

**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](mailto:stmchurch@comcast.net) Website: [www.stthomasmoredc.org](http://www.stthomasmoredc.org)**  
**School: 202-561-1189**

*October 11, 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-Eighth Sunday In Ordinary Time**  
**Preparing to Hear God's Word**

**Reading I:** *Is 25:6-10a~God is presented as provider, warrior and comforter.*

**Responsorial:** *Ps 23: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*

**Reading II:** *Phil 4:12-14, 19-20~God gives Paul strength.*

**Gospel:** *Mt 22:1-14~Many are invited but few are chosen.*

**Readings for Next Sunday**

*Is 45:1, 4-6 1Thes 1:1-5b Mt 22:15-21*

**DAILY MASS READINGS**

Monday:	Gal 4:22-24, 26-27,31-5:1	Luke 11:29-32
Tuesday:	Gal 5:1-6	Luke 11:37-41
Wednesday:	Gal 5:18-25	Luke 11:42-46
Thursday:	Eph 1:1-10	Luke 11:47-54
Friday:	Eph 1:11-14	Luke 12:1-7
Saturday:	Eph 1:15-23	Luke 12:8-12

**PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:**

Sunday	All Impacted by Breast Cancer
Monday	In memory of Aaron Otis-Coker
Tuesday	Well-being of Audrey Caldwell
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Daphne Andrews-Birthday
Friday	Intentions of STM Parishioners
Saturday	In loving memory of William Gray, Jr.

**PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty 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, Gail Ruffin, 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 the peaceful repose of the soul of **David Baker, Sr.** father of David Baker, and the family's consolation.*

*Your prayers for **Barbara Elliott** before her knee surgery, and now as she recuperates, are much appreciated by her.*

*Prayers are asked for the victims of the Coronavirus, their loved ones, those caring for them, and all who have survived this virus.*

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

**FEDERAL HOLIDAY CLOSURE:**

**The Church Office will be closed Monday, October 12, 2020, in observance of the Federal Holiday.**

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

**EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH IS WISE STEWARDSHIP**

*From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be expected. (Luke 12:48b)*

Today we realize how much you have given for us, dear God. Inspire us to be generous givers, placing before you all that we have so that our gifts may be used for the glory of your kingdom. 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 **\$5,143.00** and **\$948.00** for **Maintenance**. **Faith Direct contributions will be posted later in the month.**

**Mass attendance this week:** **35 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 electronic giving.** Simply go to the **STM web page: [www.stthomasmoredc.org](http://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](http://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. **The NEW Zoom Meeting ID is 87377549190. The NEW password is 548415. And, the phone dial in number is 301-715-8592.**

**WORD AMONG US FOR OCTOBER**

The **Word Among Us for October** is 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.

**RECTORY OFFICE HOURS**

The rectory office is now operating Monday through Friday between 9:30am and 4:00pm. **Please wear your mask!**

**~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-EIGHTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

*Dear Church Family,*

Last Monday evening many of us joined with our brothers and sisters from near and far for our 31st Annual East of the River Fall Revival. Father Cornelius Ejiogu, SSJ, pastor of St. Luke, preached powerfully from this year's theme: *Things Change, But God Remains The Same*, and Praise and Worship was led by Mr. Marvin Ford and his ensemble from St. Luke, and the St. Luke Dance Ministry. We were more than determined to overcome the power of the pandemic and move forward in our efforts at revival.

