

# Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy

4275 Fourth Street, Southeast

Washington, D.C. 20032

Telephone: 202-562-0431 Fax: 202-563-7347

E-mail: [stmchurch@comcast.net](mailto:stmchurch@comcast.net) Website: [www.stthomasmoredc.org](http://www.stthomasmoredc.org)

School: 202-561-1189

## January 7, 2018



Let the favor of the Lord be upon us.  
Give success to the work of our Hands! (Psalm 90)

### Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Raymond Moore, Pastor, x12  
Ms. Patricia Hamilton, Pastoral Administrator, x11  
Mrs. Mary Waters, Office Assistant, x10  
Ms. Bridget Coates, Academy Principal  
Ms. Wanda Brooks, Coordinator of Religious Education, x31  
Mr. Henry Herrera, Gospel Choir Director  
Mrs. Charnetta Dobbins, Youth Choir Director  
Mrs. Denese Clay, Glorify Praise Team Director  
Mrs. Barbara Elliott, Parish Council Chair  
Ms. Diana Brown, Finance Council Chair

### Mass Schedule:

Saturday	5:00 pm	(Rectory Chapel)
Sunday	8:45 am	Youth Choir
	11:30 am	Gospel Choir
Weekdays	8:00 am	(Rectory Chapel)

**Bulletin Deadline:** Items for Sunday's Bulletin must be received via email **by 12:00 pm Monday** in order to have them included in Sunday's publication. Thank you for honoring this important timeline.

**Baptism:** Please call the Parish Office to register for classes.

**Confession:** After Sunday Masses, by appointment, or on *Saturday afternoon at 4:00 pm in the Rectory.*

**Marriage:** Diocesan policy requires notification to the priest at least six months in advance. Attendance at pre-Cana classes is also required. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

**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:

Interested in becoming a Catholic? Please contact Fr. Raymond Moore at the Rectory.  
CCD Classes: Every Sunday at 10:30am  
Bible Study: Every Tuesday at 7:30pm

**The Feast of the  
Epiphany of Jesus  
Preparing to Hear God's Word**

**Reading I: Isa 60:1-6**~ Raise your eyes and see the goodness of God. All people are invited to God's saving grace and merciful love.

**Responsorial: Psalm 72**~ Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

**Reading II: Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6**~ As the light of Christ shines on in us, we are invited to see what lies deep within our own hearts, to bring forth what is good, and then spend ourselves for others.

**Gospel: Matt 2:1-12**~ As the light of Christ shines on in us, we are invited to see what lies deep within our own hearts, to bring forth what is good, and then spend ourselves for others.

**Readings for Next Sunday**

**1 Sam 3:3b-10, 19 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 Jn 1:35-42**

**DAILY MASS READINGS**

Monday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7	Mark 1:7-11
Tuesday:	1 Sam 1:9-20	Mark 1:21-28
Wednesday:	1 Sam 3:1-10, 19-20	Mark 1:29-39
Thursday:	1 Sam 4:1-11	Mark 1:40-45
Friday:	1 Sam 8:4-7, 10-22a	Mark 2:1-12
Saturday:	1 Sam 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1	Mark 2:13-17

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:**

Sunday 8:45am In memory of Richard Tyer  
 11:30am Health of Roland Caldwell  
 Monday Health of Priscilla Fuller  
 Tuesday Health of Marion and Ruth Richardson  
 Wednesday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones  
 Thursday Intentions of STM Parishioners  
 Friday Michael Russell-Birthday  
 Saturday Violet Pinkney-Birthday

**PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Kayla Adams, Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty Beatty, Marie Brown, Shirley Brown, Francillia Browne, Cynthia Bruce, Felicia V. Bush, John Bush, Mary Agnes Bush, Jane Cannon, Dixie Clark, Shertia Clark, Odessa Curtis, Den. Ralph Cyrus, Francess Davies, Barbara Deale, Barbara DeJesus, Renee Feliu, Diane Finley, Eric Fuller, Craig Fulmer, Betty Furr, Tasha Gant, David Garner, Tyrone Garrison, Brenda Green, Emmanuel Greene, William Gunn, Earl Hamilton, Andre Harris, Margaret Harris, Vance Harris II, June Harrison, Shant'e Hawkins, James Hilton, Maximillon Holland, Elizabeth Holmes, Darryl Jackson, Jimmie Jackson, Ivy John, Carolyn Johnson, Sarah Jones, Seymour & Patrick Jones, David Larison, Dennis Lucas, Gloria & William McCaskill, Emma McEntyre, Robert Milner, Betty Moeller, Gloria Morgan, Dorothy Myrtle, Angela Neal, Tammy Peterson, Charles Queen, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Arthur Robinson, Jean, Leroy & Robert Robinson, Daja Rogers, Thelma Sawyer, Robin Sescoc, Ciara Shields, Brenda Smith, Claudell St. Julien, Edsel Swann, Jane Thomas, Kristine Vivican, Kayla Warren, Paul Waters, Marilyn Denise Whetstone, Anita Williams, Bertha Williams, Kobe M. Williams, David Wilson, Jean Wright, Marianne Young, **and all who are Sick/Shut-In.**

**~ PRAYER REQUESTS ~**

Please pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of **Carolyn Kiett**, member of the Neocatechumenal Community.

