

**Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy**  
**4275 Fourth Street, Southeast**  
**Washington, D.C. 20032**  
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School: 202-561-1189

***April 14, 2019 ~ Palm Sunday***



***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

**Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion  
Preparing to Hear God's Word**

**Special Gospel Reading  
Luke 19:28-40**

**Reading I: Is 50:4-7~** Isaiah is like Jesus in two ways. He was a prophet whose words were not understood. For this he was rejected and persecuted.

**Responsorial: Psalm 22~** My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

**Reading II: Phil 2:6-11~** God exalted Christ, who emptied himself.

**Gospel: Luke 19:28-40 ~ (PASSION).**

**Readings for Next Sunday (Easter)**

**Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Col 3:1-4 John 20:1-9**

**DAILY MASS READINGS**

Monday: Is 42:1-7 Jn 12:1-11  
 Tuesday: Is 49:1-6 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38  
 Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a Mt 26:14-25  
 Thursday: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 1 Cor 11:23-26 Jn 13:1-15  
 Friday: Is 52:13-53-53:12 Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 Jn 18:1-19:42  
 Saturday: ~Easter Vigil Readings~  
 Gn 1:1; 2:2 Ex 14:15--15:1 Is 55:1-11  
 Rom 6:3-11 Mk 16:1-7

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:**

Sunday 8:45am Bishop Wilton Gregory  
 11:30am Carol Dantley-Birthday  
 Tuesday In loving memory of Pearl Curtis-Birthday  
 Wednesday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones  
 Thursday Journee Logan-Birthday-4/19  
 In memory of Norell James-Birthday-4/19  
 Good Friday (Prayer Service Only on Good Friday)  
 Saturday All Being Received into the Church  
 In memory of Fr. John Kinter-Birthday

**PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty Beatty, Shirley Brown, Francillia Browne, Cynthia Bruce, Felicia V. Bush, John Bush, Audrey Caldwell, Jane Cannon, Dixie Clark, Elois Clark, Shertia Clark, Odessa Curtis, Den. 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, 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 Sescos, 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 ~**

Your continued prayers are requested for Shirley Adams, Sheila D. Brown, Audrey Caldwell, Frances Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Elizabeth Holmes, 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.**

**YOU'RE INVITED!!**

You are invited to join with other members of our church family for **Mass at 8:00am weekdays.** We celebrate the Eucharist together daily and extend a gracious invitation for others to join us. **Mass is in the rectory chapel and lasts only about 30 minutes.**

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

**EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH  
IS WISE STEWARDSHIP**

Dear God, these gifts, our tithes and offerings of love, express our gratitude for your outpouring of love in Christ Jesus and your generous provision for all our needs. We dedicate our offerings for use in fields that are ripe for harvest. May our stewardship be a blessing to our church and the building up of your Kingdom.

**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 **April 7, 2019** amounted to **\$9,121.00.** Youth-\$4.00. Faith Direct-\$7,705.00. Maintenance-\$3,150.00.

Attendance	5:00pm	25
	8:45am	131
	11:30am	<u>91</u>
		247

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](http://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 is for children in pre-kindergarten through Confirmation. 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 will focus on the **Passion of Jesus.** We will prayerfully examine the events of the last week of his life. All are invited to walk the way of the cross as we prepare for Easter. We meet on Tuesday at 7:30pm in the rectory. *All are welcome!*

**RAIN CREDITS AND RESTORATION  
SYSTEMS PARTNERSHIP:**

In an effort to manage storm and ground water and control erosion, we are partnering with these organizations. By building "rain gardens" we hope to deal with these water and erosion issues, and also receive storm water retention credits from the D.C. Government.

## PASTORAL REFLECTION

### DIGGING DEEPER INTO TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Today, Palm Sunday inaugurates the beginning of Church's most sacred week. Holy Week has as its purpose the remembrance of Christ's passion, beginning with his messianic entrance into Jerusalem. The Sixth Sunday of Lent is called Passion/Palm Sunday. The first days of Holy Week, like all of Lent, serve as the final preparation for Easter. As the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday/Easter) fast approaches, our focus turns towards the suffering of Christ.

