

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

June 21, 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

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Jer 20: 10-13~Jeremiah spells out clearly those who ought to fear: those who denounce God's prophet and take out vengeance on him.

Responsorial: Ps 69~Lord, in your great love, answer me.

Reading II: Rom 5:12-15~"For if by the transgression of the one (Adam) many died, how much more did the gracious gift of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow for the many."

Gospel: Mt 10: 26-33~Jesus said to the Twelve, "Fear no one."

Readings for Next Sunday

2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a Rom 6:3-4, 8-11 Mt 10:37-42

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18	Matt 7:1-5
Tuesday:	2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36	Matt 7:6,12-14
Wednesday:	Is 49:1-6 Acts 13:22-26	Lk 1:57-66, 80
Thursday:	2 Kgs 24:8-17	Matt 7:21-29
Friday:	2 Kgs 25:1-12	Matt 8:1-4
Saturday:	Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19	Matt 8:5-17

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday	In Memory and Honor of All Fathers/Father Figures Jean Robinson-Birthday In loving memory of Jean Hamilton-Birthday
Monday	Peace in our Communities
Tuesday	Ruby Smalls-100 th Birthday
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Intentions of STM Parishioners
Friday	Our Dedicated Volunteers
Saturday	Mary Waters-Birthday

PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty & Joseph 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 ~

Prayers are asked for the victims of the Coronavirus and their loved ones, those caring for them, and all who have survived this virus including those still grappling with its lingering effects.

Please also pray for all victims/survivors of violence.

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. Casimir, Ed Poindexter, Deacon Ralph Cyrus and Seminarian Jonathon Barahona.

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!

THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY, WE ARE MAKING IT!!

Tithes and offerings that were dropped off or received in the mail amounted to **\$3,080.00; and \$266.00 for Maintenance.** Support received through *Faith Direct* (electronic giving) totaled **\$13,639.16.**

Thank you for your financial support of your church!

Please continue to support the church in the manner with which you are most comfortable. Thanks to all of you who have ventured into the new reality of electronic giving.

*Simply go to the STM web page: www.stthomasmoredc.org and click on "Donate" and then "Make A One Time Gift Now." You will then be asked for credit card information. Making a one-time gift DOES NOT sign you up for Faith Direct! *Thanks for supporting St. Thomas More!**

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.

STM-PAC INVITES ALL TO JOIN CHECK-INS ON ZOOM!

On Tuesday, June 23, and continuing on a bi-weekly basis, PAC will host a **Mental Health Check/Chat** with anyone who wishes to attend. **The one-hour session begins at 10:00am.**

The following connectivity info will support you in joining on-line through Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86506112799?pwd=NzBSa1lXRVp5eVFSOUZCRVFZbXdlQT09>

Meeting ID: 86506112799. Password: 045720

For those who may not be able to connect on-line, you may **CALL-IN** on this one tap mobile number: **1-301-715-8592.** *Use the same Meeting ID and Password for calling in.*

MARYLAND'S CATHOLIC BISHOPS ISSUE LETTER ON RACIAL JUSTICE!

Today's "PASTOR'S PEN" column features an important letter from our many local and regional bishops:

Washington Archbishop Wilton Gregory, Baltimore Archbishop William Lori, Wilmington Bishop W. Francis Malooly and six other Catholic bishops serving the state of Maryland have released a new letter on racial justice.

(Please continue to page 3.)

**BUILDING BRIDGES OF
UNDERSTANDING AND HOPE**

***A Letter on Racial Justice from the
Catholic Bishops of Maryland***

For centuries, our country and our State have been plagued with problems of racial inequality and injustice. Although many people have acted in good faith in service and prayer to bring about just change, to acknowledge the dignity of each life, and to love one another, our current crisis causes us to reflect on how much we still must do together to make impactful progress. We vividly recall our own Church's past sins and failings and admit to them freely.

