# SS. THOMAS MORE & JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC CHURCH ACHIMOTA



P.O. BOX AH 283, ACHIMOTA-ACCRA WEBSITE: WWW.THOMASMOREJOHNFISHER.COM EMAILS: besohwe@yahoo.com & johnfisher.achimota@gmail.com
St. Thomas More Catholic Church - 030-3931800
Ss. Thomas More & John Fisher Catholic Church - 030-2436199



# **WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

7TH DECEMBER, 2025 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A

Theme for the Week

BE THE TREE THAT BEARS THE FRUITS

OF FAITH.

**First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10**: A descendent of Jesse will usher in a time of peace.

Responsorial Psalm. Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 IN HIS DAYS SHALL JUSTICE FLOURISH, AND GREAT PEACE FOREVER.

**Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9**: Both Jews and Gentiles glorify God for the salvation found in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:1-12**: John the Baptist appears in Judea preaching a message of repentance.

#### **REFLECTION**

Beloved in Christ, today we celebrate the Second Sunday of our journey through this season of Advent. As we continue along this sacred path, let us allow the season to guide us, so that we may become like a tree that bears the fruits of faith—first in our own Christian lives, and then in the lives of all who encounter us. In today's Gospel, John the Baptist admonishes the Pharisees and the Sadducees, urging them to "bear fruit that befits repentance" (Matthew 3:1-12). His words are a reminder to us as well. As Catholic men and women of faith, we know that the season of Advent is a privileged moment to seek penance and reconciliation, especially through Advent recollections or personal retreats. Let us therefore be mindful not to boast of being Catholic while our faith and spirituality remain questionable. Let us not live in a presumptive state, like the Pharisees and Sadducees, who believed that having Abraham as their father was enough. In the same way, we should not assume that simply being Catholic is sufficient. We may fail to notice that there is a serious vacuum in our spiritual lives—an area left unattended—that prevents us from bearing fruit for others to benefit from. Let us not allow anything to hinder us from becoming bearers of good fruit, especially for our own spiritual growth, so that our hearts may be prepared and disposed to experience the joy that awaits us at Christmas.

#### **ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL THEME (2025)**

PILGRIMS OF HOPE A YEAR OF DISCIPLESHIP (ROMANS 5:5)

#### **CLERGY**

REV. FR. PATRICK AGBEKO

- 0244562500
- +1 646 9544 711 WhatsApp Only

REV. FR. CLEMENT QUAGRAINE

• 0248329194

REV. FR. EVANS HALOLO

• 0245430895

### MASS SCHEDULE Weekday Mass

**STM:** Tue - Fri @ 6:15 AM **SJF:** Mon - Fri @ 6:15 AM,

**Sat:** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00-6:30 am, **Mass:** 6:30am

#### **Sunday Mass**

#### ST. THOMAS MORE

1st Mass: 7:00 - 9:00 am 2nd Mass: 9:30 - 11:30 am

#### ST. JOHN FISHER

1st Mass: 6:30 - 8:30 am 2nd Mass: 9:30 - 11:30 am

#### **OTHER PARISH ACTIVITIES**

Bible Sharing (**SJF**) Every Wednesday @ 6:30 PM

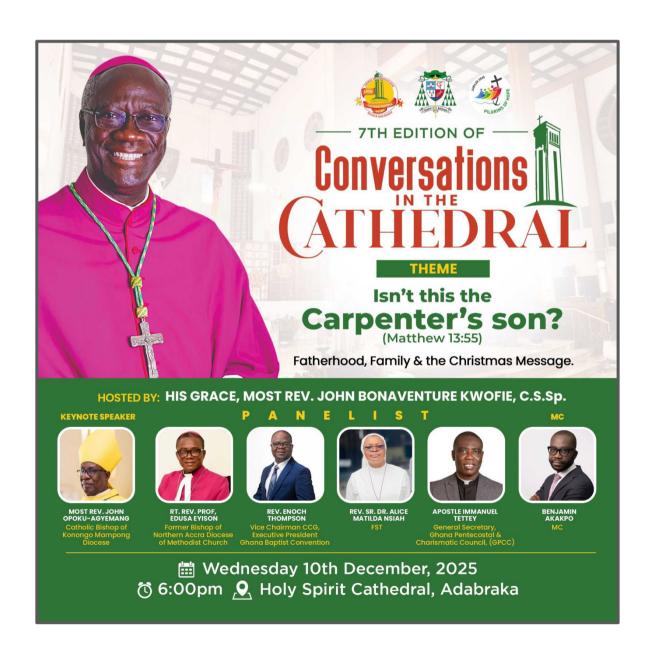
First Thursday of the month, Adoration at **STM** @ 6:30 PM

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament @ (SJF) First Friday of the month - After Morning Mass, followed by ADORATION in the evening at 7

Infant Baptism – 1<sup>ST</sup> Sat. @ STM -7am Grotto Devotion (SJF) First Saturday of the month @ 4:00 PM







### **KNOW YOUR FAITH**

Things You Need to Know About the Advent Season.

