

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
4275 Fourth Street, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20032
Telephone: 202-562-0431 Fax: 202-563-7347
E-mail: stmchurch@comcast.net Website: www.stthomasmoredc.org
School: 202-561-1189

May 26, 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

CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!!

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Acts 15:1-22-29~St. Luke, in the Acts of the Apostles, describes the process for resolving disagreements in the early church.

Responsorial: Ps 67 ~ O, God, let all the nations praise you.

Reading II: Rev 21:10-14, 22-23~The Evangelist St. John shares his vision of the new Jerusalem.

Gospel: John 14:23-29~Jesus tells his followers that he is going away and that he will return for them.

Readings for Next Sunday

Acts 1:1-11 Eph 1:17-23 Luke 24:46-53

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Acts 16:11-15	John 15:26-16:4a
Tuesday:	Acts 16:22-34	John 16:5-11
Wednesday:	Acts 17:15, 22-18:1	John 16:12-15
Thursday:	Acts 18:1-8	John 16:16-20
Friday:	Zep 3:14-18a	Luke 1:39-56
Saturday:	Acts 18:23-28	John 16:23b-28

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am Archbishop Wilton Gregory

11:30am First Communion Recipients

Monday	In Honor/Memory of Our U.S. Veterans
Tuesday	Health of Audrey Caldwell
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Margaret Spencer-Birthday
Friday	Health of Shirley Adams
Saturday	Intentions of STM Parishioners

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, Frances Davies, Barbara Deale, Barbara DeJesus, Renee Felio, 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, Maximillion 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, Yolanda Rollins, Thelma Sawyer, Robin SESCOE, 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, Archbishop Gregory, Fr. Moore, Fr. Casimir, Ed Poindexter & Dcn. 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.**

SODALITY PILGRIMAGE: The Sodality Union is sponsoring a Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa (Black Madonna) in Doylestown, PA, on Saturday, **July 6, 2019**. Cost: \$55.00/person. *If interested, please call Laura Brown (301-899-8099) right away!*

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 **May 19, 2019** amounted to **\$5,609.00**, plus Faith Direct-\$3,649.00. Youth-\$5.00.

Attendance	5:00pm	13
	8:45am	119
	11:30am	89
		221

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 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 power of the Holy Spirit in the early Church. We meet on Tuesday evening at 7:30 in the rectory. All are welcome!

SODALITY NEWS!

Saturday, June 1, 2019: Sodality Union Mass, Rosary and Meeting--OLPH Church, 1600 Morris Rd., SE, DC. Time-8:30am.

Sunday, June 2, 2019: General Meeting following the 8:45am Mass. Rosary-8:15am.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER!

Last Sunday we welcomed little **Addilyn Lewis** to our family of faith in the waters of Baptism. We join with her parents Terral and Amber, and brothers TK and Aiden in celebrating her new life in Christ.



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.*

COUNTDOWN TO PENTECOST!!

~PENTECOST POWER PRAYER~

*Loving Lord,
here I am, just as I am.
I trust that you have incredible plans for me.
So transform me. Empower me. Use me!
Everything is on the table.
Take what you want to take.
And give what you want to give
so that I can live the life you envision for me.
I hold nothing back.
I am 100% available.
So, dear God, send your Holy Spirit upon me
that I may build your Kingdom in my words
and work.
Through Christ our Lord. AMEN!*

Last week our Gospel focus was on love. We are to love one another as Jesus loves us. Today's focus is on peace. How many of us live lives of peace? The peace we are talking about is not merely the absence of strife, struggles or hostilities. The peace that Jesus promises is not only for the first disciples. It is for us, too. The relationship we have with Jesus means that we do not look to outside forces or external sources for validation, acceptance or self-worth. Our peace comes from Christ himself. That peace and security can never be taken away. Today we pray for the gift of Jesus' peace, a peace unlike the peace the world offers. This peace is a "wholeness of heart, mind and body." Next week we will celebrate the Ascension of the Lord and on the following Sunday is the great day of Pentecost.

RELIGIOUS ED TEACHERS NEEDED!

Our very fine team of Sunday School teachers is in need of instructors who are committed to share their faith and the teachings of the church with our young. If interested, please contact Ms. Wanda Brooks, Coordinator of Religious Education. The rewards are great!

ARCHBISHOP JAMES P. LYKE CONFERENCE!!

Meeting the Liturgical Needs of the Black Catholic Community, the Lyke Conference will be held at the Gaylord Hotel, National Harbor, July 2-6, 2019! Please take advantage of this opportunity to join with other adults/youth from across the nation for praise & worship, workshops, fellowship and much more! For detailed information and/or to obtain registration materials please visit: www.lykeconference.com. Early bird rate ends 5/31/19!

SENIORS' LUNCHEON APPRECIATION!!

The STM Outreach Committee thanks all of the volunteers who helped make last the Seniors' Luncheon such a huge success on Saturday, May 19, 2019!! *Your contributions were greatly appreciated!!*



CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS!

The following youth received the Sacrament of Penance for the first time on May 18th!

They will receive their First Holy Communion during the 11:30am Mass TODAY, May 26, 2019!!

<i>Adriana Brooks</i>	<i>Tyler Jones</i>
<i>Christian Doricent</i>	<i>Marquee Sherrell</i>
<i>Renee Douglas</i>	<i>Habiba Taalib</i>
<i>Aurora Jarvis-Washington</i>	<i>Aniya Wilson</i>
<i>Isis Jarvis-Washington</i>	<i>Jaiden Wilson</i>

Thank you for remembering our youth receiving these sacraments in your prayers. Please also pray for their families, Religious Education teachers, sponsors, and all involved in supporting them along their Christian journey.

