

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
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July 1, 2018



***Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ-
Answering the Call to Missionary Discipleship***

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	(Rector's Chapel)
Sunday	8:45 am	Youth Choir
	11:30 am	Gospel Choir
Weekdays	8:00 am	(Rector's 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



Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24~ Wisdom reminds us that we are created in God's image.

Responsorial: Psalm 30~ I praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Reading II: 2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15~ Imitate Christ by giving generously of yourselves.

Gospel: Mark 5:21-43~Jesus, in healing the hemorrhaging woman and Jairus' daughter, re-creates us in the wholeness and well-being God intends for us.

Readings for Next Sunday

Ez 2:2-5 2 Cor 12:7-10 Mk 6:1-6

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a	Matt 7:1-5
Tuesday:	2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36	Matt 7:6,12-14
Wednesday:	2 Kgs 22:8-13, 23:1-3	Matt 7:15-20
Thursday:	2 Kgs 24:8-17	Matt 7:21-29
Friday:	Acts 12:1-11 2Tim4:6-8, 17-18	Matt 16:13-19
Saturday:	Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19	Matt 8:5-17

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	Rev. Raymond Moore-Anniversary
11:30am	Rev. Raymond Moore-Anniversary
Monday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Tuesday	Health of Vi Davies
Wednesday	Gratitude for our Freedom
Thursday	In loving memory of Carrie Pearson-Birthday
Friday	Mack & Barbara Kennedy-Birthday
	In memory of Doris & Dcn. Martin-Prayer Gp
Saturday	Safekeeping of our Children and Youth

PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty Beatty, Hilda Best, Marie Brown, Shirley Brown, Francillia Browne, Cynthia Bruce, Felicia V. Bush, John Bush, Roland Caldwell, Jane Cannon, Suzanne Chandler, 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, Maxmillon Holland, Elizabeth Holmes, Darryl Jackson, Jimmie Jackson, Ivy John, Carolyn 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 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/ Shut-In.*

~ PRAYER REQUESTS ~

Please lift our beloved Fr. Raymond Moore in your heartfelt prayers as he marks his 11th Anniversary as Pastor today!!

Your continued prayers are also asked for the health and well-being of Shirley Adams, Hilda Best, Sheila D. Brown, Audrey & Roland Caldwell, Suzanne Chandler, Vi Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Earl Hamilton, Elizabeth Holmes, 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, June 24, 2018** amounted to **\$6,770.20; Faith Direct-\$2,704.28; Maintenance-\$10.00.**

Attendance	5:00pm	14
	8:45am	135
	11:30am	80
		<u>229</u>

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**.

ENLISTING WITNESSES FOR JESUS-ANSWERING THE CALL TO MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 16, 2018!

Adult Faith Formation And RCIA

This program is for adults wishing to become Catholic or desiring to increase their knowledge of Catholicism. We will be meeting in the Red Room on Sunday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 beginning September 16. *Adults seeking a closer relationship with Jesus Christ are encouraged to participate.*

Youth Religious Education

This program is for children preparing for the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. We have classes for children from Kindergarten through Eighth Grade. Our classes will meet in the school on Sunday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 starting September 16. *All families are encouraged to participate.*

Youth Group

The Youth Group is for high school age youth, who have received the sacrament of Confirmation. This ministry provides ongoing formation in faith, ministry, community service and positive Christian peer fellowship. Youth Group meets on Sunday morning from 10:30 to 11:30 in the rectory living room. *All youth are invited to get involved.*

**SOWING AND GROWING SEEDS OF
BETTER DISCIPLESHIP
AND
GREATER HOLINESS**

Today our Gospel introduces us to two persons who put all their trust in the power of Jesus Christ to save and to heal. One is a woman who has been afflicted with hemorrhaging for twelve long years. Her condition rendered her unclean, unacceptable and unwanted. The other was a man whose daughter was gravely ill and near death. Both show a meekness that opens their lives to the power of God to save and to heal. Let us continue to sow and grow the seeds of better discipleship by embracing the Gospel invitation to practice meekness in our lives

Again, we turn to Pope Francis and his insights found in his letter entitled, *Rejoice and Be Glad (Gaudete Et Exultate)*. This week we focus on the Beatitude, "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land."

