Saint Thomas More Catholic Church & Academy

4275 Fourth Street, Southeast, Washington, DC 20032

Telephone: 202-562-0431

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

Saint Thomas More Catholic Academy Website: stmdc.org Telephone: 202-561-1189

June 1, 2025 – Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord



Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Raymond Moore, Pastor, x12 Ed Poindexter, Installed Acolyte Linda Clay Roberson, Pastoral Administrator, x11 Mary Waters, Office Assistant, x10 Barry Rhodes, Assistant to Pastor and Facilities

Director
Gerald Smith, Academy Principal

Wanda Brooks, Coordinator of Religious Education, x31

Henry Herrera, Gospel Choir Director Renee Coles, Parish Council Chair Finance Council: Tracey Jean-Charles, Damon

Smith, Patricia Thomas

Hope Dwells as the Desire and Expectation of Good Things to Come



WELCOME VISITORS!

We warmly welcome you to St. Thomas More Church! If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to join our parish family. We hope you worship with us again soon!

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, 4:00pm – Rectory Chapel

 $Sunday,\,10:00am-Church\ (also\ Livestreamed\ on\ YouTube$

and link is sent weekly via Flocknote)

Weekday Mass will resume in July.

SACRAMENTS

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.

Penance (Reconciliation, Confession): Sundays after the 10:00am Holy Mass and by appointment

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 Holy Mass

Adult Bible Study is on Summer Break and will resume in the Fall.

RE-Member The Church

If you have been away from the Church and are led by the Holy Spirit to come back to us, please consider our invitation to **"RE-MEMBER"** the Church. Call the Church office (202-562-0431) or speak to Father Moore for more details.

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#.



Sunday	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Luke 24:46-53
Monday	Acts 19:1-8; John 16:29-33
Tuesday	Memorial of Saint Charles Lwanga and
	Companions, Martyrs
	Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11a
Wednesday	Acts 20:28-38; John 17:11b-19
Thursday	Memorial of Saint Boniface, Bishop and
	Martyr
	Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; John 17:20-26
Friday	Acts 25:13b-21; John 21:15-19
Saturday	Pentecost Sunday - Vigil Mass
	Genesis 11:1-9; Romans 8:22-27; John 7:37-39
Sunday	Pentecost Sunday
	Acts 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13;
	John 20:19-23

~ HOMILY POINTS ~

- Jesus suffered, yet he is risen from the grave! He promises that what his followers have witnessed is true—that his suffering was endured for the sake of glory and eternal life. The power they have witnessed in the resurrection will come to the apostles, too. Yet they must wait in the safety of the city until it comes. In ancient times, cities were places of fortification, with walls for protection. The city would thus be a place of shelter for the apostles until the coming of the Spirit.
- Christ leaves his followers only after he promises the coming of God's power, a power that will send them beyond the city walls, that will compel them to leave without food, shelter, or a guarantee of protection. They will risk the missionary life for the sake of repentance, conversion, and baptism. How remarkable it is that his followers, who were once in hiding, are now instructed not to hide but to wait for the power of God that will compel them to risk everything.
- Jesus blesses his apostles before he departs. His blessing is both protection and promise; he assures them that they will endure until power from on high comes! For us, God's blessing is the same: sometimes God's grace sustains us where we are, sometimes we sense something coming that is better and greater, and sometimes we sense that God's power has come upon us in large measure. When it does, the grace of protection and sustenance often gives way to the riskier grace of being sent. Note that when God's power comes, it is always on the move. Jesus, full of resurrected power, goes up to heaven. The apostles, promised God's power soon, know that they will be sent out. God's work is never static! May it send us, too, for the gospel's work this day!

(Living Liturgy)

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

PRAYER BOWL

Prayer changes things! You are invited to place your written prayer intentions in the wooden prayer bowl. The intentions will be prominently positioned on the altar during each Mass.

PRAYER CORNER

Healing Prayer by St. Padre Pio

Heavenly Father, I thank you for loving me.
I thank you for sending your Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ, to the world to save and to set me
free.

I trust in your power and grace that sustain and restore me.

