



Cathedral of St. Thomas More

Ministry Fair

Sharing God's Love

September 26, 2021

8:00 - 1:00 pm

Burke Hall

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Welcome

My Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ,

We have learned many things during this time of pandemic, among them is our need for connectedness, with each other and with our God. Returning to our spiritual home, in person, reminds us that “[t]he parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility ... it continues to be the Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters.” Pope Francis

With creativity and love of the Lord, we have proven over the decades that our parish is more than a building, showing flexibility and creativity since our founding in 1944. We are community of faith where are all welcomed and the graces given to each are manifested in the various ministries we offer.

I invite you to read through the descriptions within this booklet. As at our Eucharistic Table, there is room for everyone in our ministries. From liturgical service, to Bible Studies, to outreach, to social gatherings, you will find a place for your talents.

Consider this letter my personal invitation to you. Come, find faith; find fellowship; find fulfillment in volunteering. Put More into your life.

In Christ,

Very Rev. Patrick L. Posey, V.F.
Rector

Altar Servers

Ministry Leader: Fr. Kevin Dansereau

(703) 525-1300

frdansereau@cathedralstm.org

Altar Servers assist the priest and deacon in the celebration of the Mass so the liturgy can be conducted with grace and reverence. They assist the presider at the chair and at the altar by carrying the processional cross, lighting the candles, holding the books, setting the altar, carrying the incense and a variety of other tasks during the service. This ministry helps to develop a sense of participation in parish life and a love for the church's liturgical life, while growing closer to God in one's own life. It also offers an opportunity to understand the rewards of service toward others and their community. Parish boys in 4th grade and up are eligible for this ministry.

Art & Environment

Ministry Leader: Melissa Thierry

Melissathierry@outlook.com

"HOW LOVELY YOUR DWELLING, O LORD OF HOSTS!"
(PSALM 84:2)

The Art and Environment Committee is responsible for maintaining a seasonally appropriate, beautiful sacred environment within the Cathedral. This is vital to the proper celebration of the Sacred Liturgy not only for parish services, but for the Diocesan services as well. The committee accomplishes this by studying appropriate Church documents,

Bishop's rubrics, creative planning, and the implementation of same with approval received from the Rector and/or the Bishop's staff. Their work is performed in order to inspire and welcome all who enter the Cathedral.

Coffee and Donuts Ministry

Ministry Leader: Vacant

The Coffee and Donut Ministry is the after-Mass gathering time on the first Sunday morning of the month. These gatherings in the parish hall are attended by many parishioners and visitors and is a great way to meet and socialize with other members of the parish family in a relaxed atmosphere. The setup team is responsible for ordering and picking up donuts, making coffee. The clean-up team is responsible for clearing the tables and cleaning the coffee pots.

Members of this ministry may work behind the scenes, but their work puts many smiles on the faces of parishioners and kids who look forward to their Sunday morning sweets! For more information, please contact the parish office.

CYO

Ministry Leader: Lucia Loveland

CYOSTMSports@gmail.com

CYO holds sports programs for all Parish youth student athletes throughout the school year (tennis and cross country in the fall; basketball in the winter; track and girls volleyball in

the spring). Boys and girls in grades 3-8 are eligible. All are welcomed! There are no tryouts. It is a great way to meet new friends and discover new sports interests!

Eucharistic Adoration

Ministry Leader: Jim & Hanh Casey

(703) 521-1851

j.philip.casey@gmail.com

The Eucharistic Adoration Ministry was started at the Cathedral in March 2016 to promote devotion to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Exposition starts after the 12:05PM Mass every Thursday. Evening Prayers (Vespers) starts at 6:30PM and concludes with Benediction. All who wish to have the spiritual experience of spending quiet time with Jesus are invited to join this Ministry as committed Adorers for one hour on Thursdays. If you are unable to make such commitment, come and visit Jesus whenever you can during those hours. He is waiting for you.

Eucharistic Ministers

Ministry Leader: Open

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are duly deputized by the Rector to assist the priest in the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass and to the homebound in the Cathedral Parish. Upon volunteering, individuals receive appropriate instruction and are then assigned duties at the various Masses throughout the week.

This ministry involves assisting with the distribution of Holy Communion at our parish Masses on Saturday evening and on Sundays. It also involves bringing Holy Communion to our homebound and/or sick parishioners on Sunday mornings after the 9:00 or 11:00 am Masses.

If we have enough ministers, a person would only serve once every 5 or 6 weeks. It is a very rewarding ministry and our homebound parishioners look forward to your weekly visits. The mandate that the Bishops' office issues for each minister is not a permanent one. It is for a 5-year term, renewable once. These term limits allows for others to share in the benefits of this wonderful ministry.

