

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 22, 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:**

Sunday	10:00am Cantor Only*
Weekdays	<i>Live streamed and on Zoom*</i> <i>No Daily Mass on site at this time*</i>

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: *By appointment only at this time.**

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-Virtually at this time.*
Bible Study: Every Tuesday at 7:30pm-Virtually at this time.*

**Due to Coronavirus Precautions*

Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17~ *I myself will look after and tend my sheep.*

Responsorial: Ps 23: *The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*

Reading II: 1 Cor 15, 20-26, 28~ *St. Paul proclaims Christ's death, resurrection and second coming.*

Gospel: Mt. 25:31-46~ *We will be judged by the Lord for acts of mercy.*

Readings for Next Sunday

Is 63:16B-17, 19b; 64:2-7 1Cor 1:3-9 Mk 13:33-37

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Rev 14:1-3, 4b-5	Luke 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Rev 14:14-19	Luke 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Rev 15:1-4	Luke 21:12-19
Thursday:	Rev 18:1-2, 21-23, 19:1-3, 9a	Luke 21:20-28
Friday:	Rev 20:1-4, 11-21:2	Luke 21:29-33
Saturday:	Rev 22:1-7	Luke 21:34-36

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday	Cardinal-elect Wilton Gregory
Monday	In loving memory of Kenneth Louis
Tuesday	Well-being of Audrey Caldwell
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Gratitude For Our Blessings Deidre Daniel-Birthday
Friday	Well-being of Frances Davies
Saturday	Well-being of Margaret Spencer

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, Leane Jean-Charles, Ivy John, Nancy Johnson, Sarah Jones, Seymour & Patrick Jones, David Larison, Dennis Lucas, 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 Sescocoe, 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 longtime, beloved church musician, **Kenneth Louis**, who recently passed away, the consolation of his loved ones, and all whose lives he touched.*

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

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

HOLIDAY CLOSURES: The Church Office will be closed **November 26th & 27th** for the Thanksgiving Holiday. *Stay safe!*

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 **\$2,876.00** and **\$430** for **Maintenance**.

Faith Direct contributions will be reported at a later date.

Mass attendance this week: **24** people physically present in church, and over **225** 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 YOUTUBE/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: 85238118028. The Password is: 545701. Phone in number 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. Phone in number: 301-715-8592.**

WORD AMONG US FOR DECEMBER/ADVENT

The *Word Among Us* for December/Advent 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~

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Dear Church Family,

Many of us have been so preoccupied with the election and the pandemic that we have almost forgotten that Thanksgiving is this coming Thursday. Although we will be celebrating “at a distance” from family and friends, we are still grateful for the many blessings we have received over the past year. I invite you to celebrate with our STM church family on *Wednesday evening, November 25th at 7:30 pm.* While in person participation is limited to fifty people in the sanctuary, Mass will be livestreamed via YouTube.

As we are grateful, even in these uncertain and challenging times, I invite you to:

Count your blessings instead of your crosses;

Count your gain instead of your losses;

Count your joys instead of your sorrows;

Count your friends instead of your foes;

Count your smiles instead of your tears;

Count your health instead of your wealth;

Count on God instead of yourself!

I hope you can join in our Thanksgiving Mass.

*Continue to pray for our country as we make the
Presidential transition and dealing with the Coronavirus.*

May the Lord bless and keep us all in his peace.

Stay safe and stay connected to your church family.

Father Moore

CONGRATULATIONS, CALEB!

Caleb Wallace, a graduate of our STM Academy, and a junior at Bishop McNamara Catholic High School, completed his community project, required for the rank of Eagle Scout, by constructing an “Outdoor Teacher’s lounge” in the back of our school. The project included the assembly of two tables and the planting of trees and sod in support of our rainwater abatement efforts. Congratulations and thanks to Caleb and his parents, John and Earlene Wallace.

SODALITY ROSARY

Please join the STM Sodality, via Zoom, to pray the Rosary each **Wednesday at 11:00am.** Detailed information has been sent to all parishioners 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.



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR FOLLOWING MEMBERS
WHO RECEIVED THE SACRAMENT OF
CONFIRMATION ON NOVEMBER 14TH!**

Renee’ Douglas

Dionni Gillis

Brianna Jean-Charles

Gabriel Jean-Charles

Lisa Chinn

Journee Logan

Aysha May

James M. Morton III

DeMarcus Moore

*Please continue to pray for them now that they have taken
this final step in their full initiation as members 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

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



~MASS OF THANKSGIVING~

*We will celebrate Thanksgiving with Mass
on Wednesday, November 25, at 7:30pm.*

*While in-person participation is limited to fifty people in the
sanctuary, Mass will be livestreamed via YouTube.*

*Please join with your church family VIRTUALLY,
as we thank God for the many blessings we have received!*

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.**

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 biweekly 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 from 11:30am to 2:00pm. 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 available to accept it.***

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

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. **Our parish currently stands at 64% of our 2020 goal of \$37,000, which amounts to \$23,840 in pledges.**

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. ***Let's try to meet our goal before the end of 2020. Thanks for your generous support of the parish and the Appeal.***

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 *189* 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.