Please also pray for the health and well-being of **Priscilla Fuller, Kayla Adams, Shirley Adams, Roland Caldwell, Andre Cooper, Elizabeth Holmes, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Robert Robinson, Daja Rogers**, all of our members who are on the road to recovery, sick, shut-in or grieving; and

**Pope Francis, Fr. Moore, Fr. Casimir & Ed Poindexter**

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT  
EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH  
IS WISE STEWARDSHIP**

Give and it shall be given unto you: good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall be given to you. For with the same measure that you measure it shall be measured to you again." (Luke 6:38)

*Lord, let us not be guilty of withholding the best parts of life, even our money, for ourselves. Instead, enable us to give all we can so others can know the victory we have found through Jesus Christ. Receive our gifts as grateful representations of our devotion and service to the Gospel. AMEN!*

**Stewardship Thought:** "You never seem to have more money than when you are giving it away to someone who has less."

Tithes and offerings for **December 24, 2017** amounted to **\$1,043.00; Maintenance-\$8.00; Youth-\$2.00.**

Tithes and offerings for **Christmas Eve/Day** amounted to **\$6,148.00.** Combined Attendance: 266

Tithes and offerings for **December 31, 2017**  
amounted to **\$9,255.50.**

**Faith Direct-\$3,241.00; Maintenance-\$35.00; Youth-\$2.00.**

<i>Attendance</i>	5:00pm	21
	8:45am	84
	11:30am	<u>73</u>
		178

Thanks to all who have so well supported our Growing One Step stewardship program. Because of the strong commitment of many of us, we are blessed with good success thus far. May we be blessed as we bless our ministry and commitment to the Lord!

**Your on-going contributions are most appreciated!**

**FAITH DIRECT: Fall Into e-Giving with Faith Direct!**

This is the most convenient and secure way for you to make your tithes and offerings to St. Thomas More. Your automatic contributions through Faith Direct will save for you. Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our church code, **DC773.**

**PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY: Bible Study is on break until January 9, 2018.** When we resume we will meet on Tuesday evenings, 7:30pm in the rectory living room. All are invited and encouraged to be a part of our instruction and lively discussions!

**2017-2018 FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM:** Adults seeking a closer walk with Jesus are invited to join our Faith Formation Program for Adults. We meet on Sunday morning at 10:30 in the Red Room.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION! Classes are now in progress!** Registrations are still being accepted, **SO DON'T DELAY!** Classes take place from 10:30 to 11:30am in the school. Please see Ms. Wanda Brooks for more information.

**65<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY HAPPENINGS!**

*~Please Save The Date~*

**Saturday, February 10, 2018**

**Ministers of Hospitality Valentine's Dance**

**STM Cedar Room ~ 9:00pm.**

**Details forthcoming!**

## PASTOR'S PEN

### A REFLECTION ON A NEW YEAR



One of the great things about a new year is that every 365 days we have another opportunity to renew and revive hope in our lives and hope for the future. We set new goals, make resolutions and hope that this will be a better year. Today, the *Solemnity of the Epiphany* (the word means Manifestation), we recall God's plan for hope, healing and happiness for all people in all places and all times as we retell the story of the Magi (wise men) who follow the light of a star to find the Light of the World, Jesus.

Writer and theologian Patricia Sanchez tells the story of a Jewish rabbi quizzing his students. He asked, "How can we determine the hour of dawn, when night ends and the day begins?" One student suggested, "Day begins when, from a distance, you can distinguish between a dog and a sheep." "No," answered the rabbi. Another student asked, "Is it when you can distinguish between a fig tree and a grapevine?" Again the answer was, "No." "Please tell us the answer then," said the students. "It is," said the rabbi, "when you can look into the face of other people and you have enough light in you to recognize them as your brothers and sisters. Up to then, it is night and the darkness is still with us."

