

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

~ July 7, 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	(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 Rector's.

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 Rector's.

CCD Classes: Every Sunday at 10:30am

Bible Study: Every Tuesday at 7:30pm

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Preparing to Hear God's Word**

Reading I: Is 66:10-14c ~ God's comforting, maternal words to those returning from exile to Jerusalem.

Responsorial: Psalm 66 ~Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Reading II: Gal 6:14-18~ Salvation through the cross is everything.

Gospel: Luke 10:1-12, 17-2 ~The 72 disciples are sent to preach about the kingdom.

Readings for Next Sunday

Deut 30:10-14 Col 1:15-20 Luke 10:25-37

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Gen 28:10-22a	Matt 9:18-26
Tuesday:	Gen 32:23-33	Matt 9:32-38
Wednesday:	Gen 41:55-57, 42:5-7a, 17-24a	Matt 10:1-7
Thursday:	Gen 44:18-21, 23b-29, 45:1-5	Matt 10:7-15
Friday:	Gen 46:1-7, 28-30	Matt 10:16-23
Saturday:	Gen 49:29-32, 50:15-26a	Matt 10:24-33

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
11:30am	Archbishop Wilton Gregory
Monday	Health of Elizabeth Holmes
Tuesday	Health of Margaret Spencer
Wednesday	Kennedi Price-Birthday
Thursday	In loving memory of Brenda Chube
Friday	Margaret Chambers-Birthday
	In loving memory of Julie Robinson-Birthday
Saturday	Safekeeping of our Children and Youth

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 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, Yolanda Rollins, Thelma Sawyer, Robin Sescove, Ciara Shields, Brenda Smith, Edsel Swann, Jane Thomas, Kristine Vivican, Rev. Raymond Wadas, Kayla Warren, Paul Waters, Marilyn Denise Whetstone, Anita 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, Margaret Spencer, our members who are on the road to recovery, sick, shut-in or grieving; and Pope Francis, Archbishop Gregory, Fr. Moore, Fr. Casmir, Ed Poindexter & Dcn. Ralph Cyrus.

YOU ARE 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 **June 30, 2019** amounted to **\$6,319.32**, plus Faith Direct **-\$4,046.00**. Maintenance **-\$205.00**.

Attendance	5:00pm	18
	8:45am	130
	11:30am	<u>98</u>
		246

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 will begin for the 2019-2020 school year on September 15.* Classes are held on Sunday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30am. Parents desiring their children to receive the sacraments of *Baptism, First Communion, Confession or Confirmation* should enroll their children in our Sunday School Program.

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

Adult Faith Formation Class Forming: *We are presently enrolling adult candidates for Baptism and reception into the Catholic Church.* Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church, please complete the registration form in the back of the church and turn in to ushers.

Adult Bible Study: Our Adult Bible Study will resume in the fall. We meet on Tuesdays at 7:30pm in the rectory living room.

JOIN US IN WELCOMING

**Our New Archbishop of Washington,
ARCHBISHOP WILTON GREGORY,
to St. Thomas More
Sunday, August 4th
for the 11:30am Mass!**

PASTORAL REFLECTION

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we ease into the summer season, let's reflect on our personal commitments to serve the Lord in our church. This is the time for us—the Church of St. Thomas More—recommit ourselves to building the Kingdom of God right here and right now!! It is the time to do a “new thing” for the church and the world. It is the season of challenge and opportunity. It is also a time to revive and refresh ourselves as disciples. In this light, I need to ask your help and commitment.

Our God is an “on time God.” With this in mind, we are re-embarking on adopting an “on time” mindset. The goal is to start Mass and other activities on time. I am asking all ministers to come early, at least 15 minutes, so that we can all be of “one accord” as we begin the most important activity of our week--on time. Sunday is the Lord's Day, so let's be on time. After all, it is hard to receive God's blessings if we are consistently late, since God is on time with his blessings. Don't miss what God has for you because you are late!

Secondly, we are in dire need of adults who will commit to teaching our children in the faith. So, if you have the heart to lead and guide our children in our religious education program, please step forward! Our future is counting on you!! For further details please speak to Ms. Wanda Brooks.

A third area of concern is the declining attendance at the 11:30am Sunday Mass. I would ask all of you to show forth a Pentecost “holy boldness” by inviting and encouraging family and friends to worship with us. We have got to spread the Good News of St. Thomas More beyond Fourth Street. Let's do what we can to increase the flock!

Finally, please continue to pray the Pentecost Power Prayer that church will grow stronger with increased membership and participation in ministry:

~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!*

ARCHDIOCESAN APPEAL 2019

The Annual Archdiocesan Appeal needs our support! There is a fresh theme this year: “Our Faith. Our Hope. Our Mission.” Each Sunday during the appeal we will make pledge forms and envelopes available for you to complete and turn in before you leave church. We will make sure that your pledges are delivered to the Appeal office. You can also support the Appeal online at adw.org or text “Give” to 301-231-1816. *Last year our generosity provided \$31,54.00 in pledges.*

The Appeal offers each of us the opportunity to respond to the needs of others by enabling ministries and services such as Catholic Charities, our school and the Merrick Center and many others that touch and improve the lives of thousands of people.



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 located near the entrance.

NEW MEMBERS PLEASE REGISTER!

We welcome all new members and kindly ask that you formally register by completing a Registration Form, which you may obtain from one of our ushers.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 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!

“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.

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

CONGRATULATIONS

AND BLESSINGS

TO THE

~OBLATE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE~

AS THEY MARK 190 YEARS OF SERVICE

IN THE

AFRICAN AMERICAN

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY!

*Let us keep this beloved community of
women religious in our heartfelt prayers!*

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!

STM Outreach Committee's

Annual Crab Feast

Sunday, September 15, 2019, STM Cedar Room.

Stay tuned for more detailed information!!

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING 5:00PM MASS!

The 5:00pm Vigil Mass will take place in the CHURCH

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2019

due to tree removal outside the rectory!

