

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 23, 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

Twenty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time
Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Is 22:19-23~God removed "Shebna, master of the palace" from his position of authority because of his unfaithfulness. Then God placed his faithful servant Eliakim "like a peg in a sure spot" as master of the palace.

Responsorial: Psalm 138: Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

Reading II: Rom 11:33-36~"To God be glory forever. Amen."

Gospel: Matt 16:13-20~ Jesus confers the leadership of his church on St. Peter, setting him as a "rock" who would be faithful to the end.

Readings for Next Sunday

Jer 20:7-9 Rom 12:1-2 Mt 16:21-27

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Rv 21:9b-14	Jn 1:45-51
Tuesday:	2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17	Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday:	2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18	Mt 23:27-32
Thursday:	1 Cor 1:1-9	Mt 24:42-51
Friday:	1 Cor 1:17-25	Mt 25:1-13
Saturday:	1 Cor 1:26-31	Mt 6:17-29

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday	STM Academy Faculty and Students
Monday	In loving memory of Earl P. Hamilton, Sr.
Tuesday	Victims & Survivors of Covit-19
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Peace In Our Nation
Friday	In loving memory of Joseph Brooks-Birthday
Saturday	In loving memory of Derek Campbell

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, Fracness 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 ~

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, Fracness 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 **\$3,948.00, and \$135.00 for Maintenance.** Faith Direct will be reported next week.

Mass attendance this week: 28 people present in church, and over 67 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.

2020 ANNUAL  JUBILARIAN MASS!

AT THIS TIME the Annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married **25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 & 51+ years** is scheduled to take place Sunday, **November 22, 2020 at 2:00pm** at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Please contact Pattie Hamilton,

Hamisings@msn.com, by TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15,

so that she may register you for this event on-line per the AOW registration procedure & deadline.

Even if you do not plan to attend you may still receive a Special Certificate!

IMPORTANT SODALITY NOTICE!

PLEASE contact Laura Brown, 301-899-8099, as soon as possible if you have not received your deposit refund for the Sodality's Trip to ***Sight and Sound*** that was cancelled due to the pandemic. Thank You!

~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 TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

Dear Church Family,

As we reflect on the current climate of racism and polarization in our nation and prepare for this year’s election, let us, as disciples of Jesus, commit ourselves to building peace and harmony in our lives and nation. Let us look at what one of the early saints wrote regarding cultivating a spirit of peace and reconciliation:

Since we possess Christ who is peace, we must put an end to this enmity and live as we believe he lived. He broke down the separating wall, uniting what was divided, bringing about peace by reconciling in his single person those who disagreed. In the same way, we must be reconciled not only with those who attack us from outside, but also with those who stir up dissension within; flesh then will no longer be opposed to the spirit, nor the spirit to the flesh. Once we subject the wisdom of the flesh to God’s law, we shall be re-created as one single person at peace. Then, having become one instead of two, we shall have peace within ourselves.

Now peace is defined as harmony among those who are divided. When, therefore, we end that civil war within our nature and cultivate peace within ourselves, we become peace. By this peace we demonstrate that the name of Christ, which we bear, is authentic and appropriate.--(St. Gregory of Nyssa)

Together, church family, we cultivate peace when:

1. We reach out to others showing our care, love and support in our words and actions.
2. Vote on Election Day, November 3. OR request a ballot by mail. Make sure to cast your ballot.
3. Support the church with your tithes, offerings and donations to the food pantry.

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 sacred and prophetic power we possess as we exercise our right to vote.

May the Lord keep you safe in his peace,

Father Moore

**CONGRATULATIONS,
FIRST COMMUNICANTS!!**

*We are pleased to congratulate our young people who
received Jesus in the Eucharist on August 15, 2020:*

*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.

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.**

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 ALMONG 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.

***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 30, 2020!**

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 SEPTEMBER!



The Food Pantry will be open on
Friday, September 4 & 18, from 11:30am to
2:00pm in the Cedar Room.

Donations to the pantry will also be received on
September 4 & 18 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. Questions: Please contact
Pattie Hamilton, hamisings@msn.com.