

Saint Thomas More Parish & Academy
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May 12, 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



CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!!

Fourth Sunday of Easter Preparing to Hear God's Word

Reading I: Acts 13:14, 43-52 ~The Gospel comes to the Gentiles.

Responsorial: Psalm 100 ~We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Reading II: Rev 7:9, 14b-17 ~John shares his vision of the lamb who will shepherd the suffering.

Gospel: John 10:27-30 ~We hear the shepherd's voice. We follow first by listening. The call to follow is a call to faithful obedience.

Readings for Next Sunday

Acts 14:21-27 Rev 21:1-5a John 13:31-33a, 34-35

DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday:	Acts 11:1-18	John 10:1-10
Tuesday:	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26	John 15:9-17
Wednesday:	Acts 12:24-13:5a	John 12:44-50
Thursday:	Acts 13:13-25	John 13:16-20
Friday:	Acts 13:26-33	John 14:1-6
Saturday:	Acts 13:44-52	John 14:7-14

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday 8:45am Our Living/Deceased Mothers & Mother Figures
11:30am Barbara Elliott, Rena Meredith-Birthday

Monday	In loving memory of Deborah Robinson
Tuesday	Victims/Survivors of School Violence
Wednesday	In loving memory of Robert Milner-Birthday
Thursday	Our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners/Loved Ones
Friday	In loving memory of Victoria Nicholas-Birthday
Saturday	STM Outreach Committee

PLEASE KEEP THE SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Shirley Adams, Veronica Apiafi, Monique Bailey, Viola Barnes, Betty Beatty, Shirley Brown, Francillia Browne, Cynthia Bruce, Felicia V. Bush, John Bush, Audrey Caldwell, Jane Cannon, Dixie Clark, Elois Clark, Shertia Clark, Odessa Curtis, 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, 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, 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 **Deborah Robinson**, mother of Larry Baruwa, and the family's comfort.

Your continued prayers are requested for Shirley Adams, Sheila D. Brown, Audrey Caldwell, Frances Davies, Priscilla Fuller, 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. Casmir, Ed Poindexter & Deacon Ralph Cyrus.**

YOU'RE INVITED!!

You are invited to join with other members of our church family for **Mass at 8:00am weekdays**. We celebrate the Eucharist together daily and extend a gracious invitation for others to join us. **Mass is in the rectory chapel and lasts only about 30 minutes.**

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

EFFECTIVE SUPPORT OF YOUR CHURCH IS WISE STEWARDSHIP

Dear God, these gifts, our tithes and offerings of love, express our gratitude for your outpouring of love in Christ Jesus and your generous provision for all our needs. We dedicate our offerings for use in fields that are ripe for harvest. May our stewardship be a blessing to our church and the building up of your Kingdom.

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 **May 5, 2019** amounted to **\$5,133.00**. Youth-\$4.00. Maintenance-\$140.00.

Attendance	5:00pm	24
	8:45am	107
	11:30am	83
		<u>214</u>

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 is for children in pre-kindergarten through Confirmation. 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 focus on the **Passion of Jesus**. We will prayerfully examine the events of the last week of his life. All are invited to walk the way of the cross as we prepare for Easter. We meet on Tuesday at 7:30pm in the rectory. *All are welcome!*

ARCHBISHOP JAMES P. LYKE CONFERENCE!!

Meeting the Liturgical Needs of the Black Catholic Community, the Lyke Conference will be held at the Gaylord Hotel, National Harbor, July 2-6, 2019! Please take advantage of this opportunity to join with other adults/youth from across the nation for praise & worship, workshops, fellowship and much more! For detailed information and/or to obtain registration materials please visit: **www.lykeconference.com**, **Early bird rate ends 5/31/19.**

COUNTDOWN TO PENTECOST!

~PENTECOST POWER PRAYER~

*Loving Lord,
here I am, just as I am.
I trust that you have incredible plans for me.
So transform me. Empower me. Use me!
Everything is on the table.
Take what you want to take.
And give what you want to give
so that I can live the life you envision for me.
I hold nothing back.
I am 100% available.
So, dear God, send your Holy Spirit upon me
that I may build your Kingdom in my words
and work.
Through Christ our Lord. AMEN!*

Discipleship would be so much easier if we could experience Jesus as physically present, healing the sick and curing the lame, forgiving and reconciling. Who wouldn't leave everything to do that? But it is much more difficult to be attentive to the voice of Jesus after the resurrection. And this is the point of today's gospel: hearing the voice of the Good Shepherd with the ears of faith. We are to listen to him amidst the noise and sound of our frantic world and discern the voice of the Good Shepherd. In this Easter-Pentecost season we ask ourselves, "What is the Shepherd calling us to do and become?" "Where does he want us to go?" We want to follow but can we hear his voice?

We have seen over these past weeks the importance of "Seeing with the eyes of faith, hearing with the ears of faith and receiving with the heart of faith. Then we are fired with the Holy Spirit that we might do incredible and remarkable and unbelievable things in his name!

ARCHDIOCESAN APPEAL 2019

We have begun the annual Archdiocesan Appeal. There is a fresh theme this year: "Our Faith. Our Hope. Our Mission." Each Sunday during the appeal we will make pledge forms and envelopes available for you to complete and turn in before you leave church. We will make sure that your pledges are delivered to the Appeal office.

You can also support the Appeal online at adw.org or text "Give" to 301-231-1816. *Last year our generosity provided \$31,54.00 in pledges.*

The Appeal offers each of us the opportunity to respond to the needs of others by enabling ministries and services such as Catholic Charities, our school and the Merrick Center and many others that touch and improve the lives of thousands of people.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

Funeral arrangements for *Deborah Robinson, mother of Larry Baruwa*, will take place on *Friday, May 17, 2019*.

Location: Matthew's Memorial Baptist Church
2616 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, SE, DC
Viewing-10:00am; Service-11:00am.

Thank you for keeping Larry and his family in your prayers.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

TO ALL MOTHERS,
MOTHER-FIGURES



AND THOSE WHO NURTURE
IN WAYS
SEEN & UNSEEN!
MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU!



WELCOME VISITORS!

*We warmly welcome our visitors to
St. Thomas More Church! We invite all who
are seeking a church home to join our church
family. Please sign our Guest Book.*

CONGRATULATIONS, AYSHA MAY!!

Aysha has been awarded the Lucinda Jasper Foundation Scholarship in the amount of **\$1,700.00**, which will be applied to her tuition at Bishop McNamara High School. Aysha is a graduating eighth grade scholar at St. Thomas More Catholic Academy!

We are very proud of you, Aysha!

RELIGIOUS ED TEACHERS NEEDED!

Our very fine team of Sunday School teachers is in need of instructors who are committed to share their faith and the teachings of the church with our young. If interested, please contact Ms. Wanda Brooks, Coordinator of Religious Education. The rewards are great!

SECURITY AWARENESS AND BRIEFING!

We are all responsible for the safety and well-being of one another here in our church. Our security plan consists of three responses to danger. *These are:*

- 1. Be aware of your surroundings.*
- 2. Report suspicious behavior to Minister of Hospitality.*
- 3. Recommended Response:*
 - a) Run away from danger.*
 - b) Hide by falling to the FLOOR & under a pew.*
 - c) Fight the attacker.*

We will be conducting periodic safety training and publishing our procedures in the Sunday Bulletin.

PLEASE REMEMBER: "Be alert. Be safe!"

