

## 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

*~January 9, 2022~*



**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/Livestreamed on YouTube\*

Weekdays *No Daily Mass on site at this time\**

**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\**

**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*



**The Baptism of the Lord**  
**Preparing to Hear God's Word**

**Reading I: Is 42:1-4, 6-7** ~The Lord's servant will bring forth justice.

**Responsorial: Psalm 29** ~The Lord will bless his people with peace.

**Reading II: Acts 10:34-38** ~The word of God is fulfilled in Jesus.

**Gospel: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22** ~"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.

**Readings for Next Sunday**

**Is 62:1-5    1 Cor 12:4-11    Jn 2:1-11**

**DAILY MASS READINGS**

Monday:	1 Sam 1:1-8	Mark 1:14-20
Tuesday:	1 Sam 1:9-20	Mark 1:21-28
Wednesday:	1 Sam 3:1-10, 19-20	Mark 1:29-39
Thursday:	1 Sam 4:1-11	Mark 1:40-45
Friday:	1 Sam 8:4-7, 10-22a	Mark 2:1-12
Saturday:	1 Sam 9: 1-4, 17-19, 10:1	Mark 2:13-17

**PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:**

Sunday	Health of Cardinal Wilton Gregory
Monday	Family of Audrey Caldwell
Tuesday	Health of Margaret Spencer
Wednesday	Michael Russell-Birthday In loving memory of Mary V. Bush-Birthday
Thursday	Health of Alena Russell
Friday	Vanessa Davies-Birthday
Saturday	In memory of Dr. Martin L. King-Birthday

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

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Betty Beatty, Frank & Rita Brewer, Blondinia Brown, Shirley Brown, Francillia Browne, Cynthia Bruce, Felicia V. Bush, 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, Maximillon 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, **John Mercer**, 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 Sescoc, Ciara Shields, Brenda Smith, Margaret Spencer, Edsel Swann, Jane Thomas, Myra Thompson, 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 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, Nancy J. Evans & Myra Thompson (sister & niece 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, Charles Johnson (brother of Barbara Elliott), **John Mercer**, Marquel Poindexter, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Yolanda Rollins, Alena Russell, Margaret Spencer, 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 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 Offerings for**  
**Last Sunday, January 2, 2022,**  
**WILL APPEAR IN**  
**NEXT SUNDAY'S BULLETIN!**  
**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**

The sacrament of Reconciliation available by appointment. Please speak to Father Moore if you would like to take advantage of this important sacrament.

**WORD AMONG US FOR JANUARY**

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

**Great Resources Now Available To You!**

Please take advantage of these resources: Books-*The Cross and the Lynching Tree* (\$10.00), and *Life Is Messy* (Free). We also have the 2022 Josephite African American Calendar (Free).

**WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER!**

We want to extend a warm welcome to **Mia Nakia Wallace**, daughter of Shertia Clark and Tony Wallace, who was baptized last Sunday. Her proud grandparents are James and Charlene Clark. **Welcome, Mia Nakia!**

**~PASTOR'S PEN~**



***The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord***

***Dear Church Family,***

Today we conclude the Christmas season and celebrate the baptism of the Lord. We also focus on the fact that our life in Christ and in his body, the Church, begins in the waters of baptism that our Savior and Lord consecrated by his own baptism in the river Jordan by John the Baptist.

***Let's join together in the following prayer:***

Come to me, Lord Jesus-  
*Open unto me light for my darkness.*  
Come to me, Lord Jesus-  
*Open unto me courage for my fear.*  
Come to me, Lord Jesus-  
*Open unto me hope for my despair.*  
Come to me, Lord Jesus-  
*Open unto me peace for my turmoil.*  
Come to me, Lord Jesus-  
*Open unto me joy for my sorrow.*  
Come to me, Lord Jesus-  
*Open unto me strength for my weakness.*  
Come to me, Lord Jesus-  
*Open unto me wisdom for my confusion.*  
Come to me, Lord Jesus-  
*Open unto me forgiveness for my sins.*  
Come to me, Lord Jesus-  
*Open unto me tenderness for my toughness.*  
Come to me, Lord Jesus-  
*Open unto me love for my hates.*  
Come to me, Lord Jesus-  
*Open unto me thy self for myself.*

***Happy and blessed New Year.***

***Father Moore***

**FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION!**

Because of the spike in COVID 19 infections ***we are resuming virtual instruction for our children.*** For further information, please contact Ms. Wanda Brooks.

**WELCOME VISITORS!**



***We warmly welcome our visitors to  
St. Thomas More Church.***

***We invite all who are seeking church  
home to join our STM Church family.***

**~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***

**ST. THOMAS MORE TO HOST  
ANNUAL**

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING MASS!**

***Once again, we are honored to host the annual  
Mass in observance of the birth of Dr. King. The  
Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Roy Campbell  
on Saturday, January 22, 2022 at 5:00pm. Music  
will be provided by Archdiocesan Gospel Mass  
Choir. The program will begin at 4:30pm with  
praise and worship, followed by Mass at 5:00pm.  
All are invited to join in this great celebration.***

**MATRIMONY, CONFIRMATION  
AND 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***

***Umaimah Taalib***

**Preparing for First Communion and Penance:**

***Ariel Collins      Steven Collins      Brianna Hammons***

***Aiden Lewis      Karter Martin      Tylia Pilgrim***

## 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!*

## 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.*

### 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. Kindly REMEMBER to leave your mask on until you have received the Host in the palm of your hand. Step to the side, place the Host in your mouth, readjust your mask to cover your mouth and nose, and return to your pew.
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.

### 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.*