

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: Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Singing: First Mass: Akan Kuo
Second Mass: Main Choir

Offertory: First Mass: Akan Kuo
Second Mass: Main Choir

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday	6:15am
Wednesday	6:15am
Thursday	6:15am
Saturday	6:30am

UPCOMING EVENT

- Feast of Transfiguration (6th August, 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. The maiden edition of talentfest comes off on 4th August 2013 at St Thomas More. Further details will be announced later.
3. A School at SPINTEX needs a Head Teacher with Montessori experience to head from Crèche to Primary. Contact: 0249138012.
4. A parishioner with certificate in Health Assistant (Clinical) is looking for employment as a nurse in a hospital or clinic. Anybody who can be of help should please contact him on 0248941100.
5. A graduate with certificate in marketing is looking for employment. Anybody who can assist should please contact him on 0242152862.
6. A young man with IATA diploma in consultancy and managing the Travel Business is seeking employment. Anybody who can assist him should contact him on 024447794
7. Encounter with Jesus comes off today at 5:00pm at STM
8. There will be adoration on Thursday 1st August, 2013.
9. There will be infant Baptism on Saturday 3rd 2013 at 6:30am.

QUIZ

Answer to last week's: Sacraments of Healing – Penance, Anointing of the Sick

This week's:
Which sacraments are known as the sacraments of service?

QUOTE

Persistence is the essence of successful prayer

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

P.O. BOX AH 283, ACHIMOTA-ACCRA

Website: www.thomasmoreachimota.com E-mail: 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



28TH JULY, 2013: SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- C
THEME FOR THE WEEK: PERSISTENT PRAYER



TODAY'S READINGS

1st Reading: Gen 18:20-32.

Abraham intercedes for Sodom, a depraved city. He haggles until God will spare the city for the sake of ten good citizens.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 138:1-3, 6-8.

On the day I called, you answered me, o Lord.

2nd Reading: Col 2:12-14.

Through baptism we are joined to Christ's death and resurrection; dying to the old sinful ways, we rise to a new life.

Gospel: Lk 11:1-13.

When asked how we should pray, Jesus teaches the "Our Father" and says that God cares for all our needs, both spiritual and temporal.

Reflection

In our fast moving world, Christians are sometimes misled to believe that prayer should be answered in seconds. The problem is not about our refusal to pray but about not praying persistently. We easily give up. Although the city of Sodom was doomed by God because of its grave sins, Abraham went on pressing God to spare the city. In his persistence, Abraham was like the postage stamp sticking to one thing till it gets there. Have you given up in your prayer life? This is not the time to give up. Pray until something happens. (PUSH). When everything seems to go wrong just PUSH, when your job gets you down just push. Never give up in your prayer life.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

❖ **Mon 29th July, 2013**

(Martha, disciple of the Lord)

Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

❖ **Tues 30th July, 2013**

Ex 33:7-11; 34: 5b-9, 28; Ps 103:6-13 Mt 13:36-43

❖ **Wed 31st July, 2013 (Ignatius of Layola)**

Ex 34:29-35; Ps 99:5-7, 9;
Mt 13:44-46

❖ **Thur 1st August, 2013**

Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Ps 84:3-6, 8, 11;
Mt 13:47-53

❖ **Fri 2nd August, 2013**

Lev 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Ps 81:3-6, 10-11;
Mt 13:54-58

❖ **Sat 3rd August, 2013**

Lev 25:1, 8-17; Ps 66:2-3, 5, 7-8;
Mt 14:1-12

**4TH AUGUST, 2013
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1st Reading: Eccl 1:2; 2: 21-23

Resp. Ps : 94:1-2, 6-9

2nd Reading: Col 3:1-5, 9-11

Gospel : Lk 12:13-21

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE POPE?

After the Barbarian conquest of Italy, the Church's rights were less carefully observed. Basilius, the prefect of Odoacer, claimed the right of supervising the election of 483 in the name of his master, alleging that Pope Simplicius had himself requested him to do so (Hard., II, 977). The disturbances which occurred at the disputed election of Symmachus (498) led that pope to hold a council and to decree the severest penalties on all who should be guilty of canvassing or bribery in order to attain the pontificate.

