

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church & Academy

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Saint Thomas More Catholic Academy

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January 11, 2026

The Baptism of the Lord



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>	The Baptism of the Lord Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Matthew 3:13-17
<i>Monday</i>	1 Samuel 1:1-8; Mark 1:14-20
<i>Tuesday</i>	1 Samuel 1:9-20; Mark 1:21-28
<i>Wednesday</i>	1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20; Mark 1:29-39
<i>Thursday</i>	1 Samuel 4:1-11; Mark 1:40-45
<i>Friday</i>	1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a; Mark 2:1-12
<i>Saturday</i>	Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbot 1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Mark 2:13-17
<i>Sunday</i>	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 49:3, 5-6; 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34

~ HOMILY POINTS ~

- God’s intimacy with God’s people goes back to the covenants of Hebrew Scripture. In today’s first reading from Isaiah, we hear God’s voice speak, “I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and set you as a light for the nations.” Recognizing our belovedness is not about superiority or self-righteousness. Rather, recognizing we are God’s beloved means simply basking in God’s presence within, around, and among us.
- God’s words in Matthew’s account of Jesus’ baptism can also be said about each of us: “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” But living as God’s beloved is not always easy. We are so quick to speak critically and act negatively toward ourselves and others. We listen to voices that are not of God whisper, “You are not enough.” “You are not smart enough.” “You are not old enough.” When we hear these voices of the evil one, may we be quick to silence them and instead listen to God’s voice, which tells us that we are loved totally and unconditionally.
- But this does not mean that everything will be easy. The Christian life is challenging. The phrase “with whom I am well pleased” appears in Isaiah’s depictions of the suffering servant. Just as we are baptized into Christ and signed with the cross, the cross is an essential part of discipleship. We cannot shirk the cross, but instead must find hope within in it—a hope that reminds us that suffering and death never have the final word.

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

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>Aiden Lewis</i>
	<i>Tylia Pilgrim</i>

~Preparing for First Communion~

Addilyn Lewis

PRAYER CORNER

A Prayer for Hope

Heavenly Father, in the sacrament of Baptism, you have given us the gift of new life. Through your son our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, you have made us your own.

Help us to recognize the gift of human life as a sign of hope in our world.

Reveal to us the places where your precious gift of life is most in need of protection and strengthen us to defend life in all stages and circumstances, from the child in the womb to the elderly and dying.

Guided by your Holy Spirit, guard us from discouragement and give us the grace to be messengers of hope, filled with confidence that nothing can separate us from your love.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday	In memory of Fr. R. Wadas-Birthday, Jan. 9
Monday	Michael Russell-Birthday In loving memory of Mary V. Bush-Birthday In loving memory of Jacqueline Ray
Tuesday	In loving memory of Patricia Wright
Wednesday	Vanessa Davies-Birthday
Thursday	In memory of Dr. M. L. King-Birthday
Friday	Debra Hamilton Schoening-Birthday In loving memory of Williard Pinkney
Saturday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones

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 Felieu, 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 (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.

Available Free For You-

The Word Among Us Slowing Down to the Speed of Joy 2026 Josephite Calendars

*These resources are available to strengthen your faith.
Please take advantage and even share with friends!*

Calling all Lectors!

There will be a **Lector Workshop** on Saturday, January 24th at 10 am in the church. If you are interested in the Lector Ministry, you are welcome to come. Current Lectors are strongly encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Pamela Meredith at 202-677-9863 or pammeredith@hotmail.com.



Lent begins next month on February 18th.
This will be Ash Wednesday. Let's prepare by slowing down to the speed of our joy and planning intentionally to participate in Lent 2026! Be on the lookout for further details in the weeks to come.



March 21, 2026
Line Dance Social
Proceeds to support our
75th Anniversary Celebration
Contact: Laura Brown

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 is **due now** to secure your seat.

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-Sahar Berry (240-351-8869)
Sharie Brown Wood (301-221-1811)

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

How to keep the joy of Christmas alive after the holidays:

- **Reflect on the True Meaning of Christmas** 🌿

How:

Take time to reflect on the birth of Jesus Christ and the hope He brings. Keep the significance of His love and sacrifice in your heart, and make it a part of your daily life.

- **Keep the Spirit of Giving Alive** 🎁

How:

Christmas is a time of giving, and that spirit doesn't have to end when the holiday does. Continue to give throughout the year, whether it's through charity, acts of kindness, or small gifts for others.

- **Spread Joy Through Acts of Kindness** ❤️

How:

The joy of Christmas comes from spreading love. Continue this by performing random acts of kindness, whether it's helping a neighbor, donating clothes, or simply offering a smile.

- **Set Goals That Reflect Christmas Values** 🎯

How:

Set goals for the new year that align with the values of Christmas, such as kindness, peace, and generosity. This will help you stay focused on what matters most and keep the spirit of Christmas alive in your life.

- **Stay Connected with Loved Ones** 😊

How:

Christmas is a time for family and friends. Keep the connections alive by reaching out regularly to check in on your loved ones, even if it's just a quick call, text, or video chat.

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.*

