

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: stmhc.org Telephone: 202-561-1189

August 3, 2025

Eighteenth 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>	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21
<i>Monday</i>	Memorial of Saint John Vianney, Priest Numbers 11:4b-15; Matthew 14:13-21
<i>Tuesday</i>	Numbers 12:1-13; Matthew 14:22-36
<i>Wednesday</i>	Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Luke 9:28b-36
<i>Thursday</i>	Numbers 20:1-13; Matthew 16:13-23
<i>Friday</i>	Memorial of Saint Dominic, Priest Deuteronomy 4:32-40; Matthew 16:24-28
<i>Saturday</i>	Deuteronomy 6:4-13; Matthew 17:14-20
<i>Sunday</i>	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Wisdom 18:6-9; Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19; Luke 12:32-48

~ HOMILY POINTS ~

• Our reading from Ecclesiastes tells us that all things—our knowledge, our labor, our money, or anything that occupies our mind day and night—are vanities. “Vanities” does not refer to “being vain,” but rather things that are *done* “in vain”—activities which are futile, or worthless. The Hebrew word behind this English translation reveals more: vanity means “steam” or “vapor,” literally, nothing but mist. Yet, we should not feel that all life is meaningless. Rather, we must put our lives in right perspective: God is greater than any thing, idea, or object we can possess. Vanities of vanities may distract us, but God is all in all.

• If we are consumed with the things of this world, we will fundamentally be disappointed. Things of this world will die. They will crumble. They will fade. And so will we. We ask God instead to teach us to number our days aright: we must ask not for our fill of possessions but of kindness! Filled with the kindness of the Lord, we might be joyful. What a difference our fragile world would feel if true joy were shared in our daily lives—not simply competition, pride, or vanity.

• We take comfort in luxuries of resting, eating, drinking, and being merry. Everything we see in our consumer-conscious world tells us that we should seek such a life. But we die tomorrow. This tomorrow may not be the next day—it may be years or even decades from this moment. But for God, a thousand years are but a day in his sight. Our life on earth is so fragile and so fast; we have no time to be consumed by greed and jealousy. We have time only to love with generosity, to seek God’s wisdom, and to spend our time storing up relationships of solidarity and peace.

(Living Liturgy) May the Lord’s peace and grace be with you!

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.

PRAYER CORNER

Pope Francis’ Prayer For Immigrants

Merciful God, we pray to you for all the men, women and children who have died after leaving their homelands in search of a better life. Though many of their graves bear no name, to you each one is known, loved and cherished.

May we never forget them, but honor their sacrifice with deeds more than words. We entrust to you all those who have made this journey, enduring fear, uncertainty and humiliation, in order to reach a place of safety and hope. Just as you never abandoned your Son as he was brought to a safe place by Mary and Joseph, so now be close to these, your sons and daughters, through our tenderness and protection. In caring for them may we seek a world where none are forced to leave their home and where all can live in freedom, dignity and peace.

Merciful God and Father of all, wake us from the slumber of indifference, open our eyes to their suffering, and free us from the insensitivity born of worldly comfort and self-centeredness. Inspire us, as nations, communities and individuals, to see that those who come to our shores are our brothers and sisters.

May we share with them the blessings we have received from your hand, and recognize that together, as one human family, we are all migrants, journeying in hope to you, our true home, where every tear will be wiped away, where we will be at peace and safe in your embrace.

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 repose of the soul of Renard Steele and the peace and comfort of his family.

-- With love from Patricia Caldwell



Mrs. Nellie Hadley, sister of Dr. Jimmie Jackson, maternal aunt of Chandrai Jackson-Saunders, passed on July 25, 2025.

Funeral Services will be held in Savannah, GA. The family asks for your prayers during this difficult time.

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.

PLEASE KEEP THOSE PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS IN YOUR PRAYERS

*~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!

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Tithes and offerings for last Sunday:
In-church tithes and offerings totaled \$2,112.00, and a special donation of \$6,089.09.

Mass Attendance

Saturday 4:00pm **22** in the Rectory Chapel
Sunday 10:00am **111** in Church
175 Livestream Views on YouTube

Thank you for your generous spirit of giving.

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



Congratulations
to
Ashanti and Sarai Sedegah
on receiving your
First Holy Communion.
Our best wishes to you on such an important event. We are so proud of you!



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

