

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

November 4, 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	(Rectorly Chapel)
Sunday	8:45 am	Youth Choir
	11:30 am	Gospel Choir
Weekdays	8:00 am	(Rectorly 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 Rectorly.

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

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Deut 6:2-6 ~ Love the Lord with all your heart.

Responsorial: Psalm 18 ~ I love you Lord, my strength.

Reading II: Heb 7:23-28 ~ Jesus has a priesthood that does not pass away.

Gospel: Mark 12:28b-34 ~ There is no other commandment greater than these.

Readings for Next Sunday

1 Kings 17:10-16 Heb 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Phil 2:1-4	Luke 14:12-14
Tuesday:	Phil 2:5-11	Luke 14:15-24
Wednesday:	Phil 2:12-18	Luke 14:25-33
Thursday:	Phil 3:3-8a	Luke 15:1-10
Friday	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12	1Cor3:9c-11,16-17 Jn 2:13-22
Saturday:	Phil 4:10-19	Luke 16:9-15

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	In memory of Hilda Best
11:30am	Health of George Hanna
Monday	Health of Alice Proctor
Tuesday	Suzanne Chandler-Birthday Safekeeping of All Voters
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Health of Audrey Caldwell
Friday	In memory of Anthony B. Savoy-Birthday
Saturday	In loving memory of Lula 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, Audrey Caldwell, Jane Cannon, Dixie Clark, Elois Clark, Shertia Clark, Odessa Curtis, Dcn. Ralph Cyrus, Frances Davies, Barbara Deale, Barbara DeJesus, Renee Felio, 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 soul of our devoted parishioner, **Hilda Best**, and the comfort of her loved ones.

Your continued prayers are also asked for *and Shirley Adams, Sheila D. Brown, Audrey Caldwell, Bob & Priscilla Fuller, Zynae Green, George Hanna, Elizabeth Holmes, Alice Proctor, 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. Casmir, Ed Poindexter & Deacon Ralph Cyrus.*

2019 LECTOR WORKBOOKS NOW AVAILABLE: All lectors are reminded that the workbooks for 2019 are available in the usher room in the rear of the church. The new church liturgical year begins on the First Sunday of Advent, December 2.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH IS WISE STEWARDSHIP

Let us always offer praise to God as our sacrifice through Jesus, which is the offering presented by lips that confess him as Lord. Do not forget to do good and to help one another, because these are the sacrifices that please God. (Hebrews 13:15-16)

As our hearts are attuned to sing your praise, O God, may our hands be accustomed to giving, that the actions of our hands may reveal the song of our hearts and resound to the glory of God. 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 28, 2018** amounted to **\$7,879.56**

Attendance	5:00pm	15
	8:45am	128
	11:30am	129
		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.*

SPECIAL THANKS!!

St. Thomas More Academy is grateful to all who supported our fundraising efforts by purchasing Krispy Kreme Donuts. Your generosity helped us to realize a profit of nearly \$3,900.

PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we gather this Sabbath Day, we hear words from the mouth and heart of Jesus that give us all the strength and courage we need to be faithful to the Gospel and to build up God's kingdom in the midst of the trials and tribulations of life. We are confronted with the horrible reality of mass shootings in places of worship and schools, and the random violence in our community that claim the lives of innocent children and good adults.

In today's gospel, Jesus gives us good insight. When asked about the greatest commandment of the law, he says, "You shall love the lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Mark 12:29-31). To love as God commands and Jesus teaches requires a spirit of humility that realizes we are all children of the same God who calls and blesses us all with no regard to race, ethnicity, religion or social or economic status. There is no greater sacrifice of praise we can make to God for his many blessings to us, no greater song of thanks we can offer than to honor God in those who, like each one of us, has been created in the divine image. To love as God loves demands every fiber of our being-our heart, our soul, our mind and our strength. The love of God forces us outside our comfort zones, compelling a "growth mindset" where we must put our own feelings and wants and desires on the line, to risk being hurt or misunderstood for the sake of our beloved Creator and God.

In creating us, God invites us to participate in the work of creation by embracing God's spirit of love. In today's gospel, Jesus lifts up such love as the very center of his Kingdom. Our devotion to God is not at all genuine unless it includes love, respect and compassion for our brothers and sisters; this commitment to others is incomplete without recognition of God as the Source of all love. It is in the compassion and kindness extended to our neighbors that our humanity most resembles God; it is in the respect and honor in which we hold others that we most praise the God of love; it is in acts of charity and selflessness that we mirror the love of God in our midst. In the twofold "Great Commandment" we discover a purpose to our lives much greater and larger than ourselves and our own self-centered needs, interests, prejudices and biases. In loving God in one another we find the ultimate meaning and purpose of the gifts of life and faith.

May God's perfect love rest in our hearts, our homes, our neighborhoods and nation!

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.

SODALITY NEWS!

STM General Meeting: Today, November 4, after 8:45am Mass. Rosary-8:15am.

BAKE SALE now through November 11th. You may place an order for baked goods for the upcoming holiday season. Pre-orders will be taken, with a deposit, until the 11th!

Pick-up date: Nov. 18th. Please see Laura Brown, Margaret Butler or Judy Kenner for a form.

Your support is greatly appreciated!



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!

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.

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

NEXT Sunday, November 11, 2018!

Time ~3:00pm Tickets ~\$10.00

~ Featuring ~

***St. Thomas More Women's Choir,
St. Thomas More Youth Choir, Aaron Young
AND***

~ Invited Guests ~

***Jubilee Majestics Choir
St. James Community Choir
St. Margaret's of Scotland Choir
St. Martin of Tours Choir
St. Theresa of Avila Dance Ministry***

***Please join us for an afternoon of
Praising God in Song and Dance!***

***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***

Proceeds will be given to support STM Church.

