

**Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy**  
**4275 Fourth Street, Southeast**  
**Washington, D.C. 20032**  
**Telephone: 202-562-0431**

**E-mail: [stmchurch@comcast.net](mailto:stmchurch@comcast.net) Website: [www.stthomasmoredc.org](http://www.stthomasmoredc.org)**

**St. Thomas More Catholic Academy**  
**Website: [stmcdc.org](http://stmcdc.org) Telephone: 202-561-1189**

*~ September 24, 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: Every Sunday after 10:00am Mass  
Bible Study: Every Tuesday at 7:30pm, via Zoom

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

**Reading I:** *Is 55:6-9 ~Seek God as God seeks us.*

**Responsorial:** *Ps 145: The Lord is near to all who call upon him, to all who call.*

**Reading II:** *Phil 1:20c-24, 27~St. Paul ponders his future in light of the Gospel.*

**Gospel:** *Mt 20:1-16a~Jesus is teaching us in the gospel parable that God is merciful and generous in calling us to salvation.*

**Readings for Next Sunday**

**Ez 18:25-28 Phil 2:1-11 Mt 21:28-32**

**DAILY MASS READINGS**

Monday:	Ezra 1:1-6	Luke 8:16-18
Tuesday:	Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20	Luke 8:19-21
Wednesday:	Ezra 9:5-9	Luke 9:1-6
Thursday:	Hag 1:1-8	Luke 9:7-9
Friday:	Rev 12:7-12ab	John 1:47-51
Saturday:	Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a	Luke 9:43b-45

**PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:**

Sunday	In memory of James Butler-Birthday
Monday	In memory of Sylvia Proctor-Peterson
Tuesday	In memory of "KiKi" Butler-Bates-Birthday
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Brianna Jean-Charles- 18 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
Friday	In loving memory of Ivy John
Saturday	Youth Revival Rally Participants & Leaders

**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, 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 the soul of Ivy John, mother of Alissa John, and her family's comfort.*

*Pray also 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., Erma Lewis (sister of Jeane Brown), 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. Casimir, Ed Poindexter.

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

**EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH  
IS WISE STEWARDSHIP!**

*And he said to them, "Render therefore unto Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and unto God the things that belong to God." (Luke 20:25)*

Heavenly Father, you have blessed us with inner peace and joy through the working of the Holy Spirit. You have bestowed on us an abundance of material goods. We now bring our offerings to you in response to your word and in gratitude for your favor. Bless our offerings today in the name of Jesus. AMEN

**~They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love~**

Tithes and offerings for last Sunday  
**amounted to \$4,147.00, and**

**\$210.00 for the Maintenance Fund.**

**Faith Direct contributions will be reported at a later date.**

**Mass Attendance**

Saturday 4:00pm **19** in the Rectory Chapel

Sunday 10:00am **138** in Church

**150** 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 if you are away. Your recurring gifts will not only sustain our parish, 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 meets on Zoom on**

**Tuesdays at 7:30pm.**

**The link is 808 1208 607: Pass code 548415.**

**All are invited to join our lively discussions.**

**~ 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 OCTOBER**

The Word Among Us for October  
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-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time***

\*\*Grapes grow riper and sweeter in the autumn days leading up to harvest. Many factors impact grape growth: air temperature, sun exposure, the health of other grapes in the cluster. Even the best laborers cannot plan the perfect picking day. Vineyards need workers who are nimble, attentive, and eager to embrace the unexpected—both when it comes to picking grapes and, as we see in today's gospel, in matters of money.

\*\*The first group of laborers in today's parable get stuck in binary thinking at payment time: either you work a full day and get paid the usual wage, or you work part of the day and get paid part of the usual wage, and the first group makes an assumption: If those who work part of the day get the full wage, then those of us who work the full day will get the full wage plus a bonus. This thinking seems fair.

\*\*But the landowner rebukes this reasoning—and through his actions, Jesus shows us once again: God is far too creative for binaries. God is far too mysterious for assumptions. Our God is a God of infinite possibilities, whose ways are high above the human ways to which we've grown accustomed. Our God cannot be tamed within the made-up constructs of in or out, worthy or unworthy, last or first. Our God is near to *all* who call upon the divine name in truth, no matter if we got to work at the crack of dawn or right before quitting time. Through the landowner, Jesus shows us a God eager to break down the binaries and assumptions through which we so often operate, and to build up the dignity of every person.

*(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  
**Faith Formation for Adults**  
who would like to become Catholic.  
For further information please contact  
Father Moore (202-562-0431).

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

### **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*

## **34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL EAST OF THE RIVER REVIVAL!!**

**October 2-4 at 7:00pm**

***“Hold on, Help is on the Way”***

***~Revivalist~***

***Father Anthony Bozeman, SSJ***

**Holy Family Catholic Church, Hillcrest Heights, MD**

***As we look forward to our revival, I want to share these seven steps to revival for your reflection:***

1. Develop the desire to know Jesus better. Develop a holy dissatisfaction.
2. Pray for a revolutionary change in your life.
3. Do what you know to do. If we pray for revival and neglect prayer, that's hypocrisy.
4. Totally repent. “Create in me a clean heart!” David sobbed. For a whole year David was out of fellowship. But he confessed his sin, he turned from that sin, and then he could sing again; he could write again; he could pray again.
5. Make the crooked way straight. If you owe a debt, pay it. If a relationship has gone wrong, make it right again.
6. Develop a seriousness of purpose. Stay away from detours. Let nothing deflect the magnetic needle of your calling. Don't let the devil rob you of your purpose.
7. Major in the majors! The Christian life requires specialists. Too many of us burn up too much energy without engaging in things that bring us closer to God. Refuse to rust out. Start sharing your faith. Make yourself available. Back your plans with your time and talent and dollars.

***We all can use a revival. We hold on, help is on the way.***

### **~2023 YOUTH RALLY~**

***Theme:***

***I Can Do Everything Through Him Who Gives Me Strength***

**Our Youth Rally will be held on**

**Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Holy Family Church, Hillcrest Heights, MD**

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Last Sunday we observed Catechetical Sunday, began our programs of Family Religious Education and Youth Ministry and ***commissioned the following dedicated team of catechists and youth ministers:***

***Wanda Brooks (Coordinator)***

***Vanessa Barnard, Frances Hicks, Christine Lee, Amber Lewis, Thomas Marconi, Clint Ray, Rochelle Ray, Vena Simmons, Damon Smith, Monia Smith, Ignacio Washington, and Barbara Deal (Secretary).***

### **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***



ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ACADEMY  
EST. 1967  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

*For More Information On Our School...and to  
keep abreast of our Scholars throughout the year,  
**Please Visit Our Website: [stmhc.org](http://stmhc.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 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](http://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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