

**Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy**

**4275 Fourth Street, Southeast**

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**St. Thomas More Catholic Academy**

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

**~November 7, 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: Every Sunday after 10:00am Mass

Bible Study: Every Tuesday at 7:30pm, via Zoom

*\*Due to Coronavirus Precautions*

## **Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time** **Preparing to Hear God's Word**

**Reading I: 1 Kgs 17:10-16** ~God blesses the trust of the poor widow. The widow of Zarephath gives the last of what she has to the prophet Elijah.

**Responsorial: Psalm 146** ~Praise the Lord, my soul!

**Reading II: Heb 9:24-28** ~Christ offers the ultimate sacrifice.

**Gospel: Mk 12:38-44** ~The widow in the gospel gives all that she has. The widow in the gospel does not go unrewarded by God just as the widow in the gospel does not go unnoticed by Jesus.

### **Readings for Next Sunday**

**Dn 12:1-3    Heb 10:11-14, 18    Mk 12:32**

### **DAILY MASS READINGS**

Monday:	Wis 1:1-7	Luke 17:1-6
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12    1Cor 3:9c-11,16-17	Jn 2:13-22
Wednesday:	Wis 6:1-11	Luke 17:11-19
Thursday	Wis 7:22b-8:1	Luke 17:20-25
Friday:	Wis 13:1-9	Luke 17: 26-37
Saturday:	Wis 18:14-16, 19:6-9	Luke 18:1-8

### **PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:**

Sunday	In loving memory of Viola Barnes
Monday	Safekeeping of Salmon Patrick
Tuesday	Well-being of Audrey Caldwell
Wednesday	In loving memory of Lula Hamilton-35 yrs.
Thursday	In Honor/Memory of our US Veterans Daisy Ogene-Birthday
Friday	In loving memory of Andre Lyles
Saturday	Sharie B. Wood-Birthday

### **PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, 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, Nancy J. Evans, 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, Maximillion Holland, Elizabeth Holmes, Darryl Jackson, Dr. Jimmie Jackson, Leane Jean-Charles, Ivy John, 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, 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 pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of our longtime parishioner, **Viola Barnes**, and the consolation of her family.*

*Please pray for the safe protection and return home of **Salmon Patrick** and his Airlift Wing Command Unit of the U.S. Air Force deployed overseas.*

*Please pray for all victims of COVID-19, their families, caregivers, and our frontline workers. Your prayers are also requested for Shirley Adams, Marcus Bell (nephew of Suzanne Chandler), Blondinia Brown, Sheila D. Brown, Frank and Rita Brewer, Audrey Caldwell, Nancy J. Evans (sister of Blondinia Brown), Francess Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Gloria Greene Rodriguez (mother of Christina Tilghman), Hortencia Herrera (mother of Henry Herrera), Elizabeth Holmes, Christopher Holton, Sr., Bernard Jarvis, Alice Proctor & her sister, Sarah McCray, Marquel Poindexter, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Yolanda Rollins, Alena Russell, 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. Casimir and Ed Poindexter.***

## **STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

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

*Give and it will be given to you—a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.*

Dear Lord, even our best giving is small when compared to what you have given us. Yet we offer our tithes and gifts today, knowing that you will multiply them as you always have, and through them bless our church and those we serve. So, in Jesus name we give. Amen

### **~They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love~**

*Thanks for your loving commitment to your church family.*

**Tithes and offering that were received for *Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>* amounted to **\$5,681.00**, and **\$347.00** for the **Maintenance Fund.****

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

### **Mass attendance for last week:**

**103 people were physically present in church and over 57 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](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!****

**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](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**

Mass continues to be Livestreamed on YouTube.

The link is sent weekly via Flocknote.

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

**Adult Bible Study meets weekly on Zoom.** All are encouraged to join with us each Tuesday evening at 7:30.

**The link is 808 1208 607: Pass code 548415.**

### **ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP**

Our Adult Discussion Group meets on Sunday at 12noon via Zoom. Come enjoy fellowship and lively discussions.

**The Zoom link is 808 1208 607: Pass code 548415**

### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Many have not been to Confession in a long, long time. **Confessions will be offered on Sunday after the 10:00am Mass and on request at any convenient time.**

### **WORD AMONG US FOR NOVEMBER**

The **November** issue of the **Word Among Us** is available in the church and rectory.

## ~PASTOR'S PEN~

### *Thirty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time*

*Dear Church Family,*

The month of November has traditionally been a time of prayerful remembrance of the faithful departed. We began the month on November 1st as we observed All Saints Day. All Saints Day is particularly a special day honoring all the saints in heaven who have no special feast day—saints who are numbered among our ancestors and family members and friends. November 2nd is the day we call All Souls Day. On this special day we pray for all those who may be in purgatory, in preparation for admission to heaven.

