Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy 4275 Fourth Street, Southeast

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

> St. Thomas More Catholic Academy Website: stmdc.org **Telephone: 202-561-1189**

~ March 5, 2023 ~



Let The Eucharist Revive Us Again!

Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Raymond Moore, Pastor, x12 Installed Acolyte: Ed Poindexter

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. Denese Clay, Glorify Praise Team Director

Mrs. Barbara Elliott, Parish Council Chair

Finance Council: Tracey Jean-Charles, Damon Smith, Patricia Thomas

Livestreamed on YouTube

Saturday

Sunday

Mass Schedule:

Confession:

10:00am ~ Church

4:00pm ~ Rectory Chapel

After 10:00am Sunday Mass and by appointment.

Bulletin Deadline: Items for Sunday's Bulletin must be submitted via email by 10:00am 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.

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

Second Sunday of Lent Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Gn 12: 1-4a ~God's blessing and promise to Abram.

Responsorial: Ps 33: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Reading II: 2 Tim 1:8b-10 ~God gives us strength to live the Gospel.

Gospel: Mt 17:1-9~Jesus is transfigured on the mountain.

Readings for Next Sunday
Gn 12: 1-4a 2 Tim 1:8b-10 Mt 17:1-9

DAILY MASS READINGS

Dn 9:4b-10 Luke 6:36-38 Monday: Is 1:10, 16-20 Tuesday: Matt 23:1-12 Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20 Matt 20:17-28 Thursday: Jer 17:5-10 Luke 16:19-31 Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a Matt 21: 33-43, 45-46 Saturday: Mt 7:14-15, 18-20 Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday In loving memory of L.C. Barnes

Monday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones

Tuesday Health of Charles Travers
Wednesday Intentions of STM Prayer Group
Our Dedicated Volunteers and Donors
Friday In loving memory of Sherry Penny-1 yr.
Saturday In loving memory of Jim Curtis-1 yr.

In loving memory of Bernadette Waters-1 yr.

PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Frank & Rita Brewer, Blondinia Brown, Cynthia Bruce, Felicia V. Bush, Jane Cannon, Dixie Clark, Shertia Clark, 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, Zynae Green, Emmanuel Greene, Gloria Greene Rodriguez, William Gunn, Andre Harris, Margaret Harris, Vance Harris II, June Harrison, Shant'e Hawkins, Maximillon Holland, Darryl Jackson, Dr. Jimmie Jackson, Leane Jean-Charles, Ivy John, Phyllis & Harold Johnson, Sarah Jones, Seymour & Patrick Jones, David Larison, Dennis Lucas, Gloria & William McCaskill, Ed Miller, Betty Moeller, Dorothy Myrtle, Angela Neal, Tammy Peterson, Charles Queen, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Arthur Robinson, Leroy Robinson, Yolanda Rollins, Robin Sescoe, Ciara Shields, Brenda Smith, Margaret Spencer, Edsel Swann, Jane Thomas, Myra Thompson, Mary & Charles 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 of our Sick/Shut-In.

~ PRAYER REQUESTS ~

Please pray for PEACE in our world, all victims of violence, all impacted by COVID-19, our healthcare workers; and all who are caregivers for their aging parents/relatives.

Your continued prayers are requested for Shirley Adams, Marcus Bell, Sheila D. Brown, Frank and Rita Brewer, Nancy J. Evans & Myra Thompson (sister & niece of Blondinia Brown), Francess Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Christopher Holton, Sr., Felicia & Leo James, Marquel Poindexter, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Yolanda Rollins, Margaret Spencer, Charles Travers (brother of Renee Coles), Fr. Jordan Turano, O.P., 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!

"Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust corrupt, and where thieves do not break through, nor steal." (Matthew 6:20)

Gladly and with gracious hearts, we bring our offering before you this week. May they reflect the genuine gratitude that resides within us, and may they be used to declare our love for you and one another. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen

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

Thanks for your loving commitment to your church family.

Tithes and offerings for last week

amounted to \$3,986.00, and
\$119.00 for the Maintenance Fund.

Faith Direct offerings amounted to \$7,943.00

Mass Attendance

Saturday 4:00pm 10 in the Rectory Chapel

Sunday 10:00am **120** in Church;

160 Livestream Views on YouTube

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.

<u>Click on DONATE</u> and make your contribution by choosing <u>Enroll in Recurring E-giving or Make A One Time Gift Now.</u>

10:00AM SUNDAY MASS

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

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

All are invited to join our lively discussions on Zoom each Tuesday evening at 7:30.

The link is 808 1208 607: Pass code 548415.

ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP

Our Adult Discussion Group meets on Sundays, <u>1-2:30pm</u>, via Zoom. Come enjoy fellowship and lively discussions.

The Zoom link is 83463722487; Pass code 074454

~ PRAY THE ROSARY ~

St. Thomas More Sodality welcomes you to join us as we pray the Rosary:

<u>Tuesdays at Noon,</u> and <u>Thursdays at 11:00am.</u>

Dial-in: 605 313 5818. Access code 883049#.

WORD AMONG US FOR LENT

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

WEEKDAY MASS

Join us for *Weekday Mass this week* at 9:00am in the Rectory Chapel on Monday and Wednesday; and at 10:00am in the Church on Friday, with livestreaming on YouTube.

