

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church & Academy

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Website: www.stthomasmoredc.org

Saint Thomas More Catholic Academy

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

July 27, 2025

Seventeenth 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>	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Genesis 18:20-32; Colossians 2:12-14; Luke 11:1-13
<i>Monday</i>	Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34; Matthew 13:31-35
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus</i> Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; John 11:19-27
<i>Wednesday</i>	Exodus 34:29-35; Matthew 13:44-46
<i>Thursday</i>	Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38; Matthew 13:47-53
<i>Friday</i>	Memorial of Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Matthew 13:54-58
<i>Saturday</i>	Leviticus 25:1, 8-17; Matthew 14:1-12
<i>Sunday</i>	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21

~ HOMILY POINTS ~

- Abraham has no fear in his conversation with the Lord. Abraham petitions the Lord not once, twice, or even three times—but *six* times. How willing are we to cast our requests before God? If we ask at first and do not receive, do we try again? Do we keep knocking? Keep praying? Keep our faith? Abraham had such faith in the Lord. He Knew he could ask again (and again) for mercy and have his prayer answered. What about us?
- Jesus meets his disciples' request, "teach us to pray," with a pair of responses. First, Jesus teaches them the pattern of praise and petition that we now know as the "Our Father." Second, he tells them that our praise (and our petitions) must be *persistent*—that we must seek the Lord always in prayer. This does not mean that all our wishes will magically come true. God does not work in wishes. God works in guidance and in the Spirit, granting fortitude in challenges, hope in disappointments, and delight in our thanksgiving. Let us pray always, and pair our gratitude and praise with our needs and hopes.
- Jesus brings us into new relationship with God the Father. Whether as infants who come to know our faith more gradually as we mature, or as young people and adults who have received the rites of Christian Initiation, in baptism, we are buried with Christ and raised with him in new life. Our new life is marked by the Holy Spirit, who brings us adoption as sons and daughters of God. Because of our baptism, we are able to say "Our Father," when we speak to God. This is not an abstract father, a distant father, or an imaginary one—he is our own, and cares for us unceasingly with an abundance of grace and mercy.

(Living Liturgy)

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

PRAYER CORNER

Prayer for Peace: Pope St John Paul II

Hear my voice, for it is the voice of the victims of all wars and violence among individuals and nations.

Hear my voice, for it is the voice of all children who suffer and will suffer when people put their faith in weapons and war.

Hear my voice when I beg You to install into the hearts of all human beings the wisdom of peace, the strength of justice, and the joy of fellowship.

Hear my voice, for I speak for the multitudes in every country and in every period of history who do not want war and are ready to walk the road of peace.

Hear my voice and grant insight and strength so that we may always respond to hatred with love, to injustice with total dedication to justice, to need with the sharing of self, to war with peace.

O God, hear my voice and grant unto the world Your everlasting peace. *Amen.*

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

Fr. Raymond Moore, Ed Poindexter, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Frank & Reta 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, Esmey Kosier (sister of Henry Herrera), David Larison, Erma Lewis, Dennis Lucas, Ronald McCants (son of Houston & Linda Roberson), 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.

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 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

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Monday People of Ghana experiencing food insecurity and malnutrition
Tuesday St. Thomas More Catholic Academy
Wednesday In loving memory of Monica Coates-Birthday
Thursday Starving people in Gaza facing possible famine
Friday In memory of Audrey Caldwell, Doris & Deacon Martin
Saturday Safekeeping of Our Youth

Please Pray For Our Recently Deceased And Their Families:

*Shirley Adams
Sarah Jones
Helen Patricia (Wills) Washington
Margaret Harris
Rita Johnson (niece of Myrtle Daniel)*

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

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: stmcd.org

School Office: 202-561-1189

We thank you for your continued support!



***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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

THANK YOU FATHER PETER-

We extend our love and heartfelt thanks to Father Peter Chineke as he returns to pastor the parish of Saint Jude Catholic Church --

*633 South Walnut Street
Rochester, Illinois 62563*

You are always welcome here at STM.

(St. Jude livestreams their Sunday Mass.)

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.



Religious Education News

Religious Education is on summer break. Classes will resume on **Sunday, September 21, 2025**, after the 10 o'clock Mass. We appreciate the support of Father Moore, our parents and parishioners. Special thanks go to some members of Our Lady's Sodality for donating art supplies, devotional materials and gifts for the catechists and educators in the academy.

Registration for the 2025-2026 school year will take place after the 10 o'clock Mass on August 24th, September 7th, and September 14th.

STM Catechists participated in a "Boot Camp" workshop, offered by the ADW, to begin preparing for the 2025-2026 school year. We are looking forward to continuing to support families in the faith formation of their children.

Parents, please be mindful of the fact that ***we are required to provide at least 32 sessions of instruction each year***, and try not to enroll your children in activities that require their presence on Sunday mornings. Classes only last an hour. Continuity in instruction is better achieved with consistent attendance. We lose instructional time when we have to continuously restart lessons due to absenteeism.

We hope everyone continues to enjoy summer, and look forward to seeing you in September!

**The Religious Education Team of
Saint Thomas More Catholic Church**