Throughout this month we will commemorate all our own saints and souls by displaying the Book of Remembrance of the Dead in the sanctuary beside the Easter Candle. You are invited and encouraged to write the names of loved one who have died over the past year since last November. We are particularly aware and prayerful for all those who have died as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As we remember our beloved dearly departed, please reflect on these words written by St. Bernard of Clairvaux: The saints have no need of honor from us; neither does our devotion add the slightest thing to what is theirs. Clearly if we venerate their memory, it serves us, not them. But I tell you, when I think of them, I feel myself inflamed by a tremendous yearning.

Calling the saints to mind inspires, or rather arouses in us, above all else, a longing to enjoy their company, so desirable in itself. We long to share in the citizenship of heaven, to dwell with spirits of the blessed.

When we commemorate the saints, we are inflamed with another yearning: that Christ our life may also appear to us as he appeared to them and that we may one day share in his glory.

Let us throughout the month of November remember in our prayers all the faithful departed.

*In the Lord's peace and grace,  
Father Moore*

### THE CROSS AND THE LYNCHING TREE NOW AVAILABLE

Dr. James Cone's book, *The Cross and The Lynching Tree* makes the connections between the Cross of Jesus Christ and the lynchings that occurred in the United States. It is now available for just \$10.00. Pick up a copy after Mass from the ushers. It is a very enlightening and thought-provoking publication!

### Preparing For The Synod-Preparing for What?

You might ask, "what is a synod?" Pope Francis has called the whole Catholic Church throughout the world to a process of listening to one another called a synod. This process will begin shortly when every parish will hold listening sessions for its members. The results of the parish listening sessions will be shared at a listening session of the Archdiocese. All of the dioceses in the world will then submit a report to Pope Francis which will be discussed at a meeting of bishops in 2023. Each parish in our Archdiocese will be represented by two delegates. **Our parish delegates are Diana Brown and Clint Ray.** More information on the synod and your participation may be found in the Catholic Standard (available in the back of church) or by visiting the ADW website.



## WELCOME VISITORS!

*We warmly welcome our visitors to  
St. Thomas More Church.  
We invite all who are seeking a  
church home to join our STM Church family.*

### 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  
Umaimah Taalib*

### FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

After beginning our in-person instruction with Eucharistic Adoration and the Rosary, we will now turn our attention to the sacrament of Reconciliation and preparing for the birth of Jesus in the Advent season which will begin on November 28th. Parents are asked to take care to pray with their children, bless their children and encourage their children in the practice of our faith. Remember that formation in faith includes Sunday Mass, religious education and family practice and prayerful devotion.

### STM's "ADOPT-A-CHILD" GIVING TREE!!

This year of COVID has been an especially difficult one for families. The *STM Community Outreach Committee* thanks you for your past support which has enabled many children to receive gifts for Christmas.

*This year we have also identified 16 teens* whose younger siblings are being blessed with gifts.

*With your support, we are hoping to provide each of these 16 teens with a gift card totaling \$60.00.*

*An envelope for each of the 16 teens is available on the Giving Tree for you to select.* If you are able to help provide a gift card, either by yourself or in partnership with others, we would be most appreciative.

**Please note:** Instructions regarding how to return the gift card for the teen you "adopt" is provided in the envelope you select for your individual teen. ***God bless you for your generosity.***

***Questions or comments: Please contact Peggy Higgins, 240-375-0388.***

***OFFICE CLOSURE: The Church office will be closed on Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>--Veteran's Day Holiday.***

## ST. THOMAS MORE



### CATHOLIC ACADEMY

*We are currently enjoying the blessings of  
IN PERSON instruction for all our scholars.  
We extend a big thank you for your donations of  
school supplies.*

*For More Information On Our School*

*Visit Our Website: [stmdc.org](http://stmdc.org) School*

*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 weekly 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 are 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.*

*We are so thankful to our members who have donated over  
500 SHARE PACKAGES for the food pantry! Thank you!*

### ~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.*

### 2021 ANNUAL APPEAL!

This year’s appeal theme is “Seeking Christ.” In the words of our archbishop, Cardinal Gregory: “Together, nourished by the sacraments, we become Christ’s hands and feet, and with apostolic zeal reach out to all those suffering in body, mind, and spirit. This is the mission of the church: to be the ark upon which all are saved, the boat from which we cast our nets, and the lamp that draws in all who wander and are lost.” 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 \$29,541.00, which is  
87% of our goal! 114 of us have made pledges so far.*

*Thank you very much.*

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](http://appeal.adw.org).

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

### PLEASE SUPPORT THE MERRICK CENTER!

*We are blessed to have the Virginia Merrick Center in our community. Many of you worked diligently for its construction. Now you can help support the continued operation of the Merrick Center with your donations to the United Way’s “Combined Federal Campaign.” Pledge your support for the Center using Campaign #13745.*

### 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.*