# Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy 4275 Fourth Street, Southeast

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E-mail: <a href="mailto:stmchurch@comcast.net">stmchurch@comcast.net</a> Website: <a href="mailto:www.stthomasmoredc.org">www.stthomasmoredc.org</a>

St. Thomas More Catholic Academy Website: <a href="mailto:stmdc.org">stmdc.org</a> Telephone: 202-561-1189

# ~ November 26, 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

# Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17~I, myself, will look after and tend my sheep.

Responsorial: Ps 23: The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Reading II: 1 Cor 15, 20-26, 28~St. Paul proclaims Christ's death, resurrection and second coming.

Gospel: Mt. 25:31-46~We will be judged by the Lord for acts of mercy.

Readings for Next Sunday

Is 63:16B-17, 19b; 64:2-7 1 Cor 1:3-9 Mk 13:33-37

#### DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Dn 1:1-6, 8-20	Luke 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Dn 2:31-45	Luke 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28	Luke 21:12-19
Thursday	Rom 10:9-18	Matt 4:18-22
Friday:	Dn 7:2-14	Luke 21:29-33
Saturday:	Dn 7:15-27	Luke 21:34-36

#### **PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:**

Sunday Deidre Daniel-Birthday Monday Health of Adiata Bell Tuesday Health of Tanya Gaddie

In loving memory of Julie Robinson Wednesday

Thursday Margarine Neal-Birthday

In memory of Audrey Caldwell, Doris & Dcn. Martin Friday

In loving memory of Edith (Tee) Ellis

Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones Saturday

#### 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 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 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 loved ones.

Your continued prayers are requested for Shirley Adams, Adiata Bell, Sheila D. Brown, Frank & Rita Brewer, Francess Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Tanya Gaddie, Elma Garnett, 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 \$3,812.00 and \$131.00 for the Maintenance Fund. Faith Direct donations will be reported at a later date. Sweet Treat Sunday raised \$554.00!

### **Mass Attendance**

Saturday 4:00pm 18 in the Rectory Chapel

Sunday 10:00am 168 in Church

175 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 ADVENT

The Advent issue of the Word Among Us 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, and on Fridays for the school Mass at 10:00am in the Church.

### ~ HOMILY POINTS ~



\*We have come to the end of another liturgical year. Before we jump too far into the freshness of Advent, let us pause and take stock of this past year of Christian living. Where did we encounter Christ? When did we act as Christ for another? In what ways did we succeed—and fall short—in answering the Christian call? Today's gospel reminds us of our core Christian practices: feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, caring for the sick, and visiting the imprisoned. Each of these actions makes the love of Christ known in the world. As we reflect back on the past year, may God draw our awareness to the people and places that benefited from our Christian practices and the areas in which we can grow in the year ahead.

\*Today's gospel paints a vivid picture of the end times. Over the past few weeks, we have heard Jesus preach about the ways we are to live as we await the coming of God's kingdom. Matthew leaves little to the imagination in this final scene. When the Son of Man comes in glory, we will be judged by how we treated the poor and the marginalized—Christ in our midst.

\*Caring for our neighbors in need is challenging work. How easy it is to walk by the person asking for grocery money or to keep at arm's length the immigrant family new to town. Yet easy is not the Christian way. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we can do the hard work of loving our neighbors.

(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).

# PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS

#### ~Preparing for Confirmation~

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

### ~Special Message from Father Moore~ CHRIST THE KING PREPARING THE WAY FOR ADVENT...

Advent Begins Next Sunday- Next Sunday we will begin a new liturgical (church) year and the season of Advent. Advent is a period of preparation for the feast of Christmas. This year our Mass readings will be taken from Cycle B. The gospels will be from the evangelist, Mark. And God will call us through the Advent voices of Isaiah, King David, John the Baptist, Mary of Nazareth, Peter, and Paul. They will speak to us an urgent message that is both gentle and fierce. The Old Testament readings proclaim that we should hope for big things: for heavens split open by God's intervention in our history; for a world transformed where deserts blossom and rough places are made smooth; for the discovery of a genealogy that will make all humanity the sons and daughters of our messianic Ancestor—Christ the Lord. The second reading, from the apostolic letters, calls us to the Christian way that we, as disciples should follow in the "in-between time of the church and world as we wait for the end time. During these four weeks the church prepares to celebrate the first coming of Christ at Christmas, while we wait and watch for his coming again in glory. Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

# FAMILY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Our program is going well thanks to the strong commitment of our families, catechists, and youth ministers.

A gentle reminder to our parents: As the first teachers of

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

## 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: 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

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