

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

~ March 8, 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

Second Sunday of Lent
Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Gn 12: 1-4a ~ God's blessing and promise to Abram.

Responsorial: Ps 33: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Reading II: 2 Tim 1:8b-10 ~ God gives us strength to live the Gospel.

Gospel: Mt 17:1-9 ~ Jesus is transfigured on the mountain.

Readings for Next Sunday

Ex 17:3-7 Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 John 4:5-42

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Dn 9:4b-10	Luke 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20	Matt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20	Matt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10	Luke 16:19-31
Friday:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a	Matt 21; 33-43, 45-46
Saturday:	Mic 7:14-15, 18-20	Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	Intentions of STM Parishioners
11:30am	Health of Suzanne Chandler
Monday	Well-being of Audrey Caldwell
Tuesday	In loving memory of Harold Holmes
	In loving memory of Constance Berry
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Intentions of STM Parishioners
Friday	In loving memory of Carolyn Adalan
Saturday	Safekeeping of Our Youth

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 SESCOE, 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, Suzanne Chandler, 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. Casimir, 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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT!

Wednesdays at 12 Noon in the Rectory Chapel.

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 **March 1, 2020** amounted to **\$8359. Maintenance-\$5144. Youth-\$6.00.**

Attendance	5:00pm	17
	8:45am	140
	11:30am	<u>98</u>
		255

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!

Can't find your checkbook or envelope Sunday morning? Join the parishioners who are using *Faith Direct* for automated giving to St. Thomas More Church. It is secure, convenient and *Faith Direct* will provide you an Offertory Card to place in the basket during the collections. There is no cost to you, and the program provides a great benefit to our parish. *Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/DC773.*

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.

FISH FRY FRIDAYS!

Please come out and support our next Fish Fry on **March 20th from 11:00am to 3:00pm in the Cedar Room.** Dinners are \$12.00 and sandwiches are \$8.00. We are featuring both croakers and whiting filet. Proceeds will benefit our Cedar Room renovations. Save time and preorder.

Our final Fish Fry will take place on April 3rd.

~ **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,

On the Second Sunday of Lent, the Church gives us Matthew's magnificent account of Jesus' Transfiguration. We are reminded of our faith which proclaims the resurrection from the dead. The Lenten season will culminate with Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday) and Easter Sunday. The disciple's experience of Jesus Transfiguration gives them a preview or foretaste of God's Kingdom and reminds us of Jesus' divine glory.

This Gospel speaks to us of our ultimate destiny, which is to be with Jesus in heavenly glory. This Gospel event describes Jesus as fulfilling the Law and the Prophets of Judaism. Like Jesus, both Moses and Elijah, the two great figures of the Old Testament, received revelation from God on this mountain. The three disciples will hear the words that accompanied Jesus at his own Baptism: "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased." Only now the phrase "listen to him" is added. At this the disciples are overcome with fear and fall prostrate in worship. Only by the touch of Jesus' hand are they raised up again to discover that they are alone with him. This remarkable experience of the glory of God most certainly encouraged and emboldened their faith, while it also seized them with fear. This mountaintop experience would mean even more to them after Easter and the Lord's Resurrection from the grave.

Like Peter, James and John, Matthew gives us a glimpse of what is to come after the Resurrection. Jesus appears before them with face shining like the sun and clothes "as white as light." At first, they are delighted by the sight, but when that voice speaks to them from out of the cloud, they fall in fear. Jesus reaches out, touches them and reassures them with the words "Rise and do not be afraid." Soon they will follow Jesus to Jerusalem where he will undergo suffering and death on the cross. And yet that is not the end. What Jesus spoke on the mountain remains true for them and for us, too—do not be afraid, even in the face of death, for life is stronger than death! The disciples are blessed with a fresh vision. The man they have known as friend and teacher is now radiant, his face shining like the sun. Like the three disciples we experience "something new and wonderful" in Jesus, who still reveals himself to us today.

Peace and blessing to all!

Father Moore

THANK YOU FROM DEMARCUS MOORE!

Demarcus and his family express their heartfelt and sincere appreciation to all who supported him by your generous donations supporting his trip to England and France. ***May God continue to bless you!***



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>DeMarcus Moore</i>



~ First Communion ~

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

2020 LENT/HOLY WEEK/EASTER SCHEDULE

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays at 12 NOON in the Rectory Chapel.

Confessions

Sundays after both Masses
Tuesdays from Noon to 1:00pm & 6:30 to 7:30pm
in the Rectory Chapel.

Special Lenten Bible Study

Tuesdays at 7:30pm in Rectory

April 5- Palm Sunday

*Blessing and Distribution of Palms
Mass at 5:00pm (Vigil), 8:45am & 11:30am*



***PASCHAL TRIDUUM*
(7:30pm each evening)**

April 9- Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper and Washing of Feet

April 10- Good Friday

Service of the Lord's Passion (Youth Passion Play)

April 11- Great Easter Vigil

Mass, Baptisms and Reception into the Church

****EASTER****

April 12- Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection

Mass at 8:45am & 11:30am

