

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church & Academy

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Saint Thomas More Catholic Academy

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

November 30, 2025 *First Sunday of Advent*



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)

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>	First Sunday of Advent Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44
<i>Monday</i>	Isaiah 4:2-6; Matthew 8:5-11
<i>Tuesday</i>	Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24
<i>Wednesday</i>	Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37
<i>Thursday</i>	Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27
<i>Friday</i>	Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31
<i>Saturday</i>	Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26;
<i>Sunday</i>	Second Sunday of Advent Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44

~ HOMILY POINTS ~

- Preparation is paramount. In today's gospel, Jesus urges his disciples to prepare for the coming of the Son of Man. Matthew's use of the phrase "Son of Man" might be a bit confusing, so it is important to remember Matthew's intended audience: Matthew wrote for Jewish Christians. Matthew's use of this phrase harkens back to Hebrew Scripture, particularly Ezekiel and Daniel, where the Son of Man is described as a figure that is both human and exalted. Sound familiar?
- Jesus uses the story of Noah and the flood to help his followers better understand the importance of preparation. Noah, following God's instructions, was prepared and ready for the flood. He did not try to prepare the ark or animals as the rains were falling. Rather, Noah was primed and ready to ride out the waters. Likewise, we must prepare for the coming of God now. If we start to prepare when the Lord comes, we are already too late.
- Jesus instructs us to "stay awake," for we "do not know on which day [the] Lord will come." But what does this mean? The prophet Isaiah gives us some hints in the first reading. As we climb the Lord's mountain we open ourselves to God's instruction, that we may walk in God's ways and follow God's path. We are called to make ourselves available to God and what God reveals to us, willing to set aside distractions and all that prevents us from listening to God. These distractions can take many forms, but we must be honest enough with ourselves to name them.

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

Please Pray For Our Recently Deceased And His Family:

Mr. Francis Coates (brother of Lillian Lyles)

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

PRAYER CORNER

Advent Family Prayer

***God of Love,
 Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.
 He is a sign of your love.
 Help us walk in that love during the weeks of
 Advent,
 As we wait and prepare for his coming.
 We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior.***

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 (Houston & Linda Roberson's son), 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 Torain, Mary Travers, Chandra Upsher-Harris, Kristine Vivican, Kayla Warren, Marilyn Denise Whetstone, Monei Williams, William Wims, Kobe M. Williams, Jane Willis, David Wilson, Gloria Wilson, Jean Wright, Marianne Young.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday Mother Margarine Neal-Birthday
 Deidre Daniel-Birthday
 Monday In loving memory of Edith (Tee) Ellis
 Wednesday In loving memory of Francilla Brown-Birthday
 Thursday In loving memory of Nancy J. Evans
 Friday Rev. Raymond Moore-Birthday
 In loving memory of Ezinne S. Onyegwara
 Saturday In memory of Audrey Caldwell,
 Doris & Deacon Martin

PLEASE KEEP THOSE PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS IN YOUR PRAYERS

~Preparing for Confirmation~

<i>Aurelien Bolamba</i>	<i>Claudien Bolamba</i>
<i>Mike Bolamba</i>	<i>Lorry Bolamba</i>
<i>Marleigh Campbell</i>	<i>Terral Lewis, Jr</i>
<i>Karter Martin</i>	<i>Tylia Pilgrim</i>

~Preparing for First Communion~

Addilyn Lewis

Welcome!

We extend warm greetings to our newest members of St. Thomas More Church:

*Ms. Jennifer Nicole Roberts
and*

*Dr. Wilma Durham Elbouhrini,
who joined our Parish last Sunday.*

*We thank the Lord for bringing you to us.
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate
to contact the Church Office at (202-562-0431).*



Christmas Day Meal Delivery

As in years past, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception will provide meals for hundreds of poor, homeless, elderly, and needy individuals living in the District of Columbia and surrounding areas on Christmas Day. If you know of individuals who would like a Christmas dinner delivered to their home on Christmas Day, the Ushers will have a sign-up list in the back of the Church after Mass.

All meals will be for delivery and takeout only.

Are You Experiencing Issues with ParishSOFT?

Now that the transition to ParishSOFT Giving has been completed, we hope the process was smooth and seamless for you, *but*, if you are having issues with your online giving, please call me, Linda Clay Roberson, at the Parish Office and I will direct you to a customer service representative. I would love to hear any feedback you wish to share.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Tithes and offerings for last Sunday:

*In-church tithes and offerings totaled \$3,623.00,
ParishSOFT contributions amounted to \$1,460.00,
and \$25.00 for the Maintenance Fund.*

Mass Attendance

Saturday 4:00pm 17 in Church
Sunday 10:00am 125 in Church
169 Livestream Views on YouTube

Thank you for your generous spirit of giving.

HELP NEEDED

On Saturday, December 6th at 12noon, we are being blessed yet again with a truckload of food to feed the needy in our parish and community. We need volunteers to unload the truck at the Rectory.

Please help us help our parish and community!

STM FOOD PANTRY

For the month of December, the food pantry will be open on December 12 *ONLY*.

NEXT DISTRIBUTION: *Friday, November 28, 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!

Join PAC (Parish Action Committee) on a trip to

Sight & Sound Theatres

for the play

Joshua

LIVE ON STAGE

July 11, 2026 - 3pm Show

Cost: \$190.00

Payment Plan: Initial deposit of \$50.00 to secure your seat is due 12/7/2025.

Payments can be made with cash, check and money order. Make check or money order payable to Saint Thomas More Catholic Church, and include *Sight & Sound Joshua Play* in the memo section.

Reach out to any PAC members:

Audrey Plummer Mayo (240-460-6275)

Liz Thomas-Sahr Berry (240-351-8869)

Sharie Brown Wood (301-221-1811)

*This is a Fundraiser for our
75th Church Anniversary which is
September of 2026.*

