

# Saint Thomas More Catholic Church & Academy

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Website: [www.stthomasmoredc.org](http://www.stthomasmoredc.org)

Saint Thomas More Catholic Academy

Website: [stmhc.org](http://stmhc.org) Telephone: 202-561-1189

## September 7, 2025

### Twenty-third 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

### Reviving the Flame of Hope



#### 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

**Friday, 10:00am – Church**

#### SACRAMENTS

**Infant Baptisms:** Parents should contact Father Moore to arrange for preparation and scheduling.

**Matrimony:** Couples planning a Catholic wedding, please contact the Pastor for instruction, at least six months in advance.

**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 for Children:** Sunday following 10:00am Holy Mass.

**High School Youth Group:** Sunday after 10:00am Holy Mass.

**Adult Faith Formation (OCIA):** This group is intended for adults who would like to become Catholics. Please contact the parish office.

#### **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>	<b>Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Wisdom 9:13-18b; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33
<i>Monday</i>	<b>Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Micah 5:1-4a; Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23
<i>Tuesday</i>	<b>Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, Priest</b> Colossians 2:6-15; Luke 6:12-19
<i>Wednesday</i>	Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 6:20-26
<i>Thursday</i>	Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 6:27-38
<i>Friday</i>	1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14; Luke 6:39-42
<i>Saturday</i>	<b>Memorial of Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</b> 1 Timothy 1:15-17; Luke 6:43-49
<i>Sunday</i>	<b>Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b> Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17

## ~ HOMILY POINTS ~

- Today's gospel from Luke asks us to turn to Christ with all that we have by turning away from our earthly family members. While this seems to be anything but Christian, we can look to the end of this passage for clarity. It tells us that we must give away all of our possessions in order to follow Christ. If we treat parents, spouse, children, and friends as possessions that we can dominate, then clearly we must renounce that understanding of our relations. We do not possess those nearest to us.
- Christ also exhorts us to join him and to give everything for his Father's work. In order for us to do this, however, we must be ready to renounce anything that gets in the way of the wholehearted service that Christ requires. That is why the Christian life is marked by constant conversion. We often have slip-ups, periods of struggle, even periods of doubt. This is why we have recourse to prayer, the sacrament of reconciliation, and the opportunity to receive Christ frequently in the Eucharist.
- Christ does not expect us to give up all for him without help. Implicit in this passage is the power of the Holy Spirit to help us chart our Christian lives. God will walk with us as we consider what we must do to follow him fully. God also walks with us as we navigate our friends and our families so that we turn them into authentic relationships that do not distract but rather lead us to him.

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

### 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 CORNER

### Make Us Worthy, Lord

Written by [\*Pope Saint Paul VI\*](#)

**Make us worthy, Lord, to serve our fellow men throughout the world who live and die in poverty and hunger. Give them through our hands, this day their daily bread, and by our understanding love, give peace and joy. Amen.**

### *Revival Prayer 2025*

**Almighty and loving Father, We pray that you Revive *the Flame of Hope* in our lives through our annual revival. We ask your blessing on our prayers, praise and preaching. Touch our hearts and open our minds with your grace, favor, and mercy.**

**May our gathering minister forgiveness, healing, and peace in our hearts, homes, churches and our world. Anoint our revivalists with powerful messages and inspire in us the desire to show and share Jesus with others. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. AMEN**

**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**

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, 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 Our Recently Deceased And Their Families:  
Robert Thomas (uncle of Larry Owens)  
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine  
upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

**PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Sunday St. Thomas More Sodality  
Monday Intentions of STM Parishioners  
Tuesday In loving memory of Norell James  
Wednesday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones  
Thursday In memorium-9/11/2001  
Friday In loving memory of LaToya Garvey-Birthday  
Saturday Health of Barbara Kennedy

**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.**

***More details are coming soon!***

**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](http://stmcd.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 \$5,942.00,  
and \$150.00 for the Maintenance Fund.***

**Mass Attendance**

Saturday 4:00pm **18** in the Rectory Chapel  
Sunday 10:00am **114** in Church  
**169** Livestream Views on YouTube

***Thank you for your generous spirit of giving.***



**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 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 look forward to seeing you in September!

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

**Canonizations of Carlo Acutis and  
Pier Giorgio Frassati**

On Sunday, September 7, 2025, Pope Leo XIV will canonize Blesseds Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati. This historic joint canonization unites two inspiring young men of faith. Watch on YouTube and EWTN.



**SHARE INFORMATION**

**UPDATE: Value Package - \$30.00**

***Please contact Flo Gantt for Registration info.***

***Please also consider making a monetary donation of \$30.00 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!***

*What a beautiful expression of Labor Day love from our STM children, women, and men!!!*

*To the John S. Mulholland Family Foundation - many, many thanks for the blessings. Our partnership means so much to us and our community!*



*God bless you all. We love and thank you!*

### **STM FOOD PANTRY**

**NEXT DISTRIBUTION:** *Friday, September 12, 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!**

### **NOTES**