It was moreover decided that the majority of votes should decide the election. Theodoric the Ostrogoth, who at this period ruled Italy, became in his later years a persecutor of the Church. He even went so far as to appoint Felix III (IV) in 526 as the successor of Pope John I, whose death was due to the incarceration to which the king had condemned him. Felix, however, was personally worthy of the office, and the appointment was confirmed by a subsequent election.

The precedent of interference set by Theodoric was fruitful of evil to the Church. After the destruction of the Gothic monarchy (537), the Byzantine emperors went even farther than the heretical Ostrogoth in encroaching on ecclesiastical rights. Vigilius (540) and Pelagius I (553) were forced on the Church at imperial dictation. In the case of the latter there seems to have been no election: his title was validated solely through his recognition as bishop by clergy and people.

The formalities of election at this time were as follows (Lib. Diurnus Rom. Pont., 2, in P.L., CV, 27). After the pope's death, the archpriest, the archdeacon and the primicerius of the notaries sent an official notification to the exarch at Ravenna.

KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAITH

On the third day after the decease the new pope was elected, being invariably chosen from among the presbyters or deacons of the Roman Church (cf. op. cit., 2, tit. 2, 3 5), and an embassy was despatched to Constantinople to request the official confirmation of the election. Not until this had been received did the consecration take place.

The Church acquired greater freedom after the Lombard invasion of 568 had destroyed the prestige of Byzantine power in Italy. Pelagius II (578) and Gregory I (590) were the spontaneous choice of the electors. And in 684, owing to the long delays involved in the journey to Constantinople, Constantine IV (Pogonatus) acceded to Benedict II's request that in future it should not be necessary to wait for confirmation, but that a mere notification of the election would suffice. The 1088 of the exarchate and the iconoclastic heresy of the Byzantine court completed the severance between Rome and the Eastern Empire, and Pope Zacharias (741) dispensed altogether with the customary notice to Constantinople.

In 769 a council was held under Stephen III to rectify the confusion caused by the intrusion of the antipope Constantine. This usurper was a layman hurriedly raised to priest's orders to render his nomination to the pontificate possible. To make a repetition of the scandal impossible it was decreed that only members of the Sacred College were eligible for election.

The part of the laity was, moreover, reduced to a mere right of acclamation. Under Charlemagne and Louis the Pious the Church retained her freedom Lothair, However, claimed more ample rights for the civil power In 824 he exacted an oath from the Romans that none should be consecrated pope without the permission and the presence of his ambassadors.

To be continued.....

YOUTH CORNER

How to Solve Your Family Problems

Relationship is such a word that connects us to each other. We all are connected to people and we have different kind of relationships with them. But most of all it depends on how we maintain our relationship with people. A good relationship means a good family maintenance. And this starts at home. Nowadays relationships at home between parents and children or husband and wife are not well going. Widely noticed and researched families are not happy with whatever is happening within the family. This is especially to those husbands, wives and children who can still maintain their good relations in the family.

STEPS TO SOLVING YOUR FAMILY PROBLEMS:

- 1. Be wise.** Listen first to what elders are saying. So that you don't have problems understanding them and once they are done say what you want to. Fair equality should be around.
- 2. Have Patience.** Don't shout or argue when parents are hot minded, but once they get cool bring the topic along discussing what the matter is and what actually happened.

YOUTH CORNER

3. Explain what you want. If you are a child and don't like what all is happening in your family, get along with your parents. Sit with both of them and discuss the problem. Acknowledge them about your feelings. So that they can realise what they are doing and what should be done.

4. Explain your expectations. If you are parents and you are not happy with your child's behaviour don't shout at them or taunt them. Explain them with cool minds. Let them know that you love them and give them some time so that they feel close to you and discuss everything with you.

5. Take out time for each other. Plan family time together. Take your Children to family outings.

6. Be committed and responsible. Give your family your time and commitment.

7. Be friends with your kids. Children should feel free to discuss their daily lives with their parents. Therefore parents should maintain their good relation with children

To be continued.....

FINANCE CORNER

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

DETAILS OF LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION
