

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

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## **WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

22ND OCTOBER, 2023: TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH IS ALSO OUR MISSION"

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 45:1, 4-6: The Lord chooses Cyrus to subdue the nations for the sake of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 95:1, 3-5, 7-10

#### **GIVE THE LORD GLORY AND POWER.**

**Second Reading:** 1Thes 1:1-5b: Paul greets the Thessalonians, recalling the Gospel they received.

*Gospel Reading:* Mt 22:15-21: The Pharisees send their disciples to test Jesus with a question about taxes.

#### REFLECTION

In the Gospel, Jesus conveys a timeless message, saying, "Render to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's." This teaching underscores the need to balance our responsibilities to both the Church and our country. Neglecting our civic duties can lead to religious arrogance and hinder national progress, affecting areas like education, healthcare, industry, and the economy. We must remember that God doesn't directly intervene in worldly affairs; it's our duty to contribute to our society's welfare. On the other hand, dismissing religion in favour of a purely secular worldview can make us close-minded and intolerant, even within our communities. This can lead to unwavering political alignment, similar to the behaviour of the Herodians. True wholeness lies in striking a balance, being sincere in our faith and our commitment to our nation. By embodying this teaching, we show that we are Christians not just in name but in action, actively contributing to a more compassionate and just society.

#### **WEEKLY READINGS**

Mon 23 <sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER, 2023	Tue 24 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2023
St. John Capistrano	St. Anthony Mary Claret
Rom 4:20-25	Rom 5:12,15b,17-19,20b-21
Ps Lk 1:69-75	Ps 40:7-10,17
Lk 12:13-21	Lk 12:35-38
Wed 25 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2023	Thurs 26 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2023
Rom 6:12-18	Rom 6:19-23
Ps 124:1-8	Ps 1:1-4,6
Lk 12:39-48	Lk 12:49-53
Fri 27 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2023	Sat 28 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2023
Rom 7:18-25a	Sts. Simon & Jude
Ps 119:66,68,76-77,93-94	Eph 2:19-22
Lk 12:54-59	Ps 19:2-5
	Lk 6:12-16

Readings for Next Sunday	
First Reading	Ex 22:20-26
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 18:2-4,47,51
Second Reading	1Thes 1;5C-10
Gospel	Mt 22:34-40

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



### KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

#### THE CONFITEOR - Part 3

#### PRAY FOR ME

We call upon the Blessed Virgin Mary, all the angels and saints in heaven, and the people in our midst (our brothers and sisters in Christ) to pray to God for us.

Stop and think about this for a moment. The ancient belief of the Church is that when we gather to pray as a Church, the group that gathers is more than meets the eye. Literally, heaven comes down this spot, and we are joined by all of its inhabitants – the angels and saints. Most Catholic churches have art that symbolizes the presence of these other statues and painted images. As we ask them to join our prayer, we should be mindful of the purity of the prayers – my neighbor might think for a second to pray for me, but surely if I ask the Mother of God, the saints, and the angels to pray for me, they will do so incessantly.

In the materialistic world, we tend to forget that there is more to the world than meets the eye. We acknowledge the unseen in the signals sent to our cell phones or other wireless devices, but fail many times to call upon the much more powerful force and certainly time-tested power of God's angels and saints.

Give thought to what you are asking the Blessed Virgin Mary, the angels, and the saints to do. Also, give thought to what the people gathered with you and the priest are asking you to do and do it. Ask God to hear their prayers.

## PRAYER FOR GOD'S INTERVENTION IN OUR LAND CASE

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

#### A THREE DAY MARIAN RALLY



#### A THREE DAY MARIAN RALLY

Sunday 29th Tuesday 31st October, 2023 to climax the October Rosary Month.

The Program Outline is as follows:

Theme: "Mary our Mediator in times of trouble".

**Day 1**: Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2023: A Talk within all the Masses.

**Day 2**: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2023: A Talk at STM at 6:30pm.

**Day 3**: Tuesday 31st October, 2023: Candle Light Procession, Crowning at Grotto, Talk, Blessing of Sacramental and Burning of Intentions at SJF from 6:30pm to 8:00pm.