The attendance at a Diocesan training workshop is mandatory for newly appointed ministers. A call for those interested in this service is put out to the parish prior to Ash Wednesday each year.

Greeters

Ministry Leader: Open

WELCOMING ALL WHO COME!

Greeter is a liturgical ministry of hospitality to welcome all who come to pray with us at Mass. A Greeter is the first face one encounters upon approaching the doors to the Church.

The job of Greeter is very simple, but important. Our Greeters help to bring a warm and welcoming environment to our parish. Greeters should arrive about 20 minutes

before Mass is to check-in to the sacristy, then position themselves at one of the doors to welcome parishioners and guests.

Greeters are needed for each weekend Mass including Vigil, Sunday Mass, or a Holy Day of Obligation.

Couples, families, serve together!

To learn more about this ministry and to find out how you can join, please contact the parish office.

Knights of Columbus

www.koc6790.org

Ministry Leader: Jackson Marsteller

(310) 562-0041

GK6790@vakofc.org

The Knights of Columbus are a men's Catholic, Family, and Fraternal organization founded in 1882 by the Venerable Fr. Michael McGivney in New Haven Connecticut and based on the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. Our mission is to help and support our brothers and the church in their times of need.

The Knights of the Cathedral Council provide support to almost every event in our parish as well as several Diocesan events, serving as the Bishop's Knights. We support or sponsor include the Parish Oktoberfest, March for Life, Annual Food Drive, and the monthly Pancake Breakfast. The knights also

serve in the many parish ministries and help facilitate every major religious event that happens at the Cathedral.

Our council offers opportunities for families to join together through events like our annual Christmas Party and cornhole tournament. We give youth the chance to grow in their faith and leadership through many activities such as support and training at the Diocesan Work Camp, financially supporting retreats, and providing scholarships for education.

Lastly and most importantly, we offer the chance to grow in faith through monthly lectures, pilgrimages to various religious sites and monthly discussions of faith topics. If you have questions, please reach out or visit our website www.koc6790.org.

Lector Ministry

Ministry Leader: Open

The Cathedral parish seeks volunteers to lend their talents as Lectors. This ministry is an excellent means to develop more ties with fellow parishioners, to explore Holy Scripture more deeply, and to take on a vital, though not overwhelming, role for the parish. The Lector is instituted to proclaim the readings from Sacred Scripture.

Legion of Mary

Ministry Leader: Peter Hickman

(703) 528-0297

loyalscout@hotmail.com

The object of the Legion of Mary is the glory of God through the holiness of its members, developed by prayer and active cooperation in Mary's and the Church's evangelizing work, under the guidance of a priest.

There are two categories of membership:

- Active Members — Meet weekly for prayer, to report on work done during the past week and to plan on work to be done. (Meetings are on Mondays at 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the school library.) Members commit to two hours of apostolic work per week and to praying the Magnificat daily. Examples of the work of Active Members (some pre-pandemic) includes: teaching in the parish religious education program for children, bringing the Pilgrim Virgin statue to the homes of parishioners, leading a monthly Rosary and visitation at Culpepper Garden, coordinating the Cathedral's Partners in Prayer program and door-to-door evangelization.
- Auxiliary Members— Commit to praying daily the prayers of the Legion (contained in a short pamphlet called the Tessera); basically, this is; a Prayer to the Holy Spirit, the Rosary, the Magnificat, and a concluding prayer for apostolic faith.

The Legion of Mary was founded in Ireland by Servant of God, Frank Duff and is celebrating its centennial year. It is listed among the Pontifical Council for the Laity's International Associations of the Faithful. The Legion of Mary is present in a large number of countries in every continent with over 10 million members worldwide.

Meals On Wheels

Ministry Leader: Ann Wester

(703) 521-2841

annwester512@gmail.com

Volunteers of the Cathedral of St. Thomas More provide deliver meals to elderly and disabled persons in community as part of Meals on Wheels of Northern Virginia, serving the Arlington community.

STM volunteers deliver meals from the distribution point at First Presbyterian Church, 601 N. Vermont St., Arlington 22203 (near Ballston Quarters Mall—corner Vermont & Carlin Springs Rd.). Volunteers meet at 11 AM with most routes being completed in one hour.

Money Counters

Ministry Leader: Russ Capellini and Charlie Magyar

Meeting weekly, money counters are a group of volunteer parishioners that count the contributions collected at the weekend Masses and prepare contributions for deposit into the parish bank account. This process involves sorting and counting coins, paper currency, and checks from regular and special collections and from candle offerings. For more information, please contact the parish office.

