

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

November 8, 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

Thirty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time
Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I Wis 6:12-16~ Pay close attention to Wisdom.

Responsorial: Ps 63: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Reading II: 1 Thes 4:13-18~ St. Paul encourages the Thessalonians by speaking of hope.

Gospel: Mt 25:1-13~ Jesus teaches on the necessity of being prepared for what is coming.

Readings for Next Sunday

Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 1Thes 5:1-6 Mt 25:14-30

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Ti 1:1-9	Luke 17:1-6
Tuesday:	Ti 2:1-8, 11-14	Luke 17:7-10
Wednesday:	Ti 3:1-7	Luke 17:11-19
Thursday:	Phmn 7-20	Luke 17:20-25
Friday	2 John 4-9	Luke 17:26-37
Saturday:	3 John 5-8	Luke 18:1-8

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday	Cardinal-elect Wilton Gregory
Monday	In loving memory of Jean Hamilton, 1-yr.
Tuesday	In loving memory of Lula Hamilton
Wednesday	In Honor/Memory of our US Veterans Daisy Ogene-Birthday
Thursday	In loving memory of Andre Lyles
Friday	Sharie B. Wood-Birthday
Saturday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones

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 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, Leane Jean-Charles, 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 ~

Special prayers are asked for the well-being of **Audrey Caldwell, and Nancy Johnson, sister of Blondinia Brown and aunt of Sharie B. Wood.**

Please also pray for the victims of COVID-19, their loved ones and caregivers.

Your continued prayers are requested for **Shirley Adams, Sheila D. Brown, Frances Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Elizabeth Holmes, Bernard Jarvis, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Robert Robinson, Yolanda Rollins, Jean Stewart, 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.**

Holiday Closure: The Church Office will be closed on Wednesday, November 11th for the **Veteran's Day 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 **\$3,567.00** and **\$570** for **Maintenance.** **Faith Direct** contributions will be reported at a later date.

Mass attendance this week: **30** people physically present in church, and over **237** joining live by Zoom or YouTube.

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. **The NEW Zoom Meeting ID is 87377549190. The NEW password is 548415. And, the phone dial in number is 301-715-8592.**

AMONG US FOR NOVEMBER

The **Word Among Us for November** 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 thru 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~

**THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

Dear Church Family,

In the shadow of all that we have experienced lately I want to focus your attention on the Great Commandment: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your mind and with all your strength. And the second is like: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” and the beatitudes from last week’s Gospel (Matthew 5:1-12. Jesus pronounces blessings on our discipleship to the extent that we are poor in spirit, mourn the sin of the world, hunger and thirst for righteousness. Find more on the Beatitudes in chapter 5:1-12. When we are faithful to the Great Commandment and practice the Beatitudes we will have hope, happiness and holiness in our lives.

As we navigate these turbulent times let also share what the fathers of the Second Vatican Council proclaimed in the pastoral constitution of the Church in the modern world regarding peace. Please reflect on these words: Peace is not the mere absence of war or the simple maintenance of a balance of power between forces, nor can it be imposed at the dictate of absolute power. It is called, rightly and properly, a work of justice. It is the product of order, the order implanted in human society by its divine founder, to be realized in practice as we hunger and thirst for ever more perfect justice.

The common good of the human race is subject to the eternal law as its primary principle, but its requirements in practice keep changing with the passage of time. The result is that peace is never established finally and forever; the building up of peace has to go on all the time. Again, the human will is weak and wounded by sin; the search for peace demands from each individual constant control of the passions, and from legitimate authority untiring vigilance.

Even this is not enough. Peace here on earth cannot be maintained unless the good of the human person is safeguarded, and people are willing to trust each other and share their riches of spirit and talent. If peace is to be established it is absolutely necessary to have a firm determination to respect other persons and peoples and their dignity.

Peace is therefore the fruit of love; love goes beyond what justice can achieve. Peace on earth, born of love for one’s neighbor is the sign and effect of the peace of Christ that flows from God the Father. In his own person the incarnate Son, the Prince of Peace, reconciled all people to God through his death on the cross. In his human nature he destroyed hatred and restored unity to all. Raised on high by the resurrection, he sent the Spirit of love into the hearts of all people.

*May the Lord bless and keep us all in his peace.
Stay safe and stay connected to your church family.*

Father Moore

SODALITY ROSARY: Please join the STM Sodality, via Zoom, to pray the Rosary on **Wednesdays at Noon.** Detailed information was sent via Flocknotes.

~ 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.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
ARCHBISHOP GREGORY!**

*Our Holy Father Pope Francis has named our own
Archbishop Wilton Gregory to the College of Cardinals.*

He is our first African American Cardinal and will receive this honor in a “Consistory” in Rome on November 28th.

We are so blessed by the ministry Cardinal Gregory has rendered here in our own Archdiocese, in Atlanta and the church in the United States.



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

Renee’ Douglas

Dionni Gillis

Brianna Jean-Charles

Gabriel Jean-Charles

Lisa Chinn

Journee Logan

Aysha May

James M. Morton III

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.*

UPCOMING BAPTISM!

We are pleased to ask your prayers for the family of **Mia Nakia Wallace**, daughter of Tony Wallace and Sherita Clark, ***who will be baptized on November 21st.***

We are grateful that her parents have made the commitment to bring Mia into the Church through Baptism.

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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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 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 for your support!**

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

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

Our ongoing efforts to combat hunger are 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- 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/Vegetables/Fruits*

*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 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/.

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 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.