



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

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

4TH FEBRUARY, 2024: FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B.

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"CHRIST MUST HAVE A DWELLING PLACE IN OUR HOMES."**

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: Job 7:1-4, 6-7: Job laments his sufferings and his life.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 147:1-6

PRAISE THE LORD WHO HEALS THE BROKEN HEARTED.

Second Reading: 1Cor 9:16-19, 22-23: Paul explains the conditions under which he preaches the gospel and the reasons why he will not accept financial help from the Corinthians.

Gospel Reading: Mk 1:29-39: Jesus cures Simon's mother-in-law and many others as well.

REFLECTION

Beloved, It is easy to forget that Jesus eagerly awaits our invitation into our homes, desiring to make His presence known there. As we reflect on today's gospel, where Simon welcomed Jesus into his home, we are reminded of the importance of extending the same invitation ourselves. Yet, often, we overlook the significance of inviting Him into our daily lives. Sometimes, we confine our encounter with Christ solely to the church, believing that our connection with Him ends once the mass is ended. However, this mindset limits Christ's presence in our lives, creating a one-sided relationship. It should be a reciprocal invitation; just as He invites us to worship, we must also invite Him into our homes.

For us Catholics, this invitation is symbolized by having a crucifix and altar in our homes, along with images of the Sacred Heart or Divine Mercy, accompanied by devotional prayers. These symbols serve as a constant reminder of Christ's presence, offering us hope in despair, peace in turmoil, and healing in times of need.

In a similar manner, Jesus brought healing to Simon's home when they shared the condition of Simon's mother-in-law. Let us, too, open our hearts and homes to Him, inviting Him to dwell within us and bring His transformative love and healing into our lives.

WEEKLY READINGS

Mon 5TH FEBRUARY, 2024 St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr 1Kgs 8:1-7,9-13 Ps 132:2-7 Mk 6:53-56	Tue 6TH FEBRUARY, 2024 St. Paul Miki & Companions 1Kgs 8:22-23,27-30 Ps 84:3,4,5 & 10 Mk 7:1-13
Wed 7TH FEBRUARY, 2024 1Kgs 10:1-10 Ps 37:30-31,39-40 Mk 7:14-23	Thurs 8TH FEBRUARY, 2024 St. Josephine Bakhita 1Kgs 11:4-13 Ps 106:3-4,35-36,37 & 40 Mk 7:24-30
Fri 9TH FEBRUARY, 2024 1Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19 Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13,14-15 Mk 7:31-37	Sat 10TH FEBRUARY, 2024 St. Scholastica 1Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34 Ps 106:6-20,21-22 Mk 8:1-10

Readings for Next Sunday

First Reading	Lv 13:1-2,44-46
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 32:1-2,5,11 (7)
Second Reading	1Cor 10:31--11:1
Gospel	Mk 1:40-45

Mass Schedule

<i>St. Thomas More</i>	<i>St. John Fisher</i>
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

(Continued from last week)

Hand Washing

The priest next says two prayers quietly. The first is a prayer of contrition as he bows before the altar, the priest asks that the Lord would be pleased with “the sacrifice” that is being offered to Him, not out of pride but indeed out of humility and contrition.

The second prayer accompanies the “washing of the hands.” This prayer usually calls to mind the Passion of our Lord and the act of Pontius Pilate before the crowd, but it is more an act of ritualizing the prayers of Psalm 51 that the priest says silently as he washes his hands: “wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!” Psalm 51:2.

Our offering

In some cases, as has been mentioned, the priest will have prayed all of the preceding prayers inaudibly. So, the first words we hear at any given Mass during the Liturgy of the Eucharist may be an invitation by the priest to join him in prayer that God may accept his sacrifice and ours.

It is worth noting that in the priest’s invitation to us is a plea that the sacrifice being offered to the Father will be acceptable. This presents us with a Biblical truth that in the scriptures there are times when people offer an unacceptable sacrifice to God.

- In Genesis 4, God accepts the sacrifice offered by Abel, “but for Cain and his offering he had no regards” (Genesis4:5)
- In Malachi 1:6-11, God rejects the sacrifice of the priests, saying, “I have no pleasure in you, says the lord of hosts and I will not accept an offering from your hand” (Malachi 1:10). Malachi that goes on to prophesy what has traditionally been seen as a prophecy fulfilled in the celebration of the Mass and alluded to in the Third Eucharist prayer: “for from the rising of the sun to its setting my name is great among the nations, and in every place incense is offered in offered in my name, and a pure offering” (Malachi 1:11)
- Saint Paul appeals to us in his Letter to the Romans to “present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship” (Romans 12:1)

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.

