

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

***January 31, 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**

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

**Reading I: Deut 18:15-20** ~ God's mercy is shown to the Ninevites.

**Responsorial: Ps 95**~ If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

**Reading II: 1 Cor 7:32-35**~ The world as we know it is passing away.

**Gospel: Mk 1:21-28**~ Repent and believe in the Gospel.

**Readings for Next Sunday**

**Job 7:1-4, 6-7 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23 Mk 1:29-39**

**DAILY MASS READINGS**

Monday:	Heb 11:32-40	Mark 5:1-20
Tuesday:	Mal 3:1-4 Heb 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40
Wednesday:	Heb 12:4-7, 11-15	Mark 6:1-6
Thursday:	Heb 12:18-19, 21-24	Mark 6:7-13
Friday:	Heb 13:1-8	Mark 6:14-29
Saturday:	Heb 13:15-17, 20-21	Mark 6:30-34

**PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:**

Sunday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Monday	Health of Viola Barnes
Tuesday	Health of Elizabeth Holmes
Wednesday	Chester Pearson-Birthday
Thursday	William Wood-Birthday
Friday	Blondinia Brown-Birthday
	In memory of Doris & Dcn. Martin-Prayer Gp
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, Frances Davies, Barbara Deale, Barbara DeJesus, Renee Felio, 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 Sescoe, 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 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, Frances 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. With God there is nothing without purpose, nothing without its meaning and reason. Thus the people of Israel used to dedicate tithes of their possessions. But those who have been given freedom devote what they possess to the Lord's use. They give it all to him, not simply what is of lesser value, cheerfully and freely because they hope for greater things, like the poor widow who put into God's treasury her whole livelihood. (St. Irenaeus)

**~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 **\$4,791.00** and **\$405.00** for **Maintenance.**

**Faith Direct** contributions amounted to **\$8,737.35.**

**Mass attendance this week:** **38** people physically present in church, and **89** 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](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!**

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](http://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 FEBRUARY**

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.

**~PASTOR'S PEN~  
FOURTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

**STM Family,**

Saying goodbye to January 2021, let us look forward with hope as we enter into February. February 1 will mark the 32nd day of this new year. Let us pray for grace and favor, looking forward to Black History Month, the Super Bowl and Lent.

As we journey on in this pandemic life-style I want to share this reflection on a disciple's life. It was penned by Episcopal Bishop Steven Charleston. *I think you might find meaning in what he wrote:*

*"I have encountered God in unexpected places and lost God in the familiar. I have been carried on people's shoulders and have been thrown beneath the bus. I have discovered the sacred in places of struggle and the humble in places steeped in privilege. I have searched like a miner for meaning and practiced the science of wonder. I have walked empty halls called holy, heard wordless sermons, listened to songs of adoration gone suddenly silent. I am a doubter by trade and a disciple by vocation. Like all seekers, I have a long story to tell, full of the beauty and pain of living."*

I think we can all identify in some ways with what Bishop Charleston shares with us. My encouragement to you is be strong in the Lord and lean on his everlasting arms in the days ahead. My prayers are for all of us dealing with the pandemics of the virus and racism and economic uncertainty. And I am sure that "Jesus is the answer for the world today."

***Be blest, be safe and be strong,  
Father Moore***

**2021 ANNUAL APPEAL!**

***The 2021 Annual Appeal is here!***

This year's theme is ***Seeking Christ*** to remind us in this time of hardship and need that Jesus Christ is the one, true source of the healing, unity, and love that we all seek. Through our collective support of the Annual Appeal, we strengthen the Body of Christ that is our local Church in the Archdiocese of Washington. We also support her many charitable works that serve the many needs of our brothers and sisters in our larger community. All Catholics in every parish will be asked to make a commitment to the 2021 Annual Appeal next weekend. Your gift will be credited toward meeting our parish goal. Learn more about the Annual Appeal at [appeal.adw.org](http://appeal.adw.org).

**PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!**

***STM-PAC and Sodality Announce  
St. Thomas More's***

***Black History Month Virtual Event!***

***~Theme~***

***The Black Family:  
Representation, Identity, and Diversity.***

***Date: February 21, 2021 Time: 4pm -6pm  
"Location"- Virtual Zoom Link***

***Our Family Prayer for  
Justice and Human Dignity***

*Father, to ask that through your Son, Jesus and in communion with the Holy Spirit, you help us in the battle against America's "original sin" of racism that divides us from being the Body of Christ that we are called to be as your children.*

*We implore you to give us your wisdom, so that we may build a community founded on the Gospel message of the life and dignity of all people from conception to natural death, and to live in communion like the divine communion of the Holy Trinity.*

*Bless parents that they may form their children in faith, to love on another regardless of skin color, ethnicity and natural origin, just as Jesus loves us.*

*Bless and protect all of us as we live out our faith in being "instruments of your peace" as St. Francis said. Fill us with a thirst for justice and righteousness.*

*Hear our prayer and give us the courage, compassion, and perseverance to root out any form of injustice within our communities and bring the healing love of Christ to all in need.*

*Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of our Church, hasten to help us.*

*And intercede on our behalf, so that our Archdiocese can continue to witness to the Gospel message of life and dignity of all people. AMEN*



**MATRIMONY,  
CONFIRMATION &  
FIRST COMMUNION!**

***Your Prayers Are Asked For Those Preparing For  
Matrimony, Confirmation and First Communion.***

The seven sacraments give us a door to God's grace. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "The sacraments are signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church by which the divine life (grace) is dispensed to us."

***Preparing for Matrimony:***

***Khadijah McNair and Yonte McCormick.***

***Preparing for Confirmation:***

***Charles Anthony, Damia Moore, Selah Smith,  
Abdur Taalib and Umaimah Taalib***

***Preparing for First Penance/Communion:***

***Heavenlee Curtis, Terral Lewis and Kennadi Martinez***

# 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 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](mailto: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.**

## **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 \*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](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).**