Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy 4275 Fourth Street, Southeast

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

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

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

~ July 30, 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: On Summer Break Bible Study: On Summer Break

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: 1Kgs 3:5, 7-12~ Like Solomon we must ask God for wisdom. Wisdom is needed to make the choices in our daily living that enable us to live in the "kingdom of heaven."

Responsorial: Ps 119: Lord, I love your commands.

Reading II: Rom 8:28-30~ "All things work for good for those who love God"

Gospel: Mt 13:44-52~ Jesus offers more parables about the Kingdom of heaven.

Readings for Next Sunday

Dan 7:9-10, 13-14 2 Pet 1:16-19 Matt 17:1-9

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Ex 32:15-24, 30-34	Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday:	Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28	Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday:	Ex 34:29-35	Mt 13:44-46
Thursday:	Ex 40:16-21, 34-38	Mt 13:47-53
Friday:	Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37	Mt 13:54-58
Saturday:	Lv 25:1, 8-17	Mt 14:1-12

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday Felicia Proctor-(*Belated 60th Birthday-7/23!*)
Monday In loving memory of Monica Coates-Birthday

Tuesday National Night Out Participants

Wednesday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones

Thursday Intentions of STM Parishioners Friday Desmond Bowser-Birthday

In memory of Audrey Caldwell, Doris & Dcn. Martin

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, 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, Denzil Garvey, Rodney Hollins, Jr., Christopher Holton, Sr., Larry Owens, Marquel Poindexter, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Yolanda Rollins, Margaret Spencer, Mary & 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, 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~

Tithes and offerings for

 July 16th
 July 23rd

 Regular
 \$3,571.00
 \$5,853.00

 Maintenance
 \$46.00
 \$120.00

Faith Direct donations for July amounted to \$16,176.00.

Attendance

 4:00pm Saturday
 18
 12

 10:00am Sunday
 123
 123

 Livestream Views
 150
 117

Thank you for your loving commitment to your church family.

FAITH DIRECT eGIVING!!

Before you begin your vacations, travels, and other summer plans, please consider *eGiving* to ensure your support for our parish remains consistent even when you are away. Your recurring gifts will not only sustain our parish throughout the summer months, but you will also help reduce our costs for envelopes. Getting started with eGiving is easy.

Here are the ways to sign up:

--*Visit* //faith.direct/DC773 (St. Thomas More Church code.) --*Call* Faith Direct Customer Service at 866-507-8757 --*Text* "Enroll" to 202-866-5450

10:00AM SUNDAY MASS

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

ADULT BIBLE STUDY ON BREAK

Adult Bible Study is on break for the Summer.

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

The *Word Among Us* for July/August is available in the church and rectory.

WEEKDAY MASS

Join us for *Weekday Mass* at 9:00am in the Rectory Chapel on Monday and Wednesday.

~ HOMILY POINTS ~



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**How does God appear to you? In today's first reading, God comes to Solomon in a dream. Several biblical figures receive a calling or message from God while they sleep---prophets like Daniel and Samuel as well as Joseph, the father of Jesus. These appearances are certainly valid. Perhaps even some of you have encountered God in a dream.

**But this is not the only way in which God makes Godself known to us. Some people meet God in the daily praying of Scripture. Others encounter God while outside in nature or gathered around a table of dear friends. If you struggle to know how or where to encounter God, do not worry. You are in the right place. God is fully present each time we gather for Eucharist. In the bread, wine, and gathered assembly, God is here imparting wisdom and nourishment for our journeys.

** "The kingdom of heaven is like..." For the last few weeks, we have heard Jesus compare the kingdom of heaven to many things---a merchant searching for pearls, a net thrown into the sea, a person who sows seeds in good soil, and more. Jesus uses metaphors as a tool for teaching about God's ways that are beyond human understanding. God's kingdom cannot be distilled into one statement. God's kingdom is too vast, too mysterious to be fully known and explained. Jesus points us to familiar images with the hopes that we might come to know just a small sliver about the glory that awaits us.

(Living Liturgy)

May the Lord's peace and grace be with you!

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS

~Preparing for Baptism~

Chizaram Muolete Jayden Quick

~Preparing for Confirmation~

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

~Preparing for Matrimony~

Marc Ray and Shanice Ledbetter



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.

AFRICAN AMERICAN CANDIDATES FOR SAINTHOOD

Please 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 Pierre Toussaint</u>

Lord God, source of love and compassion, we praise and honor You for the virtuous and charitable life of our brother in Christ, Venerable Pierre Toussaint.

Inspired by the example of our Lord Jesus, Pierre worshipped You with love and served Your people with generosity. He attended Mass daily and responded to the practical and spiritual needs of friends and strangers, the rich and the poor, the sick and the homeless of 19th-century New York.

If it is Your will, let the name of Venerable Pierre Toussaint be officially raised to the rank of Saint, so that the world may know this Haitian New Yorker who refused to hate or be selfish but instead lived to the full commandments of heaven and the divine law of love—love for God and for neighbor.

By following his example and asking for his prayers, may we, too, be counted among the blessed in heaven.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

AMEN

ST. THOMAS MORE



CATHOLIC ACADEMY

<u>Registration Continues 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 UPDATE!

"Many Ministries, One Church."

Thanks to the generosity of 45 of our parish families, our parish currently stands at 58% of our 2023 Annual Appeal goal with pledges of \$21,232.00 committed as of this past week---toward our goal of \$36,900.

If you haven't yet made your gift, please prayerfully consider doing so today by visiting **give.adw.org.**

By donating today, you will support more than seventy ministries vital to the life of our Church.

Again, our 2023 goal is \$36,900!

Many thanks to those of you who have already made pledges supporting the Annual Appeal.

UPDATED COVID 19 PRECAUTIONS 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 we will maintain to ensure the continued 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 coverings are now optional.
- 4. Please receive Holy Communion in your hand.

NOTES FOR TODAY