



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

21ST JANUARY, 2024: THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD IS THE MANDATE OF ALL."**

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: Jon 3:1-5, 10: God spared the people of Nineveh because they heeded the message God sent through Jonah. .

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

O LORD, MAKE ME KNOW YOUR WAYS.

Second Reading: 1Cor 7:29-31: Paul warns the Corinthians that they must act differently because the world in its present form is passing away.

Gospel Reading: Mk 1:14-20: Jesus calls the fishermen, Simon and Andrew, James and John, to be his disciples.

REFLECTION

On this third Sunday of ordinary time, the universal church observes the Sunday of the Word of God, established by Pope Francis in 2019 to emphasize the significance of Sacred Scripture in the life of Christians. We are reminded to proclaim, "The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel" (Mark 1:14-20). This call to repentance carries a mission that requires both those who proclaim God's word and those who receive it to collectively seek the face of God, fostering a sense of community as we break bread together as believers. Furthermore, the church emphasizes that those entrusted with celebrating and speaking about the Word of God should embody qualities of simplicity, industriousness, and a strong work ethic within the faith community. It is crucial to remember that the disciples called by Jesus—Andrew, Simon, John, and James—were not indifferent or apathetic individuals; instead, they were dedicated workers ready to energetically proclaim the gospel, drawing many into the Kingdom of God.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 22ND JANUARY, 2024 2Sam 5:1-7,10 Ps 89:20-22, 25-26 Mk 3:22-30	Tue 23RD JANUARY, 2024 2Sam 6:12B-15,17-19 Ps 24:7-10 Mk 3:31-35
Wed 24TH JANUARY, 2024 St. Francis de Sales 2Sam 7:4-17 Ps 89:4-5,27-30 Mk 4:1-20	Thurs 25TH JANUARY, 2024 Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22 Ps 117:1bc,2 Mk 16:15-18
Fri 26TH JANUARY, 2024 SS. Timothy & Titus 2Tim 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5 Ps 96:1-3,7-8a,10 Mk 4:26-34	Sat 27TH JANUARY, 2024 St. Angela Merici 2Sam 12:1-7a,10-17 Ps 51:12-17 Mk 4:35-41

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Deut 18:15-20
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 95:1-2,6-7,7-9 (8)
Second Reading	1Cor 7:32-35
Gospel	Mk 1:21-28

Mass Schedule

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



KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

MASS CELEBRATION: UNDERSTANDING IT SO YOU CAN JOIN IN THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Preparation of the Altar

During the collection, the altar is prepared. The altar is the center of the liturgy of the Eucharist, much in the same way that the ambo was the center of the liturgy of the Word. Now the altar is readied, usually by the altar servers. A corporal, purificator, sacramentary, paten, and chalice are all placed on the altar

Procession of the gift hymn.

A hymn is sung while the altar is being prepared and the gifts are being assembled it continues as they are brought from the congregation to the presider of the Mass in a procession. Again, the hymn brings together all of us into one and is a way of unifying the actions of those who represent us with ourselves.

Procession of the gift hymn.

A very important part of the preparation of the gifts to be offered at this Mass is the procession of the gifts to be offered at this Mass is the procession of the gifts. Remember that at the very beginning of the Mass, there was a procession in which the Book of the Gospel was held aloft as the various ministers entered the church building. Now there is another procession, this one involving representatives from the congregation.

It is important to understand the significance of the people from the congregation bringing these gifts to the presider. The gifts represent us, and the people who bring them to the front emphasize the fact that “we the congregation are asking the presider to take these gifts and to offer them to God in our name. it is important because it sets the tone for us to understand that while the presider will say many of the prayers during this part of the Mass, he is saying them for all of us who are offering this Mass to God with him.

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 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 |

ORDINARY TIME I

Ordinary Time

- Liturgical Color
 - Green
 - Growth, hope, and life
- Occurs twice in the year
 - Between Christmas and Lent
 - Between summer and the fall
 - Pentecost-Feast of Christ the King
- Purpose
 - To recall the life of Jesus
 - Reminded that God is always there to help us live as Christians

UPCOMING PROGRAM

REVIVAL! REVIVAL!! REVIVAL!!!

THEME: "Arise, Shine, For Your Light Has Come".... Isaiah 60:1

SPEAKER: Rev. Fr. Dominic Adjei

DATE: 7TH - 9TH FEBRUARY, 2024

**VENUE: @ STM CHAPEL @ 6:30PM
EACH EVENING.**



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 FOUR SMART STUDENTS

One night four college students were out partying late at night and didn't study for the test that was scheduled for the next day. In the morning, they thought of a plan. They made themselves look dirty with grease and dirt.

