

**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**

***February 28, 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*
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**

**Second Sunday of Lent  
Preparing to Hear God's Word**

**Reading I:** Gen 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18~ God puts Abraham to the test.

**Responsorial:** Psalm 116 ~ I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

**Reading II:** Rom 8:31b-34 ~ If God is for us who can be against us?

**Gospel:** Mark 9:2-10 ~ Peter, James and John encounter God on the mountain of Transfiguration.

**Readings for Next Sunday**

**Exodus 20:1-17    1 Cor 1:22-25    John 2:13-25**

**DAILY MASS READINGS**

Monday:	Dan 9:4b-10	Luke 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20	Matt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20	Matt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10	Luke 16:19-31
Friday:	Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a	Matt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday:	Mic 7:14-15, 18-20	Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

**PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:**

Sunday	Abani Neferkara-Birthday In memory of Victoria Nicholas
Monday	Henry & Christine Lee-Anniversary
Tuesday	Health of Viola Barnes
Wednesday	In loving memory of Joe Elliott
Thursday	Connie Tardy-Birthday
Friday	In loving memory of LC Barnes
Saturday	In memory of Doris & Dcn. Martin-Prayer Gp Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones

**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 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, Audrey Caldwell, Francess Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Elizabeth Holmes, Bernard Jarvis, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Robert Robinson, Yolanda Rollins, Jean Stewart, Monei Williams, 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 Flocknotes.

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

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

*"One who is generous will prosper; the one who refreshes others will be refreshed as well" Proverbs 11:25*

**Dear Lord,** As we travel the highway of this life, give us a generous, compassionate and sympathetic spirit that compels us to lay our wealth on the altar of sacrifice for the sake of others whose needs greatly exceed ours, 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 \$2,210.00 and \$90.00 for Maintenance.*

*Faith Direct contributions will be posted at a later date.*

**Mass attendance this week:** 36 people were physically present in church, and 90 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 LENT**

The *Word Among Us* for Lent 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~**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**STM Family,**

Let me begin by reviewing where we have gone over the past couple of weeks as we began Lent and have observed Black History Month. Our focus has been on repentance, which means changing for the better in our relationships with God and each other. To make change happen, we might ask three questions each day:

- What have I learned today?
- How have I grown today?
- What am I going to do differently?

We use the word “repentance” for this positive change in life. It is derived from a Greek term—metanoia. Metanoia literally means to change directions, to turn around. This is why we follow these Lenten disciplines—prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These practices help us to unclutter our minds and spirits and to receive the blessings of Easter, the blessings of new life. Thus we grow closer to God and each other through these forty days.

So, let’s start this week with daily learning. What new things have I learned today from my reading, study and experiences? Have I been open to receiving something new and different? This will happen when some new thing or new idea is received and accepted. This changes our perspective so that we experience a new way of seeing things. And that’s the impact of God’s gift of grace in our lives right now.

When we see things in a new way, we will adopt a new and fresh attitude. And if your attitude is positive we can easily move on to the next step, a new behavior, where you will really appreciate God’s favor in your daily living. When you learn something new and you feel good about it, you begin to act differently. You begin to make different choices, take action, and develop a new lifestyle; and in this you change your world, and impact the larger world.

When we change we embrace new faith of God’s kingdom. This enables us to positively influence others by investing in this new and energizing vision, the GOSPEL, changing ourselves and the world around us. May we all learn a new thing over the next forty days of Lent.

***Be blessed and safe,  
Father Moore***

***BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY FACTS!***

***Did you know?***

***Black Catholic Chronology***

- 1565-** The establishment of St. Augustine in Florida by Spain, settlers both black and white.
- 1781-** The settlement of Los Angeles by blacks and Indigenous people from Mexico.
- 1829-** Elizabeth Lange and three other women began religious life in Baltimore as Oblate Sister of Providence.
- 1839-** Condemnation of slavery by Pope Gregory XVI.
- 1842-** Henriette Delille and Juliette Gaudin began the Sisters of the Holy Family in New Orleans.
- 1886-** Augustus Tolton ordained a priest in Rome.
- 1889-** First Black Catholic Congress in Washington, DC. Other congresses held in Cincinnati (1890), Philadelphia (1892), Chicago (1893), and Baltimore (1894).
- 1891-** Ordination of Charles Uncles, SSJ, in Baltimore. First black priest ordained in the US.  
Foundation of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament by St. Katherine Drexel.
- 1897-** Death of Father Augustus Tolton in Chicago.

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

*Father, we 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 one another regardless of skin color, ethnicity and national 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*

**SPECIAL THANKS FOR THE  
BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION!**

***Thanks to our Parish Action Committee and Sodality*** for sponsoring our Annual Black History Month Celebration. We are also most grateful for our many talented members who participated by sharing the wealth of their knowledge, musical talents and spoken word. It was a great event using Zoom technology.

## 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***

**(And items readily useful for those who are homeless.)**

***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!***

## 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).

### 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 \*196\* 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.***

### 2020 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS!

***Contribution Statements totaling \$100.00 or more were mailed January 21, 2021. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR STATEMENT IN THE U.S. MAIL, or have any other questions, PLEASE EMAIL PATTIE HAMILTON, [hamisings@msn.com](mailto:hamisings@msn.com), right away.***