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. These are strong words in a world that from the beginning has been a place of conflict, disputes and enmity on all sides, where we constantly pigeonhole others on the basis of their ideas, their customs and even their way of speaking or dressing. Ultimately, it is the reign of pride and vanity, where each person thinks he or she has the right to dominate others. Nonetheless, impossible as it may seem, Jesus proposes a different way of doing things: the way of meekness. This is what we see him doing with his disciples. It is what we contemplate on his entrance to Jerusalem: "Behold, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey." (Matt. 21:5)

Christ says: "Learn from me for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (Matt. 11:29) If we are constantly upset and impatient with others, we will end up drained and weary. But if we regard the faults and limitations of others with tenderness and meekness, without an air of superiority, we can actually help them and stop wasting our energy on useless complaining. St. Therese of Lisieux tells us that "perfect charity consists in putting up with others' mistakes, and not to be scandalized by their faults."

Paul speaks of meekness as one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit (See Galatians 5:23). He suggests that, if a wrongful action of one of our brothers or sisters troubles us, we should try to correct them, but "with a spirit of meekness," since "you too could be tempted" (Galatians 6:1). Even when we defend our faith and convictions we are to do so with meekness.

Meekness is yet another expression of interior poverty of those who put their trust in God alone. Indeed, in the Bible the same word –anawim—refers to the poor and to the meek. Someone might object: "If I am that meek, they will think that I am an idiot, a fool or a weakling." At times they may, but so be it. It is always better to be meek, for then our deepest desires will be fulfilled. The meek "shall inherit the earth," for they will see God's promises accomplished in their lives.

Reacting with meekness and humility: that is holiness.

PRINCIPAL SEARCH UPDATE

The selection committee is in the process of interviewing candidates for principal of the Academy. We are now beginning our second round of candidate interviews. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide our process and a great leader will be selected.



WELCOME VISITORS!

*We warmly welcome our visitors to
St. Thomas More Church!*

*We invite all who are seeking a
church home to join our
St. Thomas More church family.*

*Please encourage all visitors to sign our
Guest Book located near the Main Entrance.*

CARDINAL'S APPEAL JUNE UPDATE:

*As of June 22, 2018, we have increased participation
from 56.9% to 66%. We have pledged **\$24,433.00** from a
total of 94 pledges, with an average pledge of \$260.00!*

Let's all do our part to reach this goal. Simply fill out the appeal envelope in the back of the church and place in the collection or give to an usher. Be sure to make your checks payable to the "Cardinal's Appeal". Thanks to all who have sown the seeds of generosity by supporting this year's appeal

FIVE WAYS WE CAN BETTER SERVE YOU:

1. If you are new to our church, complete a registration form. (Available in back of church.)
2. If your address has changed recently let us know by completing a change of address form. (Available in back of church.)
3. Consider using **Faith Direct** (e-giving) for your tithing and church support. It is easier and more efficient and saves paper as well. See announcement in this bulletin.
4. If you are not active in a church ministry, please receive our invitation to get involved and serve. Complete and turn in a sign-up form. (Available in the back of church.)
5. Become a "**Missionary Disciple**" by sowing and growing the seeds of faith by inviting friends or family to be a part of our church.

PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES!

**STM Outreach Committee's
Annual Crab Feast**

Sunday, September 16, 2018, 2:00-5:00pm

2018 East of the River Revival

Theme: Jesus, Heal Our Land

Revivalist: Father Sidney Speaks

Youth Rally: Saturday, September 29

St. Thomas More, 10:00am to 4:30pm
Mass with Bishop Dorsonville at 12:00pm

Revival: October 1-3, 2018

Holy Family Church, Hilcrest Heights
Praise and Worship starts at 7:00pm

Closing Mass with Bishop Roy Campbell
on Wednesday evening.