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

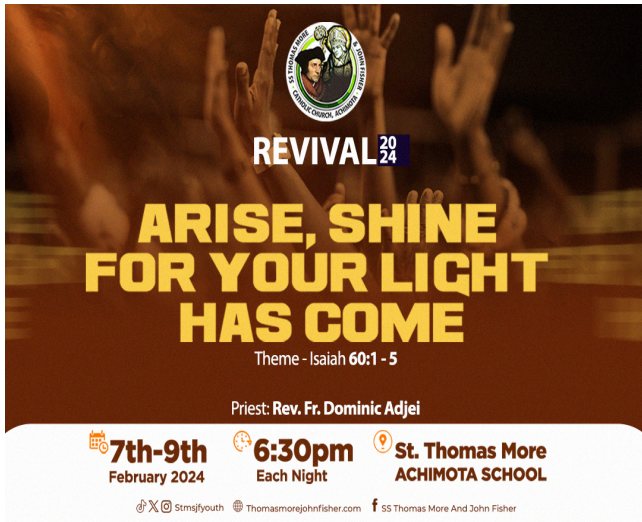
ORDINARY TIME I

'Ordinary' time

- For learning
- For growing
- For exploring the Christian story
- We remember the Church’s mission



UPCOMING PROGRAM



REVIVAL 2024

**ARISE, SHINE
FOR YOUR LIGHT
HAS COME**

Theme - Isaiah 60:1 - 5

Priest: **Rev. Fr. Dominic Adjei**

7th-9th
February 2024

6:30pm
Each Night

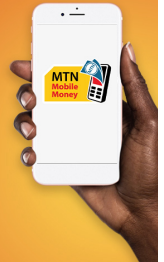
**St. Thomas More
ACHIMOTA SCHOOL**

Stmsjfyouth Thomasmorejohnfisher.com SS Thomas More And John Fisher



How to make all church statutory payments through MTN momo
Ss Thomas more & John Fisher
059 585 0922

Dial ***170#**
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Select Option 1
Enter Merchant ID: **247834**
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Enter Reference: eg. *Dues*
Enter your Momo pin
Send



MOTIVATION

EVERYONE HAS A STORY

There was once a 24-year-old boy on a train with his father. Looking out from the train's window, he shouted...

"Dad, look, the trees are going behind us!" His dad smiled. The young man caught a couple's attention sitting nearby, who looked at his childish behavior with pity. Suddenly, the boy exclaimed again...

"Dad, look, the clouds are running with us!" Annoyed by the commotion, the couple looked at the old man and said, "You should take your son to see a good doctor."

The old man smiled at the couple and said, "I just did. We are going home from the hospital, my son was blind from birth, and he just got his eyes today."

The Moral: Everyone on the planet has a story. Don't judge people before you truly know them. The truth might surprise you.

YOUTH CORNER

**THE PYC WOULD
LIKE TO CALL
FOR WRITERS
FOR THE
YOUTH CORNER.
INTERESTED
PERSONS
SHOULD
CONTACT AMA
ON 0578041989**

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 also fulfill all other Church Financial Obligations. (e.g., Church Dues, Welfare Dues and Building Fund).
- We are reminded of this year's Three day spirit filled Revival, starting this Wednesday 7th to Friday 9th February, 2023 at STM, 6:30pm each night, We are entreated to pray and fast on Monday and Tuesday for the success of the revival. Come and experience a Divine Turn Around in your life. Do not be left out.
- We are also reminded to bring our old Palm Fonds to the Parish Offices before Monday 12th February, 2024.
- The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind the Christian Mothers Association of their visits to Achimota Group B this month.
- Death Report:**
The death is reported of Mad. Agnes Yaa Boatemaa. She was a member of the Holy Family Akan Kuo. Funeral Arrangement will be announced later.
- Marriage Banns:**
2ND Publication:
 - Simon Anjogjik Rockson (son of Gariba Apiung & Rosemary Amoak) and Janet Bawa (daughter of Achumboro Bawa & Azagsuklie Ankisiwai)**3RD Publication:**
 - Kwasi Owusu-Ntansah and Victoria Gyapong-Owusu
 - Nana Poku Adjei-Seffah (son of Kwame Adjei-Seffah and Sarah Doe) and Victoria Yaa Dufie Owusu-Manu(daughter of Michael Owusu-Manu and Akuba Quarcoe)

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	STM JAN. WEEK3	STM JAN. WEEK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSITIONS
SUNDAY	1054.00	-----	-----	-----	1054.00	5 TH
MONDAY	953.50	220.00	-----	-----	1173.50	4 TH
TUESDAY	1170.50	120.00	220.00	-----	1510.50	2 ST
WEDNESDAY	1009.50	870.00	-----	-----	1879.50	1 RD
THURSDAY	1023.70	-----	-----	-----	1023.70	6 TH
FRIDAY	1229.50	10.00	-----	-----	1239.50	3 ND

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM JAN. WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	2352.90
SECOND COLLECTION	1394.20
TITHE	2220.00
31ST DEC. ENVELOPES	1100.00 +\$100
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	270.00

FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF JAN. WEEK1	SJF JAN. WEEK2	SJF JAN. WEEK3	SJF JAN. WEEK4	GRAND TOTAL	POSITIONS
SUNDAY	1606.00	10.00	-----	-----	1616.00	6 TH
MONDAY	2257.50	100.00	220.00	-----	2577.50	5 TH
TUESDAY	1067.00	-----	-----	-----	1067.00	7 TH
WEDNESDAY	1925.00	450.00	5.00	250.00	2630.00	4 TH
THURSDAY	1245.90	-----	150.00	1500.00	2895.90	3 RD
FRIDAY	7296.00	-----	100.00	300.00	7696.00	2 ND
SATURDAY	23439.00	-----	200.00	-----	23639.00	1 ST
JAN. BORNS	971.00	-----	-----	-----	971.00	
TOTAL	39807.40	560.00	675.00	2050.00	43092.40	

Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF JAN. WEEK4
MAIN COLLECTION	4384.80
SECOND COLLECTION	2621.10
TITHE	500.00
31ST DEC. ENVELOPES	150.00
TOTAL	7655.90

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY.



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