

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
4275 Fourth Street, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20032
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School: 202-561-1189

February 3, 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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19 ~God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet.

Responsorial: Psalm 71 ~I will sing of your salvation.

Reading II: 1 Cor 12:31-13:13 ~And the greatest of these is love.

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30~Jesus is rejected in his home synagogue.

Readings for Next Sunday

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8 1 Cor 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Heb 11:32-40	Mark 5:1-20
Tuesday:	Heb 12: 1-4	Mark 5:21-43
Wednesday:	Heb 12:4-7, 11-15	Mark 6:1-6
Thursday:	Heb 12:18-19,21-24	Mark 6:7-13
Friday:	Heb 13:1-8	Mark 6:14-29
Saturday:	Heb 13:15-17, 20-21	Mark 6:30-34

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am	In loving memory of Willie Mae Richardson
11:30am	Chester Pearson-Birthday
Monday	William Wood-Birthday
Tuesday	Blondinia Brown-Birthday
Wednesday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Thursday	In memory of Jeffrey Hamilton
Friday	In memory of Margaret Slye
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, 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, 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 the peaceful repose of the soul of **Willie Mae Richardson**, mother of Marion Richardson, and the consolation of her loved ones.

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.**

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.

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 **January 27, 2019** amounted to **\$5,280.00. Maintenance-\$10.00. Youth-\$4.00.**

Attendance	5:00pm	16
	8:45am	186
	11:30am	<u>94</u>
		296

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 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

*As we celebrate African American History Month
let us reflect again on the meaning of being a
Servant-Steward.*

The Servant-Stewards are those “faith-filled” disciples who take what they have—whether a little or a lot and act. If we wait until we think that we have enough faith to act, we will never act. Last week, in Luke 7, Jesus gives the example of the mulberry tree. He is teaching us that even a little faith is enough to move this tree. The point about faith that Jesus makes is that faith is not something that can be measured; active and fruitful faith is not a matter of “how much.” But we must use what we do have, because even a little bit gives us great power to do God’s work. We have this power not on our own, but because we give ourselves over to God’s will and God’s way and God’s work. Faith is aligning ourselves with God so that we can act with God’s power—that we can do what seems to be impossible.

Faith is more than faithfulness, is more than doing all than we have been commanded. “Faithfulness” is acting decisively as God would do. The faithful and faith-filled Servant-Steward doesn’t wait for “enough faith”, but continues the everyday and never ending demands of discipleship. The Master is depending on our service and our stewardship. He also gives us the faith to perform well.

The faith-filled Servant-Steward is committed. That person is gracious to those with whom he or she comes in contact. That person is ready to reach out and help another. The faith-filled Servant-Steward sees Jesus in the other person and responds to the situation with the same love of Jesus. Faith is obedience to responsibility. It is obedience to discipleship. It is obedience to our Master who encourages us, helps us, and never abandons us. It is

A true “**Servant-Steward:**”

1. Makes themselves available for service.
2. Pays attention to the needs of others.
3. Does their best with what they have.
4. Attends to what they do with diligence and dedication.

*Thanking you for being a Servant-Steward
and making us a
St. Thomas More Better church!*

STM YOUTH GROUP WILL BE SERVING BAG LUNCHES TO THE HOMELESS:

The STM YG will be serving bag lunches to the homeless on **Sunday, February 17, 2019**. We are asking each family in the Parish to support our effort by preparing at least 5 lunches, including a sandwich (without condiments), a snack, chips and a drink, and dropping them off in the back of the Church no later than **11:30 am** on February 17! Monetary and bulk item donations will also be accepted. Please see Vanessa, Ignacio or Clint to make monetary donations, or if you have questions. **Your continued prayers and support for the STM YG are greatly appreciated!**

STM SODALITY

General Meeting today, February 3, 2019, following the 8:45am Mass. Rosary- 8:15am. Please turn in all SU Raffle stubs (unfolded) and money ASAP.



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!

THE STM PARISH ACTION COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH



2019 Theme:

Black Migration

February 10: Calling of the Ancestors
We encourage everyone to wear African Attire as we celebrate our ancestors.

February 16: STM Service Project
The entire church-young & young at heart.

February 17: Family & Friends
Coffee and Donuts Fellowship

February 24: Soul Food Sunday!!

