

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
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School: 202-561-1189

~ November 17, 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-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Mal 3:19-20a~ The end of all things includes the destruction of evil by "the sun of justice."

Responsorial: Psalm 98: The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

Reading II: 2 Thes 3:7-1~ St. Paul offers some practical and sobering thoughts on church life.

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19~The signs of the end time alert us to the fact that our striving to be faithful disciples has cosmic proportions.

Readings for Next Sunday

2 Sam 5:1-3 Col 1:12-20 Luke 23:35-43

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	1 Mac 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63	Luke 18:35-43
Tuesday:	2 Mac 6:18-31	Luke 19:1-10
Wednesday:	2 Mac 7:1, 20-31	Luke 19:11-28
Thursday:	1 Mac 2:15-29	Luke 19:41-44
Friday:	1 Mac 4:36-37, 52-59	Luke 19:45-48
Saturday:	1 Mac 6:1-13	Luke 20:27-40

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	In loving memory of Lydia Johnson
11:30am	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Monday	Intentions of STM Parishioners
Tuesday	Peace Throughout Our Nation/World
Wednesday	In memory of Jakari Butler
Thursday	In loving memory of James Ligon, Sr.
Friday	In loving memory of Yvonne K. Wilson
Saturday	Our Dedicated SHARE Volunteers

PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty Beatty, Shirley Brown, Francilla 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 Sescoco, Ciara Shields, Brenda Smith, Edsel Swann, Jane Thomas, Mary Travers, 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, Mary Travers (mother of Renee Coles), 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 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 **November 10, 2019** amounted to **\$6,830.00. Maintenance-\$361.00.**

Attendance	5:00pm	14
	8:45am	141
	11:30am	<u>123</u>
		278

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 welcome to join in our study of God's word.

WEIGHT LOSS CHALLENGE! It's time to sign up for the 2020 challenge. THIS is your year to change, to stay focused and disciplined. We are doing bigger and better things for 2020. Join and see the new challenge for 2020! **Registration: Dec. 8 & 15** in the teachers' lounge after each Mass. Donation: \$20

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

*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,

Let me begin by thanking all of you who have Taken The Next Step in our Fall Stewardship Campaign!

In response to numerous requests I am providing the following from my sermon last weekend:

*“There will be a new tomorrow.
There will be a brighter day.
There will be a new tomorrow,
And love will find a way.*

Have you noticed how so many people today are asking questions like ‘Is there any good news? Is there any good news from the church? Is there a good word from God? Is there any hope on the horizon?’

The gospel today reminds us that God is the God of the living and not the dead. But too often we find ourselves in dark places and bad emotional neighborhoods. Have you ever been stuck on Anger Avenue or Bitterness Boulevard? Did you ever go down Depression Drive or get caught on Confusion Court? Have you been lost on Lonely Lane or Pity Place? Have you been going around in circles trying to get off Resentment Road, Stressful Street or Tired Terrace? When we experience conflict and confusion in life it’s worse than going through one of these bad neighborhoods. We find ourselves stuck where we don’t want to be, and we cannot find a way out. So, we park the car, buy or build a house and move in, intending to establish permanent residency.

But wait just one minute! You had better check the gps—You might just be directed to make the first right turn onto Believer’s Boulevard. Keep going through the Green Light that is Christ. Once you get past that light, turn onto the Bridge of Faith—which will take you over troubled waters. When you get off the bridge, make the first right turn and don’t forget to keep straight—You are now on the King’s Highway—and you are heaven bound.

You’ll need to go three more miles—One for the Father, one for the Son, and one for the Holy Spirit. Now watch out for the exit marked Grace Boulevard. Take the first right onto Gospel Lane. Make the next right onto Prayer Drive. But it starts to get tricky here. Yield not to the traffic on Temptation Avenue. Avoid the detours on Hypocrisy Street and Gossip Lane. *You are just about there because Victory Street is straight ahead.*

*In His Love,
Father Moore*

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE:

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



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.

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.

BORN AGAIN IN BAPTISM!

Please pray for our newest little Christians: *Tobias Mekhi Britt*, son of Torray James and Tiffany Britt, and *Senai Kennedy Uzoukwu*, daughter of Gene Uzoukwu and Hiwot Abebe. We welcome them into our church family and pray abundant blessings on them and their families.

*Please keep in your prayers
our young people who are preparing for
Confirmation and First Holy Communion:*



~ Confirmation ~

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Ariana Brooks</i> | <i>Tyrone Jones</i> |
| <i>Renee’ Douglas</i> | <i>Journee Logan</i> |
| <i>Dionni Gillis</i> | <i>Aysha May</i> |
| <i>Brianna Jean-Charles</i> | <i>James M. Morton III</i> |
| <i>Gabriel Jean-Charles</i> | <i>DeMarcus Moore</i> |
| <i>Tyree Jones</i> | <i>Kennedi Price</i> |



~ First Communion ~

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Dominique Brooks</i> | <i>Penelope Hawkins</i> |
| <i>Ashwin Gordon</i> | <i>Jonah Kamara</i> |
| <i>Terrence Tyer, Jr.</i> | |

HAROLD HOLMES FOOD DRIVE!!

Please be as generous as you possibly can in supporting the Harold Holmes Food Drive! This is 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 help replenish our food pantry.

WORKSHOP FOR LECTORS:

We are holding a Lector Workshop on Saturday, January 11, 2020, at 10:00am, in the church. All new and seasoned lectors are encouraged to participate.

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!*