With regret and humility, we must recognize that as Catholic leaders and as an institution we have, at times, not followed the Gospel to which we profess and have been too slow in correcting our shortcomings. For this reason, it is incumbent upon us to place ourselves at the forefront of efforts to remove the inequalities and discrimination that are still present in Maryland and our nation today.

Despite our painful history, the Church in Maryland has been deeply enriched by the gifts of Black Catholics. We think of Mother Mary Lange, who founded the first Catholic school for Black children in the United States, in Baltimore in 1828. One year later, she founded the Oblate Sisters of Providence, the first religious order for women of African descent. Today, she is a Servant of God, in the process to be canonized a Catholic saint, a cause for which all Catholics should pray.

Maryland is also home to the National Black Catholic Congress, which acts as a witness and guide to the realities of the Black Catholic experience across the United States. It is also home to the Josephite priests and brothers, whose mission is to serve the African American community.

At a time when school segregation, sadly, was the norm in Maryland, two of our predecessors -Cardinal Patrick O'Boyle and Cardinal Lawrence Shehan- began the process of desegregating Catholic schools and parishes.

On March 12, 1950, in a homily on race relations, then-Archbishop O'Boyle said, "*Unless the full resources of the Church are placed at the disposal of every single member of the church and made available to every man, there is no Catholicism worthy of the name. Our Sacraments, and our societies, Our Mass and mysteries of the Faith are a common possession. Just as God is Our Father -What is Catholic is ours; it is all of us united as one.*"

This history provides the context for us today and should act to animate our prayers, thoughts and actions for an end, finally, to the sin of racism that remains with us and in us. The unjust killing of George Floyd and other Black Americans, and the subsequent protests, rallies and vigils that continue to take place make it clear that the conscience of our nation is on trial as questions of race and equality confront each and every one of us.

We must recognize that all of us share the same human nature and dignity because we are all created in the image and likeness of God; this is why human life is sacred. We call all people of good will to prayer to root out any hatred and animosity that has taken hold in one's own heart. Inspired by Jesus' command to "love one another as I love you" (John 15:12), we must seek to know and understand one another and to work to break down barriers through listening, prayer and a commitment to change hearts and minds.

However, prayer and dialogue, alone, are not enough. We must act to bring about true change. United, we seek healing, harmony and solutions that recognize that every person has been created in the image of God and that every person possesses human dignity. Over the years, the Catholic Bishops of Maryland have stood firmly in our support of laws that sought to bring about justice and an end to unequal treatment based on race.

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
TO ALL FATHERS,**



**FATHER-FIGURES
&
THOSE WHO NURTURE & GUIDE
IN WAYS SEEN & UNSEEN!
MAY GOD BLESS & KEEP YOU!**

Please continue to keep in prayer our candidates for the sacraments. These celebrations are delayed and will be rescheduled once it is safe to gather again!

~ **Baptism** ~

Dominique Brooks Tylia Pilgrim Taj Lee Tolliver

~ **First Holy Communion** ~

**Dominique Brooks Ashwin Gordon Penelope Hawkins
Jonah Kamara Terrence Tyer, Jr.**

~ **Confirmation** ~

**Ariana Brooks Nahsaan Curtis Renee' Douglas
Dionni Gillis Brianna Jean-Charles Gabriel Jean-Charles
Tyree Jones Tyrone Jones Journee Logan
Aysha May DeMarcus Moore James M. Morton III**

~ **Full Communion** ~

Njeri Jarvis Washington

(Bishops' letter continued...)

This includes access to health and maternal care, meaningful educational opportunities, prison reforms, restorative justice initiatives, housing anti-discrimination efforts, juvenile justice reforms, and ending the grossly disparate practice of capital punishment. We commend the efforts of our state lawmakers to convene working groups to discuss legislative initiatives that are needed for reform, transparency, and racial equality. We look forward to playing an active part in these conversations on both a state and national level, and to lending our voices to those whose own have been stifled or altogether silenced by those who seek to quiet them.

We continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will enlighten the minds and hearts of our elected representatives so that truth and justice will prevail over the falsehoods of discrimination and injustice.