Loving Father,

touch me now with your healing hands, for I believe that your will is for me to be well in mind, body, soul and spirit.

Cover me with the most precious blood of your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ from the top of my head to the soles of my feet.

Cast anything that should not be in me.
Root out any unhealthy and abnormal cells.
Open any blocked arteries or veins and rebuild and replenish any damaged areas.

Remove all inflammation and cleanse any infection by the power of Jesus' precious blood.

Let the fire of your healing love pass through my entire body to heal and make new any diseased areas so that my body will function the way you created it to function.

Touch also my mind and my emotion, even the deepest recesses of my heart.

Saturate my entire being with your presence, love, joy and peace and draw me ever closer to you every moment of my life.

And Father, fill me with your Holy Spirit and empower me to do your works so that my life will bring glory and honour to your holy name.

I ask this in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SundayOur Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved OnesMondayKenneth Jones (nephew of Alice Proctor)TuesdayNahja Smith (mother of Damon Smith)WednesdayLiz Berry & Chereese Ray-Birthday

Thursday Father Raymond Moore

Friday Sharie and William Wood Anniversary

Nelson Davies-Birthday

In memory of Audrey Caldwell,

Doris & Dcn. Martin (First Friday Remembrance)

Saturday Our STM Confirmands

PLEASE KEEP THOSE PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS IN YOUR PRAYERS

~<u>Rite of Christian Initiation for Children</u>~ Ashanti Sedega Sarai Sedega

~<u>Preparing for Confirmation</u>~ Terral Lewis, Jr. Karter Martin Marleigh Campbell Tylia Pilgrim Damari Dozier Terrance Tyer

Ashwin Gordon

THANK YOU

Father Raymond Moore extends his heartfelt thanks for the many prayers, phone calls, and cards he received during his brief hospitalization. He is currently with his family and making good progress in his recovery and is looking forward to being reunited with his STM Family.

For the upcoming weeks, Cardinal Gregory, Father Casmir, Father Charles, and Father Peter have offered to be the celebrants for our Holy Mass while Father Moore is recuperating. (See the schedule below.)

Saturday, May 31, 4 pm – Father Casmir Sunday, June 1, 10 am – Father Charles Saturday, June 7, 4 pm – Father Peter Sunday, June 8, 10 am – Cardinal Gregory Saturday, June 14, 4 pm – Father Casmir Sunday, June 15, 10 am – Cardinal Gregory Saturday, June 21, 4 pm – Father Peter Sunday, June 22, 10 am – Father Peter Saturday, June 28, 4 pm – Father Peter Sunday, June 29, 10 am – Father Peter

Please Pray or Our Sick, Shut-In, And Those In Need:

Cardinal Gregory, Fr. Raymond Moore, Fr. Casmir, Ed Poindexter, Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Frank & Rita Brewer, Blondinia Brown, Sheila D. Brown, Cynthia Bruce, Felicia V. Bush, Jane Cannon, Margaret Chambers, Dixie Clark, Shertia Clark, Odessa Curtis, Damien Daniel, Barbara Deale, Barbara DeJesus, Eleanor Dozier, Renee Feliu, Diane Finley, Priscilla Fuller, Craig Fulmer, Betty Furr, Tanya Gaddie, Tasha Gant, David Garner, Tyrone Garrison, Denzil Garvey, Zynae Green, Emmanuel Greene, Gloria Greene Rodriguez, William Gunn, Andre Harris, Margaret Harris, Vance Harris II, June Harrison, Shant'e Hawkins, Maximillon Holland, Christopher Holton, Sr., Darryl Jackson, Dr. Jimmie Jackson, Leane Jean-Charles, Carolyn Johnson, Phyllis Johnson, Sarah Jones, Seymour & Patrick Jones, Barbara Kennedy, David Larison, Erma Lewis, Dennis Lucas, Gloria & William McCaskill, Herb Meredith, Beverly Miller, Dorothy Myrtle, Angela Neal, Mamie Outlaw, Tammy Peterson, Charles Queen, Yvonne Rhodes (mother of Barry Rhodes), Marion & Ruth Richardson, Arthur Robinson, Leroy Robinson, Yolanda Rollins, Robin Sescoe, Ciara Shields, Brenda Smith, Margaret Spencer, Edsel Swann, Jan Thelin, Jane Thomas, Antoinette (Toni) Torain, Mary Travers, Chandra Upsher-Harris, Kristine Vivican, Kayla Warren, Mary Waters, Paul Waters, Marilyn Denise Whetstone, Monei Williams, William Wims, Kobe M. Williams, Jane Willis, David Wilson, Gloria Wilson, Jean Wright, Marianne Young.

