

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
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School: 202-561-1189

January 13, 2019



Glory to God in the Highest

Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Raymond Moore, Pastor, x12
Ms. Patricia Hamilton, Pastoral Administrator, x11
Mrs. Mary Waters, Office Assistant, x10
Mr. Gerald Smith, 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



The Baptism of the Lord
Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: 42:1-4, 6-7 ~The Lord's servant will bring forth justice.

Responsorial: Psalm 29 ~The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Reading II: Acts 10:34-38 ~The word of God is fulfilled in Jesus.

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 ~"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.

Readings for Next Sunday

Is 62:1-5 1 Cor 12:4-11 Jn 2:1-11

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Heb 1:1-6	Mark 1:14-20
Tuesday:	Heb 2: 5-12	Mark 1:21-28
Wednesday:	Heb 2:14-18	Mark 1:29-39
Thursday:	Heb 3:7-14	Mark 1:40-45
Friday:	Heb 4:1-5, 11	Mark 2:1-12
Saturday:	Heb 4:12-16	Mark 2:13-17

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

- Sunday 8:45am Violet Pinkney-Birthday
 11:30am In memory of Charles Mayo
- Monday Vanessa Davies-16th Birthday
- Tuesday In memory of Dr. Martin Luther King-Birthday
- Wednesday Debi Hamilton Schoening-Birthday
 In loving memory of Williard Pinkney
- Thursday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
- Friday In loving memory of Roderick Bell-25 yrs.
- Saturday Health of Robert Milner

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, Audrey Caldwell, Jane Cannon, Dixie Clark, Elois Clark, Shertia Clark, Odessa Curtis, Dcn. Ralph Cyrus, Francess Davies, Barbara Deale, Barbara DeJesus, Renee Feliu, Diane Finley, Priscilla Fuller, Craig Fulmer, Betty Furr, Tasha Gant, David Garner, Tyrone Garrison, Brenda Green, Zynae Green, Emmanuel Greene, William Gunn, Andre Harris, Margaret Harris, Vance Harris II, June Harrison, Shant'e Hawkins, Maximillon 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, Yolanda Rollins, Thelma Sawyer, Robin Sescoc, Ciara Shields, Brenda Smith, Edsel Swann, Jane Thomas, Kristine Vivican, Rev. Raymond Wadas, 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 pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of **Charles Mayo**, husband of our dedicate parishioner, **Audrey P. Mayo**. We also ask your prayers for the comfort and consolation of the family.

Your continued prayers are appreciated for **Shirley Adams, Sheila D. Brown, Audrey Caldwell, Priscilla Fuller, Zynae Green, Elizabeth Holmes, Robert Milner, Alice Proctor, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Robert Robinson, Yolanda Rollins**, our members who are on the road to recovery, sick, shut-in or grieving; **and Pope Francis, Fr. Moore, Fr. Casimir, Ed Poindexter & Deacon Ralph Cyrus.**

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH IS WISE STEWARDSHIP

Let us always offer praise to God as our sacrifice through Jesus, which is the offering presented by lips that confess him as Lord. Do not forget to do good and to help one another, because these are the sacrifices that please God. (Hebrews 13:15-16)

As our hearts are attuned to sing your praise, O God, may our hands be accustomed to giving, that the actions of our hands may reveal the song of our hearts and resound to the glory of God. 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 **January 6, 2019** amounted to **\$8,937.50. Youth-\$4.00. Maintenance-\$3,218.00.**

Attendance	5:00pm	20
	8:45am	149
	11:30am	<u>96</u>
		265

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!

We all strive to be good stewards of our blessings. Over the past months, many of our members now use Faith Direct (e-giving) to fulfill their stewardship commitments to our church. Electronic giving is less expensive than the offertory envelopes. By switching to Faith Direct, we reduce our envelope and postage expenses. Consider joining Faith Direct and support St. Thomas More by using this secure and convenient program. It is simple to start. Enroll by visiting www.faithdirect.net to enroll securely on line. **Our parish code is DCC773.**

ENLISTING WITNESSES FOR JESUS CHRIST

Youth Religious Education: Our Religious Education Program for children in pre-kindergarten through Confirmation formally began September 16th. It is not too late to register students. Classes are held Sunday mornings in the school from 10:30 to 11:30. *All families are encouraged to participate.*

Youth Ministry: Our Youth Ministry Program, for youth who have received the sacrament of Confirmation through the twelfth grade, meets on Sunday mornings at 10:30 in the rectory living room. *All youth are encouraged to participate.*

Adult Faith Formation: Our Adult Faith Formation Program is designed for adults preparing to become Catholics, and for those Catholics who would like to learn more about the Catholic Faith. The group meets on Sunday morning at 10:30 in the Red Room. *All adults are welcome.*

Adult Bible Study: Our Adult Bible Study meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm in the rectory living room. We will continue our study of the Twelve Apostles. All adults are invited to participate in our lively and interesting discussions.