STM CATHOLIC ACADEMY CLASS OF 2019



Baccalaureate for our STM Academy Eighth Graders will take place at the 8:45am Mass, next Sunday, June 2, 2019. All are welcome to attend!

~ Eighth Grade ~

<i>Makenzie Adams</i>	<i>Archbishop Carroll</i>
<i>Rebecca Assiri</i>	<i>Bishop McNamara</i>
<i>Joy-L Beatty</i>	<i>Archbishop Carroll</i>
<i>Alaya Burroughs-Carney</i>	<i>Archbishop Carroll</i>
<i>Kendrick Carter</i>	<i>Archbishop Carroll</i>
<i>Nahsaan Curtis</i>	<i>St. Charles</i>
<i>Taquala Davis</i>	<i>Cornerstone of D.C.</i>
<i>Micah Massey</i>	<i>Archbishop Carroll</i>
<i>Aysha May</i>	<i>Bishop McNamara</i>
<i>Tenayzia Missouri</i>	<i>Archbishop Carroll</i>
<i>Raniyah Nicholson</i>	<i>Archbishop Carroll</i>
<i>Chiedozie Onianwah</i>	<i>Bishop McNamara</i>
<i>Lavon Reese</i>	<i>Richard Wright PCS</i>
<i>Malaysia Williams</i>	<i>Emerson Preparatory</i>
<i>Tiairra Williams</i>	<i>Archbishop Carroll</i>

Please also pray for our Kindergarten Students as they prepare for their very special day!

<i>Javon Barnaby</i>	<i>Liliana Hawkins</i>
<i>Nefertiti Bradley</i>	<i>Mai'ia Johnson</i>
<i>Chase Brown</i>	<i>Devin Jones</i>
<i>Steven Collins</i>	<i>Jair Jordan</i>
<i>Kenneth Harris</i>	<i>Kyrie Leftwich</i>
<i>Justin Williams</i>	

*Kindergarten Graduation ~ June 6, 2019~ 10:00am
Eighth Grade Graduation ~ June 7, 2019~ 10:00am*

Please come and support our students on their special day!

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ACADEMY NEWS!



LIBRARY DRIVE

STM ACADEMY IS BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF READERS!

We are seeking your help to provide *NEW and EXCITING BOOKS* for our *SCHOLARS*. If you are able to make a Monetary Donation to purchase books for the STMCA Scholars, please see Sharie Wood or Liz Berry. The Academy is also in need of gently used picture books, grade-level readers, chapter books or young adult level books to restock the library's sharing shelves. If you are able to donate books, please speak to Sharie Wood! *Thanks for your support of this effort!!*

*St. Thomas More Catholic Academy
Serving Students in Grades Pre-K3-8
Catholic Environment ~ Academically Excellent
REGISTRATION IS NOW UNDERWAY
FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR!*

STM FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS APPRECIATED! PLEASE HELP US PROVIDE NUTRITIOUS FOOD FOR FAMILIES!



We are seeking the following items:

~**DRY GOODS**~

Rice/Pasta/Beans/Hot & Cold Cereal

~**CANNED GOODS**~

Meat/Tuna/Soup/Fruit/Vegetables

*STM has served as a REFUGE OF RELIEF for many!
Food/Monetary donations will help keep our pantry viable!*

Thank You! God Bless!

SHARE INFORMATION!

Value Package- \$22.00.

-Schedule for JUNE 2019-

Sign-up~ June 2 & 9, 2019

Pick-up ~Sat., June 22, 2019, 9-10am

*Unclaimed packages will be donated to the STM Food Pantry.
Please also consider making a monetary donation of \$22.00 to provide a SHARE Package to a family in need. If interested, please see any member of our SHARE Team. Thank you!*

2019-2020 CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS!

ALL Organizations/Groups are asked to submit **2019-2020 calendars/space requests** to Pattie Hamilton via email by Friday, June 14, 2019! Groups not submitting calendar dates will run the risk of missing out on space to hold meetings and/or events. Please send your dates to stmchurch@comcast.net and indicate 'calendar' in the subject line. *Thank you!*

"GRIEFSHARE" IS HERE TO HELP!

It hurts to lose someone. Find help and support at GriefShare, a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. There are many churches with GriefShare Support Groups meeting weekly throughout the country. The STM Parish Council has provided some general information about GriefShare, along with a list of nearby churches holding group meetings to help you in this process of healing.

Additional info may be found in the back of the church.

SECURITY AWARENESS AND BRIEFING!

We are all responsible for the safety and well-being of one another here in our church. Our security plan consists of three responses to danger. *These are:*

1. *Be aware of your surroundings.*
2. *Report suspicious behavior to Minister of Hospitality.*
3. *Recommended Response:*
 - a) *Run away from danger.*
 - b) *Hide by falling to the FLOOR & under a pew.*
 - c) *Fight the attacker.*

We will be conducting periodic safety training and publishing our procedures in the Sunday Bulletin.

PLEASE REMEMBER: "Be alert. Be safe!"

~ FLOCK NOTES TECHNOLOGY ~

So far 102 of you have signed up for this new 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.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday	Religious Ed Classes (10:30am-Classrooms) Second Chance (3:30pm-Old Library)
Monday	Office Closed-Federal Holiday Youth Choir Rehearsal (7:00pm-Church)
Tuesday	Bible Study (7:30pm-Rectory Living Rm) NCW 2 nd Community (8:00pm-Cedar Rm)
Wednesday	NCW 1 st Community (8:00pm-Cedar Rm)
Thursday	Adult Choir Rehearsal (7:00pm-Church)
Friday	AA (8:00pm-Old Library)
Saturday	NCW Communities (8:00pm-Church)