

## PASTORAL CARE

**Sacrament of Confession:** Every Saturday from 6.00pm to 7.00pm

**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.*

**Visitation of 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:** Monday, Tuesday Wednesdays (In the Evenings) Time: 6.30 - 8.00 pm. In case of any emergency call on the Priest.

**Church office hours: Mon. to Thur.:10am -2pm & 5 pm - 8pm: Sat. 6 pm to 8p: Sun: 9 am -1.30: Friday: Off Duty**

SUNDAY MASS: FIRST MASS - 7:00AM AT STM,  
SECOND MASS - 9:30AM AT SJF

### **NEXT SUNDAY: Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Singing: First Mass: Chari SM  
Second Mass: Main Choir

Offertory: *First Mass: Kisseman Anumle*  
Second Mass: New Achimota Town

## WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday	6:15am
Wednesday	6:15am
Thursday	6:15am

## UPCOMING EVENT

- Deanery Crusade 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> September
- October: Rosary month
- Laity week 29<sup>th</sup> September to 6<sup>th</sup> October
- Community Mass (Amalgamated) 27<sup>th</sup> Sept.
- Akan Kuo retreat on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

SLOGAN: St. Thomas More: Besohwe! St. Thomas More: Justice and Truth!!  
St Thomas More: Pray for us!!!

SLOGAN: St John Fisher: Besohwe!  
St John Fisher: Justice and Truth!!  
St John Fisher: Pray For Us!!!

THANKS FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US. HAVE A BLESSED WEEK.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. There is Bible sharing this and every Wednesday at STM at 7:00pm.
2. A female house help aged between 30-45years is urgently needed for employment. Please contact these numbers if you qualify; 0208191328, 0244624169.
3. There are some found items deposited in the church office. Contact the office during working hours to collect them if you have misplaced anything.
4. There will be community Mass for Amalgamated Community on 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2013.
5. The Akan Kuo Society will have its retreat on the 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2013.
6. Marriage Banns: (1<sup>st</sup>) John Kofi K Amemakalor and Geraldine Joan Afful; Augustus Adade and Naomi Ama Agyeiwa Boadu.
7. Liturgical Retreat; Topic is "The Mass Explained" on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2013 at 7:00pm at STM. All choirmasters, leaders of the all liturgical groups i.e. choirs singing groups, KNOLTA, Lectors, Ushers Extra Ordinary Ministers are to attend.

## QUIZ

**Answer to last week's:** The Pope is elected, not ordained or consecrated. The Highest cleric that is possible to be ordained or consecrated to is the Bishop. Everything above such as the Archbishop, the cardinal and the Pope are elected.

**This week's: Who is the Bishop of Rome?**

## QUOTE

A good word is an easy obligation; but not to speak ill requires only our silence; which costs us nothing.  
**John Tillotson**

# ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH, ACHIMOTA & ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH, NEW ACHIMOTA

**P.O. BOX AH 283, ACHIMOTA-ACCRA**

**Website:** [www.thomasmoreachimota.com](http://www.thomasmoreachimota.com) E-mail: [besohwe@yahoo.com](mailto:besohwe@yahoo.com) Office Tel: 0201-775453

Rev. Fr. George Obeng-Appah (*Priest-in-charge*) Tel: 0208-592020

Rev. Fr. Blaise Bobi-Attachie

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



22<sup>ND</sup> SEPT, 2013: TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - C

THEME FOR THE WEEK: "Humans Not Things"



## TODAY'S READINGS

### 1st Reading: Am 8:4-7

Amos warns that God is concerned for justice and fair play. He condemns those who trample upon the needy and destroy the poor.

### Responsorial Psalm: 113:1-2, 4-8

**Praise the lord who raises the poor from the dust**

### 2nd Reading: 1 Tim 2:1-8

The Christian community ought to pray for everyone, including those who hold public office, and share in Jesus' concern for the salvation of all.

### Gospel: Lk 16:1-13

The tricky manager used his ill-gotten gains to win people's favour, to prepare an escape for himself on the day of reckoning. But "You cannot serve God and wealth."

## Reflection

We live in a world that values things more than human beings. Human beings are sometimes used and not loved. Jesus' message is that human beings are more important than things. You can't buy happiness, love or respect. Things can't make you happy; people do. In the long run, only possessing God and being possessed by God can make us truly happy. "No servant can serve two masters... You cannot give yourself to God and money.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

### ❖ Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept, 2013

Ezra 1:1-6; Ps 126:1-6;  
Lk 8:16-18

### ❖ Tues 24<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2013

Ezra 6:7-8, 12, 14-20; Ps 122:1-5;  
Lk 8:19-21

### ❖ Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2013

Ezra 9:5-9; Ps Tob 13:2-5,6, 8; Lk 9:1-6

### ❖ Thur 26<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2013

Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1-6, 9; Lk 9:7-9

### ❖ Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2013

Hg 2:1-9; Ps 43:1-4,  
Lk 9:18-22

### ❖ Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2013

Zec 2:1-5, 10-11; Ps Jer 31:10-13;  
Lk 9:43-45

29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2013  
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Am 6:1, 4-7

Resp. Ps : 146:7-10

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1Tim 6:11-16

Gospel : Lk 16:19-31

**KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH**

**WHY CATHOLIC PRIESTS DO NOT MARRY**

Do you know why catholic priests do not marry? Well, read this!