~PASTOR'S PEN~ Second Sunday of Lent

Church Family,

As we open our lives to the grace of repentance, renewal and reconciliation during these Forty Days of Lent, I want spend a little time with you on our theme for Lent 2023: "Let us Fast from retaliation and Feast on appreciation." I want to suggest a few practices:

- 1. Practice appreciation of God—his blessings in our lives, the healing and forgiveness we receive from Him. Make a list of five appreciations for what God is doing in, with, and through you.
- 2. Practice appreciation for the people in your life. Make a list of five appreciations for other people who fill your life with love
- 3. Practice appreciation of and for yourself. Make a list of five things in your life that you can appreciate about yourself. How do you share with family, friends and even strangers? How do I overcome the temptation to retaliate, get revenge or get even?

Don't forget to take advantage of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which is offered each Sunday before and after the 10:00 Mass.

With prayers and appreciation for your commitment to our church!

Father Moore

~ LENTEN GUIDELINES ~

The <u>Discipline</u> for fasting and abstinence were introduced by Pope Paul VI in 1966. Here is a breakdown of what the Church asks of us:

- -Fasting means eating a lesser amount of food. While fasting, only one full meal is taken. Two other smaller meals are usually eaten. While fasting, we do not snack between meals!!
- -Catholics who are 18 years of age and not yet 60 years old are asked to observe the fast days of the Church. There are only two days of fasting: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- -Abstinence means not eating any meat. Dairy products as well as fish and seafood may be eaten.
- -The church has established ASH WEDNESDAY and ALL THE FRIDAYS OF LENT AS DAYS OF ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT.

WE MUST FAST AGAIN ON GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7th.

FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE!

Our Family Religious Education Program has just completed our study of the six African American candidates for Sainthood. Our Confirmation Class took time to study these candidates and provided a wonderful presentation to the church family on their saintly lives.

Now we have begun our observance of Lent. We will have an opportunity to participate in the Stations of the Cross and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Thanks, and lots of appreciation to our Religious Educators, Youth Ministry Team, and our supportive parents.



WELCOME VISITORS!

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

LECTOR WORSHOP!

There will be a Lector Workshop on *Saturday, March 11*, from 10am-11:30am in the church. This workshop is for ALL Lectors and anyone who is interested in becoming a Lector. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Pamela Meredith at 202-677-9863, or pammeredith@hotmail.com

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Check out the mission, vision and timeline for the National Eucharistic Revival by going to www.eucharisticrevival.org. You will also be able to read more in future bulletins.

WEEKLY WORDS OF SAINTLY WISDOM

Our saint for this week is Saint Peter Chrysologus. He wrote:

"Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. So, if you pray, fast; if you fast, show mercy; if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others. If you do not close your ear to others, you open God's ear to yourself."

Pray for the Canonization of Our Six African American Candidates for Sainthood:

Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman Venerable Henriette DeLille Venerable Pierre Toussaint Servant of God Mother Mary Lange Venerable Augustus Tolton Servant of God Julia Greeley

<u>Prayer for Canonization Of</u> <u>Venerable Mother Henriette DeLille</u>

O good and gracious God, You called Henriette DeLille to give herself in service and in love to the slaves and the sick, to the orphan and aged, to the forgotten and the despised. Grant that inspired by her life, we might be renewed in heart and in mind. If it be Your will, may she one day be raised to the honor of sainthood. By her prayers, may we live in harmony and peace though Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

SPECIAL LENTEN SEVICES & PROGRAMS

Friday Stations of the Cross

In person in the Rectory Chapel at 2:00pm, and on Zoom (Link: 808 1208 607/Passcode: 548415)

Special Lenten Bible Study

On Zoom at 7:30pm (Link: 808 1208 607/Passcode: 548415)

Confessions

Sunday mornings before and after 10:00am Mass

ST. THOMAS MORE



CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Registration Has Begun for 2023-2024!

For More Information On Our School
Visit Our Website: stmdc.org
School Office: 202-561-1189
We thank you for your continued support!

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE Open <u>ALTERNATING FRIDAYS</u>



10:00am- Noon! ven well before the pandemic,

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

NOW OPEN ON ALTERNATING FRIDAYS! **Distribution time: 10am-Noon**

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.)

Again, thanks to our many members who have donated to the pantry throughout this pandemic.

SHARE INFORMATION

Value Package \$25.00

Please contact Flo Gantt for Registration info.

Please also consider making a monetary donation of \$25.00 to provide a SHARE Package to a family in need. If interested, please contact any member of our SHARE Team.

We are grateful to you for the <u>550+ SHARE PACKAGES</u> that have been purchased to support those we serve from our STM Food Pantry! Thank you!

2023 ANNUAL APPEAL

"Many Ministries, One Church"- This weekend our members are asked to prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2023 Annual Appeal. Please complete (or take home) a commitment form at Mass today- or make your gift at give.adw.org. Visit appeal.adw.org to learn more about how the Annual Appeal benefits our church and serves people in need throughout the archdiocese. Our 2023 goal is \$36,900. Many thanks to of you who have already made pledges supporting the Annual Appeal.

COVID 19 PROCEDURES IN CHURCH

As more and more of us are vaccinated, more and more of us have been 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 <u>DO NOT</u> 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 <u>REQUIRED</u> for everybody.
- 4. The ushers will seat you, maintaining physical distance between you and others.
- 5. Please follow ushers' directions when receiving Holy Communion. <u>Kindly REMEMBER to leave your mask on</u> until you have received the Host in the palm of your hand. <u>Step to the side, place the Host in your mouth</u>, readjust your mask to <u>cover your mouth</u> and nose, and return to your pew.

NOTES FOR TODAY