

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

~ January 12, 2020 ~



***Our Focus for 2020: With New Eyes,
A Fresh Vision and Pure Hearts.***

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

~ **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,

The word that comes to mind as we begin a new year and a new decade is *gratitude*. I am so grateful for all who shared their gifts as we celebrated Christmas this year. To those who contributed so much of their time and effort to our food pantry and Wonderful Smiles, thank you! To those are a part of our liturgical and music ministries, thanks so much for making our worship so wonderful this Christmas.

I also want to thank those who made commitments to "Taking The Next Step" in our stewardship efforts and those who stepped forward in "giving me five" –five new lectors, five new altar servers, five new ministers of hospitality, as well as those who have joined the Adult and Youth Choirs and Praise Team. All of this is possible only with strong commitment of parish staff, thank you, thank you!!

This is so exciting and encouraging as we begin this new decade of service to the Lord and the Church. My prayer for this new year is that we focus in 2020 with "fresh eyes, a new vision and pure hearts." With the light of our cross that shines brightly on 4th Street as our inspiration, I invite all of you to show and share Jesus in your living, show and share Jesus in your loving, show and share Jesus in your serving, show and share Jesus in your caring, show and share Jesus in your joy and laughter, and especially to show and share Jesus every day of 2020.

*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 \$ 21,672 toward our goal of \$ 37,045 with only 76 gifts. This is 58.6% 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.**

SODALITY TRIP!

Please join the Sodality for a trip to see "Queen Esther" at Sight & Sound Theater, Lancaster, PA on Wednesday, July 29, 2020. Cost: Adults-\$150; Children (2-12 yrs.) \$85. Please see Bulletin insert for payment schedule.

Contacts:

Laura Brown, 301-899-8099; Margaret Butler, 301-549-1506; Margarine Neal, 202-438-1865.



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.

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



~ Confirmation ~

<i>Ariana Brooks</i>	<i>Tyree Jones</i>
<i>Renee' Douglas</i>	<i>Tyrone Jones</i>
<i>Dionni Gillis</i>	<i>Journee Logan</i>
<i>Bianna Jean-Charles</i>	<i>Aysha May</i>
<i>Gabriel Jean-Charles</i>	<i>James M. Morton III</i>
<i>Nahsaan Curtis</i>	<i>DaMarcus Moore</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>	

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS
FOR THESE
IMPORTANT 2020 DATES!**

WEIGHT LOSS CHALLENGE:

Sign up for the 2020 Challenge, which is now underway! 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! **Please see Vi Davies for more info!**

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.***

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
JANUARY 26-31, 2020!**

*Please mark your calendars now as we look forward to
celebrating this wonderful week of activities with
our phenomenal STM Catholic Academy!
More details coming soon, so please stay tuned!!*

