

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy

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E-mail: stmchurch@comcast.net Website: www.stthomasmoredc.org

St. Thomas More Catholic Academy

Website: stmhc.org Telephone: 202-561-1189

~July 18, 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 <i>Livestreamed on YouTube</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: On Summer Break

Bible Study: On Summer Break

**Due to Coronavirus Precautions*

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Jer 23:1-6 ~Amos is sent to prophesy to Israel.

Responsorial: Psalm 23~The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Reading II: Eph 2:13-18~Christ leads God's new people, the church.

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34~The Twelve are sent out two by two to continue Jesus' mission.

Readings for Next Sunday

2 Kgs 4:42-44 Eph 4:1-6 Jn 6:1-16

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Ex 14:5-18	Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday:	Ex 14:21—15:1	Mt 12:46-50
Wednesday:	Ex 16:1-5, 9-15	Mt 13:1-9
Thursday:	Sgs 3:1-4b	Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Friday:	Ex 20:1-17	Mt 13:18-23
Saturday:	Ex 24:3-8	Mt 13:24-30

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday	STM Ministers of Hospitality and Tech Team
Monday	Safekeeping of Our Youth
Tuesday	In loving memory of Orlando Witherspoon
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Peace In Our Communities/Nation
Friday	Pattie Hamilton-Birthday In loving memory of Lucille Rivas-Birthday
Saturday	Patricia Caldwell-Birthday In loving memory of Lu Hamilton-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 pray for 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, 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.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH IS WISE STEWARDSHIP

They gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own free will. (2 Cor 5:3)

God of grace, God of glory, help us understand that we are recipients of your mercy. What we are, your grace has made us. What we have, your providence has given us. And now do your gracious work also in others, through the gifts we bring today. 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 \$3,880.00, and \$215.00 for Maintenance.

Faith Direct contributions amounted to \$8,424.73.

Mass attendance this week:

80 people were physically present in church, and 68 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 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!

Thank you 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. 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

Mass continues to be Livestreamed on YouTube. The link is sent weekly via Flocknote.

BIBLE STUDY SUMMER BREAK

Our weekly Adult Bible Study will be on summer break until the fall.

WORD AMONG US FOR JULY/AUGUST

The **Word Among Us for July/August** is now available for you to pick up at the Sunday Mass, or at the rectory during the week.

Those who are attending Mass in the church **should bring their personal copy of Word Among Us with them** since we will have no other printed aids such as missalettes or hymnals.

~PASTOR'S PEN~



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

STM Family,

Let's reflect on these four questions as we consider the messages and meaning of our scriptures this week:

Through the prophet Jeremiah, God proclaims, "I will appoint shepherds for my flock who will shepherd them." *Think for a moment on who are those who have shepherded you well?* They can be pastors, teachers, parents, mentors or any others who have helped form you in your faith.

Today we are treated to the 23rd Psalm. Reading over these well-loved verses, *which verse calls out to you the most?*

In his letter to the Ephesians, St. Paul preaches all become one in Christ. *Where are there places of division in your life, and how might Jesus be calling you to work for reconciliation and unity?*

In St. Mark's Gospel, Jesus invites his disciples to "come away by yourselves and rest a while." *How are you taking time to reflect, relax and renew yourself, especially after the past 16 months of the pandemic?*

*Be Blessed, and Stay Safe,
Father Moore*

SECURITY ALERT!!

We have been asked to remind all of you to *be conscious of your surroundings as you return to Mass.* Make sure to secure your cars and valuables and to notice any suspicious activity. There has been a general increase in crime around churches as we attempt to return to some sense of normality.

Be careful and stay alert!!

Prayer to the Creator in Fratelli Tutti On Fraternity and Social Friendship

*Lord, Father of our human family,
You created all human beings equal in dignity:
Pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit
and inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter,
dialogue, justice and peace.
Move us to create healthier societies and a more dignified
world, a world without hunger, poverty, violence and war.
May our hearts be open
to all the peoples and nations of the earth.
May we recognize the goodness and beauty
that you have sown in each of us,
and thus forge bonds of unity, common projects,
and shared dreams. AMEN*

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS!



We are pleased to Congratulate our 2021 First Communicants and their families!

Heavenlee Curtis, Terral Lewis and Kennadi Martinez received their First Communion and First Confession on July 17, 2021.

We also are grateful to our Religious Education Team: *Ms. Wanda Brooks, Ms. Frances Hicks and Mrs. Nicole Garrison, and our parents.*

MATRIMONY & CONFIRMATION

Your Prayers Are Asked For Those Preparing For Matrimony and Confirmation

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*

2021 ANNUAL APPEAL

Each year our effort in supporting the good works of charity, education and evangelization provided by our Archdiocese gives hope to so many of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Our 2021 goal is \$33,900!

***As of today, our total pledges amount to
\$24,790.00, which is 73% of our goal.***

***Eighty-six of us have made pledges so far.
Thank you very much.***

Through our collective efforts we can achieve our goal and support the ministries of our church.

If you have not yet made a pledge, please consider pledging today.

You may use the self-addressed, postage paid pledge form, or go on-line at appeal.adw.org.

Thanks for your support, and together we will keep making a difference in our community.

ST. THOMAS MORE



CATHOLIC ACADEMY

*We are currently enrolling families
for the 2021-22 School Year
in grades prekindergarten through eighth.*

To better educate our scholars we are in the process of constructing an outdoor classroom space. This will also aid in our efforts to control water runoff and maintain a good natural environment.

Give your children the blessing of a good Catholic education here at St. Thomas More.

*For More Information On Our School
Visit Our Brand New Website: stmcd.org
School Office: 202-561-1189*

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!*

~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.*

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. You will sanitize your hands as you enter.*
- 3. Face masks are **REQUIRED** for everybody.*
- 4. The ushers will seat you, maintaining physical distance between you and others.*
- 5. Please follow ushers' directions when receiving Holy Communion.*
- 6. When leaving the church at the end of Mass, ushers will direct you in exiting the church.*
- 7. Please maintain physical distancing in the back and outside of the church after Mass.*

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!

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*