

**Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy**  
**4275 Fourth Street, Southeast**  
**Washington, D.C. 20032**  
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E-mail: [stmchurch@comcast.net](mailto:stmchurch@comcast.net) Website: [www.stthomasmoredc.org](http://www.stthomasmoredc.org)  
School: 202-561-1189

*January 6, 2019*



## *Glory to God in the Highest*

**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	(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



## **Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord Preparing to Hear God's Word**

**Reading I: Isa 60:1-6** ~ Raise your eyes and see the goodness of God. All people are invited to God's saving grace and merciful love.

**Responsorial: Psalm 72** ~ Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

**Reading II: Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6** ~ As the light of Christ shines on in us, we are invited to see what lies deep within our own hearts, to bring forth what is good, and then spend ourselves for others.

**Gospel: Matt 2:1-12** ~ As the light of Christ shines on in us, we are invited to see what lies deep within our own hearts, to bring forth what is good, and then spend ourselves for others.

### **Readings for Next Sunday**

**Is 42: 1-4, 6-7 Acts 10:34-38 Lk 3:15-16,21-22**

### **DAILY MASS READINGS**

Monday:	1 John 3:22-4:6	Matt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday:	1 John 4:7-10	Mark 6:34-44
Wednesday:	1 John 4:11-18	Mark 6:45-52
Thursday:	1 John 4:19-5:4	Luke 4:14-22
Friday:	1 John 5:5-13	Luke 5:12-16
Saturday:	1 John 5:14-21	John 3:22-30

### **MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:**

Sunday 8:45am Health of Bertha Williams

11:30am Intentions of STM Parishioners

Monday	In memory of Richard Tyer
Tuesday	Health of Robert Milner
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	Health of Marion and Ruth Richardson
Friday	Health of Audrey Caldwell
Saturday	Michael Russell-Birthday

### **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 Feliu, Diane Finley, 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 Sescocoe, Ciara Shields, Brenda Smith, Edsel Swann, Jane Thomas, Kristine Vivican, Rev. Raymond Wadas, 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 ~**

Your continued prayers are appreciated for Shirley Adams, Sheila D. Brown, Audrey Caldwell, Priscilla Fuller, Zynae Green, Elizabeth Holmes, Robert Milner, 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. Casimir, Ed Poindexter & Deacon Ralph Cyrus.*

## **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 **December 23, 2018** amounted to **\$5,687.00**; Faith Direct-\$3,743.87; Maintenance-\$106.00; Youth-\$3.00. Combined Attendance: **175**

Tithes and offerings for **Christmas Eve/Day** amounted to **\$5,403.00**. Combined Attendance: **241**

Tithes and offerings for **December 30, 2018** amounted to **\$4,868.75**. Maintenance-\$20.00; Youth-\$3.00.

Attendance	5:00pm	16
	8:45am	102
	11:30am	<u>89</u>
		207

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!**

We all strive to be good stewards of our blessings. Over the past months, many of our members now use Faith Direct (e-giving) to fulfill their stewardship commitments to our church. Electronic giving is less expensive than the offertory envelopes. By switching to Faith Direct, we reduce our envelope and postage expenses. Consider joining Faith Direct and support St. Thomas More by using this secure and convenient program. It is simple to start. Enroll by visiting [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) to enroll securely on line. **Our parish code is DCC773.**

### **ENLISTING WITNESSES FOR JESUS CHRIST**

**Youth Religious Education:** Our Religious Education Program for children in pre-kindergarten through Confirmation formally began September 16<sup>th</sup>. 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, January 8, 2019, at 7:30pm in the rectory living room. We will continue our study of the Twelve Apostles. All adults are invited to participate in our lively and interesting discussions.*

## PASTORAL REFLECTION

### Living As Holy Families

The following was a part of last Sunday's homily for the Feast of the Holy Family. Because so many of you requested, it is included today. Hopefully, it will help you as we enter the New Year of 2019.

