

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

~ November 3, 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

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Wis 11:22-12:2~ God's mercy calls us to repentance.

Responsorial: Psalm 145: I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Reading II: 2 Thes 1:11-2:2~ Pray that you may be worthy of God's calling

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10~ Zacchaeus found himself up a tree. When do we find ourselves up a tree in our lives?

Readings for Next Sunday

2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14 2 Thes 2:16--3:5 Luke 20:27-38

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Rom 12:3-13	John 10:11-16
Tuesday:	Rom 12:5-16ab	Luke 14:15-24
Wednesday:	Rom 13:8-10	Luke 14:25-33
Thursday:	Rom 14:7-12	Luke 15:1-10
Friday:	Rom 15:14-21	Luke 16: 1-8
Saturday:	Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27	Luke 16:9-15

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	In loving memory of Grace Brandon
11:30am	In loving memory of Hilda Best
Monday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Tuesday	Well-being of Audrey Caldwell
Wednesday	Suzanne Chandler-Birthday
Thursday	Intentions of STM Parishioners
Friday	Safekeeping of Our Youth
Saturday	In memory of Anthony B. Savoy-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, 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 ~

Please pray for the peaceful repose of our parishioner, **Grace Brandon**, and the comfort of her family.

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 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 in the **rectory chapel**. Mass only lasts about 30 minutes.

~ THANKSGIVING MASS ~

Let's gather as a church family to celebrate Thanksgiving at 7:30pm on **Wednesday, November 27, 2019.**

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 27, 2019** amounted to **\$6,975.00. Maintenance-\$245.00.**

Attendance	5:00pm	17
	8:45am	134
	11:30am	<u>85</u>
		236

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: 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.

NO BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK: Our Adult Bible Study will not meet this Tuesday, November 5th. We will resume on November 12th at 7:30pm in the rectory. All are welcome!

STM SODALITY: We will meet **today** following the 8:45am Mass. Rosary, 8:10am in the church.

~ **ELDERS' PRAYER FOR OUR YOUNG** ~

On September 16th of this year (Catechetical Sunday) we began the practice of the elders of the church imparting their blessings upon our young as they participate in our Sunday Religious Education Program. We also seek Divine Protection as they begin another week, keeping them safe at school.

*Creator God,
Jesus, our Savior,
Holy Spirit of Wisdom, knowledge and understanding:
Bless our young with
Minds eager to learn,
Memories strong to remember,
Hearts ready to love,
And lives committed to Jesus Christ.
Keep them safe this week under the protection of
Your Grace and Mercy.
This we pray through Christ our Lord. AMEN.*

PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Church Family,

For the past month we have been focusing on our Fall Stewardship initiative. Your response has been most encouraging and gratifying. Thus far 53 of you have made your commitments to "Taking the Next Step" in your financial support of our church. As we get closer to Thanksgiving, I trust that more of you will make your stewardship commitment, as well.

I also want to express my gratitude for the impressive response to my "give me five" invitation to ministry and service. We have 3 new Ministers of Hospitality, 5 new Lectors, 2 new Youth Choir members, and 3 new Altar Servers. 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.

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 \$20,447 toward our goal of \$37,045 with only 73 gifts. This is 41% 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.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER!

On Sunday, October 27th, we welcomed our newest member in the waters of Baptism. *Chidera Victoria Muolete is the infant daughter of Iroaganachi and Chioma Muolete.* We pray great blessings on this family.

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.

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 possibly 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 info 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!*

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE:

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

PLEASE SUPPORT KAREN COLES!!

Elizabeth Seton High School is holding its *Annual Dance Marathon Fundraiser* to raise money for the Music Program and the students' trip to Boston in March. *As a member of Elizabeth Seton's Music Program since grade 9, Karen, now in her final year at Seton, is seeking our support!* The link to donate is <https://tinyurl.com/setondancemarathon19>. All donations are appreciated. For more information, please call 240-381-9267.

