

**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)**

**St. Thomas More Catholic Academy**

**Website: [stmhc.org](http://stmhc.org) Telephone: 202-561-1189**

## *May 23, 2021 ~ Pentecost Sunday*



### **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*

## PENTECOST SUNDAY

### Preparing to Hear God's Word

**Reading I:** Acts 2:1-11 ~ The disciples are filled with the Holy Spirit.

**Responsorial:** Psalm 104 ~ Lord, send out your spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

**Reading II:** 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 ~ There are many gifts in the one body of Christ.

**Gospel:** Jn 20:19-23 ~ Jesus appears to the disciples bestowing the peace of the Holy Spirit.

### Readings for Next Sunday

Deut 4:32-34, 39-40 Rom 8:14-17 Matt 28:16-20

### DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Gen 3:9-15, 20	John 19: 25-34
Tuesday:	Sir 35:1-12	Mark 10:28-31
Wednesday:	Sir 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17	Mark 10: 32-45
Thursday:	Sir 42: 15-25	Mark 10:46-52
Friday:	Sir 44:1, 9-13	Mark 11:11-26
Saturday:	Sir 51:12cd-20	Mark 11:27-33

### PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday	Gratitude for the Gift of the Holy Spirit
Monday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Tuesday	In prayerful memory of George Floyd In loving memory of Ronald Johnson
Wednesday	In loving memory of Fred Bockry
Thursday	Safekeeping of Our Youth
Friday	Peace in Our Community/Nation
Saturday	In loving memory of Sylvia P. Peterson-Birthday

### 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 Cory, 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 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, Marquel Poindexter, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Robert Robinson, Yolanda Rollins, Jean Stewart, John Travers, Jr., Monei Williams, our members who are on the road to recovery, sick, shut-in or grieving; and Pope Francis, Cardinal Gregory, Fr. Moore, Fr. Casimir, Ed Poindexter and Seminarian Jonathon Barahona

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH IS WISE STEWARDSHIP

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty may become rich. (2 Cor 8:9)

Gracious God, receive these gifts of tithes and offerings as expressions of our love, and multiply them for the cause of the gospel here and to the ends of the earth. We pray in Jesus' NAME.

*~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 \$4,468.00 and \$390.00 for Maintenance.

Faith Direct contributions will be reported at a later date.

**Mass attendance this week:** 57 people were physically present in church, and 89 joined live via YouTube.

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 through Faith Direct, our online giving platform that so many have been using over the past year. It is 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 Zoom Meeting ID is** 87377549190.  
**The password is** 548415.  
**Phone in number:** 301-715-8592.

### WORD AMONG US FOR MAY

The *Word Among Us for May* 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.

## ~PASTOR'S PEN~



### PENTECOST

STM Family,

Today we celebrate the great day of Pentecost—the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church. We recognize and honor the Holy Spirit—that awesome and wonderful gift of the Father that the Son and Savior Jesus promised so long ago. The great news for all of us is that this Holy Spirit, who appeared like wind and fire, is still active and at work today through us!

Our scriptures reveal to us that along with gifting the disciples with peace and with the breath of the Holy Spirit, Jesus also commissions them for mission: “As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” Following Jesus’s crucifixion, fear kept the disciples locked away, but now they are sent to no longer live motivated by self-preservation or success, but in the same way Jesus was sent by the Father—in complete vulnerability, as a sacrifice and a sign of God’s love and compassion for all the people of the world.

Throughout the seasons of Lent and Easter, we have been strengthened and fortified by our on-going conversion to the Lord through penance and prayer, and through our celebration of Jesus’s triumph over sin and death these last fifty days. Now, we, too, are sent forth to live in the world in a different way than we did before. We are alive with the breath of the Holy Spirit. We, too, are to use our different gifts and talents to proclaim the power of the Resurrection and bear witness to Christ’s forgiveness and peace in this world.

