

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy

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January 14, 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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: 1 Sam 3:3b-10, 19~*Samuel responds to the call of God.*

Responsorial: Ps 40~ *Here am I Lord, I come to do your will.*

Reading II: 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17~*The body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit.*

Gospel: Jn 1:35-42~ *The disciples heard and followed Jesus.*

Readings for Next Sunday

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 1 Cor 7:29-31 Mk 1:14-20

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	1 Sam 15: 16-23	Mark 2:18-22
Tuesday:	1 Sam 16:1-13	Mark 2:22-28
Wednesday:	1 Sam 17: 32-33, 37, 40-51	Mark 3:1-6
Thursday:	1 Sam 18:6-9; 19:1-7	Mark 3:7-12
Friday:	1 Sam 24:3-24	Mark 3:13-19
Saturday:	1 Sam 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27	Mark 3:20-21

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	Health of Roland Caldwell
11:30am	Vanessa Davies-Birthday
Monday	In memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Tuesday	Debi H. Schoening-Birthday In memory of Williard Pinkney
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	In loving memory of Roderick Bell
Friday	Health of Priscilla Fuller
Saturday	Ayanna Ezeani-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, Dcn. 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 Sescoe, 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 ~

As we prepare to celebrate the **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday** on January 15, the actual date of his birth, let us pause to offer prayers of gratitude for Dr. King, and all those who served on the front lines of the Civil Rights Movement alongside him. Let us give thanks for this man of God laying down his life for the cause of justice and the freedom for ALL citizens of our nation to exercise their right to VOTE.

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. Casmir & 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 **January 7, 2018** amounted to **\$7,607.00. Faith Direct-\$1,950.31; Maintenance \$3,432.00; Youth-\$2.00.**

Attendance	5:00pm	17
	8:45am	108
	11:30am	94
		219

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 and use our church code, **DC773**.

PASTOR'S BIBLE: Our Bible Study for Adults meets 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.

65TH ANNIVERSARY HAPPENINGS!

Saturday, February 10, 2018

Ministers of Hospitality Valentine's Dance

STM Cedar Room ~ 9:00pm.

Tickets are now available!

Please see an Adult Minister of Hospitality for more info.

WEEKDAY MASS

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY!

If Prince Georges County Public Schools are

CLOSED or DELAYED in opening,

STM WILL NOT HAVE 8:00AM MASS ON THAT DAY!

IN REMEMBRANCE,

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Cardinal Wuerl Reflects on the Dream of Martin Luther King and that of Archbishop O'Boyle:

"...On that unforgettable day, Aug. 28, 1963, participants in the March on Washington heard those historic words of the **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.:** *'I have a dream....'*

To a crowd of people from many backgrounds, walks of life and religious traditions, King added, 'We cannot walk alone.' Standing with him at the Lincoln Memorial was my predecessor as archbishop of Washington, Archbishop Patrick O'Boyle, who offered the invocation, praying 'that the ideals of freedom, blessed alike by our religious faith and our heritage of democracy, will prevail in our land.'

Before the march, O'Boyle had encouraged local Catholic groups, parishes and universities to participate and offer hospitality to out-of-town marchers, and to march with their pastors, carrying banners displaying the names of their parishes or organizations. Working for racial and social justice came easily to O'Boyle, who was named a cardinal in 1967.

Shortly after receiving the shepherd's staff as the first resident Archbishop of Washington in 1948, he began working to integrate local parishes and Catholic schools years before the Supreme Court's 1954 Brown v. Board of Education decision outlawing segregated educational facilities. He also joined the city's religious leaders in advocating equal opportunities in housing, jobs and public education. At the Second Vatican Council, he urged the council fathers to make a clear-cut declaration condemning racial prejudice.

"As Washington's archbishop, I have witnessed King's vision of Americans praying and marching together for justice. Each year at the March, *Rallies and Masses for Life*, hundreds of thousands of people from across the country gather to pray and then march together in defense of the dignity of human life in all its stages. Our faith can never be relegated to just an hour inside church on Sunday. As Pope Francis has urged us, we need to "go out" and bring Christ's love and hope to our communities and our world. That is why Catholic Charities programs and Catholic hospitals continue to bring Christ's love and hope to those who need it regardless of race, religion, gender, nationality or sexual orientation. That is why we must continue to stand for the dignity of human life, for religious freedom and for justice for immigrants. Our pope's new encyclical, *Lumen Fidei*, reminds us that faith is the light that should guide our lives. It certainly did so for King.

Speaking from the steps of the Islamic Center in Washington to an interfaith gathering in 2006, I called on people to rely on the light of their faith to dispel the darkness, fear and hatred of our world, and to build bridges of solidarity and peace, together. This is the unity that King not only dreamed of, but believed would become a reality.

"With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood," he said. The day will come "when all God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to

join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, 'Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!' "

~ APPRECIATION ~

I would like to thank all St. Thomas More Parishioners for your help in donating throughout the year. You have helped the St. Thomas More SHARE Food Network feed **287 families in 2017** through your generous donations of SHARE packages purchased for those in need! Let's keep growing this number each year.

God bless you! Flo Gantt

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!

