

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 Website: www.stthomasmoredc.org
School: 202-561-1189

July 22, 2018



***Enlisting Witnesses for Jesus Christ-
Answering the Call to Missionary Discipleship***

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	(Rector's Chapel)
Sunday	8:45 am	Youth Choir
	11:30 am	Gospel Choir
Weekdays	8:00 am	(Rector's 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



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Jer 23:1-6~ Jeremiah warns against misleading shepherds and announces that a new shepherd will be sent to lead Israel.

Responsorial: Psalm 23~ *The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*

Reading II: Eph 2:13-18~ *Christ is our peace.*

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34~ *Jesus is a good shepherd. He never misleads us but always teaches what we need to "dwell in security."*

Readings for Next Sunday

2 Kgs 4:42-44 Eph 4:1-6 Jn 6:1-16

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Mic 6:1-4, 6-8	Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday:	Mic 7:14-15, 18-20	Mt 12:46-50
Wednesday:	2 Cor 4:7-15	Mt 20:20-28
Thursday:	Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13	Mt 13:10-17
Friday:	Jer 3:14-17	Mt 13:18-23
Saturday:	Jer 7:1-11	Mt 13:24-30

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

- Sunday 8:45am Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
- 11:30am Family of Kandeh (KT) Turay
- Monday Pattie Hamilton-Birthday
- Tuesday Patricia Caldwell-Birthday
- In loving memory of Lu Hamilton-Birthday
- Wednesday In loving memory of Betty Norris
- Thursday In loving memory of Thomas Proctor
- Friday Health of Roland and Audrey Caldwell
- Saturday Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones

PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty Beatty, Hilda Best, Marie Brown, Shirley Brown, Francillia Browne, Cynthia Bruce, Felicia V. Bush, John Bush, Roland Caldwell, Jane Cannon, Dixie Clark, Shertia Clark, Odessa Curtis, Den. 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, Zynae Green, Emmanuel Greene, William Gunn, Earl Hamilton, Andre Harris, Margaret Harris, Vance Harris II, June Harrison, Shant'e Hawkins, Maximillion Holland, Elizabeth Holmes, Darryl Jackson, Jimmie Jackson, Ivy John, Carolyn 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, Lucille Rivas, 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 continue to pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of **Kandeh (KT) Turay**, beloved brother of Chantel Bright. Please pray also for his family and friends at this most difficult time. Your prayers are asked for the health and well-being of **Shirley Adams, Hilda Best, Sheila D. Brown, Audrey & Roland Caldwell, Vi Davies, Bob & Priscilla Fuller, Zynae Green, Earl Hamilton, Elizabeth Holmes, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Lucille Rivas, 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, July 15, 2018** amounted to **\$5,476.00. Maintenance-\$233.00.**

Attendance	5:00pm	22
	8:45am	110
	11:30am	87
		<u>219</u>

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**.

ENLISTING WITNESSES FOR JESUS-ANSWERING THE CALL TO MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 16, 2018!

Adult Faith Formation And RCIA

This program is for adults wishing to become Catholic or desiring to increase their knowledge of Catholicism. We will be meeting in the Red Room on Sunday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 beginning September 16. **Adults seeking a closer relationship with Jesus Christ are encouraged to participate.**

Youth Religious Education

This program is for children preparing for the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. We have classes for children from Kindergarten through Eighth Grade. Our classes will meet in the school on Sunday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 starting September 16. **All families are encouraged to participate.**

Youth Group

The Youth Group is for high school age youth, who have received the sacrament of Confirmation. This ministry provides ongoing formation in faith, ministry, community service and positive Christian peer fellowship. Youth Group meets on Sunday morning from 10:30 to 11:30 in the rectory living room. **All youth are invited to get involved.**

PRINCIPAL SEARCH UPDATE: The selection committee is in the process of interviewing candidates for principal of the Academy. We are now beginning our second round of candidate interviews. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide our process and a great leader will be selected.

**SOWING AND GROWING SEEDS OF
BETTER DISCIPLESHIP
AND
GREATER HOLINESS**

In today's gospel, Jesus sees "a vast crowd. His heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd." In the midst of conflict, chaos and confusion, we hear the voice of Jesus Christ, the "Shepherd" who calls us to see beyond our own disappointments and hurts to be generous agents of grace who minister hope, healing and divine mercy to others in their need.

