



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

P.O. BOX AH 283, Achimota-Accra

Website: [www.thomasmorejohnfisher.com](http://www.thomasmorejohnfisher.com)

Email: [besohwe@yahoo.com](mailto:besohwe@yahoo.com)

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

21ST APRIL, 2024: FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, GOOD SHEPHERD OR VOCATION SUNDAY, YEAR B

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **“DISCOVERING GOD’S MISSION WITHIN OUR VOCATIONS.”**

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:** Acts 4:8-12: Peter announces an act of healing in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 118:1,8-9,21-23,26,28-29

**THE STONE THAT THE BUILDERS REJECTED HAS BECOME THE CORNERSTONE.**

**Second Reading:** 1Jn 3:1-2: God revealed his love for us by calling us children of God.

**Gospel Reading:** Jn 10:11-18: Jesus says that he is the good shepherd who knows his sheep.

### REFLECTION

On this Vocation Sunday, we are reminded to honour and embody the fundamental purpose of our callings, as designated by God. Embracing this mandate enables us to fulfil the mission bestowed upon us. Just as Jesus exemplified the role of the "good shepherd," caring for and safeguarding his flock with unwavering devotion (John 10:11-18), we too are urged to understand and embrace our vocations with love and dedication. By recognizing and embracing our unique vocations, whether as clergy, religious, spouses, or individuals living a single life, we echo Jesus' proclamation as the good shepherd. It is not a declaration of pride, but a testament to our commitment to fulfilling our divine purpose. We must acknowledge that God's choice in entrusting us with our specific vocations is never in error. Failure to earnestly pursue this mission only leads us astray from our true calling.

Let us pray for the grace to remain steadfast in our vocations, living them out faithfully and wholeheartedly

### WEEKLY READINGS

<b>Mon 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL, 2024</b> Acts 11:1-18 Ps 42:2-3,43:3-4 Jn 10:1-10	<b>Tue 23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL, 2024</b> Acts 11:19-26 Ps 87:1B-3,4-5,6-7 Jn 10:22-30
<b>Wed 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024</b> Acts 12:24—13:5a Ps 67:2-3,5,6,8 Jn 12:44-50	<b>Thurs 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024</b> <b>St. Mark, Evangelist</b> 1Pt 5:5b-14 Ps 89:2-3,6-7,16-17 Mk 16:15-20
<b>Fri 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024</b> Acts 13:26-33 Ps 2:6-7,8-9,10-11ab Jn 14:1-6	<b>Sat 27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024</b> Acts 13:44-52 Ps 98:1,2-3ab,3cd-4 Jn 14:7-14

### Readings for Next Sunday

<b>First Reading</b>	Acts 9:26-31
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	Ps 22:26-27,28,30,31-32
<b>Second Reading</b>	1Jn 3:18-24
<b>Gospel</b>	Jn 15:1-8

### Mass Schedule for Next Sunday

<b>St. Thomas More</b>	<b>St. John Fisher</b>
<b>First Mass: 7:00 am</b>	<b>First Mass: 6:30 am</b>
<b>Second Mass: 9:30 am</b>	<b>Second Mass: 9:30 am</b>



## KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

### THE PASCHAL CANDLE: EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

The Paschal candle is one of the most sacred and enduring elements in Christianity. Made of beeswax to represent the purity of Christ, the candle's wick signifies Christ's humanity, and the flame His Divine Nature. It is adorned with one or more Christian symbols, often the cross to represent His redemptive sacrifice; the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet - Alpha and Omega – to signify that He is the beginning and the end; symbols of wheat and grapes, or a chalice and host, for the Eucharist - the true presence of Christ and our spiritual strength; the 12 Apostles – witnesses and scribes to the passion, death, resurrection and ascension of Christ; and other symbols such as the Good Shepherd, the Lamb, the Sacred Heart, and the Risen Christ.

The Paschal candle is a rich symbol of our faith. It reaches its pinnacle at Easter. Each year during the Easter Vigil service on Holy Saturday night, a fire is kindled. The "new" fire serves as an image of the Resurrection. The candle, which represents Christ himself, is placed on a special Paschal candle stand near the altar. Five grains of incense are inserted into the candle to recall the aromatic spices that were used to prepare Christ's body for the tomb, and the wounds in His hands, feet, and side, which remained after His resurrection.

The Paschal candle remains in the Sanctuary on its special candle stand during the full 50 days of the Easter season and is lit for liturgical services during that time. After Pentecost, the candle will be placed next to the baptismal font. The candle is lit during all baptisms throughout the year, passing the light of Christ to each person baptized, starting with the Catechumens at the Easter Vigil service. The candle may also be used at funeral services and placed next to the casket during a funeral Mass. At funeral services, it is a reminder that the sacrament of Baptism is itself a death and resurrection in Christ, and testifies to Christian certainty in the resurrection of the dead and life with Christ in the world to come.

This candle, also called the Easter Candle, originated in the earliest days of Christianity, when evening prayer began with the lighting of a candle. This practice was probably inspired by the Jewish custom of lighting a lamp after the Sabbath. Historical references mention the *Lucernarium*, the evening prayer rite with which the early Christians began each Sunday vigil. The lighting of the candle dispelled the darkness and represented Christ – the Light of the World.

