

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

August 16, 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

Twentieth Sunday In Ordinary Time
Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: *Is 56:1, 6-7~"My house shall be called a house of prayer for all people."*

Responsorial: *Psalm 67~ Oh, God, let all the nations praise you.*

Reading II: *Rom 11:13-15, 29-32~ St. Paul is called by God to bring the Good News of the Gospel to the Gentiles.*

Gospel: *Matt 15:21-28~Isaiah, St. Paul and Jesus all proclaim that the message of salvation is for all people.*

Readings for Next Sunday

Is 22:19-23 Rom 11:33-36 Mt 16:13-20

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Ez 24:15-23	Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday:	Ez 28:1-10	Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday:	Ez 34:1-11	Mt 20:1-16
Thursday:	Ez 36:23-28	Mt 22:1-14
Friday:	Ez 37:1-14	Mt 22:34-40
Saturday:	Ez 43:1-7ab	Mt 23:1-12

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday	In memory of Bertha Tucker
Monday	In memory of Gary Rowland
Tuesday	Well-being of Frances Davies
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Well-being of Audrey Caldwell
Friday	Our Food Pantry Volunteers and Donors
Saturday	Peace in our Communities

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 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, 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 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 ~

Please pray for the peaceful repose of the souls of our dear parishioner, **Bertha Tucker**, mother of Angie Burns and Carol Dantley, who died quite suddenly, and **Gary Rowland**, son of Joyce Miller, and the consolation of their loved ones.

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

Your continued prayers are requested for Shirley Adams, Sheila D. Brown, Audrey Caldwell, Frances Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Elizabeth Holmes, Bernard Jarvis, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Robert Robinson, Yolanda Rollins, Margaret Spencer, Mary Travers, Jawan Whittaker, 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

Now, the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. (Acts 4:32)

How can we not give, Father, when we remember your abundant blessings in our own lives? Here is our offering this week. May it increase as we learn to love you more and more and understand our purpose in your perfect plan for our lives. This we pray in Jesus' name. AMEN!

~They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love~

Thanks for your loving commitment to your church family.

Tithes and offerings that were received at Mass, were dropped off or mailed in amounted to **\$4,397.00, and \$521.00 for Maintenance.**

Faith Direct amounted to **\$4,951.80.**

Mass attendance this week: 30 people present in church, and over 60 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 18, PAC will host its **FINAL 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=NzBSa1lXRvp5eVFSSOUZCRVfZbXdlQT09>

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 TWENTIETH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

Dear Church Family,

The challenges that confront us during these trying and troubled times can be a test of our faith. But the scriptures encourage us and show the power of God working through our trials and tribulations. Each day can bring a new challenge that we have never experienced before. And our scriptures, especially the Gospel of Matthew, once again remind us that “If you’ve got faith, God’s got the power.” Faith that manifests itself in the Lord’s power to multiply five loaves and two fish and feed a multitude; faith that enabled Peter to walk on stormy seas; faith that cast out a demon from a Gentile mother’s daughter (today’s gospel).

The society of Palestine, in Jesus’ day, was diverse like ours’ today. Matthew introduces us to a Canaanite woman who belonged to two minorities—a Gentile and a woman. Like us, she seeks to encounter Jesus. And when others tried to discourage and rebuff her, she persists. We see her unrelenting faith. She will call Jesus “Lord” three times. She has every confidence in the power of Jesus to release her daughter from the power of the evil demon. Jesus sees her faith and tells her, “O woman, great is your faith. Let it be done for you as you wish.” Once again, we see very clearly that “If you’ve got faith, God’s got the power.” And this is still true as we are challenged by the pandemic, the economic and political issues, and racism and prejudice in our lives. So, “If you’ve got faith, God’s got the power.” And the power and providence is free and available to everybody.

*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

10:00AM SUNDAY MASS LIVE ON ZOOM

We will celebrate Sunday Mass each week at 10:00AM for the foreseeable future. Those who wish to participate on Zoom are most welcome. **Meeting ID: 852 3811 8028, AND Password: 545701. Phone in: 1-301-715-8592**

**CONGRATULATIONS,
FIRST COMMUNICANTS!!**

*We are pleased to congratulate our young people who
received Jesus in the Eucharist yesterday:*

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

*We pray that they will always trust in Jesus who feeds
and strengthens us in this wonderful sacrament.*



**Please continue to keep in prayer our
candidates for the sacrament of 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

We hope to celebrate this sacrament in the near future.

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.**

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 \$18,265.00 toward our goal of \$37,000!** Thanks for your generous support of the parish and the Appeal.

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.

IMPORTANT SODALITY NOTICE!

The Sodality will be reimbursing all who signed up and made deposits for our proposed trip to Sight and Sound that had to be cancelled.

Refunds will be made within the next couple of weeks.

We sincerely appreciate all participants for your interest and patience!

Contact: Laura Brown, 301-899-8099.

SAVE THE DATE and PLAN TO JOIN!!

The STM-PAC is sponsoring “ZOOM” Bingo on **Friday, September 11, 2020, at 7:00 pm.** If you are interested in participating, please EMAIL Liz Berry (liz6aka@hotmail.com) or Sharie Wood (sbw50@verizon.net) no later than Sunday, August 30th **Participation is limited to the first 50 people!**

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ACADEMY



*Serving Students in Grades Pre-K3-8
Catholic Environment ~ Academically Excellent
Mr. Gerald Smith, Jr., Principal
(202)-561-1189*

*The Parish Action Committee (STM-PAC) is hosting its
Annual Back-to-School Supplies Drive for our students!
We are asking parishioners to please support this effort!
We will be collecting items from now until September 6,
2020. Please leave donations in the back of the church, at
the rectory (please call in advance) or you may drop off
donations at the school office Monday-Thursday, 8a-12p!
If there are any questions or concerns, feel free to contact
Liz Berry at 240-351-8869 or liz6aka@hotmail.com.*

STM-PAC thanks you in advance for your support!

FOOD PANTRY DATES FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST!

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



*Donations to the pantry will also be received on
August 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!*

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)*

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 *177* 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.*