During the weekdays of Holy Week the scriptures point us toward the Triduum. In the first half of Holy Week the readings are about the mystery of Jesus' suffering. We are immersed in the "Servant Songs" of the prophet Isaiah, whose image of the suffering servant finds fulfillment in the sufferings of Jesus. The gospel passages relate events from Jesus' last days before his pending death on the cross.

Lent ends on the evening of Holy Thursday with the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The Easter Triduum is the "mother of all feasts." All other feasts of the year hinge on this great feast.

**Holy Thursday**- Holy Thursday commemorates the sign of service that Jesus gave us on the night of the Last Supper. He who came not to be served but to serve is our master who set an example for us. If the master served, we too must serve. Service is a critical component of discipleship. We must follow Christ the one who served to the point of giving his life. On this night he washed feet and gave us the Eucharist. It was also the night on which he was betrayed by Judas.

**Good Friday**- On Good Friday we witness our Savior's cross; there is no Eucharistic Prayer, but only a most powerful proclamation of the Word followed by veneration of the cross and Holy Communion. As Christians have done for centuries, we pray for the world and for many other intentions. Good Friday is unlike any other day, and we leave the service in silence, alone with our thoughts.

**Holy Saturday/Easter**- After sunset on Saturday it is as though we cannot contain the Easter joy we know will be ours and we celebrate the resurrection. Readings of promise and salvation are punctuated by psalms of praise and exaltation. Fire, lighted candles, baptisms and ringing bells all signify that our Lord has risen, never to be subject to death again. Life has been transformed and will never be the same now that we have the promise of eternal life with Christ.

The Triduum is too much for one liturgy or even one day! We are blessed with three days to enter into this wonderful and ancient mystery. Let us give ourselves the gift of not only preparing others for this experience but undergoing it ourselves. We have had these forty days to encounter Jesus in our prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Now let us encounter him in the glory of Easter.

### FY 2018-2019 FUNDRAISING EFFORTS THUS FAR:

During the current fiscal year, we have been blessed with several very successful fundraising activities:

*Women of the Spirit Concert- \$1,535*

*Praise Team Christmas Concert- \$2,105*

*Hospitality Ministry's Valentine Social- \$2,780*

Thanks to these organizations and ministries, and everyone who supported their effort to support our church. *We will post the final amount from our Lenten Fish Fry fundraisers in next week's Bulletin.*



## WELCOME VISITORS!

*We warmly welcome our visitors to St. Thomas More Church! We invite all who are seeking a church home to join our Church Family!  
Please sign our Guest Book!*

### 2019 HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

#### April 14- Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord:

*Blessing and Distribution of Palms*

*Mass at 5:00pm (Vigil), 8:45am & 11:30am*



**\*PASCHAL TRIDUUM\***

*(7:30pm each evening)*

#### April 18- Holy Thursday

*Mass of the Lord's Supper and Washing of Feet*

#### April 19- Good Friday

*Service of the Lord's Passion*

#### April 20- Great Easter Vigil

*Mass, Baptisms and Reception into the Church*

**\*EASTER\***

#### April 21- Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection

*Mass at 8:45am & 11:30am*

### ~ EASTER HOLIDAY SCHEDULES ~

**Pastor's Bible Study**

*On break April 16 & 23, 2019.*

**Religious Education**

*Classes will not meet on Easter Sunday.*

**Office Closures**

*The church office will be closed*

*Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Monday.*

### ~ FLOCK NOTES TECHNOLOGY ~

**We are embarking on this state-of-the-art communications tool that will provide you the latest information, schedules and important church events through text messages or email.**

**Here is how you sign up:**

**For those who are "tech savvy", you may self-register for "Flock Notes" by following these easy steps:**

- 1. Go to your cell phone and create a new text message.*
- 2. Put 84576 in the field.*
- 3. Put stm4265 (all lower case) in the body of text.*
- 4. Hit "Send."*
- 5. Click the link in the reply message*
- 6. Complete the name page, hit save.*
- 7. Choose your groups, hit next*
- 8. Complete the rest of the fields, hit save.*
- 9. You will receive an email to verify your email address, click verify my email*
- 10. You will receive another email to create a password, click create password*
- 11. Once your password is set it will log you into Flock Notes.*

*If this does not work for you, please complete the "Joining Flock Notes" form and we will assist you.*