The word "paschal" is the equivalent of the Greek *paschs*, derived from the Aramaic *pashā* and Hebrew *pesah*, meaning *the passing over*. In the Old Testament, it refers to the night the Israelites left Egypt for the Promised Land, when God struck the houses of the Egyptians but left the Israelites untouched, thus "passing over" or sparing them.

## 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.

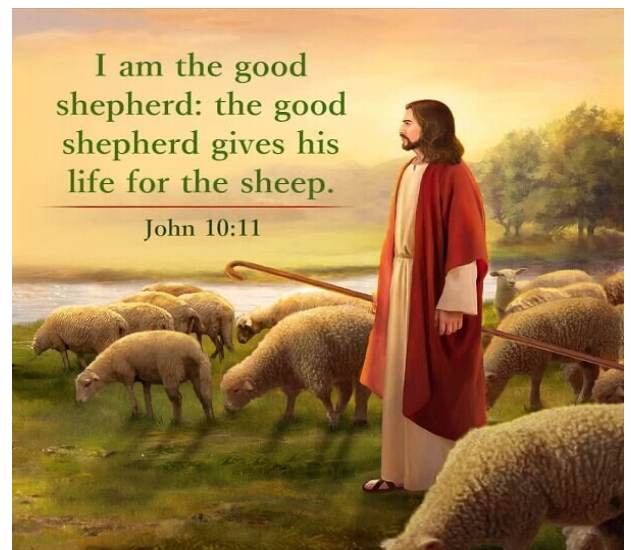
We humbly beseech you to help us win back our Land in this dispute. Save us from violence, discord and confusion and the evil plans of our adversaries.

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

## GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY



## THANKSGIVING MASS



The Parish Priest, Very Rev. Fr. George Obeng Appah and the Amuzu family extend a special invitation to you  
for  
*The Silver Jubilee Thanksgiving Mass*  
Celebration of  
Rev. Sr. Mary Micheline Claudia Amuzu, HDR

APRIL  
**SUNDAY** 28 09:00 AM  
2024

ST. THOMAS MORE & ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH ACHIMOTA NEAR KOKDAM HOTEL  
RSVP: MRS MENYAWOVR 0201655102/ 0243672282



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

### TWO LITTLE MICE

Two Little Mice is a story with a moral about perseverance.

Two little mice fell into a bucket of cream.

The first mouse quickly gave up and drowned. The second mouse, wouldn't quit. He struggled so hard that eventually, he churned that cream into butter. And crawled out.

The moral of the story: *It's not over until it's over.*

## 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).
- Those who have pledged for the Legacy of Hope Project are reminded and entreated to redeem them.
- The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind the Holy Family Akan Kuo of their visits to Alogboshie Group B this month and the St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Society in the month of May.
- The Silver Jubilee Thanksgiving Mass of our daughter, Rev. Sr. Mary Micheline Claudia Amuzu as a Religious Sister comes off next Sunday 28th of April at the 9.30am Mass at the Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher Catholic Church, New Achimota. We are all invited to come and celebrate with her. (Communities, Societies, Groups & Individuals are entreated to come along with their presentations)
- 2nd Publication of the Priestly Ordination Banns of Rev. Wisdom Kwabena Asare, son of Leonard Mac Asare and Stella Ankora.
- Death Report**  
The death is reported of Mad. Theresa Aku Vidigrah, sister of Mad. Mariam Vidigrah of the Christian Mothers & Ave Maria Societies.
- Funeral Arrangements**
  - The funeral Details of the late **Mad. Theresa Aku Vidigrah**, sister of Mad. Marian Vidigrah, a member of the Christian Mothers & Ave Maria Societies is as follows:
    - **Burial Mass & Funeral Rites:** Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 at St. Charles Lwanga Catholic Church, Abeka from 8:00am to 5:30pm.
  - The funeral Details of the late **Mr. Robert A. D. Martey**, a member of the Alogboshie Community is as follows:
    - **Family Gathering:** Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2024 at Hse No. GE-371-4193 at Alogboshie.
    - **Filing Past & Burial Mass:** Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 at the Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher Catholic Church at 7:30am.
    - **Thanksgiving Mass:** Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 at the Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher Catholic Church 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 APR. WEEK1	STM APR. WEEK2
SUNDAY	784.50	230.00
MONDAY	1307.50	403.00
TUESDAY	1128.00	500.00
WEDNESDAY	1669.00	-----
THURSDAY	473.5+\$100	10.00
FRIDAY	1057.10	140.00
SATURDAY	692.00	-----
APR. BORNS	231.10	-----
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8683.70</b>	<b>1283.00</b>

### Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM APR. WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	2755.80
SECOND COLLECTION	1502.20
TITHE	100.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	430.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4788.00</b>

# FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF APR. WEEK1	SJF APR. WEEK2
SUNDAY	1595.70	-----
MONDAY	1694.20+\$5	900.00
TUESDAY	2962.50	-----
WEDNESDAY	922.00	15.00
THURSDAY	2399.50	-----
FRIDAY	993.20	5410.00
SATURDAY	3107.00	1135.00
APR. BORNS	852.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14593.15</b>	<b>7460.00</b>

## Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF APR. WEEK2
MAIN COLLECTION	5935.50
SECOND COLLECTION	2321.30
TITHE	1800.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	2150.00
31 <sup>ST</sup> DEC. ENV.	50.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12256.80</b>

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

# 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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