

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

January 20, 2019



**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	(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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: *Is 62:1-5 ~God rejoices in his people as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride.*

Responsorial: *Psalm 96 ~ Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations.*

Reading II: *1 Cor 12:4-11 ~All spiritual gifts are of the one spirit.*

Gospel: *John 2:1-11 ~Water becomes wine at Cana.*

Readings for Next Sunday

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 1 Cor 12:12-30 Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Heb 5:1-10	Mark 2:18-22
Tuesday:	Heb 6: 10-20	Mark 2:23-28
Wednesday:	Heb 7:1-3, 15-17	Mark 3:1-6
Thursday:	Heb 7:25-8:6	Mark 3:7-12
Friday:	Acts 22:3-16	Mark 16:15-18
Saturday:	2 Tim 1:1-8	Mark 3:20-21

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	Ayanna Ezeani-Birthday
11:30am	All Impacted by the Government Shutdown
Monday	In loving memory of Carrie Pearson Dr. Martin Luther King-Birthday Observance
Tuesday	In loving memory of Leon C. Roberts
Wednesday	In memory of Leonard Singleton-Birthday
Thursday	Karyn N. Hamilton-Birthday In loving memory of Mary Webster-Birthday
Friday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Saturday	Peace in Our Communities

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, 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, Arthur Robinson, Jean, Leroy & Robert Robinson, Daja Rogers, Yolanda Rollins, Thelma Sawyer, Robin Sescoc, 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 ~

Please pray for all of our brothers and sisters who have been impacted by the U.S. Government Shutdown.

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. Casmir, 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."*

Faith Direct~ \$2,444.50.*

**Due to last weekend's snowstorm, there is no additional Offertory Report for January 13, 2019. We are grateful for everyone's safekeeping last Sunday.*

2018 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS:

2018 Contribution Statements totaling \$100.00 or more have been mailed. We are continuing with the Parish Soft recordkeeping program implemented by the Archdiocese. Please be most attentive to your TOTAL CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT.

In the event that you have any questions and/or clarifications, please direct them to Pattie Hamilton, stmchurch@comcast.net. Our goal is to ensure that all statements are in alignment.

Thank you for your continued, generous stewardship!

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 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 began last September. 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 meets on Tuesday evenings 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.

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.

PASTORAL REFLECTION

Digging Deeper *Into Today's Scripture*

Today we celebrate the 90th birthday of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Our scriptures for this weekend are rich reflections of the virtues and values demonstrated in the life of Dr. King. The Prophet Isaiah boldly proclaims, "For Zion's sake, I will not be silent. For Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet until her vindication shines forth like the dawn and her victory like a burning torch." St. Paul, writing to the church at Corinth, reminds us that "There are different gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord." And in our Gospel, St. John recalls the first miracle of Jesus, the changing of water into wine. All of these scriptures richly witness to the life of Dr. King—a voice that would not be silent, a prophet who used his gifts and encouraged others to do the same thing, a servant who obediently responded like the waiters in the Gospel to Mary's instruction, "Do whatever he tells you."

In the first half of the Gospel of John, Jesus performs seven signs that reveal Jesus' identity to us, as well as the nature of the Kingdom of God. In these signs Jesus turns an abundance of water into wine, cures the sick and lame, feeds the hungry, walks on water, and raises Lazarus from the dead. Through these signs we see that the Kingdom of God is one where there is no more illness, hunger, grief, destruction, or death. As children of the Kingdom we are called to be signs of this kingdom of peace and abundance.

We are given clear direction in becoming "Kingdom People" in the first letter to the Corinthians today. As human persons we've all experienced moments of feeling self-righteous about our own talents or envious of another's. St. Paul advises and counsels against this mindset. When we compare ourselves to others we set up distinctions. We are either better or worse and we are not usually peaceful about either. St. Paul offers us another way: all abilities are given as gifts by the Holy Spirit, and all gifts are meant to be used for the good of building up the Kingdom of God. This was so clear in the life of Dr. King and should inspire us to work together for justice, peace and righteousness.

In chapter two of John's Gospel, Mary also points us in the direction of Kingdom building. Mary tells the waiters at the wedding feast, "Do whatever he tells you." Mary shows confidence and trust in her Son's generous nature. He shows himself as the provider of abundance. He was not at all stingy in providing upward of 120 gallons of wine, very fine wine at that! Later in the Gospel, Jesus will tell his disciples, "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." (John 10:10) When we respond to Mary's command, "Do whatever he tells you," as did Dr. King, then the result is abundance.

WEEKDAY MASS

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY!

WHEN

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ARE CLOSED or HAVE A DELAYED OPENING,
STM WILL NOT HAVE 8:00AM MASS
ON THAT DAY!



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!

STM ACADEMY CELEBRATES

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!!

January 27-February 2, 2019!

Sunday: Celebrating Our Parish

Opening Mass and Brunch

School Uniforms

Monday: Celebrating Our Community-Open House

Primary Grades-Tinkering and Creating Power: 10-11am

Intermediate Grades- Garden Design Project: 9-11am

Middle School: Service Project for S.O.M.E: 9-11am

White Shirt/Blue Jeans

Tuesday: Celebrating Vocations

Career Day: 9:30-11am

Saints Art Fair: 2-2:45pm

Dress to Impress

Wednesday: Celebrating Our Nation

Student Council Event--Intermediate and Middle School

Scholars' Writer's Workshop: Write Letters to Government

Officials on the Importance of Catholic Education

Show Us How You Dress!

Thursday: Celebrating Our Students

House Challenge: Friendly Competitions

Alumni/Students vs Parents Basketball Tournament: 6-7:30pm

Concession Fee-\$5.00

Class Colors

Friday: Celebrating Our Faculty, Staff and Volunteers

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon and Retreat 8am-4pm

Saturday: Celebrating Our Families

Family Day: 10am-12pm

Please come out and support our STM Catholic Academy Students and Teachers as they celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2019!

****AN EVENING OF JAZZ****

St. Thomas More Catholic Academy

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