Only six days into the New Year of 2018, we celebrate with joy the fact that our God has manifested the good light of forgiveness and redemption in our world. While the memories of Christmas and Jesus' birth are still fresh in our minds, we have to admit that the darkness the rabbi spoke of still overshadows our world. To put it another way, the mystery St. Paul was privileged to reveal – "that all peoples of the earth are coheirs, members of the same body and copartners in the promises of Jesus through the gospel" (Ephesians 3:6) -has not yet been fully realized among us.

As long as there are divisions, prejudice and hatred, we continue to find ourselves in a darkness longing for the dawn. Therefore, the hope and the challenge of this *Fresh New Year* is for each of us to be living manifestations of the Light of Christ to others.

*The Magi followed the light of that star  
and found Jesus.*

*May the light of Christ that shines in each of us  
lead others to find  
hope, healing and joy in Christ Jesus!*

*In His Peace,  
Father Moore*

**WELCOME VISITORS!**

*We warmly welcome our visitors to  
St. Thomas More Church.*

*Please sign our Visitors' Book!  
We invite all who are seeking a  
church home to join our church family.  
Please encourage all visitors  
to sign our Guest Book.*



### WE'RE ON TIME FOR THE NEW YEAR!

Maybe you have noticed that we are  
making every effort  
*to begin Mass on time--at 8:45 and 11:30.*

*Thank you for cooperating  
with our efforts to be punctual!*

### 2017 CARDINAL'S APPEAL UPDATE

*It is not too late--if you have not yet made your pledge or outright gift to the Cardinal's Appeal there is still time. We need everyone's support to reach our goal of \$ 37,045. So far, this year (December 2017) we have pledged \$26,561.00.*

Last year, at this time, 132 persons pledged while this year only 92 have pledged. We are short of our goal by \$10,484.00. Let's try and close this gap. Please visit the Appeal's secure website at <http://appeal.adw.org> to make a pledge. On behalf of those who benefit from your support, thank you for your gift to assist the many ministries of the Church of Washington.

*As we will soon be hearing about the Cardinal's Appeal for 2018, please try to help us close out the gap from 2017.*

## ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ACADEMY

**CELEBRATING 60 YEARS**

**OF GREATNESS!**

*Serving Students in Grades Pre-K3-8!*



*Catholic Environment ~Academically Excellent*

*Before and After School Care Provided!*

***Tuition Assistance is Available!***

***Registrations are still being accepted***

***for the current school year.***

***FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CALL 202-561-1189.***

Sunday	Religious Ed Classes (10:30am-Classrooms) Second Chance (3:30pm-Old Library)
Monday	Youth Choir Rehearsal (7:00pm-Church) NCW 2 <sup>nd</sup> Community (8:00pm-Cedar Rm)
Tuesday	Bible Study (7:30pm-Rectory Living Rm) NCW 2 <sup>nd</sup> Community (8:00pm-Cedar Rm)
Wednesday	NCW 1 <sup>st</sup> Community (8:00pm-Cedar Rm)
Thursday	Adult Choir Rehearsal (7:30pm-Church)
Friday	AA (8:00pm-Old Library)
Saturday	NCW Communities (8:00pm-Church)

***NOTES FOR TODAY***

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

***STM FOOD PANTRY  
DONATIONS APPRECIATED!***



***PLEASE HELP US DO OUR BEST TO  
PROVIDE NUTRITIOUS FOOD FOR  
CHILDREN & FAMILIES!***

***PLEASE GIVE WHAT YOU CAN  
TO HELP KEEP OUR PANTRY STOCKED.***

***We are seeking the following items:***

***~DRY GOODS~***

***Rice/Pasta/Beans/Hot & Cold Cereal***

***~CANNED GOODS~***

***Meat/Tuna/Soup/Fruit/Vegetables***

***STM has served as a REFUGE OF RELIEF for many!  
Food/Monetary donations will help  
keep our pantry viable!***

***Thank You! God Bless!***

\*\*\*\*\*

***Special Thanks to the many parishioners give of  
their time to VOLUNTEER with our  
STM FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY each week!  
We Appreciate You!***

***SHARE INFORMATION***

***Sign-up* takes place on the  
*Announced Sunday(s)* each month.  
***Value Package price: \$22.00*****

***Schedule for JANUARY 2018:***

***Sign-up: Today, January 7, 2018.***

***Pick-up~ Sat., January 20, 9-10am.***

***Unclaimed packages will be donated to the STM Food Pantry.  
Please plan accordingly!***

***Please consider making a monetary donation of \$22.00 to  
provide a SHARE Package to a family in need.***

***If interested please see any member of our SHARE Team.  
Thank you!***

\*\*\*\*\*

***Special Thanks to the many parishioners  
who volunteer with the STM SHARE Ministry.  
We appreciate all you do!***

***CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK***

---

---

---

---