

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church & Academy

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Saint Thomas More Catholic Academy

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

August 24, 2025

Twenty-first 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>	Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 66:18-21; Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13; Luke 13:22-30
<i>Monday</i>	1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10; Matthew 23:13-22
<i>Tuesday</i>	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 23:23-26
<i>Wednesday</i>	Memorial of Saint Monica 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:27-32
<i>Thursday</i>	Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13; Matthew 24:42-51
<i>Friday</i>	Memorial of the Passion of Saint John the Baptist 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Mark 6:17-29
<i>Saturday</i>	1 Thessalonians 4:9-11; Matthew 25:14-30
<i>Sunday</i>	Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a; Luke 14:1, 7-14

~ HOMILY POINTS ~

- Luke's Gospel tells us that Jesus was a poor itinerant. He travelled from place to place on foot, with little in tow. Yet, he brought wisdom and healing to his stops. At one place, he is asked if salvation would come to many, and Jesus answers that not all, perhaps even not many, would be able to be saved. His answer is challenging, perhaps even jarring. But, he calls us to take seriously spiritual striving, works of love, and daily prayer.
- The question of salvation is itself telling: Jesus and his followers represent a school of Judaism that believed in an afterlife, whereas salvation was not as clear of a goal in other systems of Jewish thought. For Jesus, salvation is part of God's revelation; salvation presents both motivation and caution for a Christian. We want to live our lives with God eternally, yet we also must take care to use our lifetime well for God's service, to build up God's community, and to seek God in all.
- There is one further caution when it comes to salvation: Jesus assures us that we are not the Judge. God will look at some of us and tell us that he does not know where we are from. For others, perhaps those we do not know or expect, God will open the doors of heaven. We cannot see what God sees, and God's love is much wider than our expectations. Rather than judge others or exalt ourselves, our goal is to enter through the narrow gate. This takes work, courage, and humility . . . but Christ would not encourage us to do it if it were not possible.

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

Please Pray For Our Recently Deceased And Their Families:

Mrs. Nellie Hadley (sister of Dr. Jimmie Jackson, maternal aunt of Chandrai Jackson-Saunders)

Renard Steele (brother of Alexa and David)

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

PRAYER CORNER

Saint Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa, 1910-1997) said this prayer each day. The prayer was written by Saint John Henry Cardinal Newman (1801-1890), and Mother Teresa changed the original singular to plural and said it with her Missionaries of Charity sisters:

Radiating Christ

Dear Jesus, help us to spread your fragrance everywhere we go.

Flood our souls with your spirit and life.

Penetrate and possess our whole being so utterly that our lives may only be a radiance of yours.

Shine through us and be so in us

that every soul we come in contact with may feel your presence in our soul.

Let them look up and see no longer us, but only Jesus.

Stay with us and then we shall begin to shine as you shine,

so to shine as to be light to others.

The light, O Jesus, will be all from you.

None of it will be ours.

It will be you shining on others through us.

Let us thus praise you in the way you love best

by shining on those around us.

Let us preach you without preaching,

not by words, but by our example;

by the catching force –

the sympathetic influence of what we do,
the evident fullness of the love our hearts bear to you.

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, Esme 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 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

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday In loving memory of Earl P. Hamilton, Sr.
 Monday Constance Wims-Birthday
 Tuesday Robert Fuller-Birthday month
 Wednesday In loving memory of Eric Fuller, Jr.
 Thursday Peace in Ukraine
 Friday Mamie and John Outlaw 61st Anniversary
 Saturday In loving memory of Audrey Caldwell-Birthday
 In loving memory Bernard Bellamy
 Samantha Proctor-Birthday

VISION AND DREAMS FUND

St. Thomas More Catholic Academy needs your help to provide a Catholic education at an affordable cost to families. Currently, plans are being formulated to launch a fundraising campaign that will keep our school affordable for present and future generations. Many in our Parish know the value of a good Catholic education. Families, past and present, have been blessed by our school. Let's work together to make this a blessing for present and future families.

Details on how you may support this effort will be presented on Sunday, September 7.

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!

HELP NEEDED

On Monday, September 1 (Labor Day), at 9am, we are being blessed with a truckload of food to feed the needy in our community. We are asking for as many volunteers as possible to unload the truck at the Rectory. The more hands helping, the sooner we finish and enjoy the rest of the Labor Day Holiday!

Please help us help the community!



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

The East of the River Revival Committee (ERRC) presents

The ERRC Youth Rally (Ages 5-17)

Saturday, October 4, 10:30am – 4:30pm
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church
1600 Morris Road SE, Washington, DC

The East of the River Revival '25

"Reviving the Flame of Hope," October 6 – 8
Mount Calvary Catholic Church
6700 Marlboro Pike, Forestville, MD

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!

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