Enjoy great food & fun during our Annual Family Soul Food Sunday Meal from **2:00pm-4:00pm** in the Cedar Room.

**PAC invites all parishioners to participate.
We encourage you to bring your favorite dish.**

Please see any member of the STM-PAC for more information, or if you have any questions.

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

STM Catholic Academy, Saturday, February 9, 2019!

Music, Fun, Spoken Word,

Raffle Tickets, Awesome Prizes...and More!

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

Time: 7:00pm Tickets: VIP~\$40.00/Regular~\$25.00

**For more information please visit
stm@catholicacademies.org**

VALENTINE’S DANCE

STM Ministers of Hospitality invite you to a Valentine’s Dance on **Saturday, February 16, 2019**, from 8:00pm to midnight in the Cedar Room. Music by DJ 3Eleven. Ticket prices: \$20-per person or \$30-per couple. Light refreshments will be served. Please see any *Adult* Minister of Hospitality for tickets.

FROM THE STM OUTREACH COMMITTEE!!

*Sincerest thanks to all STM parishioners who provided gifts and volunteered for the Wonderful Smiles of Children Christmas Party this past December! It would not have been such a success without you. Parents and children were very happy and grateful. **THANK YOU, AGAIN!***

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC ACADEMY NEWS!



LIBRARY DRIVE

STM ACADEMY IS BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF READERS!

In order to keep the momentum going we are seeking your help to provide **NEW and EXCITING BOOKS** for our **SCHOLARS**. If you are able to make a Monetary Donation to purchase books for the STMCA Scholars, please see Sharie Wood or Liz Berry. No donation is too small!

The Academy is also in need of "gently used" picture books, grade-level readers, chapter books or young adult level books to restock the 'sharing shelves' in the library. If you are able to donate books, please speak to Sharie!

Thanks for your support of this effort!!

*St. Thomas More Catholic Academy
Serving Students in Grades Pre-K3-8*

Catholic Environment ~ Academically Excellent

<i>CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK</i>	
Sunday	Religious Ed Classes (10:30am-Classrooms) Second Chance (3:30pm-Old Library)
Monday	Youth Choir Rehearsal (7:00pm-Church) NCW 2 nd Community (8:00pm-Cedar Rm)
Tuesday	Bible Study (7:30pm-Rectory Living Rm) NCW 2 nd Community (8:00pm-Cedar Rm)
Wednesday	NCW 1 st Community (8:00pm-Cedar Rm)
Thursday	Adult Choir Rehearsal (7:00pm-Church)
Friday	AA (8:00pm-Old Library)
Saturday	NCW Communities (8:00pm-Church)

CHURCH ON THE MOVE NEWS!
All updates/info may now be found online at:
achurchonthemove.blogspot.com
Please check this site for schedules and/or cancellations.

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 contact Pattie Hamilton, stmchurch@comcast.net. You may also call the church office and leave a message on ext. 11. Our goal is to ensure that all statements are in alignment. Thank you for your continued, generous stewardship!

SUNDAY BULLETIN: The Bulletin may be viewed on-line @www.stthomasmoredc.org. (Click on the "Bulletin" link.)

NOTES FOR TODAY

**STM FOOD PANTRY
DONATIONS APPRECIATED!**
**PLEASE HELP US DO OUR BEST TO
PROVIDE NUTRITIOUS FOOD FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES!**

**PLEASE GIVE WHAT YOU CAN
TO HELP KEEP OUR PANTRY STOCKED.**

We are seeking the following items:

~DRY GOODS~
Rice/Pasta/Beans/Hot & Cold Cereal

~CANNED GOODS~
Meat/Tuna/Soup/Fruit/Vegetables

*STM has served as a REFUGE OF RELIEF for many!
Food/Monetary donations will help keep our pantry viable!*

Thank You! God Bless!



SHARE INFORMATION!
Value Package price: \$22.00
Schedule for FERUARY 2019
Sign-up ~TODAY, &February 10, 2019

Pick-up ~Sat., February 16, 2019, 9-10am

Unclaimed packages will be donated to the STM Food Pantry. Please also consider making a monetary donation of \$22.00 to provide a SHARE Package to a family in need. If interested, please see any member of our SHARE Team. Thank you!