

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

July 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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: 1Kgs 3:5, 7-12~ Like Solomon we must ask God for wisdom. Wisdom is needed to make the choices in our daily living that enable us to live in the "kingdom of heaven."

Responsorial: Ps 119: Lord, I love your commands.

Reading II: Rom 8:28-30~ "All things work for good for those who love God."

Gospel: Mt 13:44-52~ Jesus offers more parables about the Kingdom of heaven.

Readings for Next Sunday

Dan 7:9-10, 13-14 2 Pet 1:16-19 Matt 17:1-9

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Jer 13:1-11	Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday:	Jer 14:17-22	Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday:	Jer 15:10, 16-21	Jn 11:19-27
Thursday:	Jer 18:1-6	Mt 13:47-53
Friday:	Jer 26:1-9	Mt 13:54-58
Saturday:	Jer 26:11-16, 24	Mt 14:1-12

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday	In loving memory of Thomas Proctor
Monday	In memory of Rep. John Lewis & C. T. Vivian
Tuesday	In memory of Patrick Ellis
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Well-being of Frances Davies
Friday	Victims/Survivors of Coronavirus
Saturday	Peace In Our Communities/Nation

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, Frances Davies, Barbara Deale, Barbara DeJesus, Renee Felieu, 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, Kenneth Louis, Dennis Lucas, James Makle, Jr., Gloria & William McCaskill, Ed Miller, 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 ~

Please pray for **Bernard Jarvis**, father of Njeri Jarvis Washington, and **Jawan Whittaker**, grandson of Wanda Brooks who was injured in a recent motorcycle accident.

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, 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, 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 **\$4,601.00**; and **\$170.00 for Maintenance.**

Faith Direct donations will be posted next week.

Mass attendance this week: 27 people present in church, and 30 joining by Zoom.

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 OUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION CHATS ON ZOOM!

On Tuesday, August 4, and continuing on a bi-weekly basis, PAC will host another **CONNECTION CHAT** with anyone who wishes to attend. **Join us as we connect to pray and check in with one another.**

The one-hour chat begins at 10:00am.

YOU MAY ALSO JOIN USING ONLY YOUR PHONE BY CALLING THE FOLLOWING FREE NUMBER: 1-301-715-8592.

You will be asked to give our STM:

Meeting ID: 86506112799 AND Password: 045720.

For those who wish to join via Zoom video, please use the following info:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86506112799?pwd=NzBSa1lXRvP5eVF5OUZCRVFZbXdlOT09>

OR...

Simply download Zoom onto your device and click on the log-in LINK emailed via Flocknotes.

~PRAYER FOR OUR NATION~

Rise up, Lord, in defense of your people
and this nation.
Do not hide your face from us in our
trials and tribulation.
Father of orphans, friend of the widow,
wealth of the poor,
Provider for the hungry and the oppressed,
Healer of the sick and hope for us all,
we rejoice in making you known to others.
May we find in you comfort and security
in times of pain and anxiety
as we work to make this country
"One nation under God."

~PASTOR'S PEN~

**MESSAGE FOR SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

Dear Church Family,

As we navigate through the Covid-19 pandemic and the politics of our times, I want to encourage each one of you to stand firm and stand fast to our faith in Jesus Christ. It is all too easy to become complacent and indifferent as we have endured so much in these recent days. But I am so encouraged by the love and compassion of our church family. We have done so much to strengthen the bonds that bind us together here as the STM family. We have made every effort to reach out and stay connected with one another by praying for and with one another, checking on each other, supporting our food pantry and being so generous in tithes and offerings and participating in the community connection chats. This is our faith in action right now that makes such a big difference in our lives and in the lives of our community.

Let me also share with you that we have made great progress in our capacity to livestream Sunday Mass and other activities. We are presently working out the "glitches" in providing the best possible product and will provide you with the Zoom link information via Flock Notes, and in the Bulletin.

We have also resumed our weekly Bible Study on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 via Zoom. See announcement below regarding how you can connect with the Bible Study Group. And just a reminder that you may still come by the rectory on Wednesdays between 11:00am to 1:00pm for Holy Communion and prayer. Please call ahead so we can be prepared to welcome you.

Let's continue to stand together as the Body of Christ here at St. Thomas More as:

1. We continue to fight the virus with face coverings, hand washing, and physical distancing. This is how we "love our neighbor as ourselves."
2. We reach out to others and help when the need arises. Practicing physical distancing doesn't mean social isolation. Keep on caring for each other.
3. We recognize the sacred and prophetic power we possess as we exercise our right to vote.

*Stay safe and be blessed,
Father Moore*

ADULT BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM: All are encouraged to join with us in our weekly Bible Study on Tuesday evenings at 7:30. **Meeting ID: 808 120 8607 AND Password: 2y94hR.**

WELCOME TO THE STM FAMILY! We warmly welcome *Taj Tolliver* who was baptized Saturday, July 18th! *Taj* is the son of *Tomi Tolliver* and *Thomas Speight*, and the grandson of *Vanessa Barnard*. Congratulations to the family and our prayers, too!



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

~ Confirmation ~

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

~ Full Communion ~

Njeri Jarvis Washington

SCHEDULE FOR BAPTISMS:

We have re-scheduled our Easter Baptisms as follows:

Taj Tolliver (Took place on July 18th.)

Tylia Pilgrim on August 1st

Dominique Brooks on August 8th

These will all take place in church at 11:00am

**SCHEDULE FOR FIRST COMMUNION
AND FIRST CONFESSION:**

These two sacraments will be celebrated on Saturday, August 15th at 11:00am for: *Dominique Brooks, Ashwin Gordon, Penelope Hawkins, Jonah Kamara and Terrence Tyer, Jr.*

2020 ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN APPEAL

With the onset of the pandemic back in March, the Archdiocese suspended active solicitation of this major funding effort for ministries and services of the Archdiocese. However, we are pleased to report that thanks to your generosity our parish has, despite the pandemic, committed to pledges of \$18,265 toward our **goal of \$ 37,000**. Thanks for your generous support of the parish and the Appeal.

10:00AM SUNDAY MASS

We will celebrate Sunday Mass each week at 10:00AM for the foreseeable future. Those who attend must wear face masks. **Only those who are not at high risk due to age or health concerns should attend**, following the ushers' directions, and practicing physical distancing.

WORD AMONG US FOR JULY/AUGUST

The *Word Among Us* for July and August are now available at the Sunday Mass or at the rectory during the week. Those who are attending Mass should bring their copy with them since we will have no other printed aids such as missalettes or hymnals.

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

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.

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)

FOOD PANTRY DATES FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST!

The Food Pantry will be open on Friday, August 7 & 21, from 11:30am to 2:00pm in the Cedar Room.



Donations to the pantry will also be received on August 7 & 21, 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 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!

FLOCKNOTES INFORMATION!

~STREAMLINED SIGN-UP~

The process had been a little complicated for some, 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.

VIEW THE SUNDAY BULLETIN ON-LINE

Our Sunday Bulletin continues to be available on our STM website each week.

Please visit www.stthomasmoredc.org to access the church website. Click on the "Sunday Bulletin" link to open the specific Bulletin you would like to view.

The Sunday Bulletin is generally uploaded onto our STM website by Thursday evening.