



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

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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

28TH APRIL, 2024: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **“STAY CONNECTED AND BE PRUNED TO BEAR FRUITS.”**

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 9:26-31: Paul is accepted by the apostles in Jerusalem.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 22:26-27,28,30,31-32

**YOU ARE MY PRAISE, LORD, IN THE GREAT ASSEMBLY.**

**Second Reading:** 1Jn 3:18-24: God commands us to believe in Jesus Christ and to love one another.

**Gospel Reading:** Jn 15:1-8: Jesus teaches that he is the vine and that his disciples are the branches.

### REFLECTION

Beloved in Christ, without the grace and mercy of God, "The Vinedresser," we cannot truly experience a complete and sustainable life. If we, as branches, become disconnected from Christ, the true vine and His Son, we will lose the ability to bear fruit that aligns with God's standards. Without abiding in the true vine, our human strength will prove insufficient; it will fail when we need it most. Gradually, we will wither, decay, and succumb because our Christian values and moral consciousness will be susceptible to corruption by the world, posing a significant challenge to our faith. However, by maintaining a constant connection to the true vine, we will receive ongoing admonishment to follow the right path and will be guided toward actions that promote our well-being. Through the process of pruning, not as punishment or harm, but as refinement and purging, we will be cleansed of all contaminations that might hinder us from bearing good moral values, both for our own benefit and for those who cross our path.

### WEEKLY READINGS

<b>Mon 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024</b> <b>St. Catherine of Siena</b> Acts 14:5-18 Ps 114B:1-4,15-16 Jn 14:21-26	<b>Tue 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024</b> Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-13,21 Jn 14:27-31A
<b>Wed 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY, 2024</b> <b>St. Joseph the Worker</b> Gen 1:26--2:3 or Col 3:14-15,17,23-24 Ps 90:2-4,12-14,16 Mt 13:54-58	<b>Thurs 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY, 2024</b> <b>St. Athanasius</b> Acts 15:7-21 Ps 96:1-3,10 Jn 15:9-11
<b>Fri 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY, 2024</b> <b>Ss. Philip &amp; James</b> 1Cor 15:1-8 Ps 19:2-5 Jn 14:6-14	<b>Sat 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024</b> Acts 16:1-10 Ps 100:1-3,5 Jn 15:18-21

### Readings for Next Sunday

<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48</b>
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>Ps 98:1,2-3,3-4</b>
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>1Jn 4:7-10</b>
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Jn 15:9-17</b>

### Mass Schedule for Next Sunday

<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: 9:30 am</b>	<b>Second Mass: 9:30 am</b>



## KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

### THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

Every Sunday and on all liturgical celebrations with the rank of “solemnity” --the highest-ranking celebration, we profess our faith following the homily. Why do we profess our faith each week? The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* says: “The purpose of the Creed or Profession of Faith is that the whole gathered people may respond to the Word of God proclaimed in the readings taken from Sacred Scripture and explained in the Homily and that they may also honor and confess the great mysteries of the faith by pronouncing the rule of faith in a formula approved for liturgical use and before the celebration of these mysteries in the Eucharist begins” (no. 67).

There are three forms of the Profession of Faith which can be used at Mass and they all stem from the Trinity in whose name we were baptized: “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” Thus the Creeds are divided into three parts: “the first part speaks of the first divine Person and the wonderful work of creation; the next speaks of the second divine Person and the mystery of his redemption of men; the final part speaks of the third divine Person, the origin and source of our sanctification” (CCC, 190). The forms of the Profession of Faith that can be used at Mass are: The Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed (*Nicene* for short), The Apostles’ Creed, and The Renewal of Baptismal Promises Why the different options, how do they differ, and when are they used?

- **The Nicene Creed was first written at the Council of Nicæa (325 AD) which was the council that condemned Arianism – a belief that Christ was created by God. The doctrine of this council asserted that Christ was “begotten, not made.” The Nicene Creed was revised at the Council of Constantinople in 381, expanding the theology and doctrine that all the great Churches of both East and West profess to this day. If someone were to ask you what you believe as a Catholic Christian, you could recite the Nicene Creed!**
- **The Apostles’ Creed is drawn from New Testament theology (gospels and epistles) and is considered to be a faithful summary of the Apostles’ faith. It is known as the “ancient baptismal symbol of the Church of Rome (CCC, 194) and is especially appropriate during the Seasons of Lent and Easter. Being an older form of the Roman Creed and due to its early development, it does not address some of the Christological theology addressed in the Nicene Creed.**
- **The Renewal of Baptismal Promises is a profession of faith that utilizes a question-and-answer format. Fr. Poggemeyer used this form last weekend to highlight our baptismal call and mission as “priest, prophet, and king” in union with Jesus. On the day of our baptism when we or our parents and godparents professed the faith, we first renounce Satan and “his empty show” and then profess our faith in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We use this form each year at the Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday, and it is also used whenever there is a baptism during Mass. The three aforementioned are instances when it is required, but this form can be used on any given week but we do not use this form enough! Professing and living our baptismal call is of the utmost importance, especially in today’s society. It is from this call that we receive strength to be sent forth into the world like the disciples in today’s Gospel.**

