

**Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy**  
**4275 Fourth Street, Southeast**  
**Washington, D.C. 20032**  
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School: 202-561-1189

***April 22, 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. 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

## Fourth Sunday of Easter



### Preparing to Hear God's Word

**Reading I:** Acts 4:8-12~Peter proclaims Jesus as Savior to the Sanhedrin.

**Responsorial:** Psalm 118~The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.

**Reading II:** 1 John 3:1-2~John reminds us that we are God's children now.

**Gospel:** John 10:11-18~Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

### Readings for Next Sunday

Acts 9:26-31    1 Jn 3:18-24    Jn 15:1-8

### DAILY MASS READINGS

Tuesday:	Acts 11:19-26	John 10:22-30
Wednesday:	Acts 12:24-13:5a	John 12:44-50
Thursday:	Acts 13:13-25	John 13:16-20
Friday:	Acts 13:26-33	John 14:1-6
Saturday:	Acts 13:44-52	John 14:7-14

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	Antoinette Torain-Birthday
11:30am	Health of Vi Davies
Monday	Franklin Makle-Birthday
	In loving memory of Juanita Mercer-Birthday
Tuesday	Henry Herrera-Birthday
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Health of Roland Caldwell
Friday	In loving memory of Monica Coates
Saturday	Health of Earl Hamilton

### PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty Beatty, Marie Brown, Shirley Brown, Francillia Browne, Cynthia Bruce, Felicia V. Bush, John 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 & 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, Maximillon Holland, Elizabeth Holmes, Darryl Jackson, Jimmie Jackson, Ivy John, Carolyn Johnson, Ronald Johnson, Sarah Jones, Seymour & Patrick Jones, David Larison, Dennis Lucas, James Makle, Jr., 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 ~

Your continued prayers are also asked for the health and well-being of *Shirley Adams, Sheila D. Brown, Audrey & Roland Caldwell, Lisa Chinn, Vi Davies, Priscilla Fuller, Earl Hamilton, Elizabeth Holmes, Ronald Johnson, 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. Casimir, Ed Poindexter & Deacon Ralph Cyrus*

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH IS WISE STEWARDSHIP

*"If it is to encourage others, we should do so. Whoever shares with others should do it generously; whoever has authority should work hard; whoever shows kindness to others should do it cheerfully."* (Romans 12:8)

We are always learning how to do better what we do in your service, O God. As we bring our offerings, teach us how to give with willing and generous hearts and discover the joy of stewardship. 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 **Sunday, April 15, 2018** amounted to **\$5,632.00; Maintenance-\$80.00; Youth-\$6.00.**

Attendance	5:00pm	9
	8:45am	120
	11:30am	<u>99</u>
		228

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:** Adult Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at 7:30pm in the rectory. We are continuing with the 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.

## ANNUAL SENIOR LUNCHEON!!

The St. Thomas More Outreach Committee is holding its

*Annual Senior Luncheon*

*on*

*Saturday, May 19, 2018.*

*Seniors, 62 years of age and older, are invited to attend!*

*Space is limited to 100 attendees!*

A Sign-up Sheet is posted in the church.

***Once this number is reached we will not be able to accept additional names...so please register soon!***

## PASTOR'S PEN

### *An Easter Reflection For This Good Shepherd Sunday*

Every Fourth Sunday of Easter we focus on Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Writer Peter Marrin offers the following reflection which I would like to share with you this Good Shepherd Sunday.

*The image of lost sheep certainly describes many people today who have wandered away or feel abandoned by the church. The thought that someone is out there searching for them, eager to rescue them from the brambles of human temptation and estrangement, to bind up their wounds, lift them up on strong shoulders and carry them home—is a comforting message.*

*Mercy is first aid. Pope Francis' vision of a merciful church does not dismiss the need for justice or accountability. He simply puts mercy first. The prodigal son, the ultimate lost sheep, might never have come home if he thought his father would only scold, belittle and punish him. In his desolate state, the son must have sensed that his father was grieving for him and wanted him to return home. In fact, the story suggests that it was the father's longing, his daily walks to the gate to see if his son was on his way, that prompted the son to consider coming home.*

*The Good Shepherd will not give up on a single sheep. He knows each one by name, loves them so much he is willing to lay down his life to save each one of them. God's unconditional love leaps into action at the first sign of repentance. Pope Francis has said, "We tire of asking for God's forgiveness, but God never tires of offering it." God's name is mercy. God cannot do otherwise, for it is God's very nature to love and forgive.*

*Today's gospel is for anyone responsible for others. This includes parents, teachers, priests and even bishops. Anyone entrusted with others who are vulnerable and need guidance has a model in the Good Shepherd. Their office cannot be just control or direction from a distance. A true shepherd goes among the sheep with humility and gentleness until he or she, in Pope Francis' words, "smells like the sheep."*

*When trouble comes, the shepherd does not flee or look to his own interests like the hireling. The Good Shepherd is responsible for protecting the flock from harm. We celebrate Easter by praying to be part of the community of the risen Christ. But it is less a comfort zone than a staging area for God's mission of mercy to the world. Are we ready and willing to be good shepherds ourselves?*

*In the Love of Jesus,*

*Rev. Raymond Moore*

## SPECIAL SODALITY EVENT TODAY!!

All are invited to join the STM Sodality at a  
"Seasonal/Birthday Fest" from 2:00-5:00pm,  
in the STM Cedar Room!

*You will sample Delicious Food for  
Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter!*

Come out, enjoy yourselves and fellowship with the  
STM Sodality!!

Donation: \$12.00-adults; \$8.00-children.



## WELCOME VISITORS!

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

*We invite all who are seeking a church  
home to join our church family.*

*Please encourage visitors to sign our  
Guest Book located near the Main Entrance.*

## CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION~2018

*Please keep our candidates for sacraments of  
Confirmation and First Communion in your prayers  
during this Easter season!*

*Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday, June 2,  
2:00pm, at the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate  
Conception, Washington, DC.*

*First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, June  
10, at the 8:45 Mass.*

### *~Confirmation Candidates~*

*Marquis Brown  
Cierra Garrison  
Lindsey Lamb  
Daija Moore  
Dione' Moore  
Andria Otis-Coker  
Sydni Smith  
Jordan Weber  
Jalyn Whitaker*

### *~Candidates for First Communion~*

*Jaida Alexander  
Cameron Anthony  
Camille Anthony  
Briana Jean-Charles  
Gabriel Jean-Charles  
Tyreon Jones  
Tyree Jones  
Tyrone Jones  
Anna Pitsenberger  
Kennedi Price  
Tierra Tyer*

## 2018 CARDINAL'S APPEAL

### PROGRESS REPORT:

Thank you to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2018 Cardinal's Annual Appeal. *We are 56.9% of the way towards our goal of \$37,045. So far, we have pledged \$21,083.* If you have not yet made your commitment to the Appeal, it is not too late to help make a difference in the lives of others by visiting [appeal.adw.org](http://appeal.adw.org). Remember that your support provides funding for Catholic Charities, school tuition assistance for families and the Merrick Center. *Thanks to all who have pledged thus far!*

