

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
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May 13, 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. 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

The Ascension of the Lord



Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Acts 1:1-11 ~ The risen Jesus, before he ascends into heaven, promises those gathered that they would receive the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the Presence of the risen Christ within them.

Responsorial: Psalm 47 ~ God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Reading II: Eph 1:17-23 ~ God's love calls us to love one another.

Gospel: Mark 16:15-20 ~ The risen Lord will work through and with the disciples as they preach the gospel.

Readings for Next Sunday

Acts 2:1-11 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 John 20:19-23

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26	John 15:9-17
Tuesday:	Acts 20:17-27	John 17:1-11a
Wednesday:	Acts 20:28-38	John 17:11b-19
Thursday:	Acts 22:30; 23:6-11	John 17:20-26
Friday:	Acts 25:13b-21	John 21:15-19
Saturday:	Acts 28:16-20, 30-31	John 21:20-25

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	In Honor of all Mothers/Mother-figures
11:30am	Our Deceased Mothers/Mother-figures
Monday	In memory of Alvin Mayo
Tuesday	Health of Vi Davies
Wednesday	Our Sick/Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	In memory of Victoria Nicholas-Birthday
Friday	Health of Mary Waters
Saturday	STM Outreach Committee

PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty Beatty, Marie Brown, Shirley Brown, Francillia Browne, Cynthia Bruce, Felicia V. Bush, John Bush, Roland Caldwell, Jane Cannon, Dixie Clark, Shertia Clark, Odessa Curtis, Dcn. Ralph Cyrus, Frances Davies, Viola Davies, Barbara Deale, Barbara DeJesus, Renee Feliu, Diane Finley, Eric & 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, Maximillon Holland, Elizabeth Holmes, Darryl Jackson, Jimmie Jackson, Ivy John, Carolyn Johnson, Ronald Johnson, Sarah Jones, Seymour & Patrick Jones, David Larison, Dennis Lucas, James Makle, Jr., 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 Sescocoe, 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/ Shut-In.

~ PRAYER REQUESTS ~

Your continued prayers are asked for the health and well-being of Shirley Adams, Sheila D. Brown, Audrey & Roland Caldwell, Lisa Chinn, Vi Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Earl Hamilton, Elizabeth Holmes, Ronald Johnson, 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

"If it is to encourage others, we should do so. Whoever shares with others should do it generously; whoever has authority should work hard; whoever shows kindness to others should do it cheerfully." (Romans 12:8)

We are always learning how to do better what we do in your service, O God. As we bring our offerings, teach us how to give with willing and generous hearts and discover the joy of stewardship. 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 **Sunday, May 6, 2018** amounted to **\$8,671.00**; Maintenance-\$2,765.00; Faith Direct-\$3,154.55.

Attendance	5:00pm	11
	8:45am	135
	11:30am	101
		257

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: Join the conversation on timely Bible topics. We meet on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm in the rectory. We are beginning a new series on Noah's Ark. 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.

SENIOR LUNCHEON: The Outreach Committee is holding its Annual Senior Luncheon **next Saturday, May 19, 2018!** Seniors, 62 years of age and older, are invited to attend! Space is limited to **100 attendees!** A Sign-up Sheet is posted in the church, but registration will end when we reach 100 attendees!

2018 GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY!

We will honor our graduates at both Masses on Sunday, **June 3, 2018!** Please sign up on the list posted in the church so we may honor you. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS!!

Kourtney Garner, granddaughter of **Blondinia Brown**, will receive her **Master's Degree in Mathematics** from **Clark Atlanta University** on **Monday, May 21, 2018**.

We are very proud of you, Kourtney!

MOVING FROM EASTER TO ASCENSION

Jesus's ascension is both an ending and a beginning. During the past forty days Jesus has shown himself to his disciples. With his ascension these appearances are at an end; his revelation of the Kingdom of God is complete; the promise of the Messiah is fulfilled. Now begins the work of the disciples to teach what they have learned and to share what they have witnessed. But it is not a promising start. Like any beginning or transition in life it is a moment of great uncertainty, confusion and apprehension. Christ places his Church in the hands of a company of simple fishermen and otherwise unremarkable people—and yet, what began with those followers of Jesus has grown and flourished through the centuries all the way to us here at St. Thomas More. What the Church leaves to them is rooted not in buildings or wealth or theological systems, but in faith nurtured in the human heart, a faith centered in wisdom and trust that this is empowered and liberating, a faith that give us strength and freedom to be authentic witnesses of the risen Jesus.

On the mount of the ascension, Jesus is likewise calling us to be his witnesses, to tell others about the good that God has worked through the mystery of Easter. Jesus asks us to be witnesses of God's presence in our midst, to be agents of hope to be prophets of compassion and vessels of peace. We who have heard the story of Jesus and beheld his presence in the love we have experienced in our own lives are now called to bring that love into the lives of others and into the lives we share as families, as church and as members of our communities. We are called to continue Jesus' work of teaching, witnessing healing in our own small ways—to hand on the story that has been handed on to us regarding the Kingdom of God's Love.

Pope Francis writes in *The Joy of the Gospel*, "Being Church means being God's people, in accordance with the great plan of his fatherly love. This means that we are leaven in the midst of humanity. It means proclaiming and bringing God's salvation into our world. The Church must be the place of mercy freely given."

The Ascension is that transition place that brings us into the power place of Pentecost and the transforming by the Holy Spirit.

2018 CARDINAL'S APPEAL PROGRESS REPORT:

Thank you to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2018 Cardinal's Annual Appeal.

*We are 56.9% of the way towards our goal of \$37,045.
So far, we have pledged \$21,083.*

If you have not yet made your commitment to the Appeal, it is not too late to help make a difference in the lives of others by visiting appeal.adw.org. Remember that your support provides funding for Catholic Charities, school tuition assistance for families and the Merrick Center.

Thanks to all who have pledged thus far!

~HYMNAL MEMORIALS~

Dedicate a new *Lead Me, Guide Me* hymnal for an offering of \$20.00. A bookplate will be placed inside the front cover. Suggested dedications include: "given by..." "in memory of..." "in honor of..." Complete an order form (envelope) and place in collection basket.

*Thank you for supporting this effort
to enhance our Liturgical Music!*

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL MOTHERS, MOTHER-FIGURES



*AND THOSE WHO NURTURE IN WAYS
SEEN & UNSEEN!
MAY GOD BLESS & KEEP YOU!*

CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION

~2018~

Please keep our candidates for sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion in your prayers during this Easter season!



Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday, June 2, 2:00pm, at the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC.

First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, June 10, at the 11:30am Mass.

~Confirmation Candidates~

*Marquis Brown
Cierra Garrison
Lindsey Lamb
Daija Moore
Dione' Moore
Andria Otis-Coker
Sydni Smith
Jordan Weber
Jalyn Whitaker*

~Candidates for First Communion~

*Jaida Alexander
Cameron Anthony
Camille Anthony
Brianna Jean-Charles
Gabriel Jean-Charles
Tyreon Jones
Tyree Jones
Tyrone Jones
Anna Pitsenberger
Kennedi Price
Tierra Tyer*

