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: <u>stmdc.org</u> Telephone: 202-561-1189

April 2, 2023 ~ Palm Sunday



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

Mass Schedule:

Saturday 4:00pm ~ Rectory Chapel Sunday 10:00am ~ Church

Livestreamed on YouTube

Confession:

After 10:00am Sunday Mass and by appointment.

Bulletin Deadline: Items for Sunday's Bulletin must be <u>submitted via email by 10:00am Monday</u> 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

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion Preparing to Hear God's Word

Palm Sunday Procession: Mt 21:1-11

Reading I: Is 50:4-7~The true servant of God did not protect himself from death.

Responsorial: Psalm 22~My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Reading II: Phil 2:6-11~This is an early song of faith in Jesus who died and was raised.

Gospel: Mt 26:14-27:66~The passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Readings for Next Sunday

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Col 3:1-4 Jn 20:1-9

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday: Is 42:1-7 Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38 Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a Mt 26:14-25 Holy Thursday Mass: Ex: 12:1-8, 11-14 1 Cor 11:23-26

Jn 13:1-15

Good Friday Service: Is 52:13-53-53:12 Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Jn 18:1-19:42

Holy Saturday Vigil: Gn 1:1; 2:2 Ex 14:15--15:1 Is 55:1-11

Rom 6:3-11 Mt 28: 1:10

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday Health of Larry Owens

Monday Well-being of Yolanda Rollins
Tuesday In memory of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.
Wednesday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved
Thursday Fr. Moore and Fr. Casmir-Priests' Feast Day
Friday In memory of Audrey Caldwell, Doris & Dcn. Martin

Safekeeping of Our Youth

Saturday In loving memory of Bertha Tucker-Birthday

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 continue to pray for PEACE in our world, all victims of violence, all impacted by COVID-19, our healthcare workers; and all who serve as 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 \$4,368.00, and \$115.00 for the Maintenance Fund.

Faith Direct contributions totaled \$7,913.00.

Mass Attendance

Saturday 4:00pm 15 in the Rectory Chapel

Sunday 10:00am 139 in Church

200 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</u> or <u>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 EASTER

The *Word Among Us* for EASTER now is 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.



~PASTOR'S PEN~

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Church Family,

I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all of you, the St. Thomas More Family. These forty days of Lent have witnessed a phenomenal manifestation of God's grace and favor. Despite the challenges of costly repairs to the heating system in the church and the stove in the Cedar Room, we have stood united in faith and strong in our testimony to the Gospel. We have had an overwhelming response in donations to our food pantry that serves so many. The season has been one of extraordinary worship on Sunday morning—good music, preaching and praise and increase in membership with eight new adult members! Our livestream on YouTube continues to grow. Wow!

Let me thank especially our parish staff and ministry leaders, our choir and musicians, the ushers and liturgical ministers. Much credit is given to our parents and families who have reengaged in worship, religious education and youth ministry. And in the light of all our financial needs, stewardship in tithes and offerings continues to be very strong and support for the "fish fries" has been outstanding. I am confident that God will continue to bless St. Thomas More as we embrace a future of ministry, praise and service to the larger community. Again, thanks and sincere appreciation for all you do!

Have "Spirit-filled" Holy Week and a joy-filled Easter!!

Father Moore

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

The church has established Ash Wednesday and ALL Fridays of Lent as Days of Abstinence from meat.

<u>EVERYONE 18-60 YEARS OF AGE MUST ALSO</u>

<u>FAST ON GOOD FRIDAY, April 7th.</u>

2023 HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE



~April 2nd ~

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Mass at 10:00am.

Blessings of Palms and Reading of the Lord's Passion.

Confession before & after Mass.

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

<u>April 6th</u> ~ Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper and Washing of Feet at 7:00pm.

<u>April 7th</u> ~ Good Friday: Friday of the Lord's Passion Service at 7:00pm.

April 8th ~ Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil Mass at 6:00pm.

EASTER

April 9th ~ Easter Sunday Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at 10:00am.
(Livestreamed on YouTube)

~ HOLIDAY SCHEDULES ~

<u>Pastor's Bible Study</u> will be on break April 4th &11th <u>Religious Ed Classes</u> will not meet on Easter Sunday. <u>The Church Office</u> will be closed Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Monday.



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.

FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE!

Our Family Religious Education Program has 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.

We have now concluded our observance of Lent where we had an opportunity to participate in the Stations of the Cross and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Many thanks, and lots of appreciation to our Religious Educators, Youth Ministry Team, and our supportive parents.

<u>WEEKLY WORDS</u> OF SAINTLY WISDOM

Our saint for this week is Saint Teresa of Calcutta. She said:

"Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier."

<u>Pray for the Canonization of</u> <u>Our Six</u>

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>Servant of God Mother Mary Lange</u>

Almighty and Eternal God, You granted Mother Mary Lange extraordinary trust in Your providence. You endowed her with humility, courage, holiness, and an extraordinary sense of service to the poor and sick.

You enabled her to found the
Oblate Sisters of Providence and provide educational, social,
and spiritual ministry especially to the
African American community.

Mother Lange's love for all enabled her to see Christ in each person, and the pain of prejudice and racial hatred never blurred that vision. Deign to raise her to the highest honors of the altar in order that, through her intercession, more souls may come to a deeper understanding and more fervent love of You.

Heavenly Father, glorify Your heart
by granting also this favor
(mention your request here)
which we ask through the intercession of
Your faithful servant, Mother Mary Lange. AMEN

ST. THOMAS MORE



CATHOLIC ACADEMY

<u>Registration Has Begun for the</u> 2023-2024 School Year!

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 Open On ALTERNATING FRIDAYS 10:00am- Noon!

Even well before the pandemic, our community has been long recognized as a "food desert." With your help we have been able to continue assisting our neighbors.

We provide nutritious foods, including meats, fresh fruit, vegetables, eggs, and milk in our 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. 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,

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"- All parishioners 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. 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.

NOTES FOR TODAY

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