

# 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 14, 2025

# Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross



### 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>Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b> Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17
<i>Monday</i>	<b>Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows</b> 1 Timothy 2:1-8; John 19:25-27
<i>Tuesday</i>	<b>Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs</b> 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Luke 7:11-17
<i>Wednesday</i>	1 Timothy 3:14-16; Luke 7:31-35
<i>Thursday</i>	1 Timothy 4:12-16; Luke 7:36-50
<i>Friday</i>	1 Timothy 6:2c-12; Luke 8:1-3
<i>Saturday</i>	<b>Memorial of Saint Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs</b> 1 Timothy 6:13-16; Luke 8:4-15
<i>Sunday</i>	<b>Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Amos 8:4-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13

## ~ HOMILY POINTS ~

- “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.” This powerful line from John’s Gospel reminds us that the cross is not simply about suffering; the cross is about God’s love for us. We often focus on Christ’s cross and immediately turn to our sinfulness. Yes, Christ died so that the forgiveness of sins could be offered to us in full. Yet he wants to forgive our sins because, as God, he loves us fully.
- The cross is a great gift. Christ understands our suffering because he suffered, and more greatly than we can imagine. We never have to wonder if Christ understands our suffering. Christ suffers with us when we hurt. His suffering is not just to forgive our sins but to be with us as we work our way through some of the great challenges of life.
- There is, of course, a connection between suffering and sin. When we suffer from a disease or some kind of bodily pain, it is not necessarily connected to sin at all. Yet how we suffer and what we do with our suffering are our choice. Christ unites us to his cross so that we can eliminate our sin and face our suffering with new hope. Further, Christ is the great physician who will heal us of our bodily pains. Sometimes Christ’s healing is through miracles, sometimes it is through the healing properties of medicine, and sometimes it is through the great passage from this life to the next. No matter what happens, however, Christ gives us community in the midst of our suffering, and we are never alone. So, yes, there is much sadness on the cross, but the cross is our highway to God, a sign of his solidarity with us, and the means by which we find healing in Christ Crucified.

*(Living Liturgy)*

*May the Lord’s peace and grace be with you!*

## PRAYER CORNER

*We adore you,  
 Lord Jesus Christ,  
 here, and in all your churches  
 throughout the whole world,  
 and we bless you,  
 for by your holy cross you  
 have redeemed the world.  
 (Saint Francis of Assisi)*

## The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

The feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross celebrates two historical events: the discovery of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the Emperor Constantine, in 320 under the temple of Venus in Jerusalem, and the dedication in 335 of the basilica and shrine built on Calvary by Constantine, which mark the site of the Crucifixion. However, the feast, more than anything else, is a celebration and commemoration of God’s greatest work: his salvific death on the Cross and His Resurrection, through which death was defeated and the doors to Heaven opened. (Catholic News Agency)

Today, the cruelty of the Cross is not what is exalted, but the Love that God manifested to humanity by accepting death on the Cross: “Who, though in the form of God, emptied himself, taking the form of a slave. This is the glory of the Cross of Jesus!” (Pope Francis)

### 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, 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 SESCOE, 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      Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones  
Monday      Angie Burns-Birthday  
Tuesday      Fr. Casimir Onyegwere-Birthday  
Wednesday      Intentions of STM Prayer Group  
Thursday      Health of Elma Garnett  
Friday      LaJuan Pringle-Birthday  
Saturday      In loving memory of LaToya Garvey  
                    Dr. Ruth Richardson-Birthday

***Please Pray for the Canonization of Our Seven  
African American Candidates For Sainthood--***

*Venerable Henriette DeLille  
Venerable Pierre Toussaint  
Venerable Mother Mary Lange  
Venerable Augustus Tolton  
Servant of God Julia Greeley  
Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman  
Servant of God Father Martin de Porres Ward, OFM Conv.*



**Religious Education News**

Religious Education classes will resume on **next Sunday, September 21, 2025**, after the 10 o'clock Mass.

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 on September 21!

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

**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!***

**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!***