1. Make up your mind to be happy. Learn to find pleasure in the simple things in life.
2. Make the best of your circumstances. No one has everything, and everyone has something of sorrow intermingled with gladness in life. The trick is to make the laughter to outweigh the tears.
3. Don't take yourself too seriously. Don't think that somehow you should be protected from the misfortunes that befall others.
4. You can't please everyone. So, don't let criticism worry you.
5. Don't let others set your standards. Make up your mind to do what is right and be yourself.
6. Do the things you enjoy doing but stay out of debt.
7. Don't borrow trouble. Imaginary burdens are harder to bear than the actual ones.
8. Since hate poisons the soul do not hold fast to grudges and meanness. Go out of your way to avoid negative people.
9. Don't spend your time replaying sorrows and mistakes from the past. Make up your mind not to be the person who doesn't get over things.
10. Have many interests. Be open to doing new things. Read as many books as you can. And travel to new places.
11. Do what you can for those who are less fortunate than yourself.
12. Keep busy at something. A busy person has less time to be unhappy.

*"The New Year means for many people a time of making resolutions, the time for deciding that the present and the future will be lived more intentionally than in the past, and it is important, this matter of making resolutions, because it organizes the formal intent of the personality in a given direction; it is a commitment of the individual to a performance in the future based upon an intention in the present. And this is important. Whether the individual is able to carry out in detail the resolution—whether you are able to fulfill the thing that you intend to do—there is a clear gain in being able to bring together all of one's self in a point of focus and say this is the thing that I intend to do tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow."*

**-Dr. Howard Thurman**

## OUTREACH TO COVENANT HOUSE WASHINGTON!

Under the guidance of Ms. Wanda Brooks and our Youth Ministry Team and Catechists, our youth reached out in the spirit of Christmas collecting sheets, towels and jackets to help those who are served by Covenant House Washington. Covenant House is a nationwide ministry that serves young people who are at risk and homeless.



## 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 sign our Guest Book!*

### ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE:

The **Annual Appeal** supports many of the ministries and service organizations of the Archdiocese of Washington. For example, our school is funded in part from the appeal through direct support to the Consortium of Catholic Academies and the tuition assistance program that provides tuition subsidies to our families. The Merrick Center, which we worked so hard to build, is not self-sustaining and relies on the AOW for help. Both our school and the Merrick Center provide great services to our community. Our goal for this year remains \$37,045. Thus far 106 of our members have pledged \$27,793. We just need \$9,252 to reach our goal. This represents 75% total parishioner participation. The average pledge is \$262. If you have yet to pledge, please consider even a small gift. Every penny counts. There are three convenient ways to make your gift: Complete pledge form found in the back of the church, on-line by visiting [www.appeal.adw.org](http://www.appeal.adw.org), or text "Give" to (301) 231-1816. Follow the link provided. *Many thanks for supporting the Annual Appeal.*

## STM CATHOLIC ACADEMY

### \*LIBRARY DRIVE\*

*Our STM Catholic Academy seeks your support as it strives to build a Community of Readers! Please see "STM Catholic Academy News" for more info!*

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### \*AN EVENING OF JAZZ\*

*~ Saturday, February 9, 2019 ~  
7:00pm*

*Music, Fun, Spoken Word,  
Raffle Tickets, Awesome Prizes...and More!*

### Special Guest:

*Jazz Saxophonist Keith Kool-K Wilson  
and STM Alumni Students*

**TICKETS: VIP~\$40.00 Regular~\$25.00**

*For more information please visit  
[stm@catholicacademies.org](mailto:stm@catholicacademies.org)*

**FLOCK NOTES IS COMING:** In response to the need to better communicate with you, our members, we are implementing "Flock Notes" which will allow us to communicate with you directly by email, text or voice mail. Further details forthcoming soon. "Flock Notes" will also permit us to communicate directly with individual ministries and organizations.

### CHURCH ON THE MOVE UPDATE:

**Weight loss challenge starts TODAY:** Payments due; last minute on the spot registration; baseline weigh-in; "lose it" app assistance; all questions answered. **Movement classes will now begin on January 14<sup>th</sup>, so there is still time to sign up!** See Vi Davies in the Teachers' Lounge after Mass.