This is not an easy task. To be sent as Jesus was sent means to strip away all of the human armor and the personal baggage we carry as we work to protect ourselves. In St. Paul’s message (our second reading today) we are exhorted to renounce “hatreds, rivalry, jealousy, outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness, dissensions, factions of envy...and the like.” All of these are counter to the nonviolence of Christ who opened his arms on the cross in loving sacrifice and surrender. Today, on this great day of Pentecost, let us again open our hearts and minds to the Holy Spirit that we will be renewed and revived as we follow in Jesus’ footsteps, the same footsteps that led to the vulnerability of the cross and also the glory of the Resurrection.

Please pray the Pentecost Empowerment Prayer that we may bear the good fruit of the Holy Spirit today, and every day:

Loving Lord,

here I am, just as I am.

I trust that you have incredible plans for me.

So, transform me. Empower me. Use me!

Everything is on the table.

Take what you want to take.

And give what you want to give

so that I can live the life you envision for me.

I hold nothing back.

I am 100% available.

So, dear God, send your Holy Spirit upon me

that I may build your Kingdom in my words and work.

Through Christ our Lord. AMEN!

Happy Pentecost! ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Father Moore

### 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*

### **CATCHING UP ON SACRAMENTS**

Families are reminded of the importance of celebrating the sacraments. If your family has persons to be baptized, receive their First Holy Communion, Confirmation or Matrimony, *please contact Father Moore to register for the process of preparing for these important sacraments.*

### **~SODALITY ROSARY~**

Please join the STM Sodality, via Zoom, to pray the Rosary *each Wednesday at 11:00am.*

*Meeting ID: 88406894101,*

*Passcode: 879964, Phone in number: 301-715-8592*

## ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Now Enrolling for the 2021-22 School Year



Thanks to all who supported our school by  
purchasing a face mask.

For more information about our school, please  
**VISIT OUR BRAND NEW  
WEBSITE: [stmcd.org](http://stmcd.org)**

### GRADUATION RECOGNITION 2021

In keeping with our long-standing tradition, we will honor our graduates again this year! Please submit the names of your graduates by calling the rectory, 202-562-0431, so that they will be included in our program as we celebrate their accomplishments!

### \*FOOD PANTRY NEWS\*

Our Food Pantry is Open Each Friday  
Beginning at 11:30am.

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 starting at 11:30am. 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*

(Also, 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!!

We have begun our annual effort in supporting the good works of charity, education and evangelization provided by our Archdiocese. **Our theme this year is simple: Seeking Christ.** Even in this time of hardship and need we know that Jesus Christ is the one, true source of our healing, unity, and love. The past year has been particularly difficult on our neighborhood, the food desert that surrounds us. With the help of our partners, like Catholic Charities, our food pantry remains a vital source of nourishment and encouragement.

Our 2021 goal is \$33,900!

Thus far, our total pledges amount to \$16,800,  
or 49% of goal.

Through our collective efforts we can achieve our goal and support the ministries of feeding the hungry and providing quality Catholic education and faith formation for our children. **All Catholics in every parish will be asked to make a commitment to the 2021 Annual Appeal.** If you have not yet made a pledge, please join with the fifty-one other members of our church family and commit today. You may pledge using the self-addressed, postage paid pledge form, or on-line at [appeal.adw.org](http://appeal.adw.org).

*Thanks for your support of the Annual Appeal.*

*Together we will keep  
making a difference in our community!*

### COVID 19 PROCEDURES IN CHURCH

As more and more of us are vaccinated, more and more of us will be returning to Mass on Sunday morning. Here are the procedures that we have been practicing to ensure the health and safety of our church family:

- 1. Please DO NOT come to Mass if you have a fever or are not feeling well.**
- 2. Everyone must register by signing in at the door when you arrive.**
- 3. You will sanitize your hands as you enter.**
- 4. Face masks are required for everybody.**
- 5. The ushers will seat you, maintaining physical distance between you and others.**
- 6. Please follow ushers’ directions when receiving Holy Communion.**
- 7. When leaving the church at the end of Mass, ushers will direct you in exiting the church.**
- 8. Please maintain physical distancing in the back and outside of the church after Mass.**

### STM COMMUNITY CONNECTION MINISTRY!

*To assist our STM Church Family during these challenging 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)*

**Our continued THANKS to this dedicated ministry team!**