Music Ministry

Ministry Leader: Dr. Richard Gibala

703-525-1300 ext 35

musicministry@cathedralstm.org

The Music Ministries of the Cathedral of St. Thomas More serve the Cathedral Parish and the Diocese of Arlington. As the mother church of the Diocese of Arlington, the Cathedral is filled with wonderful choral and instrumental music through the liturgical calendar from regular services, weddings, funeral to Diocesan events such as Rite of Election, Confirmations, Diaconate and Priesthood Ordinations.

New Parishioner Welcome Committee

Ministry Leader: Open

Hospitality is intrinsic to the fiber of our community. As new parishioners register, we want to welcome them and to help them learn about our wonderful church and the ways they can get involved. At our New Parishioner Welcome Gatherings, they can meet our clergy and other parishioners, forming relationships that help them feel like a part of our family.

Are you outgoing and do you like to meet new people? Are you passionate about our parish and excited to share that passion with others? We're looking for volunteers who have a welcoming heart and a friendly smile. If you consider yourself an ambassador for the Cathedral of St. Thomas More, join us.

- Time Commitment: 4 events each year; volunteers can sign up as their schedule allows.
- Responsibilities: Setting up, taking down, cleaning up, greeting attendees, bringing food to share.
- Training: No training required, just a willingness to serve.

Parish Outreach

Ministry Leader: Open

The Cathedral of St. Thomas More would like to offer an outreach ministry to all parishioners including the sick and homebound of our parish. The Ministry includes sending postcards and birthday cards to parishioners as well as periodically making phone calls to check in on parishioners.

If you feel a call to this ministry, we would love to have your help. Developing a lasting relationship with those who desire to remain a part of the Church can be a rewarding and generous way to be involved. Please contact the parish office.

Partners in Prayer

Ministry Leader: Peter Hickman

(703) 528-0297

loyalscout@hotmail.com

The Cathedral's Partners in Prayer program began during the current pandemic. Members of Partners in Prayer agree to pray for the intentions of others on a daily basis. Prayer requests are sent out electronically as they are received through the Cathedral website or through the Women's Council or the Knights of Columbus. We typically pray for an intention for one month. Compilation of current requests are sent out

weekly (usually on Monday mornings). Volunteers agree to treat prayer requests as confidential.

We have no meetings. Volunteers, who are interested, pray a rosary together Tuesday or Thursday evenings at 7:30 via Zoom for the intentions received; but this is not required.

ProLife

Ministry Leader: Open

A wide spectrum of issues touches on the protection of human life and the promotion of human dignity. As Pope John Paul II has reminded us: "Where life is involved, the service of charity must be profoundly consistent. It cannot tolerate bias and discrimination, for human life is sacred and inviolable at every stage and in every situation; it is an indivisible good" (The Gospel of Life, no. 87).

Among important issues involving the dignity of human life with which the Church is concerned, abortion necessarily plays a central role. Abortion, the direct killing of an innocent human being, is always gravely immoral (The Gospel of Life, no. 57); its victims are the most vulnerable and defenseless members of the human family. It is imperative that those who are called to serve the least among us give urgent attention and priority to this issue of justice.

Religious Education Program

Ministry Leaders: Fr. Dansereau and Maria Paniagua

(703) 525-1300

Frdansereau@cathedralstm.org mpaniagua@cathedralstm.org

The K-12 Religious Education Program is dedicated to assisting parents with raising their children in the Catholic faith by offering a variety of programs to fit the needs of all parish families. We strive to teach the children of our parish to love as Christ loves and to serve as Christ serves.

Classes are held on Wednesdays from 6:45-8pm between September and May in assigned classrooms at the school.

We offer classes for first grade through high school. In general, students are grouped with children in the same grade of public school.

Regular preparation for First Communion is in first and second grades. Regular preparation for Confirmation is in seventh and eighth grades the candidate will receive Confirmation in the fall of 9th grade. Students should attend RE classes every year to avoid falling behind.

Students who have not been enrolled in RE classes previously or who have missed a few years are welcome in our program! We determine the best class placement for all of our students. In cases where older students are preparing for reception of First Communion, multi-age classes may be established.

Do you have a question? Contact us at 703-525-1300 x 28 and discuss your child's situation with us.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Ministry Leader: Fr. Kevin Dansereau

703-525-1300

frdansereau@cathedralstm.org

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a rewarding ministry that lets parishioners join inquirers on their journey of faith. The lay assistance is important to the ministry as it helps the Rectory organize and manage the classes, provides fellowship to those inquiring, and offers the inquirers the friendship and welcome of the parish.