## 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.

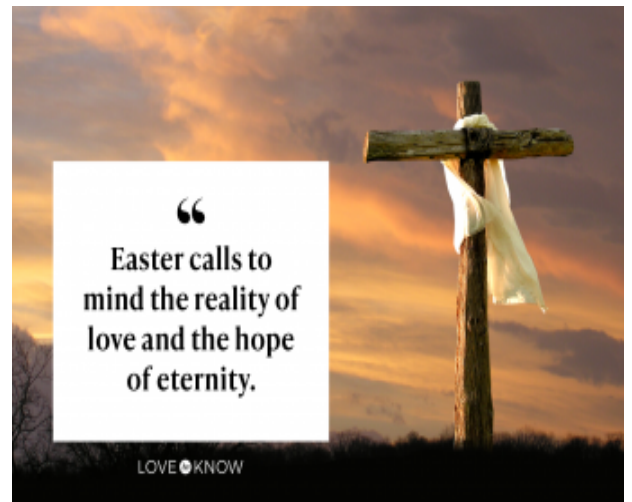
We humbly beseech you to help us win back our Land in this dispute. Save us from violence, discord and confusion and the evil plans of our adversaries.

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

### EASTER SEASON



“  
Easter calls to  
mind the reality of  
love and the hope  
of eternity.

## UPCOMING PROGRAM

# PENTECOST NOVENA FROM FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> TO SATURDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2024.

**KEEP THE DATES OPEN!!!**



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 BLIND MEN AND AN ELEPHANT

*The Blind Men and an Elephant* is an ancient Indian parable about **objectivity**.

A group of blind men heard that a strange animal, called an elephant, had been brought to the town, but none of them were aware of its shape and form. Out of curiosity, they said: "We must inspect and know it by touch, of which we are capable". So, they sought it out, and when they found it they groped about it.

The first person, whose hand landed on the trunk, said, "This being is like a thick snake". For another one whose hand reached its ear, it seemed like a kind of fan. Another person, whose hand was upon its leg, said, the elephant is a pillar like a tree trunk. The blind man who placed his hand upon its side said the elephant, "Is a wall". Another who felt its tail described it as a rope. The last felt its tusk, stating the elephant is that which is hard, smooth, and like a spear.

**Moral:** *Each of our perspectives can be true yet incomplete. More things can be true at once.*

## 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 St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Society of their visits to Christian Village in the month of May.
- 3rd 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 Mr. Leslie Kwabena Nyarko Gyimah, son of Mr. & Mrs. Gyimah. Funeral details will be announced later.
- Funeral Arrangements: The funeral Details of the late Mr. Robert A. D. Martey, a member of the Main Choir and 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	STM APR. WEEK3
SUNDAY	784.50	230.00	-----
MONDAY	1307.50	403.00	-----
TUESDAY	1128.00	500.00	200.00
WEDNESDAY	1669.00	-----	200.00
THURSDAY	473.5+\$100	10.00	50.00
FRIDAY	1057.10	140.00	20.00
SATURDAY	692.00	-----	-----
APR. BORNS	231.10	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8683.70</b>	<b>1283.00</b>	<b>470.00</b>

### Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM APR. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	2709.80
SECOND COLLECTION	2568.00
TITHE	920.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6197.80</b>



# FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF APR. WEEK1	SJF APR. WEEK2	SJF APR. WEEK3
SUNDAY	1595.70	-----	10.00
MONDAY	1694.20+\$5	900.00	-----
TUESDAY	2962.50	-----	100.00
WEDNESDAY	922.00	15.00	215.00
THURSDAY	2399.50	-----	-----
FRIDAY	993.20	5410.00	255.00
SATURDAY	3107.00	1135.00	200.00
APR. BORNS	852.00	-----	-----
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14593.15</b>	<b>7460.00</b>	<b>780.00</b>

## Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF APR. WEEK3
MAIN COLLECTION	5662.90
SECOND COLLECTION	4265.00 +£5
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	270.00
31 <sup>ST</sup> DEC. ENV.	100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10381.35</b>

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



SS THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER  
PARISH

# Have You Paid Your Harvest Levy



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

Adult	-	<b>100.00</b>
Youth	-	<b>50.00</b>
Kids	-	<b>20.00</b> or more



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