

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
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February 10, 2019



**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
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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: *Is 6:1-2a, 3-8~Isaiah feels unworthy of his calling.*

Responsorial: *Psalm 138~In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.*

Reading II: *1 Cor 15:1-11~St. Paul feels unworthy of his calling, referring to himself as "the least of the apostles."*

Gospel: *Luke 5:1-11~Peter feels unworthy to follow Jesus.*

Readings for Next Sunday

Jer 17:5-8 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20 Luke 6:17, 20-26

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Heb 11:32-40	Mark 5:1-20
Tuesday:	Heb 12:1-4	Mark 5:21-43
Wednesday:	Heb 12:4-7, 11-15	Mark 6:1-6
Thursday:	Heb 12:18-19, 21-24	Mark 6:7-13
Friday:	Heb 13:1-8	Mark 6:14-29
Saturday:	Heb 13:15-17, 20-21	Mark 6:30-34

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	In loving memory of Our Ancestors
11:30am	In loving memory of Our Ancestors
Monday	Health of Marion and Ruth Richardson
Tuesday	Health of Audrey Caldwell
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	In memory of Devin Clay-Birthday
Friday	In memory of Michael Barnes
Saturday	STM Ministers of Hospitality
	In memory of Jakari Butler

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, Frances 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, 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 souls of **Surietha Crawford** and **Clementine Townsend**, sisters of our devoted parishioner, **Margarine Neal**. Your prayers for the consolation of the family are very much appreciated.*

*Your continued prayers are requested for **Shirley Adams**, **Sheila D. Brown**, **Audrey Caldwell**, **Priscilla Fuller**, **Zynae Green**, **Elizabeth Holmes**, **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. Casmir**, **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 **February 3, 2019** amounted to **\$8,772.32**. Maintenance-\$**2,686.00**. Youth-\$**2.00**.

Attendance	5:00pm	19
	8:45am	145
	11:30am	<u>102</u>
		266

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 began last September. 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. "Flock Notes" will also permit us to communicate directly with individual ministries and organizations.

PASTORAL REFLECTION

DIGGING DEEPER INTO TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Today, in our Gospel, Jesus urges Peter not to be afraid of his own sinfulness, his personal unworthiness. We hear Jesus' words, "Do not be afraid," again and again throughout the Scriptures. In the First Letter of John we are afforded a clue for Jesus' use of these words. The evangelist John tells us that "perfect love casts out fear." God desires perfect love in his relationship with us, and in perfect love there is no room for fear.

As we strive to live the life of the gospel, we are also called to practice persistence and perseverance. There are times in life when things seem hopeless. We have tried over and over to repair a relationship or to overcome a bad habit, but to no avail. Jesus tells Peter to put his nets into deeper water for a catch, and even though he has been fishing all night and caught nothing, he is obedient to Jesus' request. And his success is beyond his wildest imagining. He catches such an abundance of fish he must call on the other fishermen for assistance.

As we see in this encounter between Peter and Jesus our faith is one that is passed on through relationships. The last section of St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians is a discussion on the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Today we begin this discourse, which we will read for the next three Sundays. St. Paul cites the many people whom Jesus appeared to after the crucifixion. All of these people passed on what they had heard and seen to invite others to faith. Today, we believe because of what we have experienced, read, and most importantly, because of the testimony of others in our lives. And despite our own failings and weaknesses, we are called like Isaiah, Paul and Peter to witness to Jesus through our persistence, relationships and a love that casts out fear.

So it is fitting on this second Sunday of Black History Month that we remember and reverence our ancestors who have formed our lives through their faith and love.

A WORD OF GRATITUDE TO THE HAMILTON FAMILY!

Many of us lovingly remember the late *Mr. Earl P. Hamilton*, a longtime and very generous supporter of St. Thomas More. Mr. Hamilton was most supportive of our STM Food Pantry and School. In his memory, the Hamilton family and their many friends are continuing his legacy through their *donation of \$4,700.00 to our Food Pantry and School.*

We are most grateful for this generous gift.

STM YOUTH GROUP WILL BE SERVING BAG LUNCHES TO THE HOMELESS!

The STM YG will be serving bag lunches to the homeless on *Sunday, February 17, 2019.* We are asking each family in the Parish to support our effort by preparing *at least 5 lunches*, including a sandwich (without condiments), a snack, chips and a drink, *and dropping them off in the back of the Church no later than 11:30am on the 17th!* Monetary and bulk item donations will also be accepted. Please see Vanessa, Ignacio or Clint to make monetary donations, or if you have questions.

Your continued prayers and support for the STMYG are greatly appreciated!



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 feel free to sign our Guest Book!

THE STM PARISH ACTION COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH



2019 Theme:

Black Migration

February 10: Calling of the Ancestors
We encourage everyone to wear African Attire as we celebrate our ancestors.

February 16: STM Service Project
The entire church-young & young at heart.

February 17: Family & Friends
Coffee and Donuts Fellowship

February 24: Soul Food Sunday!!

Enjoy great food & fun during our Annual Family Soul Food Sunday Meal from *2:00pm-4:00pm* in the Cedar Room.

PAC invites all parishioners to participate.

We encourage you to bring your favorite dish.

Please see any member of the STM-PAC for more information, or if you have any questions.

VALENTINE'S DANCE!!

The STM Ministers of Hospitality

Invite you to a

Valentine's Dance!

Date: Saturday, February 16, 2019!

Time: 8:00pm to Midnight

STM Cedar Room

Music by DJ 3Elevn

Ticket prices:

\$20-per person or \$30-per couple

Light refreshments will be served.

Please see any Adult Minister of Hospitality for tickets.

Proceeds will benefit St. Thomas More Church.

