

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
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March 4, 2018



***Let the favor of the Lord be upon us.
Give success to the work of our Hands! (Psalm 90)***

Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Raymond Moore, Pastor, x12
Ms. Patricia Hamilton, Pastoral Administrator, x11
Mrs. Mary Waters, Office Assistant, x10
Ms. Bridget Coates, Academy Principal
Ms. Wanda Brooks, Coordinator of Religious Education, x31
Mr. Henry Herrera, Gospel Choir Director
Mrs. Charnetta Dobbins, Youth Choir Director
Mrs. Denese Clay, Glorify Praise Team Director
Mrs. Barbara Elliott, Parish Council Chair
Ms. Diana Brown, Finance Council Chair

Mass Schedule:

Saturday	5:00 pm	(Rectory Chapel)
Sunday	8:45 am	Youth Choir
	11:30 am	Gospel Choir
Weekdays	8:00 am	(Rectory Chapel)

Bulletin Deadline: Items for Sunday's Bulletin must be received via email **by 12:00 pm Monday** in order to have them included in Sunday's publication. Thank you for honoring this important timeline.

Baptism: Please call the Parish Office to register for classes.

Confession: After Sunday Masses, by appointment, or on Saturday afternoon at 4:00 pm in the Rectory.

Marriage: Diocesan policy requires notification to the priest at least six months in advance. Attendance at pre-Cana classes is also required. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

Pastoral Care of the Sick: Please notify the Parish Office when a member of the parish is in the hospital, nursing home, or is otherwise unable to come to Mass and wishes to receive any of the sacraments.

Religious Education:

Interested in becoming a Catholic? Please contact Fr. Raymond Moore at the Rectory.
CCD Classes: Every Sunday at 10:30am
Bible Study: Every Tuesday at 7:30pm

Third of Sunday of Lent
Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Exodus 20:1-17 ~ God gives the commandments to Moses.

Responsorial: Psalm 19 ~ Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Reading II: 1 Cor 1:22-25 ~ For some the "crucified Christ" is a stumbling block.

Gospel: John 2:13-25 ~ While Paul preaches about the crucified Christ as a stumbling block, John teaches that the crucified Christ is building block or foundation of a new Temple, the Temple of his Resurrected Body.

Readings for Next Sunday

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23 Eph 2:4-10 John 3:14-21

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	2 Kings 5:1-15ab	Luke 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dan 3:25, 34-43	Matt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Deut 4:1, 5-9	Matt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28	Luke 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10	Mark 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6	Luke 18:9-14

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am Safekeeping of Our Youth
 11:30am Health of Mary Waters
 Monday In loving memory of LC Barnes
 Tuesday Health of Vi Davies
 Wednesday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
 Thursday In memory of Mikki Colmes
 Friday In memory of Don, Flo & Bruce Bertman
 Saturday In loving memory of Harold Holmes
 In loving memory of Constance Berry

PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Kayla Adams, Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty Beatty, Marie Brown, Shirley Brown, Francillia Browne, Cynthia Bruce, Felicia V. Bush, John Bush, Mary Agnes Bush, Roland Caldwell, Jane Cannon, Dixie Clark, Shertia Clark, Odessa Curtis, Dcn. Ralph Cyrus, Frances Davies, Viola Davies, Barbara Deale, Barbara DeJesus, Renee Felieu, Diane Finley, Eric Fuller, Priscilla Fuller., Craig Fulmer, Betty Furr, Tasha Gant, David Garner, Tyrone Garrison, Brenda Green, Emmanuel Greene, William Gunn, Earl Hamilton, Andre Harris, Margaret Harris, Vance Harris II, June Harrison, Shant'e Hawkins, James Hilton, Maximillion Holland, Elizabeth Holmes, Darryl Jackson, Jimmie Jackson, Ivy John, Carolyn Johnson, Sarah Jones, Seymour & Patrick Jones, David Larison, Dennis Lucas, Gloria & William McCaskill, Emma McEntyre, Robert Milner, Betty Moeller, Gloria Morgan, Dorothy Myrtle, Angela Neal, Tammy Peterson, Charles Queen, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Arthur Robinson, Jean, Leroy & Robert Robinson, Daja Rogers, Thelma Sawyer, Robin Sescoc, Ciara Shields, Brenda Smith, Claudell St. Julien, Edsel Swann, Jane Thomas, Kristine Vivican, Kayla Warren, Paul Waters, Marilyn Denise Whetstone, Anita Williams, Bertha Williams, Kobe M. Williams, David Wilson, Jean Wright, Marianne Young, and all who are Sick and/or Shut-In.

~ PRAYER REQUESTS ~

Please pray for the health and well-being of **Mary Waters**. Your continued prayers are asked for the health and well-being of **Kayla Adams, Shirley Adams, Sheila D. Brown, Roland Caldwell, Lisa Chinn, Andre Cooper, Vi Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Elizabeth Holmes, Lindora Owens, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Robert Robinson**, all of our members who are on the road to recovery, sick, shut-in or grieving; and **Pope Francis, Fr. Moore, Fr. Casmir, Ed Poindexter & Deacon Ralph Cyrus**

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH IS WISE STEWARDSHIP

So, then, each one of us will be accountable to God!
(Romans 14:12)

Not only our money, O God, but all that we have and are is a gift from you. Help us to find the joy of sharing our blessings with others through our stewardship of time, talent and treasure. May we one day hear the Lord's words, *Well, done good and faithful servants!* AMEN.

Stewardship Thought: "You never seem to have more money than when you are giving it away to someone who has less."

Tithes and offerings for **February 25, 2018** amounted to **\$6,726.80**; Faith Direct-\$3,241.74; Maintenance-\$50.00; Youth-\$2.00.

