



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

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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

29TH OCTOBER, 2023: THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **“Love is a priceless Gift from God.”**

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:** Ex 22:20-26: The Lord teaches that compassion ought to be shown to the alien and to the poor.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51

**I LOVE YOU, LORD, MY STRENGTH.**

**Second Reading:** 1Thes 1:5c-10: Paul tells the Thessalonians that their conversion to the Lord has been an example to all believers.

**Gospel Reading:** Mt 22:34-40: The Pharisees continue to test Jesus with a question about the greatest commandment.

### REFLECTION

Today we are reminded that the commandments to love God and our neighbors are inseparable. As we reflect on today's Gospel passage, we see Jesus emphasizing this unity in response to the lawyer's question. To begin, we are called to personalize our love for God through a profound commitment that encompasses our entire being - our heart, soul, and mind. This commitment deepens as we engage in continuous communication with God through prayer, the study of His word, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Yet, the depth of our love for God is most fully realized when we express it through our actions. It is by extending this love to our neighbours - be they family, friends, colleagues, strangers, or foreigners - that we bring love to life. For love, unexpressed remains hollow, and its essence is elusive. In our interactions with others, we have the opportunity to embody the love of God. Acts of kindness, patience, selflessness, and a willingness to make sacrifices are the fundamental ways in which we express this divine love. We must also maintain a hopeful outlook for one another, while consciously avoiding envy, rudeness, boastfulness, self-centeredness, and the habit of harbouring grudges.

### WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 30 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2023	Tue 31 <sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, 2023
Rom 8:12-17 Ps 68:2,4,6-7,20-21 Lk 13:10-17	Rom 8:18-25 Ps 126:1-6 Lk 13:18-21
Wed 1 <sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER, 2023	Thurs 2 <sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER, 2023
<b>All Saints</b> Rev 7:2-4,9-14 Ps 24:1-6 1Jn 3:1-3 Mt 5:1-12a	<b>All Souls</b> Wis 3:1-9 Ps 23:1-6 Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9 Jn 6:37-40
Fri 3 <sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER, 2023	Sat 4 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2023
<b>St. Martin de Porres</b> Rom 9:1-5 Ps 148:12-15,19-20 Lk 14:1-6	<b>St. Charles Borromeo</b> Rom 11:1-2a,11-12,25-29 Ps 94:12-15,17-18 Lk 14:1,7-11

### Readings for Next Sunday

<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Mal 1:14b-2:2b,8-10</b>
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>Ps 131:1-3</b>
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>1Thes 2:7b-9,13</b>
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Mt 23:1-12</b>

### Mass Schedule

<i>St. Thomas More</i>	<i>St. John Fisher</i>
<b>First Mass: 7:00 AM</b>	<b>First Mass: 6:30 AM</b>
	<b>Second Mass: 10:00 AM</b>



## KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

### THE CONFITEOR - Part 4

- Lord, Have Mercy (Kyrie)

Saint Paul said that it is only in the Spirit that we can acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord. In praying the Kyrie (Greek for “Lord”), we are acknowledging that Jesus is Lord. When the ancient Jews would come across the sacred name of God in the Scripture, they were forbidden to say His name. Only the high priest could intone the name once a year. So, what did the Jewish people do? Whenever they would come upon the name of God, they would say “Lord.”

So, in this prayer, we pray to Jesus as God and ask Him for His forgiveness for our sins. At times in the history of the Mass, the threefold repetition of *“Lord, have mercy”* has been a way of asking the Triune God for mercy; the first time we said “Lord, have mercy,” we were invoking the Father; the “Christ have mercy” referred to the Son; and the final “Lord, have mercy referred to the Holy Spirit. Older Catholic will also remember that each invocation was said three times instead of two times, as it is now. The current meaning of the “lord, ...” “Christ, ...” and “Lord, ...” all refer to Jesus.

If the prayer is prayed as *“Kyrie, eleison”* and *“Christe, eleison”*, it is the remnant of an ancient prayer in Greek. Because the New Testament was written in Greek, here we are praying in the language of the earthly Church.

**NB:** In Matthew 9:27–30, two blind men follow Jesus and cry out, *“Have mercy on us, Son of David.”* After asking them if they have faith, Jesus heals them of their blindness.

## 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 |

## ORDINARY TIME II



# MARIAN RALLY

TO CLIMAX THE ROSARY MONTH.