Sanctuary Society

Ministry Leader: Hanh Casey

(703) 521-1851

hanh.casey@gmail.com

Serving the Lord as Mary and Martha Did

The Sanctuary Society provides services, on a weekly basis for the upkeep and for maintaining the cleanliness of the Sanctuary area of the Cathedral in preparation for Sunday and daily worship. These tasks are not part of the work performed by the Cathedral's regular staff.

Members work as a team of 2 or 3, once a month. The work is usually performed immediately after 9am Mass on Saturdays. The tasks take about 2 hours to complete. If you are interested

in offering 2 hours a month to serve The Cathedral in this manner, please contact Hanh Casey.

Scouts – Boy

Ministry Leader: Dan Frank

dfrank2535@gmail.com

BSA TROOP 2535 Chain Bridge District of National Capital Area Region, chartered by St. Thomas More Cathedral. Boy Scouting is for 5-12th grade boys. We do a lot of fun activities like monthly campouts, council events like the Camporee and Klondike Derby and summer camps at various BSA camps in the area. We also work on merit badges to learn about careers and to learn new skills. Come and join the adventure. Boy Scout Troop 2535 meets every Tuesday night at STM School from 7:15-8:30 pm.

Scouts – Cub

Ministry Leader: Jen McDougal

stmpack194@yahoo.com

Pack 194 Cub Scouting is open to boys, Kindergarten through 5th grade, including STM students, STM parish members and others interested in joining our parish-chartered group. The family centered activities of Pack 194 include camping, hiking, outdoor skills, arts and crafts, making race cars for the

Pinewood Derby, discussing faith and values and serving the community. Cub Scouts is Fun with a Purpose. Scouts develop new skills, learn about citizenship, good character, and fitness, and develop self-confidence and a sense of accomplishment while spending time with peers and parents.

Scouts - Girl

Ministry Leader: Jennifer Gilkey and Jamie Panzarella

GirlScoutsAtSTM@gmail.com

St. Thomas More Cathedral's Girl Scouts are encouraged to learn more about their faith through Scout masses and community service projects. The Girl Scouts are a family, connected by the mission to build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. We count on every adult to support this volunteer organization. Together, as a family, girls get started on a path filled with success and provide girls with ways to learn new skills, participate in service projects and make new friends. STM has eight troops (grades K-8). Scouts register with troops at the beginning of the school year. Meeting times and dates vary per troop. Please contact STM Troop Coordinator if you or your parish ministry has an activity or service project for Girl Scouts.

Share A Meal Committee

Ministry Leader: Timothy Solak

(703) 741-0295

shareAmealSTM@gmail.com

Providing hot home cooked meals to our homeless and less fortunate brother and sisters.

St. Thomas More Cathedral School

Ministry Contact: Jennifer McDermitt

(703) 528-6781

stmoffice@stmschool.org

Our Mission is to nurture and develop the spiritual, academic, social and emotional promise of each child in accordance with the teaching of the Catholic Church, rooted in Gospel values and led by the examples of the Master Teacher, Jesus Christ.

Philosophy of Learning

We believe that learning begins in a safe, faith-filled, and nurturing environment with high spiritual and academic standards.

We believe that learning is a cooperative experience involving self-motivation, self-discipline, peer assistance, teacher direction, and parent support.

We believe that learning occurs most successfully in an atmosphere of acceptance and mutual respect that allows the students to question, to experiment, and to take risks in pursuit of spiritual and academic excellence.

We believe that students have unique learning styles, talents, and abilities, and that each should be challenged to excel.

We believe that teachers should teach with the love, respect, and patience that Jesus did, bringing each child to his or her full potential.

We believe in recognizing the diversity of our school and community while training all students to understand and appreciate our unity in the teachings of the universal Church.

We believe learning is a life-long endeavor bringing us closer to knowing, loving, and serving God consistently, despite an ever-changing world.

St Thomas More Federal Credit Union

Ministry Leader: Bill Wester

(571) 276-1410

stmfcu@gmail.com

The St. Thomas More Federal Credit Union has been a vital part of our parish ministry since 1971. The Credit Union was started by six dedicated members of the parish to assist others to find affordable credit. The Credit Union continues to pursue its founding purpose of helping all members of our community manage their savings and debt.