Attendance	5:00pm	16
	8:45am	137
	11:30am	<u>119</u>
		224

Thanks to all who have so well supported our Growing One Step stewardship program. Because of the strong commitment of many of us, we are blessed with good success thus far. May we be blessed as we bless our ministry and commitment to the Lord!

Your on-going contributions are most appreciated!

FAITH DIRECT: Fall Into e-Giving with Faith Direct!

This is the most convenient and secure way for you to make your tithes and offerings to St. Thomas More. Your automatic contributions through Faith Direct will save for you. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code, **DC773**.

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY: Our Adult Bible Study **WILL RESUME** this Tuesday, March 6 at 7:30 pm in the rectory. We will continue with our topic "What Was Adam Doing When Eve Was Eating The Apple?" Why not come and find out? All are welcome.

2017-2018 FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM: Adults seeking a closer walk with Jesus are invited to join our Faith Formation Program for Adults. We meet on Sunday morning at 10:30 in the Red Room.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION! *Classes are now in progress!* Registrations are still being accepted! Classes take place from 10:30 to 11:30am in the school. Contact Ms. Wanda Brooks.

SODALITY NEWS

Today, March 4, 2018:

STM General Meeting after 8:45am Mass; Rosary-8:15am.
ALL Sodality Union Raffle proceeds are due today!

2018 CARDINAL'S APPEAL!!

The 2018 Cardinal's Appeal has begun. You should have received a letter from the Cardinal asking for your support. Last year, we were able to contribute \$ 24,090 to the appeal. In our solicitation on Commitment Sunday, January 28, 50 members made pledges. Your pledges help to support our Catholic Charities programs as well as tuition assistance for Catholic schools, including St. Thomas More. You can donate today by simply completing a pledge form which is available in the church.

Thanks to all who have pledged so far!

PASTOR'S PEN

PREPARING FOR THE EASTER SACRAMENTS

From the days of the Apostles, Easter has been the special time to welcome new members into the family of the Church. Lent is the special season of final preparation for their initiation at Easter.

Our church is blessed to welcome the following:

Adult to be Baptized

Marikia Hawkins

Baptized Adults Making Profession of Faith, Eucharist and Confirmation

Darren Coles
Sheila Dunn

Youth and Children To Be Baptized

Jaida Alexander
Christian Archer
Keith Hawkins
Liliana Hawkins
Penelope Hawkins
Briana Jean-Charles
Gabriel Jean-Charles
Tyler Jones
Tyree Jones
Tyreon Jones
Tyronne Jones
Tyson Jones
Kennedi Price

*Please keep all of our candidates
in your prayers during Lent.*

In the Love of Jesus,

Rev. Raymond Moore

LENTEN PRESENTATION!

Join us for important information sharing for all ages:
Achievement, Attitude, Fitness, Motivation...

NEXT Sunday, March 11, 2-4pm, STM Cedar Room

~ Speaker ~

George Banker

Veteran, and Author of *Marathon Runner*

Donation: Canned Goods for the STM Food Pantry!

Sponsored by the STM Religious Ed Team.

FISH FRY FRIDAYS!

Remaining Dates: March 9 & 23!

11:00am to 3:00pm ~ STM Cedar Room

Pre-order forms are available in the church.

Sponsored by the STM B.O.L.D. Committee



WELCOME VISITORS!

We warmly welcome our visitors to St. Thomas More! We invite all who are seeking a church home to join our church family.

Please sign our Guest Book!

BLACK HISTORY MONTH APPRECIATION!

The STM Parish Action Committee extends gratitude to everyone for the wonderful celebration of family and great food during Soul Food Sunday!

Special thanks to all volunteers, parish organizations, the school committee and parishioners for making our culminating event such a successful and joyous occasion!

We also thank our parishioners who served in our nation's various Armed Forces during times of war:

<i>David Baker</i>	<i>Rodney Hollins</i>
<i>Thomas Baker</i>	<i>William Hawkins</i>
<i>George Banker</i>	<i>Andrea McClendon</i>
<i>James Bowman</i>	<i>Larry Owens</i>
<i>James Clark</i>	<i>Chester Pearson</i>
<i>James Curtis</i>	<i>Marion Richardson</i>
<i>Gloria Greenwood</i>	<i>James Roberts</i>
<i>George Hanna</i>	<i>Robert Robinson</i>

We salute you and remain grateful for your Service and Protection during times of war, and beyond!

Lastly, thank you to all who made this year's entire Black History Month Celebration a success!

***May God continue to bless each and every one of YOU,
and our St. Thomas More Church & School.***

~ LENTEN GUIDELINES ~

The Discipline for fasting and abstinence were introduced by Pope Paul VI in 1966. Here is a breakdown of what the Church asks of us:

-Fasting means eating a lesser amount of food. While fasting, only one full meal is taken. Two other smaller meals are usually eaten. While fasting, we do not snack between meals!!

-Catholics who are 18 years of age and not yet 60 years old are asked to observe the fast days of the Church. There are only two days of fasting: **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.**

-Abstinence means not eating any meat. Dairy products as well as fish and seafood may be eaten.

-The church has established ASH WEDNESDAY and ALL THE FRIDAYS OF LENT AS DAYS OF ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT! We must FAST again on GOOD FRIDAY!

** SPECIAL LENTEN SCHEDULE **

Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, Noon-1pm, Rectory Chapel

Confession

Tuesday, Noon-1:00pm & 6:30-7:30pm, Rectory Chapel

Saturday, February 24 & March 24, 10-11am, Church

Scrutinies

Today, March 4, 2018~ Presentation of the Creed

March 18, 2018~ Presentation of the Our Father

