

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church & Academy

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Saint Thomas More Catholic Academy

Website: stmcdc.org Telephone: 202-561-1189

July 20, 2025

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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, Facilities Director

Harold Thomas, Academy Principal

Marcus Thompson, Academy Assistant 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, George Hanna

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)

Monday & Wednesday, 9:00am – Rectory Chapel

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: Tuesdays at Noon, and Thursdays at 11:00am.

Dial-in: 605 313 5818. Access code 883049#.

DAILY MASS READINGS

<i>Sunday</i>	Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Genesis 18:1-10a; Colossians 1:24-28; Luke 10:38-42
<i>Monday</i>	Exodus 14:5-18; Matthew 12:38-42
<i>Tuesday</i>	Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene Song of Songs 3:1-4b; John 20:1-2, 11-18
<i>Wednesday</i>	Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15; Matthew 13:1-9
<i>Thursday</i>	Exodus 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b; Matthew 13:10-17
<i>Friday</i>	Feast of Saint James, Apostle 2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Matthew 20:20-28
<i>Saturday</i>	Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary Exodus 24:3-8; Matthew 13:24-30
<i>Sunday</i>	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Genesis 18:20-32; Colossians 2:12-14; Luke 11:1-13

~ HOMILY POINTS ~

- Mary of Bethany is a model citizen in the gospel today. She sits at Jesus' feet as he says, "Mary has chosen the better part." But Mary's sister, Martha, seems to be struggling, burdened with much serving. She is anxious. She is worried. She is rebuked by Jesus. Or is she? Martha has had the courage to come to Jesus with her grievance, rather than holding on to frustration or even jealousy. Jesus responds to Martha with compassion—and yes, she needs help. But the help Martha needs is not with the dishes. Jesus invites her to place the most important thing first—and not to let the clutter of daily worries distract her from the one thing that matters.
- Paul assures the Colossians that everyone will receive wisdom, hearing the words of Christ Jesus. At the same time, everyone will receive admonishment, compelling them to transformation of their hearts with love of God and compassion for neighbor. Today's gospel, with Martha and Mary, presents both: Martha needs an infusion of wisdom, taking time to listen to Jesus, and Mary must recognize the struggles and anxieties of her sister. Both are Christ-like, and together they show us how to live the Christ-life not only in their perfection, but also in their failures.
- The Lord appears to Abraham, and Abraham, accustomed to meeting the Lord in unusual places, recognizes the Lord's presence in the three men who appear before him. He readily greets them with courtesy, invites them to rest, and quickly consults with Sarah to prepare a meal with bread of fine flour and a choice, tender steer. Abraham does not withhold anything from the Lord in his heart, his words, or his actions. Might we recognize the presence of the Lord in those we encounter? Might we offer the same hospitality to the stranger?

(Living Liturgy)

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

PRAYER CORNER

A Prayer for Peace

**Lord Jesus, You are our Prince of Peace
 and the Captain of our Storm.
 When our circumstances are overwhelming
 and You seem far away, we ask that You
 would remind us that Your presence is with us.**

Healing Prayer

**God, do not let my feelings overwhelm me.
 During moments of anguish,
 touch my heart with courage, my soul
 with your compassion
 and with your love to comfort me.
 Despite my pain, let me know healing is occurring.
 Let me hear often that you are always with me.
 God, today is different;
 I am faced with my many challenges.
 Help me know I am not powerless
 and that I am surviving.
 Give me hope for tomorrow.
 Let me believe in myself and allow others to comfort me.**

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

Fr. Raymond Moore, Ed Poindexter, 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, Damian 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, Vance Harris II, June Harrison, Shant'e Hawkins, Gilbert Herrera (brother of Henry Herrera), Maximillon Holland, Christopher Holton, Sr., Darryl Jackson, Dr. Jimmie Jackson, Leane Jean-Charles, Carolyn Johnson, Phyllis Johnson, Seymour & Patrick Jones, Barbara Kennedy, Esme Kosier (sister of Henry Herrera), David Larison, Erma Lewis, Dennis Lucas, Gloria & William McCaskill, Herb Meredith, Beverly Miller, Dorothy Myrtle, Angela Neal, Mamie Outlaw, Tammy Peterson, Charles Queen, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Arthur Robinson, Leroy Robinson, Yolanda Rollins, Robin Sescoc, Ciara Shields, Brenda Smith, Margaret Spencer, Edsel Swann, Jan Thelin, Jane Thomas, Antoinette (Toni) Torain, Mary Travers, Chandra Upsher-Harris, Kristine Vivican, Kayla Warren, Paul Waters, Marilyn Denise Whetstone, Monei Williams, William Wims, Kobe M. Williams, Jane Willis, David Wilson, Gloria Wilson, Jean Wright, Marianne Young.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday	In loving memory of Orlando Witherspoon
Monday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Tuesday	In loving memory of Leo James-Birthday
Wednesday	Pattie Hamilton- 70th Birthday Felicia Proctor-Birthday In loving memory of Lucille Rivas-Birthday
Thursday	Patricia Caldwell-Birthday In loving memory of Lula "Lu" Hamilton-Birthday
Friday	Intentions of STM Prayer Group
Saturday	In loving memory of Thomas Proctor

Please Pray For Our Recently Deceased And Their Families:

Shirley Adams

Sarah Jones

Helen Patricia (Wills) Washington

Margaret Harris

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



FUNERAL SERVICE for Sarah Jones

will be held at St. Thomas More Church on Thursday, July 24, with Visitation at 10:00am and Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00am.

PLEASE KEEP THOSE PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS IN YOUR PRAYERS

~Rite of Christian Initiation for Children~

Ashanti Sedegah Sarai Sedegah

~Preparing for Confirmation~

Terral Lewis, Jr. Karter Martin

Marleigh Campbell Tylia Pilgrim

Damari Dozier Terrance Tyer

Ashwin Gordon

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: stmhc.org

School Office: 202-561-1189

We thank you for your continued support!

STM FOOD PANTRY

NEXT DISTRIBUTION: Friday, July 25, 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.

NEEDED: 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!



The Hospitality Ministry of STM is welcoming new members!

The Ministry is particularly in need of male or female members of the parish who are able to be flexible and rearrange their schedules, with a week or two notice, to serve at funerals.

ATTIRE: blue or black pants/skirts, blue or black jackets, white tops/shirts, and blue or black necktie (for the gentlemen).

Please contact Bridget Govan (301-752-0401) or bjbj914@yahoo.com if you are willing and able to serve as a greeter and servant of God, in the spirit of His Son, Jesus.

Peace and Blessings, Bridget



A HUGE THANK YOU- Looking back on the past fiscal year, we want to thank those of you who anonymously financed the following major projects:

1. Replacing the church heating system: \$ 45,000.00
2. Rectory bathroom upgrade: \$ 27,500.00
3. Cedar Room Kitchen Hood Replacement: \$ 78,500.00 (project in progress)
4. Cedar Room Kitchen Stove: Project pending

All of these major projects were fully funded by member donations above and beyond tithes.

As we begin the 2026 fiscal year, we have already been blessed by two large special donations: \$ 6,000 and \$ 7,500.

Thank you again – With love from Father Moore

The East of the River Revival '25 IS COMING!

This year's revival, "Reviving the Flame of Hope," will take place at Mt. Calvary Church from Oct. 6th to 8th. Our revivalists are Deacon Kyle Simon, Sister Dr. Oralisa Martin and Deacon Keith Somerville. So, save the date and pray for the Lord's grace and favor.

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 600+ SHARE PACKAGES that have been purchased to support those we serve from our STM Food Pantry! Thank you!

