

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
4275 Fourth Street, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20032
Telephone: 202-562-0431
E-mail: stmchurch@comcast.net Website: www.stthomasmoredc.org
School: 202-561-1189

January 24, 2021



**Jesus Is The Answer
For The World Today**

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*
	<i>Live streamed and on Zoom*</i>
Weekdays	<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**

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Preparing to Hear God's Word**

Reading I: *Jonah 3:1-5, 10 ~God's mercy is shown to the Ninevites.*

Responsorial: *Ps 25~Teach me your ways, O Lord.*

Reading II: *1 Cor 7:29-31~The world as we know it is passing away.*

Gospel: *Mk 1:14-20~ Repent and believe in the Gospel.*

Readings for Next Sunday

Deut 18:15-20 1 Cor 7:32-35 Mk 1:21-28

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Acts 22:3-16	Mark 16:15-18
Tuesday:	2 Tim 1:1-8	Mark 3:31-35
Wednesday:	Heb 10:11-18	Mark 4:1-20
Thursday:	Heb 10:19-25	Mark 4:21-25
Friday:	Heb 10:32-39	Mark 4:26-34
Saturday:	Heb 11: 1-2, 8-19	Mark 4:35-41

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday	Karyn N. Hamilton-Birthday In loving memory of Robert Milner
Monday	In loving memory of Mother Mary Webster
Tuesday	Health of Elizabeth Holmes
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Health of Viola Barnes
Friday	Health of Audrey Caldwell
Saturday	Peace In Our Communities/Nation

PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty Beatty, Blondinia Brown, Shirley Brown, Francillia Browne, Cynthia Bruce, Felicia V. Bush, John Bush, Audrey Caldwell, Jane Cannon, Dixie Clark, Shertia Clark, Jeff Corry, 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, 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 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 happy repose of the soul of **Thomas Lyles**, brother of **Frank Lyles**, and the consolation of his family.*

Please also remember all victims of COVID-19, their families, caregivers and all of our frontline workers.

Your continued prayers are requested for *Shirley Adams, Blondinia Brown, Sheila D. Brown, **Viola Barnes-surgery**, Audrey Caldwell, Francess Davies, Priscilla Fuller, **Elizabeth Holmes-knee**, Bernard Jarvis, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Robert Robinson, Yolanda Rollins, Jean Stewart, **our members who are on the road to recovery, sick, shut-in or grieving; and Pope Francis, Cardinal Gregory, Fr. Moore, Fr. Casmir, Ed Poindexter and Seminarian Jonathon Barahona.***

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 Flocknote.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

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

For us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and on our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. (1Cor8:60)

Dear God, All things belong to you yet we presume to bring an offering to you of the very things you have provided. Use these tithes and offerings—expressions of our faith and love. May others know of your Fatherly love, especially the gift of your Son, Jesus our Lord and Savior. 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 \$2,233.00 and \$60.00 for Maintenance.

Faith Direct contributions will be announced later this month.

Mass attendance this week: 25 people physically present in church, and 96 joined live via 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!

The easiest way to support our church is Faith Direct, our online giving platform that so many have been using over the last ten months. It's this easy: Go to our website: www.stthomasmoredc.org. Click on **DONATE** and make your contribution by choosing **Enroll in Recurring E-giving** or **Make A One Time Gift Now.**

**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 JANUARY

The *Word Among Us* for January is 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~

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

STM Family,

This past week we observed the 92nd birthday of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King and we inaugurated Joe Biden and Kamala Harris to lead our nation. In light of these two monumental events I would like to offer reflections on hope. May these guide us into a blessed, brighter, and better future.

Of hope, Dr. King, in his sermon, *Our God Is Able*, said: “God had given me a new strength and trust. I know now that God is able to give us the interior resources to face the storms and problems of life. Let this affirmation be our ringing cry. It will give us new courage to face the uncertainties of the future. It will give our tired feet new strength as we continue our forward stride toward the city of freedom. When our days become dreary with low-hovering clouds and our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember that there is a great benign Power in the universe whose name is God, and he is able to make a way out of no way, and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows. This is our hope for becoming better men. This is our mandate for seeking to make a better world.”

Of love, St. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 13: “If I speak with human and angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. ...Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, love is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

And reflecting on St. Paul, Pope St. Clement I wrote in a letter: “Who can express the binding power of divine love? Who can find words for the splendor of its beauty? Beyond all description are heights to which it lifts us. Love unites us to God; it cancels innumerable sins, has no limits to its endurance, bears everything patiently. Love is neither servile or arrogant. It does not provoke divisions or form cliques, but always acts in harmony with others. ...happy are we, beloved, if love enables us to live in harmony.”

Our hope, I believe, is built on love for God and each other. As we gather this 24th day of 2021, let us be reminded that we have just 341 days left in 2021 to change our world. So, let our prayer be for unity under the protection of God and the leadership of President Biden and Vice President Harris. May all people put God first and others before themselves!

Be blessed. Be safe. And stay healthy.

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.



**FIRST COMMUNION AND
CONFIRMATION!**

*We want to ask the prayers of our entire STM family
for our young members who are preparing for the*

Sacraments of

First Holy Communion, Penance and

Confirmation!

~ First Penance/Communion Candidates ~

Heavenlee Curtis

Terral Lewis and

Kennadi Martinez

Their catechists are

Ms. Frances Hicks and Mrs. Nicole Garrison.

~ Confirmation Candidates ~

Charles Anthony

Damia Moore

Selah Smith

Abdur Taalib

Umaimah Taalib

Their catechists are

Ms. Wanda Brooks and Father Moore.

2020 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Contribution Statements totaling \$100.00 or more have been mailed. Parish Soft is our recordkeeping program. Please be most attentive to your TOTAL CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT.

In the event that you have any questions and/or clarifications please contact Pattie Hamilton via EMAIL at the following e-address: HAMISINGS@MSN.COM.

Thank you for addressing your questions ONLY to Pattie, who is the best person to handle your questions regarding your statements. We wish to ensure that all statements are in alignment. ***Those contributing via Faith Direct will receive a separate statement directly from Faith Direct E-giving.***

A BIG THANK YOU!

We are all so grateful to the leadership of the STM Parish Action Committee and Sodality for the fantastic “virtual” celebration of the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, and the historic Inauguration of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris. We all enjoyed our evening together as a Church Family!

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.

Masks 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 APPEAL FINAL RESULTS!

Thanks to all who, despite the COVIT-19 challenge, supported the 2020 Archdiocesan Appeal.

Your generosity amounted to **\$23,840 in pledges** to support the many ministries and services of our Archdiocese. **We were able to reach 64% of our goal for the year.**

You will soon be hearing of the plan for 2021, which will be announced in greater detail in the coming weeks.

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 *191* 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**.*