We pray that God will guide us during these difficult times and give us the courage to act with conviction in our duty to seek racial equality, heal divisions, and build bridges of understanding and hope.

In Christ,

Most Reverends:

**William E. Lori, Wilton D. Gregory, W. Francis Malooly,
Roy E. Campbell, Mario E. Dorsonville-Rodriguez,
Michael Fisher, Adam J. Parker & Denis J. Madden (Baltimore)
Bishop-designate Bruce Lewandowski, CSsR, (Baltimore)**

~ 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.

**ST. THOMAS MORE
CATHOLIC ACADEMY**



Serving Students in Grades Pre-K3-8

~ Catholic Environment ~
~ Academically Excellent ~

Mr. Gerald Smith, Jr., Principal

**Before & After School Care Provided.
(202)-561-1189**

**FOOD PANTRY DATES
FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE!**

The Food Pantry will be open on Friday, June 26, from 11:30am to 2:00pm in the Cedar Room.



Donations to the pantry will also be received on June 26, from 11:30am to 2:00pm in the Cedar Room.

Helpful items include non-perishables such as Rice/Pasta/Dry Beans, Hot & Cold Cereal and

Canned goods such as

Meat/Tuna/Beans/Soup/Fruits, Vegetables, etc.

To drop food off at the rectory, please call ahead to make sure someone is there to accept it (202-562-0431.)

Thanks to our many members who have donated to the pantry throughout this pandemic.

*STM has served as a REFUGE OF RELIEF for many!
Food/Monetary donations will help keep our pantry viable!
Thank You! God Bless!*

SHARE INFORMATION

Value Package- \$22.00.

Please contact Flo Gantt for June Registration info.

Please also consider making a monetary donation of \$22.00 to provide a SHARE Package to a family in need. If interested, please contact any member of our SHARE Team. Thank you!

MASS ON AIR AND ONLINE

Mass is celebrated daily on EWTN Catholic Television.
The *Archdiocese of Washington* livestreams Mass on adw.org/live-streamed-mass-and-prayers/.

The Sunday TV Mass is broadcast on WDCW 50 at
10:30am Sunday morning:
Comcast DC Channel 23, and PG Channel 3.

**STM SODALITY TRIP
IMPORTANT STATUS UPDATE!!**

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and after serious, prayerful consideration, the Sodality Executive Board has decided to **cancel our July 29th trip to Sight and Sound.**

The health and welfare of all parishioners and friends who signed up and made payments are of the utmost importance to us, and your support was extremely appreciated.

No further monies will be collected. Once our deposit is received from Nelson Travel, we will let you know when reimbursements will be made. Please direct questions to: Laura Brown, 301-899-8099; Margaret Butler, 202-549-1506; Margarine Neal, 202-438-1865.

Thank you for your understanding and patience!

**ST. THOMAS MORE
COMMUNITY CONNECTION MINISTRY!**

To assist our STM Church Family during these difficult times we still have available the STM Community Connection Ministry.

Our goal is to reach out to the STM Church family to be of service in meeting needs that may arise during this Coronavirus crisis.

You are invited to contact:

Clinton Ray (240-271-6164)
Margaret Spencer (202-561-8974)
Margaret Butler (301-702-1398)
or the Church Office (202-562-0431)

FLOCKNOTES INFORMATION!

~STREAMLINED SIGN-UP~

A number of you have expressed a desire to be a part of our online church via Flocknotes, joining with **163** others.

The process has been a little complicated so, to simplify it, you are asked to contact one of these members who will help you:

Margaret Butler (Sodality Prefect) 202-549-1506
Darren Coles (Flocknotes Manager) 240-605-8467
Clint Ray (STM Community Connection Coordinator) 240-271-6164

So far *163* of you have signed up for this helpful and important communications tool.

Flock Notes has been a highly valuable tool for spreading important information about recent events and activities regarding St. Thomas More, particularly during the Coronavirus Emergency.