Please pray for the well-being of all impacted by changes within our U.S. Government, peace in our world, all victims of violence, all impacted by diseases, all healthcare workers and caregivers.

Please Pray For Our Recently Deceased And Their Families:

Kenneth Jones (nephew of Alice Proctor) Nahja Smith (mother of Damon Smith)

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.



To Our STM Scholars!!!

Kindergarten Class of 2025:

Abigail Anum-Addo; Christian Collins; Caleb Evans; Veniece Gross; Aurora Steptoe; Ava Studavent; Benji Thomas

8th Grade Class of 2025:

Ayomide Aluko; Noah Brawner; Jakco Byas, Ayden Courtney; Damari Dozier; Anthony Evans; Kingston Fansi; Carleo Foma; Jhazara Jordan; JaMarcus King; Kennedy King; Laila Leach; William Leak; Dermari Lee; Naeem McField-Leach; Genesis Owens; Hassanni Poe; Christopher Poole; Skye Stallings; Ciel Young



St. Thomas More Church Friday, June 6 Kindergarten Class: 10:00am 8th Grade Class: 1:00pm

ST. THOMAS MORE



CATHOLIC ACADEMY

We Are Currently Accepting Registrations for the 2025-2026 School Year!!

Catholic education has always been a strong pillar of faith and knowledge, especially in the African American community.

Parents are encouraged to check out our great Academy!

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

We thank you for your continued support!

CONGRATULATIONS!





Kaia Brittingham and Dalonte Brittingham received their First Holy Communion!!!

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Gracious and generous God, accept our offerings as tangible and visible evidence of our devotion and dedication to your church in service to your kingdom. Stir the hearts of your people to spiritual acts of worship as we offer others as well to your service, loving you and others in word and deed.

Tithes and offerings for last Sunday: In-church tithes and offerings totaled \$6,019.00, and the Maintenance Fund totaled \$335.00.

Mass Attendance

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

Sunday 10:00am 111 in Church

238 Livestream Views on YouTube

Thank you for your generous spirit of giving.



Update!

Our Cookout and Feast of St. Thomas More will be Sunday, June 22, the official feast day of our patron saint, Thomas More. Holy Mass will be at 10am and the cookout will start immediately after Mass! If you would like to contribute, we are accepting monetary donations to offset the cost of the food, which we will purchase in bulk. Please put your check or cash in an envelope marked COOKOUT, and drop it in the collection basket, or give it directly to George Hanna or Linda Roberson. Thank you in advance.

St. Thomas More is the patron saint of adopted children, civil servants, lawyers, politicians, stepparents, widowers.

SHARE INFORMATION

Value Package \$25.00

Please contact Flo Gantt for Registration info.

Please also consider making a monetary donation of <u>\$25.00</u> 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 600+ SHARE PACKAGES that have been purchased to support those we serve from our STM Food Pantry! Thank you!

STM FOOD PANTRY

NEXT DISTRIBUTION: June 13, 10am-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 meat, 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.

Thank you for your help!!

<u>NEEDED:</u> Non-perishable items such as Rice, Pasta, Dry Beans, Hot & Cold Cereal, Canned Goods such as Meat, Tuna, Beans, Soup, Vegetables, Fruits. (Also, items readily useful for those who are homeless are much appreciated.)

Thank you to our many generous members who donated to the pantry throughout the pandemic and have continued doing so!

Bulletin Deadline: Items for Sunday's Bulletin must be submitted via e-mail by 10:00am Monday. Thank you!

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