Father Cornelius preached a prophetic word and encouraged us to overcome the forces of fear that are so prevalent in our society and world today and FIGHT for righteousness and justice in the world. As believers, Father Cornelius reminded us, we often have stood by in the face of evil and failed to stand for the good. We witness to the sanctity of all life—from the womb to the grave. We demand an end to the oppressive systems and institutions that support and grow hatred and prejudice. We must exercise our responsibility and vote in the upcoming elections. So we are given our "marching orders" as we revive ourselves, our families, church and world. We can join with saints everywhere and sing:

*Hallelujah, Thine be the glory! Hallelujah, amen! Hallelujah,  
Thine be the glory! Revive us again.  
Revive us again-fill each heart with thy love,  
May each soul be rekindled with fire from above.*

*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*

**~ 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.*

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR STM ACADEMY** by purchasing a stylish and comfortable face mask, featuring our logo! This mask also has the added convenience of adjustable ear loops that insure a perfect fit for everyone. The fabric is soft and very wearable. **Your purchase will help support our school. The cost is just \$5.00.** They are available at the school or rectory, and on Sunday morning at the 10:00 Mass.

*Thanks to everyone for your support!*

**UPCOMING BAPTISMS!**

We are pleased to ask your prayers for the families of **Mia Nakia Wallace**, daughter of Tony Wallace and Sherita Clark, and **Ace Armani Harkless**, son of Arturo Harkless and Kaila Nowlin.

We are grateful that these parents have made the commitment to bring their children into the Church through Baptism. ***Ace will be baptized on October 17, and Mia on November 21.***

Our faith teaches us: "Baptism, the door to life and to the Kingdom, is the first Sacrament, which Christ offered to all that they might have eternal life and which, together with the Gospel, he later commanded his Apostles: 'Go, teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.'" Baptism is the sacrament by which we are incorporated into the Church and are built up together into a dwelling place of in the Holy Spirit.



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

<i>Ariana Brooks</i>	<i>Nahsaan Curtis</i>
<i>Renee' Douglas</i>	<i>Tyree Jones</i>
<i>Dionni Gillis</i>	<i>Tyrone Jones</i>
<i>Brianna Jean-Charles</i>	<i>Journee Logan</i>
<i>Gabriel Jean-Charles</i>	<i>Aysha May</i>
<i>Lisa Chinn</i>	<i>James M. Morton III</i>

*DeMarcus Moore*

***We will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at 11:00am on Saturday, November 14, 2020. Please continue to pray for our candidates for this final step in their full initiation as member of the Catholic Church. May the Holy Spirit lead and guide them as they grow into maturity as young women and men of the Lord.***

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION!**

***Classes will begin, VIRTUALLY, this month!***

Parents, please check your email for Registration Forms and other pertinent information relative to the 2020-2021 Religious Education Year.



## 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 underway,  
with classes being held virtually.*

### **\*FOOD PANTRY NEWS/UPDATE!**

Even well before the pandemic, our community has been long recognized as a “food desert.” But with your help we have been able to assist our neighbors. We provide nutritious foods, including meats, fresh fruit, vegetables, eggs and milk in our weekly food distributions. We are indebted to our faithful volunteers and supporters who make this possible. We are grateful to those individuals and families who have made donations of food and cash. We also blessed with the ongoing support of the Mulholland Foundation, our Sodality, and the Ward 8 Farmer’s Market.

**Our Food Pantry is open each Friday, 11:30am to 2:00pm.**

Our ongoing efforts to combat hunger are also supplemented by **Curbside Groceries**, a mobile grocery truck that brings the grocery store to the neighborhood. Choose from a variety of high-quality fresh foods, and pantry staples at very affordable prices. **Curbside Groceries is here on the Merrick Center Parking Lot from 10:00am to 4:00pm each Saturday.** Together we can make an impact and help meet the food needs in our community. **Thanks for your help!!**

**Needed pantry 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 off food at the rectory, please call ahead  
to make sure someone is there to accept it.*

**Again, thanks to our many members who have donated to the pantry throughout this pandemic!**

**STM continues to serve as a  
REFUGE OF RELIEF for many!**

### **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!*

### **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](http://appeal.adw.org) and make your gift. **Thus far, we have pledged \$21,750.**

**Again, thanks for your generosity!**

### **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/](http://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 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~**

**To simplify the process of signing up, 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** (Coordinator) 240-271-6164

**So far \*185\* 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](http://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](mailto:hamisings@msn.com).*