we don't sing the mother-of-all carols, the song of the angels, until the appropriate time (Chinaka, 2016). It also predisposes us to pray for His Second Coming; ultimately, it prepares us to joyfully sing the Gloria on Christmas when we celebrate the Lord's coming. However, when there is a Solemnity at Advent (for example, the Immaculate Conception), the Gloria can be said or chanted. (Dubruiel, 2007)

Lent is also a penitential season. This means that it is a time for us to be honest about what needs to change in our lives as well as how we need to grow closer to God. It begins with the imposition of ashes on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday when we are reminded of Adams and Eve's fault: *"Remember you are dust, and dust you will return"*. We are called to meditate on what our lives would be like if Christ did not come to save us; hence, the Church refrains from the Gloria during Lent. It also allows us to wallow a bit in our sins, but only to more fully experience what God has done for us in sending His Son, who moves toward Jerusalem to suffer and die for our sins. Fittingly, at the beginning of the Easter Triduum (literally the "three-day festival of Easter") on Holy Thursday, bells will ring joyfully as we sing the Gloria at the end of our long fast. (Dubruiel, 2007)

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.

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|---------------------------------|-------------|
| St. Thomas More..... | Pray for us |
| St. John Fisher..... | Pray for us |
| All you Angels and Saints | Pray for us |

IT'S HAPPENING TODAY

MAIN CHOIR CONCERT

THEME
LORD YOU HAVE BEEN OUR DWELLING PLACE
THROUGHOUT ALL GENERATIONS.
PSALM 90:1

4pm SS Thomas More & John Fisher Parish GA-301-1234 **1st Oct.**

Twitter: @stm_of_youth Instagram: @stm_of_youth Facebook: thomasmorejohnfisher.com Facebook: SS Thomas More And John Fisher

UPCOMING PROGRAM

**CATECHETICAL WEEK
CELEBRATION
FROM 9TH - 15TH OCTOBER,
2023
@SJF @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

THE HIDDEN TREASURE

A dying father told his sons there was treasure in a farmland. They dug it but to no avail. A stranger told them to plant some seeds, which they painstakingly did. That led to an abundance of crops. Selling them, they became rich.

Moral: No pain, no gain.

YOUTH CORNER

PUT GOD IN THE CENTRE OF IT ALL

When we toil without God, we can put in much energy and get very little gain to show for our effort.

However, when we work hard and also let God be involved in what we do, He gives our effort a divine touch that produces a miraculous outflow of fruitfulness in abundance. It is for our advantage that we let God be involved in the things we do, because without Him we can definitely make no way in this life.

Today, make sure that you do not take the journey alone. Allow the Lord to go with you and by His help you will definitely witness success; be it in work, business, study, career, relationships, etc.

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 fulfill all other Church Financial Obligations. (e.g., Church Dues, Welfare Dues and Building Fund).
2. **Saturday 7th October, 2023 is the First Saturday of the month and also the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. There will be Grotto devotion at SJF at 4:00pm. We are encouraged to come and seek the Motherly intercession of our Lady of Grace for the month of October, the month of the Rosary.**
3. St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind the Young Christian Workers **of their visitation** to Kissehman in the month of October, and Ave Maria Society in the month of November. Parishioners are to check the SSVF Gallery notice boards to see pictures of visits.
4. **Death Report:**
 - a. Mr. Edmund Atiogbe a member of the Alogboshie Community and father of Valentine Atiogbe. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.
 - b. Mr. James Kwakye a member of the Holy Family Akan Kuo. Funeral Arrangements will be announced later.
 - c. Mr. James Opoku Acheampong also a member of the Holy Family Akan Kuo. Funeral Arrangements will be announced later.

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 SEPT. WEEK1	STM SEPT. WEEK2	STM SEPT. WEEK3	STM SEPT. WEEK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSITION S
SUNDAY	753.00	50.00	----	----	803.00	5TH
MONDAY	1184.40	70.00	10.00	----	1264.40	3RD
TUESDAY	1175.60	40.00	20.00	12.00	1247.60	4TH
WEDNESDAY	1388.00	770.00	----	----	2158.00	1ST
THURSDAY	585.70	----	----	----	585.70	6TH
FRIDAY	1487.50	140.00	20.00	----	1647.50	2ND
SATURDAY	447.00	----	----	20.00	467.00	7TH
SEPT. BORNES	56.00	----	----	----	56.00	
TOTAL	7077.20	1070.00	50.00	32.00	8229.20	

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM SEPT. WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	1712.40
SECOND COLLECTION	973.70
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	290.00
TOTAL	2976.10

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF SEPT. WEEK1	SJF SEPT. WEEK2	SJF SEPT. WEEK3	SJF SEPT. WEEK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSITION S
SUNDAY	1300.00	50.00	2105.00	10.00	3465.00	2 ND
MONDAY	2267.20+£50	100.00	25.00	1.00	3007.20	3 RD
TUESDAY	1698.00	-----	-----	101.00	1799.00	7 TH
WEDNESDAY	741.50+\$20	920.00	5.00	210.00	2105.50	6 TH
THURSDAY	2168.50	610.00	-----	-----	2778.50	4 TH
FRIDAY	1564.80	600.00	200.00	4000.00	6364.80	1 ST
SATURDAY	1851.00	-----	200.00	200.00	2251.00	5 TH
SEPT. BORNES	342.50	-----	-----	-----	342.50	
TOTAL	12776.50	2280.00	2535.00	4522.00	20113.50	

SUNDAY	SJF SEPT. WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	4582.80
SECOND COLLECTION	2573.80
TOTAL	7156.60

ALL FOREIGN CURRENCIES HAVE BEEN CONVERTED INTO CEDIS.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER.



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