



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

P.O. BOX AH 283, Achimota-Accra

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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

9TH JUNE, 2024: 10<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME , YEAR B

THEME FOR THE WEEK: **"LET US BE REMORSEFUL FOR OUR MISTAKES AND MAKE AMENDS FOR THEM."**

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: Gen 3:9-15:** Adam and Eve eat the fruit of the forbidden tree.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8**

**WITH THE LORD THERE IS MERCY, IN HIM IS PLENTIFUL REDEMPTION.**

**Second Reading: 2Cor 4:13—5:1:** We believe and so we speak.

**Gospel Reading: Mk 3:20-35:** Whoever does the will of God is brother and sister and mother to Jesus.

### REFLECTION

Beloved in Christ, blame games never resolve past mistakes but rather worsen issues. It is always important to accept our mistakes, find ways to correct them, and learn concrete lessons from them. This should have been the attitude of Adam and Eve in their response to God's question, "Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" Instead, they blamed others: Adam said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate," and Eve said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." This attitude reflects sinful pride, and we sometimes find ourselves in similar situations, facing extreme and unnecessary consequences. Their response should have been, "Yes, God, out of our free will and disobedience, we accept our mistakes and are ready to face the outcome." Let us always acknowledge our mistakes and make amends. By doing so, we will make progress in our lives.

### WEEKLY READINGS

<b>Mon 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2024</b> 1Kgs 17:1-6 Ps 121:1-8 Mt5:1-12	<b>Tue 11<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2024</b> <b>St. Barnabas, Apostle</b> Acts 11:21b-26b;13:1-3 Ps 98:1-6 Mt 5:13-16
<b>Wed 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2024</b> 1Kgs 18:20-39 Ps 16:1-2,4-5,8,11 Mt 5:17-19	<b>Thurs 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2024</b> <b>St. Anthony of Padua</b> 1Kgs 18:41-46 Ps 65:10-14 Mt 5:20-26
<b>Fri 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2024</b> 1Kgs 19:9a,11-16 Ps 27:7-9,13-14 Mt 5:27-32	<b>Sat 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2024</b> 1Kgs 19:19-21 Ps 103:1-4,8-9,11-12 Mt 5:33-37

#### Readings for Next Sunday

<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Ez 17:22-24</b>
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<b>Ps 92:2-3,13-14,15-16</b>
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>2 Cor 5:6-10</b>
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Mk 4:26-34</b>

#### 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 ALTAR IS A “TABLE OF SACRIFICE AND OF PASCHAL BANQUET” - By Denis R. McNamara

In the years since the Second Vatican Council, the table-ness of the altar has perhaps been emphasized above all other attributes. While an altar is indeed a table, it signifies much more than domestic furniture. *The Order of the Dedication of an Altar* calls the altar a “table of sacrifice and of the paschal banquet” (4). “Paschal banquet” refers back to the Last Supper, when Christ becomes the new Passover victim. The altar indicates, therefore, the fulfillment of the sacred meal of the Last Supper in service of the community, since “Christ made holy the table where the community would come to celebrate their Passover.”<sup>13</sup> So the altar is a table of the Christian community, where the “Church’s children gather to give thanks to God and receive the body and blood of Christ”<sup>14</sup> as the apostles did. But this table was precisely the place where Christ initiated the sacrifice of the Eucharist, hence the term “table of sacrifice.”

The altar not only shows the table of the Last Supper fulfilled but prefigures the table of the heavenly banquet, the eternal heavenly feast that celebrates the full reunification of God and creation. *Sacrosanctum Concilium* (S.C 8), makes it clear that “in the earthly liturgy we take part in a foretaste of that heavenly liturgy which is celebrated in the holy city of Jerusalem” and the Catechism notes that in the Eucharistic celebration “we already unite ourselves with the heavenly liturgy and anticipate eternal life” (CCC 1326). For this reason, the Church uses the fine arts to render this present in our own time and space, as (S.C 122) notes: “all things set apart for divine worship should be composed of signs and symbols of heavenly realities” An altar, then, gives a foretaste of the table of heaven because Christ is “the living altar in the heavenly Temple”<sup>16</sup>

It follows naturally that the altar is a place of festivity since it is the locus of the joyful work of salvation and a real anticipation of heavenly delight. Similarly, the rites of the Church are not so much performed as *celebrated*, and the altar is the place of that joyful celebration. When a new church is dedicated, the altar is covered with a white cloth, indicating that it is prepared for a sacrificial banquet and “adorned as for a feast.” The Order of the Dedication of a Church states that the dressing of the altar “clearly signifies that it is the Lord’s Table at which all God’s people joyously meet to be refreshed with divine food.”

