

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church & Academy

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Saint Thomas More Catholic Academy

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

December 7, 2025 Second 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)

Solemnity of the

Immaculate Conception

of the Blessed Virgin Mary December 8 10:00am Church

**Christmas Eve
(Vigil Mass)**

December 24 7:30pm Church

Christmas Day

December 25 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.

~ 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>	Second Sunday of Advent Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12
<i>Monday</i>	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38
<i>Tuesday</i>	Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14;
<i>Wednesday</i>	Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30
<i>Thursday</i>	Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15
<i>Friday</i>	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Zechariah 2:14-17; Luke 1:26-38;
<i>Saturday</i>	Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13
<i>Sunday</i>	Third Sunday of Advent Isaiah 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

~ HOMILY POINTS ~

• “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” Rather than using the term “kingdom of God,” Matthew, whose audience was primarily Jewish Christians, avoids saying the name of the divine. Still, this kingdom of heaven is not a location. Rather, it is a way of living in right relationship with God and all of creation. This way of living reverses the conventional understanding of power and privilege, of wealth and authority. And for those who traditionally benefit from these systems, this way of life can be unsettling.

• Isaiah paints a beautiful picture of right relationship: Wolves will rest with lambs, calves and lions will live in harmony, and the baby shall play near the snake without fear. While these are certainly striking images, it is important to note that the true root of this harmony is authentic justice. Isaiah notes, “Justice shall be the band around his waist and faithfulness a belt upon his hips.” Justice is not about placid niceties or a “feel good” approach to life. Rather, justice is a genuine concern for the well-being and flourishing of others. In the words of Pope Paul VI’s memorable address at the 1972 World Day of Peace, “If you want peace, work for justice.”

• This is why John’s words are so radical. Justice involves looking beyond ourselves to better understand the realities of others, a task that is not always easy or welcome. Fortunately for us, we are not the authors of justice. As Paul notes, “May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus.” As we continue this season of Advent let us make this prayer our own. Like John, may we be prophetic voices for justice in our world as we build up the kingdom of heaven.

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

Please pray for Claudine Lukeba Bolamba, who passed away one year ago on December 7, 2024. Please pray for her husband, Antoine, and their four young children.

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

PRAYER CORNER

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

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 Usher-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	In loving memory of Claudine Lukeba Bolamba Cardinal Wilton Gregory-Birthday
Monday	Mother Alice Proctor-Birthday
Tuesday	Robin Dillard Harris-Birthday
Wednesday	Muriel Whitfield-Birthday
Thursday	In loving memory of Earl Hamilton, Sr.-Birthday
Friday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Saturday	In loving memory of Andre Lyles-Birthday

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

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.

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!

***Primary and Intermediate Students made
crowns for the Feast of Christ the King.***



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 anyone 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.

STM FOOD PANTRY

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

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!*

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Tithes and offerings for last Sunday:
*In-church tithes and offerings totaled \$3,073.00,
ParishSOFT contributions amounted to \$1,035.00,
and \$25.00 for the Maintenance Fund.*

Mass Attendance

Saturday 4:00pm 16 in Church

Sunday 10:00am 78 in Church

236 Livestream Views on YouTube

Thank you for your generous spirit of giving.

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.

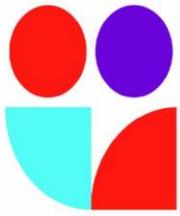
Reach out to any PAC members:

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.***



Dementia Friendly America

PRINCE GEORGE'S SOUTH COUNTY TEAM
A Member of the Dementia Friendly America Network

Join us for the December Caregivers Support Sessions

December 16, 2025
5:30 PM via Zoom

click [Zoom Registration](#)
(if you are not already registered)



NOTES
