

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

~ February 9, 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

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Preparing to Hear God's Word**

Reading I: Is 58:7-10~ God expects Israel to be a people of the light. The prophet makes it clear that doing good deeds is the light shining forth God's presence and saving grace.

Responsorial: Ps 112~ The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.

Reading II: 1 Cor 2:1-5~ St. Paul's strength and wisdom come from the Lord.

Gospel: Mt 5:13-16~ "You are the light of the world. You are the salt of the earth." We can hardly imagine a world without salt and light. Both enhance our life. Salt deepens flavor and light increases visibility. Our discipleship must enable others to taste and see who Jesus is.

Readings for Next Sunday

Sir 15:15-20 1 Cor 2:6-10 Mt 5:17-37

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13	Mark 6:53-56
Tuesday:	1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30	Mark 7:1-13
Wednesday:	1 Kgs 10: 1-10	Mark 7:14-23
Thursday:	1 Kgs 11:4-13	Mark 7:24-30
Friday:	1 Kgs 11: 29-32, 12:19	Mark 7:31-37
Saturday:	1 Kgs 12:26-32, 13:33-34	Mark 8:1-10

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am Safekeeping of our Youth
 11:30am In memory of Roger Holliman
 Monday Health of Margaret Spencer
 Tuesday Health of Audrey Caldwell
 Wednesday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
 Thursday Intentions of STM Parishioners
 Friday In loving memory of Devin Clay-Birthday
 Saturday In loving memory of Michael Barnes

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, 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 Sescoc, 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 prayers are asked for the peaceful repose of the soul of **Roger Holliman**, former STM Adult/Youth Choir Director, and Academy Music Teacher during the 1980's. Mr. Holliman is also remembered for the Mass of St. Thomas More found in the first edition of the Lead Me/Guide Me Hymnal.

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 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.**

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 **February 2, 2020** amounted to **\$9,071.00. Maintenance-\$4,311.00. Youth-\$4.00.**

Attendance	5:00pm	13
	8:45am	146
	11:30am	<u>110</u>
		269

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.faihtdirect.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,

Next weekend, February 15/16, we will kick off the 2020 Archdiocesan Appeal. Today, brochures and information sheets are available to help inform you as you give prayerful consideration your support for this year's appeal. You may also visit the Annual Appeal website at appeal.adw.org.

As you may know, the appeal supports more than 60 ministries and programs that benefit countless women, men, children and families in the Church of Washington, including Catholic Charities, and tuition assistance for our STM Catholic Academy Scholars.

Last year our parish pledged \$ 23,462 which was 63% of our goal of \$37,000. This year's goal is the same. Please consider making a contribution in support of the Appeal. If you have received a pledge form in the mail please bring it to Mass next week. We will mail it to the Archdiocese for you.

Peace and blessing to all!

Father Moore

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.

2019 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

2019 Contribution Statements totaling \$100.00 or more have been mailed. We are continuing with the Parish Soft record-keeping program. Please be most attentive to your **TOTAL CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT**. In the event that you have any **questions and/or clarifications please contact Pattie Hamilton via EMAIL at: HAMISINGS@MSN.COM**. You may also call the church office and leave a message on **extension #11**. **Thank you for addressing your questions ONLY to Pattie, who is the best person to handle questions regarding your statements.**

Thank you for your continued, generous stewardship!

FISH FRY FRIDAYS!

Once again, we will sponsor our ever-popular **Lenten Fish Fry Fridays** on the following dates: **March 6, 20, and April 3**. We are also in need of volunteers to serve on these dates. So, come on out and fellowship with your STM family. To volunteer, please see Mr. Billy Hawkins.

~**BLACK HISTORY CONCERT**~

Assumption Catholic Church
3401 Martin Luther King Ave. S.E., DC.

Come and celebrate our heritage on
Sunday, February 23, 2020!

Doors open at **1:30 pm**. (Light refreshments after concert.)



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 ~

Ariana Brooks
Renee' Douglas
Dionni Gillis
Brianna Jean-Charles
Gabriel Jean-Charles
Nahsaan Curtis

Tyree Jones
Tyrone Jones
Journee Logan
Aysha May
James M. Morton III
DeMarcus Moore



~ First Communion ~

Dominique Brooks
Ashwin Gordon

Penelope Hawkins
Jonah Kamara

Terrence Tyer, Jr.

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, 202-549-1506; Margarine Neal, 202-438-1865.

STM-PAC PRESENTS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2020 AT STM

February 9: Theme Announced-The theme of the 2020 observance is "African Americans and the Vote." The theme highlights the sesquicentennial and centennial of the 15th and 19th Amendments to the US Constitution. The 15th Amendment, passed in 1870, gave black men the right to vote following the Civil War. (Specifically, it confirms the right to vote and lists conditions that are illegal to deny another person the right to vote. Any American cannot be denied the right to vote, based on race, color or being a former slave.) The 19th Amendment granted women the right to vote, prohibiting any U.S. citizen to be denied the right to vote based on sex. It was ratified on August 18, 1920, after a long struggle known as the Women's Suffrage Movement.

February 16: Calling of the Ancestors (both Masses)
Family & Friends Sunday

School Library Tours/Light Refreshments

February 23: Soul Food Sunday

All are invited to wear African attire.