## PRAYER FOR GOD’S INTERVENTION IN OUR

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

### Celebrating Ordinary Time

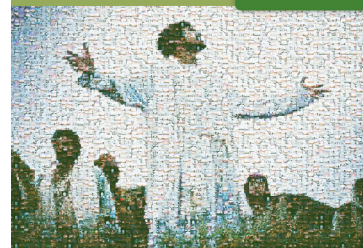
In Ordinary Time the Church unfolds the whole of Christ’s mystery, our hope and life in Him, especially at Holy Mass on Sundays as the Word enables us to grow and bear good fruit in “time throughout the year” (*tempus per annum*)

The season **begins** on the Monday following the Sunday after January 6 and continues until the day before Ash Wednesday; it **begins again** on the Monday after Pentecost Sunday and ends on the Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent



THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR

- Contains **33 or 34** weeks
- Sundays are marked **numerically** (eg. First Sunday in Ordinary Time)
- **Green** is the colour for Sundays and ferial days



“Do not be afraid to give your time to Christ! Yes, let us open our time to Christ, that he may cast light upon it and give it direction... Time given to Christ is never time lost, but is rather time gained, so that our relationships and indeed our whole life may become more profoundly human.”  
(POPE JOHN PAUL II, *DIES DOMINI*, 7)



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ACCRA  
YOUTH OFFICE + AADCYC



## Present & Connected Youth Congress 2024 - Prayer

Our compassionate and loving Father, we express gratitude for the Catholic Archdiocese of Accra, its Shepherd, Priests, and faithful, especially the youth. As we gather for the youth congress, "Present & Connected 2024," we humbly invite the Holy Spirit to ignite a passionate zeal within us for serving You.

Grant us the fervour to deepen our faith through meaningful dialogue with Church leaders. Fill our hearts with love, fostering unity within our community, and strengthening our devotion to Jesus Christ and His Church. Help us recognize ourselves as living gifts and actively participate in the Church's mission today.

Guide us, Lord Jesus, to fully engage and serve joyfully, inspiring us to embody the Church's mission by reaching out in love and service to those around us, reflecting Your face through our actions and words.

Empower us to be the hands, hearts, and voice of Your mission, enriching our communities and reflecting Your light and love in all we do. May this congress be a continual journey towards You, strengthening our unity and renewing our commitment to the vibrant and ongoing mission of the Church. Amen.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us. St. Martin De Porres, pray for us. St. Peter Claver, pray for us. St. John Bosco, pray for us.

Present  
Connected



JUNE 2024



How to make all church statutory payments through MTN momo

Ss Thomas more & John Fisher

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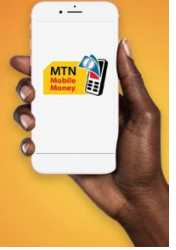
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## MOTIVATION

### SHARK BAIT

A marine biologist put a shark into a big tank at the time of a research experiment. Followed by that, he released some tiny bait fishes into it. As expected, the shark didn't wait to attack those fish and ate them. Later, a clear fiberglass was inserted into the tank which partitioned the tank into two and the shark remained on one side.

A similar set of bait fish was sent to the other side of the tank as before. The shark attempted to attack those fishes but failed by hitting on the fiberglass. The shark attempted for several days until it gave up. Later, the biologist removed the glass from the tank but the shark didn't try to attack the small fish. The shark always continues to see a false barrier in the tank and stops his attempts.

**Moral:** The story is an example of trying always and never giving up despite multiple failures.

## YOUTH CORNER

### KPEHE DEANERY LITERACY CHALLENGE!

Are you between the ages of 10 and 15 years? Here's an opportunity to showcase your creative writing skills in the Kpehe Deanery Essay writing competition.

**Topic:** "As this year has been declared the year of children, write an essay with five (5) points on how you think the church can help children seek Christ in this modern era".

- Your essay should be 250 words long
- Script must be handwritten
- Script must be endorsed by Parent/ Guardian and your Parish Priest or Priest in charge.
- Add your full contact details
- All essays must be submitted to your PYC executives on or before Sunday, June 23, 2024. Don't miss out!

### YOUTH CONGRESS

The catholic archdiocese of Accra's youth congress will be coming off on the 29th of June at Elwak sports stadium. All interested youth who want to attend the Congress should register at the Church offices or any of the PYC Executives.

## 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 also reminded and entreated to redeem them.

**Marriage Banns: 1<sup>st</sup>** Publication between **Kofi Agyapong Sarpong**, (son of Michael Dwomor Sarpong and Philomina Dwomor Sarpong) And **Francisca Mintah-Kwarteng** (daughter of Prince Obour-Mintah and Agnes Obour-Mintah)

Our Lady of Grace Senior High School is seeking to admit 280 students into first year in the 2024/2025 academic year. Interested applicants are to sit for the entrance examinations in English Language, Mathematics and Science. The examinations are slated to take place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 at 21 centers across the country. To apply for the entrance examinations, please visit our school's website on [www.olagshs.edu.gh](http://www.olagshs.edu.gh) or apply.olagshs.edu.gh or check the notice board for more details.