#### When Does Advent Begin and End?

Advent begins with Evening Prayer I of the Sunday falling on or closest to 30 November and ends before Evening Prayer I of Christmas. The Sunday on or nearest to Nov. 30 can range between Nov. 27 and Dec. 3, depending on the year. In the case of a Sunday, Evening Prayer I is said on the evening of the preceding day (Saturday). This means that Advent begins on the evening of a Saturday falling between November 26 and December 2 (inclusive), and it ends on the evening of December 24, which holds Evening Prayer I of Christmas (December 25).

#### What Is the Role of Sundays in Advent?

There are four Sundays of Advent. The General Norms (No. 41) state: The Sundays of this season are named the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Sundays of Advent. The Third Sunday of Advent has a special name — Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word for "Rejoice," which is the first word of the introit of the Mass for this day. The Church ascribes particular importance to these Sundays, and they take precedence over other liturgical celebrations. Because of its special importance, the Sunday celebration gives way only to solemnities or feasts of the Lord. The Sundays of the seasons of Advent, Lent, and Easter, however, take precedence over all solemnities and feasts of the Lord. Solemnities occurring on these Sundays are observed on another day after.

#### **How Are Churches Decorated During Advent?**

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal notes: During Advent, the floral decoration of the altar should be marked by a moderation suited to the character of this time of year, without expressing in anticipation the full joy of the Nativity of the Lord.

#### **MOTIVATION**

#### Waiting for rabbit suicide.

Once there lived a lazy farmer who did not enjoy working hard in the fields. He spent his days napping under a tree. One day, while he was resting under a tree, a fox came chasing a rabbit. There was a loud THUMP—the rabbit had crashed into the tree and died. The farmer picked up the dead rabbit and took it home, frustrating the fox. The farmer cooked and ate the rabbit for dinner and sold its fur at the market. The farmer thought, "If I could get a rabbit like that every day, I'd never have to work again."

The next day, the farmer went right back to the tree and waited for another rabbit to die similarly. He saw a few rabbits, but none of them ran into the tree like before. Indeed, it was a very rare incident, but the farmer did not realize it. "Oh well," he thought cheerfully, "There's always tomorrow." Since he was just waiting for the rabbit to hit a tree and die, he did not give any attention to his field. Weeds grew in his rice field. Soon, the farmer had to be hungry as he ran out of his rice and never caught any other rabbits either.

*Moral:* Do not wait for good things to come without doing anything. Do not give your life to luck without working for success.



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

## **Youth Corner**



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

• We are reminded and encouraged to pay our Harvest levy of GH¢200 per Adult, GH¢100 per working Youth, and GH¢50 per child. Those in arrears of the Harvest Levy and pledges are entreated to redeem them. Those who have pledged for the Legacy of Hope Project are also reminded and entreated to redeem them and fulfill all other Church Financial Obligations. (e.g., Church Dues, Welfare Dues, and Building Fund).

#### Societal Meeting Days:

- The New Achimota, Akweteyman, Kopevi & Achimota Town Community meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at SJF.
- The Young Christian Workers meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at STM.
- The Ave Maria Society meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at STM.
- The Northern Union meets every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at STM.
- The Christian Mothers Association meets every 1<sup>st</sup>
   Sunday at SJF & 3<sup>RD</sup> Sunday of the month at STM.
- St. Theresa of the Child Jesus meets every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at STM & 3<sup>RD</sup> Sunday at SJF.
- The Holy Family Akan Kuo meets every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at STM.
- St. Francis of Assisi Nigerian Community meets every 1st Sunday of the month at SJF.

#### Marriage Banns;

#### Death Report:

#### Upcoming Parish Activities:

- ➤ Our parish Advent recollection will be from 11th to 12th Dec. 2025 at STM @6:30 pm each day. We are encouraged to participate as part of our preparations to celebrate Christmas.
- We are being invited to the Maiden Album Launch by Peter Owusu Ansah (Apostle Peter) on Sat. 13<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2025 at St. Mark Catholic Church, Ashongman at 3:30 pm.

