

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
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~ October 27, 2019 ~



*As Generous Distributors of God's Manifold Grace,
Put Your Gifts at the Service of One Another (1 Pet 4:10)*

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 12:00pm 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

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18~God especially hears the cries of the oppressed.

Responsorial: Psalm 34: The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

Reading II: 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18~I have finished the race; I have kept the faith.

Gospel: Luke 18:9-14~The parable of the self-righteous Pharisee and the tax collector.

Readings for Next Sunday

Wis 11:22-12:2 2 Thes 1:11-2:2 Luke 19:1-10

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Eph 2:19-22	Luke 6:12-16
Tuesday:	Rom 8:18-25	Luke 13:18-21
Wednesday:	Rom 8:26-30	Luke 13:22-30
Thursday:	Rom 8:31b-39	Luke 13:31-35
Friday	Rev 7:2-4, 9-14 1 Jn 3:1-3	Matt 5:1-12a
Saturday:	Wis 3:1-9 Rom 6:3-9	John 6:37-40

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
11:30am	Safekeeping of Our Youth
Monday	Well-being of Audrey Caldwell
Tuesday	Intentions of STM Parishioners
Wednesday	Pamela Hamilton Neferkara-Birthday
Thursday	In loving memory of Kandeh Turay-Birthday
Friday	In memory of Doris & Dcn. Martin-Prayer Gp
Saturday	In memory of Our Deceased Loved Ones

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, 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 Sescoc, 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. Casimir, Ed Poindexter & Dcn. Ralph Cyrus.

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.**

ALL SAINTS DAY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2019!

~ MASS TIMES ~

8:00am-Rectory Chapel 10:00am-Church

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH IS WISE STEWARDSHIP

When someone is given a great deal, a great deal will be demanded of that person, when someone is entrusted with a great deal, of that person, more will be expected.

(Luke 12:48b)

Father, we bring our offerings now to be joined with those of many others as we cooperate to accomplish your purpose in this world. May every tithe, every gift, and all offerings be magnified by power that they may ably serve your purpose in Christ, Jesus, our Lord. May our generosity be a blessing to others. 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 **October 20, 2019** amounted to **\$6,433**, plus Faith Direct-\$3,949.52. Maintenance-\$100.00.

Attendance	5:00pm	18
	8:45am	116
	11:30am	89
		223

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.faihdirect.net** to enroll securely on line. **Our parish code is DCC773.**

ENLISTING WITNESSES FOR JESUS CHRIST

Youth Religious Education: Attendance is paramount to all that we teach and learn about Jesus. 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 meets each Tuesday evening at 7:30pm in the rectory. All are invited to join in our lively discussions.

TEAM SPIRIT WEEKEND!!

Wear your favorite team's colors to church
NEXT Saturday/Sunday, November 3 & 4, 2019!

PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Church Family,

Last Sunday we embarked on the financial support phase of our Fall Stewardship initiative. I am most grateful that the response has been very encouraging. So far 43 of you have committed to "Taking The Next Step." In the weeks to come I am trusting that others will make the same commitment. This is very important since last week we had to make emergency repairs to the large window over the front of our church. This was somewhat unexpected but, *because of your generous support, we were able to pay the almost \$3,000 bill* for the restoration and painting which was critical before the onset of the winter weather.

Your response to my "give me five" invitation to ministry and service has also been awesome! We have 3 new Ministers of Hospitality, 5 new Lectors, 2 new Youth Choir members, and 1 new Altar Server. We still are anxiously awaiting new Adult Choir members. The Dance Ministry is eager to receive new members, too. If you have not signed up for a ministry yet, please do so today. We need your commitment of time and talent.

Please continue to respond to the needs of your church home that we can build a stronger church family and provide for the many spiritual, social service and educational needs of our parish and community.

Finally, let us all take pride in our church:

- For providing one of the largest serving food pantries in the city.
- For our three excellent choirs: The Adult Choir, Youth Choir and Praise Team.
- For an excellent school that provides great educational opportunities for this community.
- And each one of you who share your loving embrace with our visitors and each other, making this a great church to call home.

*In His Love,
Father Moore*

ARCHDIOCESAN APPEAL 2019

*Let's all get behind the
2019 Archdiocese of Washington Annual Appeal!*

*Thus far we have pledged \$ 19,522 toward our goal of
\$37,045 with only 68 gifts. This is 38% of our goal.*

*Our generous support will help drive efforts of faith,
hope and mission in the Church of Washington.*

*Appeal pledge forms are available
in the back of the church.*

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF ALL SOULS

During the month of November, we honor our faithful departed in a special way. You are invited to write the names of your departed loved ones in the "Book of the Names of the Dead" which is in the back of the church.

*The book will be displayed in front of the altar during
November.*



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.

~ SODALITY NEWS ~

Saturday, November 2, 2019: Sodality Union Mass/Meeting to be held at St. Mary's, 7207 Annapolis Rd, Landover Hills, MD. Rosary at 8:30am; Mass at 9:00am. Meeting follows.

Sunday, November 3, 2019: STM Sodality General Meeting following 8:45am Mass. Rosary at 8:10am.

STM MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR UPDATE:

Recently, we completed several important repairs-

The porch on the choir side of the church was replaced (\$1,500.) Pews in the church were re-secured (\$600.) Removed large maple tree in back of the rectory (\$2,268.) Facial boards and gutters on church replaced (\$10,070.)

Pending projects include-

Roof repairs to rectory (\$19,200); replace church roof (\$58,540); Repave playground/rear parking lot (\$50,000); Replace school roof (\$140,000.) Repair/replace heating system in church (estimates pending.) ***We depend on your generous support for our ministry and services to our congregation and community.***

HAROLD HOLMES FOOD DRIVE!!

Please be as generous as you can in supporting the ***Harold Holmes Food Drive***. This the third year that the Holmes family has memorialized this great gentleman, husband, father, teacher and coach. Thank you for your kind donations that will replenish our food pantry.

UPS JOB OPPORTUNITIES: For those in need of a job, UPS (United Parcel Service) is currently recruiting drivers, helpers, package handlers, and personal vehicle delivery drivers. For more information call Sherri Grimes (202-855-0694).

LIFELINE HEALTH SCREENING RETURNS:

Lifeline Screening will be here on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, offering various health screenings. This important health event is sponsored by our Parish Council. ***Please mark this date on your calendars now. More details to come!***

APPRECIATION LUNCHEON!!

Join us in honoring ***Mr. Marion Richardson*** and ***Mr. William Hawkins*** on **Saturday, November 2, 2019**, from 1:00-3:00pm in the Cedar Room. ***Please RSVP*** by signing up on the forms in the back of church. This luncheon is being done under the sponsorship of our Parish Council.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE:

***Annual Christmas Concert ~ STM Church
Sunday, December 15, 2019!***