### Death Report

The death is reported of **Mad. Justina Mawuena Amuzu** of the New Achimota Akweteyman community. Funeral Arrangements will announced later.

### Funeral Arrangements

The Funeral Details of the Late **Mr. Leslie Kwabena Nyarko Gyimah**, son of Mr. & Mrs. Gyimah is as follows:

- i. **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2024:** Viewing of Body at 8.00 am and Burial Mass at 9.00 am at Christ the King Parish, Cantonment, Accra. **Final Funeral Rites** at the Christ the King Parish, Cantonment, Accra. **Dress Code:** Black & White.
- ii. **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2024:** Thanksgiving Mass at 10.00 am at Christ the King Parish, Cantonment, Accra. **Dress Code:** Black & White.

The Funeral Details of the Late **Mr. John Ekow Banafu-Hackman** of the KSII is as follows:

- i. **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2024:** Laying in state at 7.00 am and Burial Mass at 9.00am at SS. Thomas More & John Fisher Catholic Church, New Achimota. **Final Funeral Rites** at the Fisher Garden. **Dress code:** Black & White.
- ii. **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2024:** Thanksgiving Mass at SS. Thomas More & John Fisher Catholic Church, New Achimota at 9.30 am. **Dress Code:** All White.

The Funeral Details of the Late **Mad. Veronica Abia Dzisenu (Cofie)** of the Kissehman Community is as follows:

- i. **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2024:** Family Gathering at Kissehman Asco's House.
- ii. **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2024:** Burial Mass at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Achimota at 8.00 am. Dress Code: Black & White.
- iii. **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2024:** Thanksgiving Mass at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Achimota at 7.00 am. Dress Code: All White.

## 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 JUNE WEEK1
SUNDAY	1124.00
MONDAY	1919.50
TUESDAY	1965.50
WEDNESDAY	1857.00
THURSDAY	1533.20
FRIDAY	1711.70
SATURDAY	1365.00
JUNE BORN	240.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11415.90</b>

### Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	STM JUNE WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	3391.80
TITHE	230.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3621.80</b>

# FINANCE CORNER - ST. JOHN FISHER

WEEKDAYS	SJF JUNE WEEK1
SUNDAY	2012.20
MONDAY	3232.50
TUESDAY	1012.00
WEDNESDAY	1127.00
THURSDAY	3573.00
FRIDAY	2212.50
SATURDAY	1714.00
JUNE BORN	462.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15345.20</b>

## Details of Last Sunday's Collections

SUNDAY	SJF JUNE WEEK1
MAIN COLLECTION	4255.90
TITHE	800.00
OFFERTORY ENVELOPES	400.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5455.90</b>

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ACCRA  
YOUTH OFFICE + AACDC



## YOUTH CONGRESS

26th - 29th June, 2024

### Why a Youth Congress?

To cultivate an active and collaborative youth ministry.

Give youth opportunities to explore and deepen faith, engage in meaningful dialogue with Church leadership

Foster community, a relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church.

### What does it mean to be Present & Connected?

*The Youth are Present*  
Available, Gift & Today

*The Youth are Connected*  
In Christ, our communities and our shared Catholic faith

### How do I participate?

Be part of the local/parish dialogue sessions.

Be present and actively participate in the grand durbar.

Promote on social media @rcyouthaccra

### Roadmap

LAUNCH - APRIL, 2024  
PARISH DISCUSSION - MAY, '24  
DELEGATES SESSIONS  
26-28TH JUN, '24  
GRAND DURBAR & CLIMAX  
29TH JUNE, '24



For sponsorship & info: Dr. Linus +233 26 232 6483 / Youth Director +233 20 851 3145  
X @rcyouthaccra | #present&connected #beConnected #bePresent #beGift



KPEHE DEANERY CATHOLIC  
YOUTH COUNCIL

presents

# Liferacy Challenge



### Activities:

Sunday, 19th May, 2024  
**LAUNCHING**  
All Parishes during Mass

are you between the ages of:

**Essay Competition: 10 - 15 years**

As this year has been declared the year of children, write an essay with five (5) points on how you think the church can help children seek Christ in this modern era.

Your essay should be 250 words long.

• Script must be in your own handwriting  
• Script must be endorsed by a Parent/ Guardian and your Parish Priest

• Add your full contact details  
**All essays should be submitted to your PYC executives**

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION  
SATURDAY, 23RD JUNE, 2024

**7 - 13 years**

### Deanery Children's Quiz: Areas of Study

- The Gospel of St. Mark
- Catholic Doctrine
- Current Affairs

Date: SATURDAY, 20TH JULY, 2024  
Venue: ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH, ATOMIC  
Time: 7:00AM

FOR ENQUIRIES AND SUPPORT:  
+233(0) 56 180 4897/ +233(0) 54 249 1938