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 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023: Candle Light Procession, Crowning at Grotto, Talk, Blessing of Sacramental and Burning of Intentions at SJF from 6:30pm to 8:00pm.

***DO NOT BE LEFT OUT!!!***



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 SCORPION AND THE FROG

*The Scorpion and the Frog* is a fable about **trust**, **human nature**, and **malevolence**. One of the many versions goes as follows:

A scorpion asks a frog to carry him over a river. The frog is afraid of being stung, but the scorpion argues that if it did so, both would sink and the scorpion would drown. The frog then agrees, but midway across the river, the scorpion does indeed sting the frog, dooming them both. When asked why, the scorpion points out that this is its nature.

**The moral of the story:** You can't outsmart human nature. Be realistic about changing vicious people; sometimes they even act against their own interests.

## YOUTH CORNER

### THINGS YOU SHOULD NOT APOLOGIZE FOR

1. **Saying no:** It is completely okay to say no to something or someone that makes you uncomfortable. You can't just go around trying to please everybody.
2. **Spending money on yourself:** Why should you apologize for treating yourself, you should be priority number one. This doesn't mean you should push others aside just for the fun of it.
3. **Someone else:** In case an apology is needed it is not your place to do so on someone else's behalf.
4. **Your priorities:** There is no need to feel sorry for prioritizing things in your life and sticking to it.
5. **Your imperfections:** Everyone has flaws and so long as no one is getting hurt it's okay.
6. **Ending a toxic relationship:** The only person you should apologize to after a toxic relationship is yourself because you have been through a lot.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. 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).
2. **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2023 is the Solemnity of All Saints.** We shall have our usual Morning Masses at both STM & SJF at 6:15am and also Evening Mass at STM at 7:00pm.
3. **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2023 is the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls).** We shall have our usual Morning Masses at both STM & SJF at 6:15am and also Evening Mass at STM at 7:00pm. We are reminded that there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the Morning Mass at STM and benediction before the evening Mass.
4. Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 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 the maternal intercession of our Lady of Grace for the New Month.
5. **Funeral Arrangement** of Mad. Patience Akweley Foli a member of the Alogboshie Community is as follows:
  - Saturday 4th November, 2023: Burial Mass at SJF at 8:00am.
  - Sunday 5th November, 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: 9am - 1pm & 2 pm - 5pm: and Sunday: 9 am - 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 OCT. WEEK1	STM OCT. WEEK2	STM OCT. WEEK3	STM OCT. WEEK4
SUNDAY	570.00	190.00	22.00	700.00
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	-----	-----	20.00
OCT. BORNES	172.00	-----	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8691.50</b>	<b>2015.00</b>	<b>1152.00</b>	<b>720.00</b>

### Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM OCT. WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	2388.10
SECOND COLLECTION	3614.95
TITHE	150.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	1010.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7163.05</b>

# FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF OCT. WEEK1	SJF OCT. WEEK2	SJF OCT. WEEK3	SJF OCT. WEEK4
SUNDAY	2160.50	-----	1.00	20.00
MONDAY	2686.00+£100	-----	-----	-----
TUESDAY	586.20	100.00	-----	100.00
WEDNESDAY	819.00+\$100	5.00	205.00	220.00
THURSDAY	2209.00	300.00	194.80	-----
FRIDAY	1181.00+\$400	250.00	100.00	-----
SATURDAY	1715.00	20.00	-----	4045.00
OCT. BORN	473.00	-----	-----	-----

## Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF OCT. WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	4228.90
SECOND COLLECTION	5937.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	1620.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11785.90</b>

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

**Harvest 2023**

**TARGET**  
GH¢ 500,000.00

**DATE**  
SUNDAY, 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2023.

**VENUE**  
STM: 7:00AM MASS  
SJF: 6:30AM MASS & 10:00AM MASS

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 1117000222801  
BANK: NIB BANK, ABEKA BRANCH.

SS THOMAS MORE AND JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH  
0595 85 09 22

**THEME**  
LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME, AND DO NOT HINDER THEM, FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE.  
- MATTHEW 19:14 -

**Have You Paid Your Harvest Levy?**

Adult - 100.00  
Youth - 50.00  
Kids - 20.00 or more

Payments can be made through  
**059 585 0922**

For more info: **030-3931800**

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