

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

St. Thomas More Catholic Academy

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

~August 1, 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*

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: *Ex 16:2-4, 12-14~ The Israelites are fed manna in the desert.*

Responsorial: *Psalm 78~ The Lord gave them Bread from Heaven.*

Reading II: *Eph 4:17, 20-24~ Put away the old self and put on the new self.*

Gospel: *John 6:24-35~ Jesus is calling the crowd to look beyond being filled with bread that perishes to an everlasting bread. Jesus is the Bread of Life.*

Readings for Next Sunday

1 Kgs 19:4-8 Eph 4:30--5:2 Jn 6:41-51

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Nm11:4b-15	Mt 14:13-21
Tuesday:	Nm12:1-13	Mt 14:22-36
Wednesday:	Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26a-29a, 34-35	Mt 15:21-28
Thursday:	Nm 20:1-13	Mt 16:12-23
Friday:	Dt 7:9-10, 13-14	2 Pt 1:16-19 Mk 9:2-10
Saturday:	Dt 6:4-13	Mt 17:14-20

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday	Health of Hortencia Herrera
Monday	Health of Leon Washington
Tuesday	Safekeeping of Our Youth/National Night Out
Wednesday	Desmond Bowser-Birthday
Thursday	Well-being of Audrey Caldwell
Friday	In memory of Doris & Dcn. Martin-Prayer Gp
Saturday	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 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 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, Hortencia Herrera (mother of Henry Herrera), Elizabeth Holmes, Bernard Jarvis, Marquel Poindexter, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Yolanda Rollins, Jean Stewart, Leon Washington (grandfather of Ignacio Washington), 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

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 \$4,458.00, and \$301.00 for Maintenance.

Faith Direct will be reported at a later time.

Mass attendance this week:

82 people were physically present in church, and 63 joined live on 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~

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

STM Family,

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." Come to Jesus and taste and see the goodness of the Lord. Unfortunately for many of us, we have been reluctant to come to Jesus—the Bread of Life. He shows up each Sunday at Mass. But some of our church family are still not ready to return to Sunday Mass. We can hear the word, we can sing his praises on livestream. BUT we cannot receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist in the virtual Mass. We have been averaging around 80 people in the sanctuary. The question that confronts us all is "when am I going to return to Mass and the Eucharist?"

Also consider these questions:

In our first reading (I Kings 19:4-8) Elijah tells God, "This is enough, O Lord!" In the life of faith, when have you struggled with despair and what gave you strength to continue on?" Maybe it was Jesus in the Eucharist. Today's responsorial psalm invites us to "taste and see the goodness of the Lord." What memories do you have of the first time you encountered the risen Lord in the Eucharist? In the second reading, St. Paul urges the Ephesians to "be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ." How do you strive to treat those who have harmed you with compassion and forgiveness? In the gospel Jesus quotes the prophets: "They shall all be taught by God." In the life of faith, how do you continue to be open to learning more and more?

Hopefully, you will find the courage to venture back to Church and the Eucharist. Also, prepare your hearts for our 32nd East of the River Revival on October 4th. Please pray the *Revival Prayer* every day as we anticipate our Annual Revival with Father Robert Boxie, chaplain at Howard University. The theme this year is "In The Midst of It All."

Be Blessed, and Stay Safe,

Father Moore

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

32nd EAST OF THE RIVER

REVIVAL PRAYER

Almighty and loving Father, we humbly pray that You will bless our revival with the powerful assistance of your Sweet Holy Spirit. Grant that our parish may respond to this time of grace and mercy through our theme

"In The Midst Of It All."

*Touch the hearts of our youth with the gentleness of your love and send your Spirit of Hope into their lives so that they may believe in themselves and know that they are **LOVED, VALUED, and NEEDED.***

Help us to put aside all things that crowd our lives so that we can schedule this time to come together as a praying and fasting Catholic Community. We ask for the grace to learn to live the simplicity that Jesus taught in our complex world.

Bless our revival priest, Father Robert Boxie, preacher and teacher. Prepare his heart with the message you have for us. Fill him with your Sweet Holy Spirit to help us to be transfigured in Christ. May Mary, our Mother, our model, and guide obtain from her divine Son, all that we need to make this a time of spiritual renewal.

This we ask of You, Father, Son and Sweet Holy Spirit who lives and reigns forever and ever.

AMEN

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.

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. *Please be careful and stay alert!!*

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: stmhc.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*