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

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

## ~ September 10, 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

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

**Reading I:** Ez 33:7-9~Ezekiel is called to warn God's people. The prophet is appointed "watchman for the house of Israel." He is to call others to conversion and live rightly as members of God's chosen people.

Responsorial: Psalm 95: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Reading II: Rom 13:8-10~Christian lives are summarized in

Gospel: Mt 18:15-20~Jesus preaches the process of reconciliation in fellowship of the church.

> Readings for Next Sunday Sir 27:30—28:7 Rom 14:7-9 Mt 18:21-35

#### DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Col 1:24-2:3	Luke 6:6-11
Tuesday:	Col 2:6-15	Luke 6:12-19
Wednesday:	Col 3:1-11	Luke 6:20-26
Thursday:	Num 21:4b-9 Phil 2:6-11	John 3:13-17
Friday:	1 Tim 1:1-2, 12-14	Luke 2:33-35
Saturday:	1 Tim 1:15-17	Luke 6:43-49

#### PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday STM Pastoral and Finance Councils

Monday In Memorium: 9/11/2001

In loving memory of LaToya Garvey-Birthday Tuesday Wednesday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones

Thursday In loving memory of Margarita Perez

Friday Angie Burns-Birthday

Saturday Fr. Casmir Onyegwara-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, Pete Muschette, 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 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 the peaceful repose of Antoinette Williams, daughter of Yvonne and George Hanna and sister of Towanda Williams, and for the consolation of her family.

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, 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 vourselves 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 \$5,785.00, and \$2,358.00 for the Maintenance Fund.

Faith Direct contributions will be reported at a later date.

#### **Mass Attendance**

Saturday 4:00pm 15 in the Rectory Chapel

Sunday 10:00am 113 in Church

120 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, and on Fridays for the school Mass at 10:00am in the Church.

#### ~ HOMILY POINTS ~

#### Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

\*\*The actions we take today have ramifications for eternity. Today's gospel sets the stakes high. Jesus tells the disciples, "whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." This line, likely a later addition to the Matthean text, describes what is allowed and not allowed in church life. It also reminds us that church life—life lived alongside fellow believers in praise and glory of Christ—does not end when we take our final breaths. We are members of the Body of Christ for eternity. Our participation in the life of the church today matters.

\*\*Questions of church authority can be difficult to wrestle with, particularly for women and other people who rarely if ever see themselves represented in church leadership. Earlier in Matthew, Jesus grants Peter the authority to bind and loose the things of earth. Peter is the rock upon whom Jesus builds the church—and Catholics believe Peter's authority lives on through bishops.

\*\*It is certainly true that the men who assume the chair of Peter hold significant authority. And, in today's gospel, Jesus grants the authority to bind and loose to the church at large. He promises to be present with us always. Guided by Christ's presence, every member of the church is called to claim the authority bestowed by Christ at baptism and work to make the church ever more caring, forgiving and loving.

(Living Liturgy)

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

#### **ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS!**

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

#### **FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION!**

Please register for our

Family Religious Education Program today.

Please see Ms. Wanda Brooks for details.

Instruction will begin NEXT SUNDAY,

<u>SEPTEMBER 17<sup>th</sup></u>, following the 10:00am Mass. Families will not be able to register on September 17<sup>th</sup>!

## PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS

~Preparing for Baptism~ Jayden Quick

#### ~Preparing for Confirmation~

Cameron Anthony
Camille Anthony
Ariel Collins
Christian Doricent
Aurora Jarvis-Washington
Aumeron 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.

## INSTALLATION OF OUR PARISH AND FINANCE COUNCILS!

This morning we are pleased to formally install members of our parish pastoral council and finance council.

#### Serving on the Pastoral Council are:

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

#### They will be joined today by:

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.

We are grateful to the members of our Pastoral and Finance Councils for their commitment and dedication to serving our parish family.

#### ~SPECIAL RECOGNITION~ <u>MARCH ON WASHINGTON</u> 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Again, we recognize and extend thanks to *Suzanne Chandler*, *Sheila Dunn*, *and Audrey Plumber-Mayo* for their contributions to the *Catholic Standard* article about this significant event!

#### \*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 <u>September 24<sup>th</sup></u>, after the 10:00 am Mass.

## AFRICAN AMERICAN CANDIDATES FOR SAINTHOOD!

#### <u>Please 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

#### ST. THOMAS MORE



#### **CATHOLIC ACADEMY**

Our 2023-2024 School Year Is Now Underway!

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



# STM FOOD PANTRY!! DISTRIBUTION HOURS: 2<sup>ND</sup> and 4<sup>TH</sup> 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.

#### **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