Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy 4275 Fourth Street, Southeast

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

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

~ October 29, 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

Thirtieth Sunday In Ordinary Time Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Ex 22:20-26~ We are commanded to show compassion and love toward our neighbors.

Responsorial: Ps 18: I love you, Lord, my strength.

Reading II: 1 Thes 1:5c-10~ St. Paul encourages the Thessalonians to receive "the word with joy from the Holy Spirit."

Gospel: Mt 22:34-40~ The greatest commandment--love God and your neighbor as yourself.

Readings for Next Sunday
Mal 1:14b—2:2b, 8-10 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13 Mt 23:1-12

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday: Rom 8:12-17 Luke 13:10-17 Tuesday: Rom 8:18-25 Luke 13:18-21 Rev 7:2-4, 9-14 1 Jn 3:1-3 Mt 5:1-12a Wednesday: Thursday: Wis 3:1-9 Rom 6:3-9 Jn 6:37-40 Friday: Rom 9:1-5 Luke 14:1-6 Saturday: Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29 Luke 14:1, 7-11

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday In loving memory of Dorothy Barnes

In loving memory of Don Bertman

Monday Pamela Hamilton Neferkara-Birthday
Tuesday In loving memory of Mother Viola Barnes

In loving memory of Mother Viola Barnes
In loving memory of Kandeh Turay-Birthday

Wednesday Our African American Candidates for Sainthood Thursday In loving memory of Our Deceased Loved Ones Friday In memory of Audrey Caldwell, Doris & Dcn. Martin

Saturday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones

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, 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, 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 continue to pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of **Dorothy Barnes**, sister of Rena Meredith, and her family's peace and comfort.

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, Francess Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Denzil Garvey, Rodney Hollins, Jr., Christopher Holton, Sr., Erma Lewis, , Larry Owens, Marquel Poindexter, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Yolanda Rollins, Margaret Spencer, Jan Thelin, Mary Travers, Fr. Jordan Turano, Monei Williams, William Wims, Sharie Wood, 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!

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 \$3,824.00, and \$130.00 for the Maintenance Fund. Faith Direct donations totaled \$8,673.48.

Mass Attendance

Saturday 4:00pm 12 in the Rectory Chapel

Sunday 10:00am 143 in Church

181 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:

<u>Tuesdays at Noon</u>, and <u>Thursdays at 11:00am</u>. Dial-in: 605 313 5818. Access code 883049#.

WORD AMONG US FOR NOVEMBER

The Word Among Us for November 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 (10:00am this week), and on Fridays for the school Mass at 10:00am in the Church.

~ HOMILY POINTS ~

Thirtieth Sunday In Ordinary Time

*How are people of faith to act in the world? Today's set of readings offers clear practices by which to live. The first reading from Exodus tells people what not to do: do not oppress foreigners, do not wrong widows or orphans, do not extort neighbors in need. Knowing what practices to avoid helps build healthy boundaries. It's like putting up a fence—harmful practices stay on the outside. We are left with bountiful space inside the fence to do God's will. Today's gospel makes that crystal clear: first, love the Lord your God; second, love your neighbor as yourself.

*These are two of the most well-known commandments for people of faith, having first been part of Jewish law. By this point, we have a good idea of what is means to love our neighbors, even if we struggle to live it out at times. Concrete practices that show love for our neighbors include feeding those in need, visiting the sick and lonely, and advocating for just wages and good healthcare for all. The list goes on for ways we can love the people around us.

*But the first and greatest commandment to love God with the fullness of our beings may not be as obvious. What does it look like to love God, in God's great vastness and mystery? How do we love something that is always present and often hard to see? What would it feel like to give all our hearts, souls, and minds—the totality of our beings—over to the love of God? (*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).

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS

~Preparing for Confirmation~

Cameron Anthony
Camille Anthony
Ariel Collins
Christian Doricent
Aurora Jarvis-Washington
Aurora Tierra Tyer

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.

WELCOME DEACON KYLE SIMON

We will be blessed with the preaching presence of *Deacon Kyle Simon*, St. Joseph Parish, Largo, who has returned to be with us *TODAY*, *October 29th*. We welcome *Deacon Simon*, and look forward to hearing his good preaching.

FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Our program is off to a very great start thanks to the strong commitment of our families, catechists, and youth ministers.

A gentle reminder to our parents: As the first teachers of the faith, please make every effort to have the children here for Mass and Class on a WEEKLY and consistent basis. Every other week does not provide the level of understanding that we are hoping to provide for our young. We are grateful for your support and strong commitment to our program.

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

THE 2023 HAROLD AND ELIZABETH HOLMES MEMORIAL FOOD DRIVE!

The Holmes family invites our continued support of the beautiful legacy of the Holmes who were so generous and gracious in their loving service to others in the community and our church. Please donate groceries using the boxes located near the church doors.

ALL SAINTS DAY MASS ON NOVEMBER 1st

Mass for this <u>Holy Day of Obligation</u> will be at 10:00am in the Church. It will also be livestreamed on YouTube for your convenience.

ST. THOMAS MORE



CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Our 2023-2024 School Year Is Going Well!!

For More Information On Our School...and to keep abreast of our Scholars throughout the year,

Please Visit Our Website: stmdc.org School Office: 202-561-1189

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.

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 <u>58%</u> 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