Like the disciples in the Gospel we are to minister to those who hunger and thirst for righteousness as we proclaim the kingdom of God in our world ministering mercy to those in need—people who are hungry and thirsty, people who are sick—physically and spiritually, people who without jobs or in prison. Like the disciples Jesus sent out "two by two", we are also equipped to meet the challenges this world imposes. Are you hungry and thirsty for what is right? Jesus is waiting for us to respond with his divine mercy.

Again, we turn to Pope Francis and his insights found in his letter entitled, *Rejoice and Be Glad (Gaudete Et Exsultate)*. This week we focus on the Beatitude, "Blessed are the merciful for they will receive mercy."

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Mercy has two aspects. It involves giving, helping and serving others, but it also includes forgiveness and understanding. Matthew sums it up in one golden rule: "In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you." The Catechism reminds us that this law is to be applied in every case, especially when we are confronted by situations that make moral judgments less assured and decisions difficult.

Giving and forgiving means reproducing in our lives some small measure of God's perfection, which gives and forgives superabundantly. For this reason, in the Gospel of Luke we do not hear the words, "Be perfect" (Matthew 5:48), but rather, "Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged, condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give and it will be given to you" (6:36-38). Luke then adds something not to be overlooked: "The measure you give will be the measure you get back." (6:38). The yardstick we use for giving will measure what we receive. We should never forget this.

Jesus does not say, "Blessed are those who plot revenge." He calls blessed those who forgive and do so "seventy times seven" (Matt 18:22). We need to think of ourselves as an army of the forgiven. All of us have been looked upon with divine compassion. If we approach the Lord with sincerity and listen carefully, there may well be times when we hear his reproach: "Should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?" (Matt 18:33).

Seeing and acting with mercy: that is holiness.
Pope Francis

CARDINAL'S APPEAL JUNE UPDATE:

As of June 22, 2018, we have increased participation from 56.9% to 66%. We have pledged \$24,433.00 from a total of 94 pledges, with an average pledge of \$260.00!

Let's all do our part to reach this goal. Simply fill out the appeal envelope in the back of the church and place in the collection or give to an usher. Be sure to make your checks payable to the "Cardinal's Appeal". Thanks to all who have sown the seeds of generosity by supporting this year's appeal



WELCOME VISITORS!

*We warmly welcome our visitors to
St. Thomas More Church!
We invite all who are seeking a
church home to join our
St. Thomas More church family.
Please encourage all visitors to sign our
Guest Book located near the Main Entrance.*

FIVE WAYS WE CAN BETTER SERVE YOU:

1. If you are new to our church, complete a registration form. (Available in back of church.)
2. If your address has changed recently let us know by completing a change of address form. (Available in back of church.)
3. Consider using ***Faith Direct*** (e-giving) for your tithing and church support. It is easier and more efficient and saves paper as well. See announcement in this bulletin.
4. If you are not active in a church ministry, please receive our invitation to get involved and serve. Complete and turn in a sign-up form. (Available in the back of church.)
5. Become a "***Missionary Disciple***" by sowing and growing the seeds of faith by inviting friends or family to be a part of our church.

PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES!

**STM Outreach Committee's
Annual Crab Feast**

Sunday, September 16, 2018, 2:00-5:00pm

~SISTER TO SISTER~

Proclaiming Our Season of Faith and Power!

Saturday, September 8, 2018

10:00am to 3:00pm

Speaker: Last year's East of the River Revivalist,
Rev. Roy Lee, PhD

Tickets~\$35.00 (Includes continental breakfast and lunch.)

Location: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
1600 Morris Road, SE, DC

Registration Forms Available in the Back of Church

2018 East of the River Revival

Theme: Jesus, Heal Our Land
Revivalist: Father Sidney Speaks

Youth Rally: Saturday, September 29

St. Thomas More, 10:00am to 4:30pm

Activities for children and youth ages 7 to 18.

Mass with Bishop Dorsonville at 12:00pm

Revival: October 1-3, 2018

Holy Family Church, Hilcrest Heights

Praise and Worship starts at 7:00pm

Closing Mass with Bishop Roy Campbell
on Wednesday evening.