Membership in the Credit Union is open to all parishioners and employees of the Cathedral and school. Share accounts are the primary means of building wealth or funds for difficult times. Loans are available to everyone who has been a member of the

Credit Union for a minimum of two weeks and has deposited a minimum of \$50 in their account. The Credit Union has money to lend and our new Risk-Based Loan Policy can help you lower interest rates on Credit Cards and other short term debt. Visit us and see how an unsecured signature loan can help you shore up your finances and bring down your monthly payments.

The Credit Union is open on Sundays from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM in Burke Hall, located near the entrance from the Rectory stairway to the parking lot.

Wedding Coordinator

Ministry Leader: Open

The Cathedral of Saint Thomas More is looking for volunteer Wedding Coordinators to assist the bride and groom in the logistics of the wedding day. The main role of the Wedding Coordinator is to help lead the rehearsal the night before the wedding, which involves walking through processions and the liturgy.

On the day of the wedding the Wedding Coordinator(s) will assist in preparing the space, acting as host/hostess and providing a welcoming presence to the soon-to-be-wed couple, their guests and the community who gather for the celebration of the wedding. The coordinator also assists the presider of the ceremony by addressing the housekeeping duties which arise during the wedding as well as greet and support the family/friends as they enter the church for Mass.

Initial Training: Hands-on training

Time Commitment: Possibly 1 – 2 times per month

Women's Council

Ministry Leader: Sue Wissler

(703) 549-3113

The STM Women's Council brings the women of the parish together to promote the dignity and vocation of women and to lead women in the development of their faith life. We act in Christian concern for God's people, foster the spiritual, physical, and social growth of the people of God; and share the responsibility of stewardship in the Cathedral parish and the Diocesan community. All registered women of the parish over 18 are members of the Women's Council and are encouraged to participate.

Women's Council Arts & Crafts Group

The Arts & Crafts Group began more than 40 years ago and meets weekly. It promotes fellowship and sharing of creative talents among the women of the parish. Handmade items made by the group are sold at the annual Bazaar/Spaghetti Dinner held during November in Burke Hall. All proceeds from sales benefit the Cathedral of Saint Thomas More.

Women's Council Bereavement Committee

Ministry Leader: Ann Wester

(703) 521-2841

stmbereavement@gmail.com

The Bereavement Committee offers a gathering and food to assist families in the grieving process following the funeral at the Cathedral. This service is offered to the family representative at the time the funeral service is planned through the Rectory.

Volunteers help the day of the funeral setting up, serving and cleaning up after the bereavement reception. Food can also be donated for the reception.

Youth Ministry

Ministry Leader: Maria-Isabel Paniagua

(703) 525-1300 ext 28

Mpaniagua@cathedralstm.org

Our mission is to walk with youth into a personal and transforming relationship with Jesus Christ. Through a variety of programs and activities for middle and high school youth, we seek to help youth encounter Christ as a true friend and inspire them to be Christian leaders among their peers.

Young Adults

Ministry Leader: Open

Strengthening faith and building community among the Cathedral's young adult parishioners.

Walking With Purpose

Ministry Leaders: Sue Wissler and Mary Fran Pierce

stmwwp@gmail.com

Walking with Purpose is a Catholic Bible study program that aims to bring women to a deeper personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The program offers personal study and small group discussion that link our everyday challenges and struggles with the solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church.

Walking with Purpose endeavors to meet women where they are, giving them practical Biblical teaching that is consistent with Church doctrine and uses the Catechism of the Catholic Church as an additional resource. Walking with Purpose has three elements: at-home study, parish-based or independently run weekly small group meetings, and a monthly talk on relevant course material.

Usher Ministry

Ministry Leader: Open

Our mission is to provide general care of our worship space during Masses and other liturgies and to help create an environment where all feel welcome. We will provide assistance to our fellow parishioners and visitors at the

Cathedral by greeting all with a warm welcome, opening doors, assisting with seating, collecting the gifts of our community, handing out music programs and bulletins and cleaning up after each event. We will provide any other assistance requested by the Rector and Parish staff.

Stewardship Prayer

O Lord, giver of life and source of
Our freedom,
We are reminded by the Psalmist that
Yours is “the earth and its fullness;
The world and those who dwell in it.”
We know that it is from Your hand
That we have received all we have and
Are and will be.
Gracious and loving God,
We understand that You call us to be the
Stewards of Your abundance,
The caretakers of all You have entrusted to us.
Help us always to use Your gifts wisely
And teach us to share them generously.
May our faithful stewardship bear witness
To the love of Christ in our lives.
We pray with grateful hearts,
In Jesus’ name.

Amen.
