

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

September 6, 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-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time
Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Ez 33:7-9~Ezekiel is called to warn God's people. The prophet is appointed "watchman for the house of Israel." He is to call others to conversion and live rightly as members of God's chosen people.

Responsorial: Psalm 95: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Reading II: Rom 13:8-10 ~Christian lives are summarized in love.

Gospel: Mt 18:15-20~Jesus preaches the process of reconciliation in fellowship of the church.

Readings for Next Sunday

Sir 27:30—28:7 Rom 14:7-9 Mt 18:21-35

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	1 Cor 5:1-8	Luke 6:6-11
Tuesday:	Mt 5:1-4a	Matt 1:1-16, 18-23
Wednesday:	1 Cor 7:25-31	Luke 6:20-26
Thursday:	1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13	Luke 6:27-38
Friday:	1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27	Luke 6:39-42
Saturday:	1 Cor 10:14-22	Luke 6:43-49

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday	All Impacted by Violence
Monday	Gratitude for Our Employment Blessings
Tuesday	In loving memory of Marcus Coates
Wednesday	In loving memory of Norell James
Thursday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Friday	In Memoriam 9/11/01
Saturday	In loving memory of LaToya Garvey-Birthday

PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty Beatty, Shirley Brown, Francilla 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, 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 ~

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, Francess 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.

LABOR DAY CLOSURE: The Church Office will be closed, on Monday, September 7, 2020.

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 **\$3,271.00, and \$114.00 for Maintenance.**

Faith Direct contributions will be posted later in the month.

Mass attendance this week: 29 people present in church, and over 57 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 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.

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.**

WORD AMONG US FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

The Word Among Us for September and October 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.

~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-THIRD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

Dear Church Family,

I want to bring you up to date on several practical items regarding the parish. First, over the past five and one-half months, we have experienced a \$ 25,000 decrease in Offertory tithing. Despite this we have been able to manage well thanks to other revenues, the payroll protection loan, and the generosity of our members who continue to send in their tithes by mail or electronically. Thus, we are in a much better financial position than many other churches. So please continue to be generous in supporting the work of St. Thomas More.

Recently, we have been able to install a handrail and repair the front porch of the rectory. The handrail, which was suggested by the Parish Council, has been a welcome improvement and is appreciated by those who visit the rectory. We have also made significant improvements to reduce/control erosion which has always been a problem here. New sod has been planted behind the school and adjacent to the Cedar Room rear entrance. And, a new, bigger sump pump is also being installed in the Cedar Room. The large trees that grace the walkway at the main entrance have been trimmed, as well.

Lastly, we are making good progress in our efforts to develop our broadcasting technology and live streaming capacity. We have purchased a new camera and are upgrading the Wi-Fi capacity in the church.

These improvements are costly and we depend on your generous support during this crisis.

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

**2020 EAST OF THE RIVER REVIVAL
VIRTUAL EVENT~OCTOBER 5, 2020!!**

**The Southeast Deanery and Partnering Churches
Present the 31ST Annual East of the River Fall Revival!**

THEME: Things Change But God Remains the Same.

Revivalist: *Fr. Cornelius Ejiogu, SSJ,*

Pastor of St. Luke Catholic Church, S.E., DC.

*This **one night only event** will be live-streamed on Facebook
and YouTube, along with a dial in number.*

St. Luke’s will be the host site.

To join the Revival via Live Stream:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stluke.stlukesedc/> **OR**

Dial-In: 425-436-6339, **Access Code:** 269675

*~Please help support the Revival by sending donations to~
ERRC/St. Luke Catholic Church, 4925 E. Capitol St., SE,
Washington, D.C. 20019.*

Electronically: <http://www.stlukechurchssj.org/Donate>. (Click
on Fund-ERRC)

*The full ERR Flyer containing more detailed info will be
forthcoming via Flock Notes in the near future. Stay tuned!*

Thirty-First East of the River Revival Prayer

*Almighty and loving Father, we humbly pray that You will
bless our Revival with the powerful assistance of your Sweet Holy
Spirit. Grant that our parish may respond to this time of grace
and mercy through our theme “Things Change but God Remains
the Same”. Touch the hearts of our youth with the gentleness of
your love and send your Spirit of Hope into their lives so that they
may believe in themselves and know that they are loved, valued
and needed.*

*Help us put aside all things that crowd our lives so that we can
schedule this day to come together as a praying and fasting
Catholic community. We ask for the grace to learn to live the
simplicity that Jesus taught in our complex world.*

*Bless our revival priest, Father Cornelius Ejiogu, preacher
and teacher. Prepare his heart with the message you have for us.
Fill him with your Sweet Holy Spirit to help us to be transfigured
in Christ.*

*May Mary, Our Mother, our model and guide, obtain from her
divine Son, all that we need to make this a time of spiritual
renewal. This we ask of You, Father, Son, and Sweet Holy Spirit
who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen!*

2020 ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN APPEAL!

*Our Archbishop, Wilton Gregory, extends his heartfelt gratitude
for our support of the 2020 Annual Appeal. Church members
across the Archdiocese have contributed \$10 million for the many
charitable works supported by the Appeal. Thanks for your
generous support of the parish and the Appeal. **Our parish
currently stands at 58% of our 2020 goal of \$37,000.** If you have
not yet made your gift to the 2020 Annual Appeal, it is not too
late. Simply visit appeal.adw.org and make your gift. **Thus far,
we have pledged \$21,750.** Again, thanks for your generosity.*



***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.

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ACADEMY



*Serving Students in Grades
Pre-K3-8*

*Catholic Environment
Academically Excellent*

*Mr. Gerald Smith, Jr., Principal
(202)-561-1189*

*Please continue to pray for our STM Academy
Faculty, Staff, Scholars and Families.
The 2020-2021 School Year is now underway,
with classes being held virtually.*

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 SEPTEMBER!



*The Food Pantry will be open on
Friday, September 11 & 25, from 11:30am to
2:00pm in the Cedar Room.*

*Donations to the pantry will also be received on
September 11 & 25 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 *183* 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.*