Then they went to the Dean and said they had gone out to a wedding last night and on their way back the tire of their car burst and they had to push the car back. So, they were in no condition to take the test. The Dean thought for a minute and said they could have the re-test after 3 days. They thanked him and said they would be ready by that time. On the third day, they appeared before the Dean. The Dean said that as this was a Special Condition Test, all four were required to sit in separate classrooms for the test. They all agreed as they had prepared well in the last 3 days.

The Test consisted of only 2 questions with a total of 100 Points:

- 1) Your Name? _____ (1 Points)
- 2) Which tire burst? _____ (99 Points)
Options – (a) Front Left (b) Front Right (c) Back Left (d) Back Right

The moral of the story: *Take responsibility or you will*

YOUTH CORNER

PYC EFFECTIVE LIVING SERIES

WEEK 2: FIVE TIPS ON DEVELOPING EMOTIONAL GROWTH

1. **Build your Income Stream:** Income Streams are the avenues through which you make money. It can be a job, an investment or a skill. Whatever it is, develop your source.
CTA: Develop your source of income so you can always earn money.
2. **Have Multiple Streams of Income:** Imagine what will happen when the only stream you drink from dries up? Get multiple streams of income. Simply put, have many avenues where you can make money.
CTA: If you have a job, get a side hustle. Just make sure you have more ways of making money.
3. **Create a spending plan:** A budget will help you to easily track your income and expenses. You get to know how much you earn and all the things that money goes into.
CTA: A Budget disciplines your spending to help you save money. Create one!!
4. **Pay Your Bills On Time:** Money loses value every other day. Thus, don't allow bills or debts to stay for too long. You spend more in paying later, than paying now.
CTA: Create a payment calendar to track all your debts and when to pay them
5. **Try the 70:20:10 Principle:** The advice is to use 70% of your earnings to cover your expenses. Save 20% of your earnings and use 10% as investments or tithes (if you believe in this). This is a simple way of proportioning your money.
CTA: Ensure you save the 20% first before any other deduction.

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 also fulfill all other Church Financial Obligations. (e.g., Church Dues, Welfare Dues and Building Fund).
2. Thursday 25th January, 2024 is the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul. We will have our usual Morning Masses at both STM & SJF at 6:15am.
3. The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind the St. Francis of Assisi (Nigerian Community) of their visitation to Achimota Group A this month, and Christian Mothers Association in February.
4. **Marriage Banns:**
 - Kwasi Owusu-Ntansah and Victoria Gyapong-Owusu
 - Nana Poku Adjei-Seffah and Victoria Yaa Dufie Owusu-Manu
4. **Death Reports:**
 - The death is reported of Mr. Padmond Tiekou. He was the father of Mrs. Joy Davis. Funeral arrangements will be announced in due cause.
 - The death is reported of Torgbe Christian Gbevitor Ahakutor. He was the father of Mr. Emmanuel Lissah, a member of the lectors Ministry. Funeral arrangements will be announced in due cause.

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 JAN. WEEK1	STM JAN. WEEK2
SUNDAY	1054.00	-----
MONDAY	953.50	220.00
TUESDAY	1170.50	120.00
WEDNESDAY	1009.50	870.00
THURSDAY	1023.70	-----
FRIDAY	1229.50	10.00
SATURDAY	746.50	-----
JAN. BORNS	126.00	-----
TOTAL	7313.20	1220.00

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM JAN. WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	3151+\$100
SECOND COLLECTION	1860.00
TITHE	100.00
31ST DEC. ENVELOPES	230.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	310.00
TOTAL	6850.00

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

WEEKDAYS	SJF JAN. WEEK1	SJF JAN. WEEK2
SUNDAY	1606.00	10.00
MONDAY	2257.50	100.00
TUESDAY	1067.00	-----
WEDNESDAY	1925.00	450.00
THURSDAY	1245.90	-----
FRIDAY	7296.00	-----
SATURDAY	23439.00	-----
JAN. BORNS	971.00	-----
TOTAL	39807.40	560.00

SUNDAY	SJF JAN. WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	6868.40
SECOND COLLECTION	5297.70
31ST DEC. ENVELOPES	260.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	50.00
TOTAL	12476.10

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.