Although the early Church allowed married clergy, the Church later came to see celibacy as a better example of the norm and model of Jesus' priesthood.

In referring to celibacy, St. Paul says: "Indeed, I wish everyone to be as I am, but each has a particular gift from God . . . Now to the unmarried and to widows I say: it is a good thing for them to remain as they are, as I do" (1 Cor. 7:7-8). He goes on to say: "An unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord. But a married man is anxious about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, and he is divided" (1 Cor. 7:32-34).

Jesus said: "And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for the sake of my name will receive a hundred times more, and will inherit eternal life" (Mt. 19:29).

Celibacy is a discipline, not a dogma. This means that the Church could change the rule. In fact, there are a few instances when the Church has allowed married clergy, such as with some Eastern rite clergy and in the case of some Protestant ministers who converted to the Faith. These, however, are the exception.

It is unlikely that the Church will change this teaching at all, or any time soon, because of the many positive and practical benefits of celibacy.

**Here are 10 reasons why a celibate clergy makes good sense;**

1. It leaves the priest free to more fully commit his life to the service of the Lord and the laity

**KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH**

2. The Church has found it is better to keep priests moving from parish to parish every few years, perhaps for a few reasons, including the desire to prevent a cult of personality from building around a particular priest. This situation can put too much focus on the man rather than on the Gospel message. So, the Church prudently moves priests around. Can you imagine how much stress it would cause a priest to have to move his wife and family each time he is assigned to a new parish? Having a celibate priesthood also enables the bishop the full flexibility he needs to move priests around.

3. To be able to lay his life down for his flock. Because a celibate priest does not have the obligation of a wife and children, he can give of himself more easily, including his own life, if necessary. For example, Blessed Damien de Veuster of Belgium was able to work with lepers on the island of Molokai, Hawaii, because of the freedom he had in being a celibate minister. This work eventually led to his contracting and dying from leprosy.

4. It is a sign of contradiction and a great Christian witness to our society, which is flooded with sexually permissive messages. Celibacy surely gains the Catholic clergy a hidden respect from many people.

To be continued.....

**HARVEST 2013**

- Parishioners are reminded to visit the harvest 2013 information desk to pay their harvest levy of 5 Cedis.
- The tiles for completing the floor space of St. John fisher are ready for sale. We are encouraged to purchase them in appreciation of the lives of loved ones. The cost is 20 Cedis per tile. Contact the information desk.
- Items for this week's Silent Auction have been displayed on a special table outside. Parishioners are encouraged to visit the table and put in their bid.

**YOUTH CORNER**

**15 HEALTH BENEFITS OF SMILING**

Smiles do a lot more than simply let the world know you're happy, but they have to be genuine to get the full effect. Most people can spot a fake smile, even if they can't say how they know. Fake smiles usually use fewer muscles than genuine smiles, involving muscles around the eyes.

Real smiles also creep in slower than the false ones. So, if you have to fake a smile, try to make it as real as possible, think of happy memories or visualize your favorite people and places. It makes a difference in what others see and in how you feel.

**1 – Lower Heart Rate** – Smiling slows the heart and relaxes the body. This lets the heart work without overworking. People who smile and laugh often are less likely to develop heart disease. Smiling reduces blood pressure temporarily too.

**2 – Reduce Stress** – Stress is a common problem in the modern world that causes a myriad of health problems. Stress relief may be as simple as smiling a little more throughout the day. Smiling releases endorphins that counteract and diminish the stress hormones.

**YOUTH CORNER**

**3 – Better Mood** – The endorphins do more than kick stress to the curb. Endorphins lift your mood. Feeling down? Slap a smile on your face, even if it isn't entirely genuine at first, and turn your entire day around with something simple, easy to do, and free.

**4 – Increase Productivity** – Smiling has been shown to increase productivity while performing tasks. There's truth to the "whistle while we work" mentality. This also explains why silly internet memes and pictures of cute animals can actually get people motivated and working harder after a few moments of smiling or laughter.

**5 – Encourage Trust** – Studies show that we are more trustful of others when they smile and smile genuinely. Trust is an important part of social health when dealing with people, whether they be loved ones or just acquaintances. Seems relationships are truly built on smiles.

**6 – Produce Empathy** – When we're embarrassed or caught doing something questionable, often our first response is a smile. This instinct breaks the initial ice of embarrassment, promotes leniency in what others think of us, and engenders a sense of empathy since we've all experienced embarrassment and we want to smile along.

To be continued.....

**FINANCE CORNER**

Thank you all for your generosity. May God bless you.


**DETAILS OF LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION**