#### **MOTIVATION**

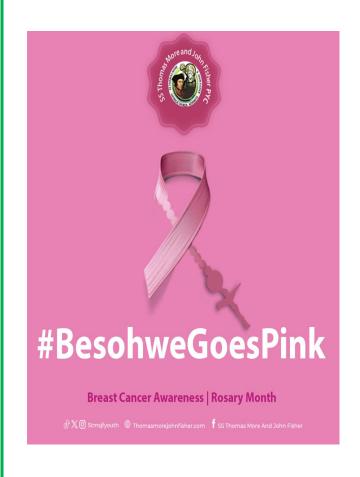
#### THE FOX & THE GRAPES

One afternoon a fox was walking through the forest and spotted a bunch of grapes hanging from over a lofty branch. "Just the thing to quench my thirst," he thought. Taking a few steps back, the fox jumped and just missed the hanging grapes. Again, the fox took a few paces back and tried to reach them but still failed.

Finally, giving up, the fox turned up his nose and said, "They're probably sour anyway," and proceeded to walk away.

Moral of the story: It's easy to despise what you can't have.

#### **YOUTH CORNER**



#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- We are reminded of our Annual Harvest which comes off on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 at the 7:00am Mass at STM, and at the 6:30am & 10:00am Masses at SJF. We are 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).
- The Parish Youth Council would like to remind all parishioners of the Breast Cancer Screening happening next Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 after all Masses, and the sales of the pink ribbon at GHC 5 to enable them raise funds for the screening.
- 3. The quarterly Daily Devotional booklets for all children are still available. Kindly get one for your kids. A copy goes for GHC15
- St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind the Ave Maria Society of their visitation in the month of November. Parishioners are to check the SSVP Gallery notice boards to see pictures of visits.
- Marriage Banns: 3rd Publication between Joseph Kojo Yovo, son of Mr. Philip Yovo & Mrs. Vincentia Yovo And Immaculate Ruth Mbor, daughter of Mr. Joshua Nyunfa & Judith Amenovi.
- The death is reported of: Worthy Bro. Eric Osei Owusu, a member of the Marshallans Society. His funeral details will be announced later.
- Funeral Arrangement of Mrs. Doris Yeboaa Boateng wife of Mr. Mike Atiadevey a member of the Achimota Town Community is as follows:
  - Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2023: Pre-Burial Service at the forecourt of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, Asiwa (Bosome-Freho District, Ashanti Region) from 6:30am to 8:30am and Burial Service from 9:00am to 11:30am. Funeral Rites from 1:00pm to 6:00pm.
  - Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2023: Thanksgiving Service at the same venue at 9:00am and Final Funeral Rites from 12:00pm to 6:00pm.

#### **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: 9am -1pm & 2 pm - 5pm: and Sunday: 9 am - 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

	STM	STM	STM
WEEKDAYS	OCT.	OCT.	OCT.
	WEEK1	WEEK2	WEEK3
SUNDAY	570.00	190.00	22.00
MONDAY	1248.00	20.00	
TUESDAY	2099.00	500.00	800.00
WEDNESDAY	2106.00	15.00	
THURSDAY	972.50	1270.00	330.00
FRIDAY	890.00	20.00	
SATURDAY	634.00		
OCT. BORNS	172.00		
TOTAL	8691.50	2015.00	1152.00

## Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM OCT. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	2494.20
SECOND COLLECTION	1230.30
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	1540.00
TOTAL	5264.50

### FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

	SJF	SJF	SJF
WEEKDAYS	OCT.	OCT.	OCT.
	WEEK1	WEEK2	WEEK3
SUNDAY	2160.50		1.00
MONDAY	2686.00+£100		
TUESDAY	586.20	100.00	
WEDNESDAY	819.00+\$100	5.00	205.00
THURSDAY	2209.00	300.00	194.80
FRIDAY	1181.00+\$400	250.00	100.00
SATURDAY	1715.00	20.00	
OCT. BORNS	473.00		
TOTAL	18869.70	675.00	500.80

## Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF OCT. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	3840.00
SECOND COLLECTION	2132.10
OFFERTORY	800.00
ENVELOPES	+\$100
TITHE	300.00
TOTAL	8235.10

#### THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