#### Funeral Arrangements:

#### Offertory for next Sunday:

- @STM: 7:00 am Mass: Ave Maria society & 9:30 am Mass: Parishioners
- @SJF: 6:30 am Mass: Parishioners & 9:30 am Mass: Knights & Ladies of St. John International.



### **PASTORAL CARE**

**CONFESSIONS** - Every Saturday, 5pm at SJF & 6:30 pm at STM

**BAPTISM** - First Saturday of every month. Please visit the Parish Office for the baptismal form.

#### VISITATION TO THE SICK AND AGED

Tuesday @ 7 am. Contact the Parish Office to make visit requests.

#### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made AT LEAST SIX (6) MONTHS in advance of the proposed date and prior to the social arrangements. At least one partner in the couple must be a registered member of the Church for at least 6 months.

#### CONSULTATION OF PRIESTS

STM - Tue 6.30 PM - 8:00 PM, Wed & Thu, 6:30 AM- 7:30 AM SJF - Mon/Wed, 5:00 PM

# Contact the Priest (s) directly for emergencies

#### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tues-Friday, 9 am to 1 pm & 2 pm to 5 pm Sundays 9 am -1.30 pm

#### SPECIAL MINISTRIES

Catechists - **0244505356** 

Missionary Animators-0205860277/0540911949

Knights & Ladies of the altar-0246231722/0555734484

Lectors - 0242743399

Marriage & family life

Ushers - **0245295099** 

Eucharistic Ministers - 0506444693

## **JUBILEE PRAYER**

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
For the coming of your Kingdom.
May your grace transform us



into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos

in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.
May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen

WeeklyReadings						
Monday (08/12/2025) Immaculate Conception of BVM	Gen 3:9-15,20 / Ps 98:1-4 / Eph 1:3-6,11-12 / Lk 1:26-38					
Tuesday (09/12/2025)	Is 40:1-11 / Ps 96:1-3,10-13 / Mt 18:12-14					
Wednesday (10/12/2025	Is 40:25-31 / Ps 103:1-4,8,10 / Mt 11:28-30					
Thursday (11/12/2025)	Is 41:13-20 / Ps 145:1,9-13 / Mt 11:11-15					
Friday (12/12/2025)	Is 48:17-19 / Ps 1:1-4,6 / Mt 11:16-19					
Saturday (13/12/2025)	Sir 48:1-4,9-11 / Ps 80:2-3,15-16,18-19 / Mt 17:9a,10-13					
READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Is 35:1-6a,10 / Ps 145:6-10 / Jas 5:7-10 / Mt 11:2-11					

# **FINANCE CORNER**



# ST. THOMAS MORE

STM – NOVEMBER									
WEEK DAYS	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	TOTAL	RANKS	Breakdown Of <b>Last Sunday's</b> Collection	
Sun.	822.50	-	-	-	450.00	1272.50	4TH	MAIN COLLECTION	3314.90
Mon.	2821.00	-	20.00	-	-	2841.00	1ST	SECOND COLLECTION	1820.50
Tue.	709.00	-	-	600.00	-	1309.00	3RD	THANKSGIVING	600.00
Wed.	903.00	-	-	-	100.00	1003.00	6TH	TITHE	-
Thur.	800.00	-	30.00	50.00	50.00	930.00	7TH	OFFERTORY ENVE.	300.00
Fri.	1566.60	-	-	-	-	1566.60	2ND		
Sat.	1053.00	-	100.00	-	-	1153.00	5TH		
Nov.	479.00	-	-	-	-	479.00	-		
Total	9154.10	-	150.00	650.00	600.00	10554.10		TOTAL	6035.40

# ST. JOHN FISHER

	SJF – NOVEMBER								
WEEK DAYS	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	TOTAL	RANKS	Breakdown Of <b>Last Sunday's</b> Collection	
Sun.	2641.00	-	30.00	-	-	2671.00	4TH	MAIN COLLECTION	5639.60
Mon.	4519.00	100.00	-	-	20.00	4639.00	3RD	SECOND COLLECTION	3752.00
Tue.	1882.00	-	10000.00	-	-	11882.00	2ND	THANKSGIVING	70.00
Wed.	1744.00	-	125.00	-	-	1869.00	7TH	TITHE	300.00
Thur.	2417.50	-	-	-	-	2417.50	6TH	OFFERTORY ENVE.	1650.00
Fri.	18732.00	-	-	-	50.00	18782.00	1ST		
Sat.	2658.00	-	-	-	-	2658.00	5TH		
Nov.	408.00	1	-	-	-	408.00	-	Pounds	20.00
Total	35001.50	100.00	10155.00	-	70.00	45326.50		TOTAL	11411.60

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.