

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

~ January 26, 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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: *Is 8:23-9:3~The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.*

Responsorial: *Ps 27: The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

Reading II: *1Cor 1:10-13, 17~St. Paul urges unity among the dissenting members of the Corinthian church.*

Gospel: *Mt 4:12-23~Jesus begins his ministry. Jesus fulfills Isaiah's prophesy above—He is the light that comes into the world to dispel the darkness of sin and suffering.*

Readings for Next Sunday

Mal 3:1-4 Heb 2:14-18 Lk 2:22-40

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	1 Sam 15: 16-23	Mark 2:18-22
Tuesday:	1 Sam 16:1-13	Mark 2:23-28
Wednesday:	1 Sam 17: 32-33, 37, 40-51	Mark 3:1-6
Thursday:	1 Sam 18:6-9; 19:1-7	Mark 3:7-12
Friday:	1 Sam 24:3-24	Mark 3:13-19
Saturday:	Acts 22:3-16	Mark 16:15-18

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	STM Catholic Academy
11:30am	Peace in Our Communities
Monday	Health of Margaret Spencer
Tuesday	In memory of Ernest Adams-Birthday
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Health of Audrey Caldwell
Friday	Health of Marion & Ruth Richardson
Saturday	Well-being of Mary Travers

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, Francess 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, Dr. 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 Sescocoe, 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, Francess Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Elizabeth Holmes, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Robert Robinson, Yolanda Rollins, Margaret Spencer, Mary Travers 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.

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. (Lk 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 January 19, 2020 amounted to **\$8,794.00. Maintenance-\$30.00; Youth-\$4.00.**

Attendance	5:00pm	12
	8:45am	130
	11:30am	<u>98</u>
		240

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.*

PLEASE SUPPORT DEMARCUS MOORE!

Demarcus will be traveling to France and England with his school **March 31-April 11, 2020.** It would mean a lot if you could help support him on his journey. Any amount would be appreciated.

He is registered at this GoFundMe link:
[https://gofundme/f/once-in-a-lifetime-dream-trip-abroad.](https://gofundme/f/once-in-a-lifetime-dream-trip-abroad)

~ **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,

Today we begin our annual observance of Catholic Schools Week. It all began here at St. Thomas More back in 1955 when a group of parents organized a Parents' Club to plan for a Catholic elementary school for their children. In 1956 then Archbishop Patrick O'Boyle approved authorization to build the school. A fundraising drive was organized in May of 1957 and raised \$150,000.

The new school opened on September 9, 1957 and was staffed by Felician Franciscan Sisters from Lodi, NJ. The school began with the first three grades, enrolling 385 students, with the intention to add a grade each year. The first graduating class consisted of 73 students who graduated in 1963. We will graduate our 57th Eighth Grade Class on June 4, 2020.

We are indeed fortunate in being able to provide Catholic education for our parish and larger community. Presently we serve 168 scholars in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade.

We are most blessed, pleased and proud of our great team of educators under the leadership of Mr. Gerald Smith, Jr. With Mr. Smith's guidance we have increased enrollment, developed a new Resource Room, renovated the library with many new books and state of the art technology. And the big yellow school bus—that will be transformed into a mobile classroom. These are just some of the great things that are happening here at STMCA!

So, let us together honor our legacy, celebrate our successes and look forward to a future filled with promise!

Peace and blessing to all!

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.

Payment schedule available on flyers posted in the church.

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>Brianna 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>

Kennedi Price



~ First Communion ~

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

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ACADEMY!**

JANUARY 26-31, 2020!

Theme: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

Sunday: *Celebrating Our Parish*
Mass 8:45am~/2nd-4th Grade Choir

Monday: *Celebrating Our Community*

Tuesday: *Celebrating Our Students*

Wednesday: *Celebrating the Nation*

Thursday: *Celebrating Vocations*

Friday: *Celebrating Faculty, Staff, and Volunteers*
(Faculty Retreat/No School)

*Please support out St. Thomas More Scholars throughout this week of special events. All are invited and encouraged to attend!
Please see posted flyer for detailed schedule of events!.*

SODALITY MEETINGS

Saturday, 2/1/2020: Union Mass/Meeting at Holy Family Church, 12010 Woodmore Road, Mitchellville, MD.
Rosary/Mass. Time TBD.

Sunday, 2/2/2020: STM Sodality Mass/Meeting. Rosary-8am.

