Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy 4275 Fourth Street, Southeast Weshington, D.C. 20032

Washington, D.C. 20032 Telephone: 202-562-0431

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

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

~ April 23, 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

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

Third Sunday of Easter



Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Acts 2:14, 22-33~St. Peter compares Jesus to King David in the Old Testament.

Responsorial: Ps 16: Lord, you will show us the path of life. **Reading II:** 1 Pet 1:17-21~We are ransomed from sin by the Blood of Christ shed on Calvary.

Gospel: Lk 24:13-35~The two disciples recounted how the risen Jesus was made known to them in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread.

Readings for Next Sunday

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 1 Pet 2:20b-25 Jn 10:1-10

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Acts 6:8-15	John 6:22-29
Tuesday:	1 Pet 5:5b-14	Mark 16:15-20
Wednesday:	Acts 8:1b-8	John 6:35-40
Thursday:	Acts 8:26-40	John 6:44-51
Friday:	Acts 9:1-20	John 6:52-59
Saturday:	Acts 9:31-42	John 6:60-69

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday Intentions of STM Parishioners Monday Franklin Makle-Birthday

In loving memory of Juanita Mercer-Birthday

Tuesday Henry Herrera-Birthday

Wednesday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones

Thursday In loving memory of Darren Holmes

Friday In loving memory of Catherine Taylor-Core

Saturday Safekeeping of Our Youth

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, Williams, Kobe M. Williams, David Wilson, Jean Wright, Marianne Young, and all of our Sick/Shut-in parishioners.

~ PRAYER REQUESTS ~

Please 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, Sheila D. Brown, Frank & Rita Brewer, Nancy J. Evans & Myra Thompson, Francess Davies, Priscilla Fuller, David Garner, Christopher Holton, Sr., Leo James, Larry Owens, Marquel Poindexter, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Yolanda Rollins, Margaret Spencer, Charles Travers, Fr. Jordan Turano, Monei Williams, William Wims, 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 Sunday amounted to \$3,500.00, and \$245.00 for the Maintenance Fund.

Faith Direct contributions amounted to \$5,833.00.

Mass Attendance

Saturday 4:00pm 11 in the Rectory Chapel

Sunday 10:00am 123 in Church

126 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; and at 10:00am in the Church on Friday, with livestreaming on YouTube.

~PASTOR'S PEN~ Third Sunday of Easter 2023

Church Family,

On this Third Sunday of Easter we accompany the two disciples who encounter the Risen Jesus on the Road to Emmaus. Like the other disciples, locked in that upper room on that first Easter evening, these two are overcome with their fears, doubts, and anxieties. They don't huddle and hide behind locked doors, these two just give up and leave town. On their way they meet a stranger whom they fail to recognize as the Risen Lord. In the upper room they recognize in his wounds. Along the way, these friends recognize him in the breaking of bread.

Please read what author John Shea reflects on this Emmaus revelation:

"The disciples come to understand that Jesus was always giving his life for others, as a person breaks bread and gives it to others as food. The Crucifixion was the ultimate example of this self-giving. To the last, he was always forgiving those who were abusing him: "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34) and offering salvation to the repentant criminal who was crucified with him: "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43). Therefore, on the human level, the cross is the violent taking of Jesus' life. But the spiritual truth that suffuses this violence is that Jesus is giving his life to anyone who will accept the offer. He never strayed from his mission. He was food for the life of the world-from Bethlehem, the House of Bread, in the feeding trough that was his crib to his feeding of the five thousand on the hillside in Galilee to the table fellowship he shared with the disciples at the Last Supper. The Lord is the Savior who feeds his flock in their suffering. Therefore the Cross and the Eucharist are fundamentally connected. If you get the Eucharist, you will get the Cross. If you get the Cross, you will get the Eucharist.

With God's Favor, Grace and Mercy we recognize the Risen Jesus in his wounds and the wounds of others. With God's Favor, Grace and Mercy we, too, can claim that we recognize Him in the breaking of the bread of the Eucharist we share together around this altar.

As we look forward to the great day of Pentecost on May 28th, let us all pray for the Lord's Favor, Grace and Mercy:

Loving Lord,

here I am, just as I am.

I trust that you have incredible plans for me.

So, transform me. Empower me. Use me!

Everything is on the table.

Take what you want to take.

And give what you want to give

so that I can live the life you envision for me.

I hold nothing back.

I am 100% available.

So, dear God, send your Holy Spirit upon me that I may build your Kingdom in my words and work.

Through Christ our Lord. AMEN!

Happy Easter!
Father Moore

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!!

We welcome to our church:

Victor Rolling, Mefodiy Kiselev, Joan Frederick, Alexis Gross, Dorothy Frederick, and Ebele Iyiegbu.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS

Preparing for Baptism:

Jayden Quick

Preparing for First Communion:

Ayan Connelley Brianna Doricent Amani-Rae Wright

Preparing for Confirmation:

Cameron Anthony Kameron Martin
Camille Anthony Adrian Otis-Coker
Ariel Collins Marquee Sherrell
Christian Dorcicent Habiba Taalib
Aurora Jarvis-Washington Sydney Weber
Isis Jarvis-Washington Tierra Tyer

Preparing for Matrimony:

Marc Ray and Shanice Ledbetter

FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE!

Our Family Religious Education and Youth Ministry Programs engaged in a very rich observance of Lent. We celebrated the sacrament of Reconciliation, prayed the Stations of the Cross, and, on Palm Sunday, each of our young people were presented with their own personal crucifix which will remind them of the great love God has for all his children in giving his only begotten Son as our Savior and Redeemer. Please keep in prayer our First Communicants who will receive Christ in the Holy Eucharist on June 11th during the 10:00am Mass.

WEEKLY WORDS OF SAINTLY WISDOM

Our saint for this week is St. Jane Frances de Chantel. She said this:

"Hold your eyes on God and leave the doing to Him. That is all the doing you have to worry about."

<u>Pray for the Canonization of Our Six</u> <u>African American Candidates for Sainthood:</u>

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

Prayer for Canonization of Sister Thea Bowman

Ever loving God, who by your infinite goodness inflamed the heart of your servant and religious,

Sister Thea Bowman,

with an ardent love for you and the people of God; a love expressed through her indomitable spirit, deep and abiding faith, dedicated teaching, exuberant singing and unwavering witness to the joy of the Gospel.

Her prophetic witness continues to inspire us to share the Good News with those whom we encounter;

most especially the poor, oppressed, and the marginalized. May
Sister Thea's life and legacy compel us
to walk together, and to remain together
as missionary disciples
ushering in the new evangelization

for the Church we love through Christ our Lord. 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, 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"- 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. <u>Kindly REMEMBER to leave your mask on until you have received the Host in the palm of your hand.</u>

 <u>Step to the side, place the Host in your mouth, readjust your mask to cover your mouth and nose, and return to your pew.</u>

NOTES FOR TODAY

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