

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
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E-mail: stmchurch@comcast.net Website: www.stthomasmoredc.org

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

~ September 3, 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 **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: On Summer Break
Bible Study: On Summer Break

Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time
Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Jer 20:7-9~Jeremiah suffered for his prophetic words and mission, and wanted to quit his call to be God's prophet, but God's word continued to be born within him, compelling him to speak again in God's name.

Responsorial: Psalm 63: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Reading II: Rom 12:1-2~We are called to live lives of sacrifice.

Gospel: Mt 16:21-27~Like the Master, Jesus, disciples will be tempted to quit their baptismal call in the face of the demands of dying to self. But then the promise of a share in Jesus' risen Life compels them to continue Jesus' saving mission.

Readings for Next Sunday

Ez 33:7-9 Rom 13:8-10 Mt 18:15-20

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	1 Thes 4:13-18	Luke 4:16-30
Tuesday:	1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11	Luke 4:31-37
Wednesday:	Col 1:1-8	Luke 4:38-44
Thursday:	Col 1:9-14	Luke 5:1-11
Friday:	Rom 8:28-30	Matt 1:11-16, 8-23
Saturday:	Col 1:21-23	Luke 6:1-5

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday	Health of Deacon Richard Walker
Monday	In loving memory of Mary Virginia Bush
Tuesday	In loving memory of Roland Caldwell-5 yrs.
Wednesday	Intentions of STM Prayer Group
Thursday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Friday	Safekeeping of Our Youth
Saturday	In loving memory of Norell James

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, Frances 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, Pete Muschette, Dorothy Myrtle, Angela Neal, Tammy Peterson, Charles Queen, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Arthur Robinson, Leroy Robinson, Yolanda Rollins, 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, William Wims, Kobe M. Williams, David Wilson, Jean Wright, Marianne Young, and all of our Sick/Shut-in parishioners.

~ PRAYER REQUESTS ~

Please pray for our sisters and brothers impacted by the devastating fires in Maui, and for PEACE in our world, all victims of violence, 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, Frances Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Denzil Garvey, Rodney Hollins, Jr., Christopher Holton, Sr., Pete Muschette (brother of Judy Kenner and George Muschette), Larry Owens, Marquel Poindexter, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Yolanda Rollins, Margaret Spencer, Mary 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 **last Sunday**
amounted to \$3,868.00, and

\$40.00 for the Maintenance Fund.

Faith Direct contributions amounted to \$14,861.89.

Mass Attendance

Saturday 4:00pm **17** in the Rectory Chapel

Sunday 10:00am **130** in Church

251 Livestream Views on YouTube

**Thank you for your loving commitment
to your church family.**

FAITH DIRECT eGIVING!!

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

**Adult Bible Study will begin meeting on Zoom on
Tuesday, September 19, 2023!**

All are invited to join our lively discussions.
The Zoom link will be provided at a later date.

~ PRAY THE ROSARY ~

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

Tuesdays at Noon, and Thursdays at 11:00am.

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

WORD AMONG US FOR SEPTEMBER

The Word Among Us for September
is now available in the church and rectory.

WEEKDAY MASS

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

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

**The office will be closed tomorrow, September 4th, for the
Labor Day Holiday. Enjoy... and please be safe!**

~ HOMILY POINTS ~

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

**The sacred Triduum celebrations are likely far from our thoughts as we glory in the joys of summer. The Easter baskets are tucked away in the attic. The palms lay discreetly on our mantels. Our shift of focus makes sense. It is Ordinary time after all—the church declares it so. And, yet, the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ anchors the Christian story year-round. We are always an Easter people, called each day to take up our crosses and follow Jesus. Today's gospel begins with the Triduum foreshadowing. Jesus knew the suffering, death and resurrection that awaited him. He kept these moments always before his eyes. Formed in Christ's image, we are called to do the same.

**In today's gospel, Peter displays the misdirected confidence that can be all too prevalent in faith circles. Jesus gives Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven and declares Peter the rock upon which he will build the church. In the very next passage, Peter takes matters into his own hands and rebukes Jesus. Peter thinks he has the authority to decide what Jesus should or should not do, who Jesus should or should not be.

**How often do we claim the same authority, declaring with mistaken confidence Jesus' intentions and actions that fit our image of the Lord? In reality, Jesus is far more radical than we may care to admit. He is far more loving, generous, and merciful than we might dare to imagine. Rather than rebuking Jesus, we are called to follow in his footsteps, to take up our crosses and find life in Christ.

(Living Liturgy)

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

ADULT FORMATION CLASS!

We are in the process of organizing a program of
Faith Formation for Adults
who would like to become Catholic.
For further information please contact
Father Moore (202-562-0431).

FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION!

Registration for Religious Education has begun!

Please see Ms. Wanda Brooks for details.
Instruction will begin on *September 17th*
following the 10:00am Mass.
Families **will not** be able to register on September 17th!

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS

~Preparing for Baptism~

Jayden Quick

~Preparing for Confirmation~

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

~Preparing for Matrimony~

Marc Ray and Shanice Ledbetter

~SPECIAL RECOGNITION~

MARCH ON WASHINGTON-60TH ANNIVERSARY

We recognize and thank *Suzanne Chandler, Sheila Dunn, and Audrey Plumber-Mayo* for contributing to the *Catholic Standard* article about this event this past week!

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

STM-PAC HOSTS SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

It's that time of year again for our *Annual Back-to-School Supplies Drive!* Once again, we would like each parishioner to donate TWO Backpacks Filled with School Supplies. (One for a girl/one for a boy, in grades Pre-K to 12!) *Donations are gratefully being accepted until Sept. 6th!* Please reach out to any Parish Action Committee member with questions and/or for more information.

Thank you for your support!!

UPDATE: PARISH AND FINANCE COUNCILS

Our Church Leadership Council consists of our Parish Council and our Finance Council. These two bodies advise the pastor regarding parish finances and decisions affecting all aspects of church ministry, services, and operations.

Beginning on September 10th, we will expand our Parish Council in an effort to better represent the various and diverse segments of our church family.

Joining Barbara Elliott (Chair), Frances Hicks (Secretary), James Bowman, Margaret Chambers, and Billy Hawkins are:

Margaret Butler, Gabriel Jean-Charles, Darren Coles, Renee Coles, George Hanna, Amber Lewis, Andrea McClendon, Charles McIntosh, Monia Smith and Aaron Young.

Serving on the Finance Council: Tracey Jean-Charles, Damon Smith, and Patricia Thomas. The Finance Council reviews monthly finance reports, and advises the pastor regarding income, spending and development.

*These councils will be formally installed at our
10:00am Mass on September 10, 2023.*

~SPECIAL EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER~

SWEET TREAT SUNDAY

Support our Bakers' Ministry while enjoying delicious baked goods prepared by our team of expert bakers *TODAY, September 3rd*, after the 10:00am Mass. Proceeds will benefit our fundraising to replace the church heating system.

PARISH APPRECIATION SUNDAY

In recognition and gratitude to our members for your strong support and commitment to our church we will have a *Fellowship Cookout* on *September 24th*, after the 10:00am Mass.



ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ACADEMY
EST. 1957
WASHINGTON, D.C.

We thank you for your continued support!



STM FOOD PANTRY!!
DISTRIBUTION HOURS:
2ND and 4TH FRIDAY
OF EACH MONTH...
10:00am- Noon

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.

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 550+ SHARE PACKAGES 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

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