FLOCK NOTES IS COMING: In response to the need to better communicate with you, our members, we are implementing "Flock Notes" which will allow us to communicate with you directly by email, text or voice mail. Further details forthcoming soon. "Flock Notes" will also permit us to communicate directly with individual ministries and organizations.

PASTORAL REFLECTION

Digging Deeper *Into Today's Scripture*

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. Luke, the evangelist, presents John the Baptist as the prophet who prepared the way for Jesus. John the Baptist preached repentance of sins and baptized the people in the Jordan River. Having no need of repentance, conversion or forgiveness, Jesus, never the less joins the crowds on the banks of the River Jordan.

In an action that points us in the direction of the cross and resurrection, Jesus bears the sins of us all as he goes down to the Jordan River, is baptized by John, and emerges from the water to be named the beloved Son of God. Pope Benedict XVI tells us, "To accept the invitation to be baptized now means to go to the place of Jesus' baptism. It is to go where he identifies himself with us and to receive there our identification with him. The point where he anticipates death has now become the point where we anticipate rising again with him." In Jesus' baptism and our own, we touch the place where humanity and divinity, as well as mortality and immortality, meet.

Jesus' baptism also marks the beginning of his public ministry. Henri Nouwen, in his book "*Life of the Beloved*" says, "Self-rejection is the greatest enemy of the spiritual life because it contradicts the sacred voice that calls us "the Beloved." When we embrace the reality that "being the Beloved expresses the core truth of our existence," we are ready to go forth following in the footsteps of Jesus to love and serve others. In baptism we are configured to Jesus, named children of the light, and commissioned to go forth as beloved sons and daughters of God.

Maximus of Turin observed: "In the church year, the feast of the nativity is closely followed by the celebration of Jesus' baptism because of the parallels between these two great events." St. Ambrose wrote "The mystery of the Trinity is present—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are eternally three in one." And St. Cyril of Alexandria noted "The great mystery is that Christ, true God and true man, anointed with the Holy Spirit and acknowledged by the Father, opens the way for fallen human beings to be incorporated into Christ through baptism and likewise to receive the Spirit and to be adopted as children of God."

CHURCH ON THE MOVE NEWS!

REMINDERS...

Liturgical Movement Class begins tomorrow, January 14, 2019. We will meet in the Cedar Room at 6:45pm on Monday and Wednesday evenings.

Walk/Run/Bike: We will meet on Saturday, January 19, 7:45am, at Henson Creek Field. We will set off toward Bock Road at 8:00am.

Directions from STM: Follow 4th St. to Southern Ave. Turn left onto Southern Ave, right onto Owens Road, follow Owens to the end and make a right (into the left lane) onto Wheeler Rd. At the light, make a left onto St. Barnabas, follow to the 2nd light and make a right onto Temple Hill Rd. Follow around to the next light and make a left to stay on Temple Hill Rd. The field is down on the right.

(If you see St. Stephens's Baptist Church you have gone too far.)



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 sign our Guest Book!

STM ACADEMY CELEBRATES

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!!

January 27-February 2, 2019!

Sunday: Celebrating Our Parish

Opening Mass and Brunch

School Uniforms

Monday: Celebrating Our Community-Open House

Primary Grades-Tinkering and Creating Power: 10-11am

Intermediate Grades- Garden Design Project: 9-11am

Middle School: Service Project for S.O.M.E: 9-11am

White Shirt/Blue Jeans

Tuesday: Celebrating Vocations

Career Day: 9:30-11am

Saints Art Fair: 2-2:45pm

Dress to Impress

Wednesday: Celebrating Our Nation

Student Council Event--Intermediate and Middle School

Scholars' Writer's Workshop: Write Letters to Government

Officials on the Importance of Catholic Education

Show Us How You Dress!

Thursday: Celebrating Our Students

House Challenge: Friendly Competitions

Alumni/Students vs Parents Basketball Tournament: 6-7:30pm

Concession Fee-\$5.00

Class Colors

Friday: Celebrating Our Faculty, Staff and Volunteers

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon and Retreat 8am-4pm

Saturday: Celebrating Our Families

Family Day: 10am-12pm

Please come out and support our STM Catholic Academy Students and Teachers as they celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2019!

****AN EVENING OF JAZZ****

St. Thomas More Catholic Academy

Saturday, February 9, 2019 ~ 7:00pm

Music, Fun, Spoken Word,

Raffle Tickets, Awesome Prizes...and More!

Special Guest:

Jazz Saxophonist Keith Kool-K Wilson

and STM Alumni Students

TICKETS: VIP~\$40.00 Regular~\$25.00

For more information please visit

stm@catholicacademies.org

