

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
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October 21, 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
Mr. Gerald Smith, 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	(Rectorry Chapel)
Sunday	8:45 am	Youth Choir
	11:30 am	Gospel Choir
Weekdays	8:00 am	(Rectorry 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 Rectorry.

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 Rectorry.
CCD Classes: Every Sunday at 10:30am
Bible Study: Every Tuesday at 7:30pm

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Is 53:10-11 ~The servant gives his life for others.

Responsorial: Psalm 33 ~Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Reading II: Heb 4:14-16 ~Jesus shares in our suffering.

Gospel: Mark 10:35-45 ~Jesus reveals the stark requirement for sharing in his glory—drink his cup of suffering, be baptized into his death.

Readings for Next Sunday

Jer 31:7-9 Heb 5:1-6 Mark 10:46-52

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Eph 2:1-10	Luke 12:13-21
Tuesday:	2 Tim 4:10-17b	Luke 10:1-9
Wednesday:	Eph 3:2-12	Luke 12:29-48
Thursday:	Eph 3: 14-21	Luke 12: 49-53
Friday:	Eph 4:1-6	Luke 12:54-59
Saturday:	Eph 4:7-16	Luke 13:1-9

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	In loving memory of Lucille Rivas
11:30am	In loving memory of Devin Clay
Monday	In loving memory of Larry Jones
Tuesday	Those Impacted by Hurricane Michael
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Those impacted by Breast Cancer
Friday	In loving memory of Delores Anne Dawson
Saturday	In memory of James Neal

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, Audrey Caldwell, Jane Cannon, Dixie Clark, Elois 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, Zynae Green, Emmanuel Greene, William Gunn, Andre Harris, Margaret Harris, Vance Harris II, June Harrison, Shant'e Hawkins, Maximillon 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, Arthur Robinson, Jean, Leroy & Robert Robinson, Daja Rogers, Yolanda Rollins, Thelma Sawyer, Robin Sescoc, Ciara Shields, Brenda Smith, Claudell St. Julien, Edsel Swann, Jane Thomas, Kristine Vivican, Rev. Raymond Wadas, Kayla Warren, Paul Waters, Marilyn Denise Whetstone, Yvonne White, 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 souls of devoted parishioner **Lucille Rivas**, and longtime STM Academy teacher, **Larry Jones**. Please pray for consolation of their loved ones, and for our STM Catholic Academy Family.

Your continued prayers are asked for **Shirley Adams, Hilda Best, Sheila D. Brown, Audrey Caldwell, Vi Davies, Bob & Priscilla Fuller, Zynae Green, Elizabeth Holmes, Marion & Ruth Richardson, Robert Robinson, Yolanda Rollins**, 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, October 14, 2018** amounted to **\$11,604.12. Faith Direct-\$2,317.00, Maintenance-\$40.00.**

Attendance	5:00pm	19
	8:45am	141
	11:30am	<u>112</u>
		272

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 CHRIST

Youth Religious Education

Our Religious Education Program for children in pre-kindergarten through Confirmation formally began last Sunday. It is not too late to register students. Classes are held Sunday mornings in the school from 10:30 to 11:30.

All families are encouraged to participate.

Youth Ministry

Our Youth Ministry Program, for youth who have received the sacrament of Confirmation through the twelfth grade, meets on Sunday mornings at 10:30 in the rectory living room.

All youth are encouraged to participate.

Adult Faith Formation

Our Adult Faith Formation Program is designed for adults preparing to become Catholics, and for those Catholics who would like to learn more about the Catholic Faith. The group meets on Sunday morning at 10:30 in the Red Room.

All adults are welcome.

Adult Bible Study

Our Adult Bible Study will resume on Tuesday evening, October 9th at 7:30pm in the rectory living room. **All adults are invited to participate in our lively and interesting discussions.**

The STM Parish Action Committee extends THANKS to all Parishioners and STM Academy members who supported our Annual Line Dance Social on Saturday, October 13, 2018! We truly had a great time in fellowship, dancing, eating lots of good food or just enjoying the various Line Dances. With your help, STM-PAC was able to present **\$1,500.00+** to the Church to assist with parish needs. Thank you, Billy Hawkins, Robert Robinson and all involved with our STM-PAC.

PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

During the past few weeks our church family has suffered through the deaths of several of our good members, people who truly made a huge difference in the lives of their families and our church family. In addition to long-time members Earl Hamilton, Roland Caldwell and Lucille Rivas, this week we also lost Larry Jones, a beloved teacher in our school for seventeen years. These losses cause us to lean on the everlasting arms of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Each of these people gave a strong testimony to Jesus Christ by their good and holy lives. We want to celebrate their lives and mourn their passing at the same time.

One of the great truths of our Catholic faith is the Communion of Saints. We believe that the Church is a "communion of saints": this term refers first to the holy things, above all the Eucharist, by which the "unity of believers, who form one body in Christ, is both represented and brought about."

The term "communion of saints" refers also to the communion of holy persons in Christ who "died for all," so that what each one does or suffers in and for Christ bears fruit for all.

We believe in the communion of all the faithful of Christ, those who are pilgrims on earth, the dead who are being purified, and the blessed in heaven, all together forming one Church; and we believe that in this communion, the merciful love of God and his saints is always attentive to our prayers.

In a letter written by an early saint by the name of St. Braulio, we read: "Let the hope of the resurrection encourage us, then, because we shall see again those whom we lose here below. Of course, we must continue to believe firmly in Christ; we must continue to obey his commandments. His power is so great that it is easier for him to raise the dead to life than it is for us to arouse those who are sleeping. As we are saying all these things some unknown feeling causes us to burst into tears; some hidden feeling discourages the mind which tries to trust and to hope. Without Christ all of life is utter emptiness." But with Christ and the healing power of his grace we are able to overcome the darkness death brings and we put on the "full armor of Christ" which will bring us safely through the dark night of death.

May the good and gentle Jesus bring peace and comfort to all who are suffering the pain and emptiness of grief. May you find encouragement and comfort in our faith in Jesus!

Peace, comfort and prayers for all of you.

Father Moore

CARDINAL'S APPEAL UPDATE

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.

CHURCH SECURITY TASK FORCE FORMED

In an effort to better secure our facilities, a Security Task Force has been formed. Rodney Hollins and Kim Mason, both law enforcement officers, are heading this effort. The plan is being developed. Our ushers have undergone training and the congregation will be informed of our security plan.



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 visitors to sign our Guest Book!*

A PRAYER FOR HARD TIMES, AND GOOD

Recently, we have experienced a number of losses through death and sickness, and other life disappointments. To help those who are grieving, the following prayer might be helpful.

Father, there is never a good time for Sorrow,
or the pain of uncertainty that comes with tomorrow.
We pray for your goodness to see us through,
when life is the hardest, and when times are good.

Father, we pray for all those in need,
All my friends and my family.
We pray for your strength to see us through,
when life is the hardest, and when times are good.

Father, when life seems to throw us a curve,
when we are unsettled, upset, unnerved and cannot pray.
We pray for your wisdom to get us through,
when life is the hardest, and when times are good.

Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.
I thank you for Jesus who showed us he cared.
We pray for your Spirit to see us through,
when life is the hardest, and when times are good.

We pray, AMEN!

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month!

Self-Exams are Important! Screening Can Save Lives!

SPECIAL MASS

On Sunday, October 28, 2018, we will be **Celebrating Life** at the 11:30am Mass in recognition of the closing of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. EVERYONE is asked to wear something PINK to show your support. In anticipation of this Mass a **PINK BOX** is located in the church. **Please list the names of Warriors who are fighting this battle, and those who have succumbed to this disease**, and place them in the box **by TODAY, October 21st**, so that we may acknowledge and pray for these courageous warriors at this Special Mass.

"Women of the Spirit" Concert! **St. Thomas More Church**

November 11, 2018 ~ 3:00pm ~ Tickets-\$10.00

Proceeds will be given to support STM Church.

****Special Invitation... All Women's Choir****

Current and former female members of any STM Choir- and interested women from the congregation- are invited to join a special Women's Choir now forming to sing for this concert under the direction of our own Charnetta Dobbins.

Rehearsals will take place in the church at 7:00pm on the following Mondays: October 22, 29 & November 5; and a Dress Rehearsal on Saturday, November 10, 2018!

For more info and/or to purchase tickets, please see:
Margaret Chambers, Barbara Elliott, Elma Garnett, Pattie Hamilton, Rena Meredith, Margaret Spencer or Connie Tardy

