

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
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February 25, 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 of Sunday of Lent

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Gen 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 ~ God puts Abraham to the test.

Responsorial: Psalm 116 ~ I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

Reading II: Rom 8:31b-34 ~ If God is for us who can be against us?

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10 ~ Peter, James and John encounter God on the mountain of Transfiguration.

Readings for Next Sunday

Exodus 20:1-17 1 Cor 1:22-25 John 2:13-25

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Dan 9:4b-10	Luke 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20	Matt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20	Matt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10	Luke 16:19-31
Friday:	Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a	Matt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday:	Mic 7:14-15, 18-20	Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	STM Parish Action Committee
11:30am	Health of Mary Waters
Monday	Health of Lisa P. Chinn
Tuesday	Brenda Green-Birthday
Wednesday	Abani Neferkara-Birthday In memory of Victoria Nicholas
Thursday	Henry & Christine Lee-Anniversary
Friday	In memory of Doris & Dcn. Martin-Prayer Gp
Saturday	In memory of Victoria Nicholas In loving memory of Joe Elliott

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, Roland Caldwell, Jane Cannon, Dixie Clark, Shertia Clark, Odessa Curtis, Dcn. Ralph Cyrus, Frances Davies, Viola Davies, Barbara Deale, Barbara DeJesus, Renee Feliu, Diane Finley, Eric Fuller, Priscilla 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, Maximillion 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 and/or Shut-In.

~ PRAYER REQUESTS ~

Please pray for the speedy recovery of *Mary Waters*.

Your continued prayers are asked for the health and well-being of *Kayla Adams, Shirley Adams, Sheila D. Brown, Roland Caldwell, Lisa Chinn, Andre Cooper, Vi Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Elizabeth Holmes, Lindora Owens, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Robert Robinson*, 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 & Deacon Ralph Cyrus*

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH IS WISE STEWARDSHIP

*So, then, each one of us will be accountable to God!
(Romans 14:12)*

Not only our money, O God, but all that we have and are is a gift from you. Help us to find the joy of sharing our blessings with others through our stewardship of time, talent and treasure. May we one day hear the Lord's words, *Well, done good and faithful servants!* 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 amounted to **\$6,670.00**; Faith Direct-**\$2,199.48**; Maintenance-**\$200.00**; Youth-**\$2.00**.

Attendance	5:00pm	16
	8:45am	109
	11:30am	99
		224

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 STUDY: Our adult Bible Study **WILL NOT MEET** this Tuesday, February 27, but will resume on March 6, at 7:30 pm in the rectory. We will continue with our topic, "What Was Adam Doing When Eve Was Eating The Apple?" Why not come and find out? All are welcome.

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! Classes take place from 10:30 to 11:30am in the school. Contact Ms. Wanda Brooks.

SODALITY NEWS

Saturday, March 3, 2018~Union Mass & Meeting-St. Hugh of Genoble 135 Crescent Rd, Greenbelt, MD. Time-TBD.

Sunday, March 4~STM General Meeting after 8:45am Mass; Rosary-8:15am. Must submit Sodality Union Raffle proceeds.

2018 CARDINAL'S APPEAL!!

The 2018 Cardinal's Appeal has begun. You should have received a letter from the Cardinal asking for your support. Last year, we were able to contribute \$ 24,090 to the appeal. In our solicitation on Commitment Sunday, January 28, 50 members made pledges. Your pledges help to support our Catholic Charities programs as well as tuition assistance for Catholic schools, including St. Thomas More. You can donate today by simply completing a pledge form which is available in the church.

Thanks to all who have pledged so far!

PASTOR'S PEN

PREPARING FOR THE EASTER SACRAMENTS

From the days of the Apostles, Easter has been the special time to welcome new members into the family of the Church. Lent is the special season of final preparation for their initiation at Easter.

Our church is blessed to welcome the following:

Adult to be Baptized

Marikia Hawkins

Baptized Adults Making Profession of Faith, Eucharist and Confirmation

Darren Coles
Sheila Dunn

Youth and Children To Be Baptized

Jaida Alexander
Christian Archer
Keith Hawkins
Liliana Hawkins
Penelope Hawkins
Briana Jean-Charles
Gabriel Jean-Charles
Tyler Jones
Tyree Jones
Tyreon Jones
Tyronne Jones
Tyson Jones
Kennedi Price

*Please keep all of our candidates
in your prayers during Lent.*

In the Love of Jesus,

Rev. Raymond Moore

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, March 11, 2018 ~ 2:00-4:00pm!

Lenten Presentation

by our own George Banker, Author, Marathon Runner!!

More info forthcoming soon!

Sponsored by the STM Religious Ed Team.

FISH FRY FRIDAYS!

Remaining Dates:

March 9 & 23!

11:00am to 3:00pm ~ STM Cedar Room

Pre-order forms are available in the church.

Sponsored by the STM B.O.L.D. Committee



WELCOME VISITORS!

We warmly welcome our visitors to St. Thomas More! We invite all who are seeking a church home to join our church family.

Please sign our Guest Book!

THE STM PARISH ACTION COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH!



2018 Theme...

"African Americans in Times of War"

This year commemorates the centennial of the end of the First World War in 1918 and explores the complex meanings and implications of this international struggle and its aftermath. The First World War was initially termed by many as "The Great War," "The War to End All Wars," and the war "to make the world safe for democracy."

February 25: Soul Food Sunday ~ TODAY!!

Enjoy great food & fun during our Annual Family Soul Food Sunday Meal from 2:00pm-5:00pm in the Cedar Room. PAC invites all parishioners to participate. We encourage you to bring your favorite dish. A short program will take place!

This is our FINAL EVENT! Please attend!

~ LENTEN GUIDELINES ~

The Discipline for fasting and abstinence were introduced by Pope Paul VI in 1966. Here is a breakdown of what the Church asks of us:

-Fasting means eating a lesser amount of food. While fasting, only one full meal is taken. Two other smaller meals are usually eaten. While fasting, we do not snack between meals!!

-Catholics who are 18 years of age and not yet 60 years old are asked to observe the fast days of the Church. There are only two days of fasting: *Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.*

-Abstinence means not eating any meat. Dairy products as well as fish and seafood may be eaten.

-The church has established ASH WEDNESDAY and ALL THE FRIDAYS OF LENT AS DAYS OF ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT! We must FAST again on GOOD FRIDAY!

** SPECIAL LENTEN SCHEDULE**

Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, Noon-1pm, Rectory Chapel

Confession

Tuesday, Noon-1:00pm & 6:30-7:30pm, Rectory Chapel

Saturday, February 24 & March 24, 10-11am, Church

Scrutinies

March 4, 2018~ Presentation of the Creed

March 18, 2018~ Presentation of the Our Father

Our 2018 Holy Week schedule of services will be included in next Sunday's Bulletin.

