

Church of

Saint Thomas the Apostle



35 Adams Place, Delmar, New York 12054

Phone: 439-4951 • Fax: 439-0108

E-mail: office@stthomas-church.org

Website: www.stthomas-church.org

Rev. David V. Berberian J.C.L., Pastor
dberberian@stthomas-church.org

Rev. Richard Leskovar, Weekend Assistant

Rev. James D. Daley, Pastor Emeritus

PARISH OFFICE: 439-4951 Fax: 439-0108

Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Patricia Holm, Pastoral Associate, Administration
pholm@stthomas-church.org

Barbara Ruggirello, Bookkeeper

Paul Edmundson, Office Assistant
pedmundson@stthomas-church.org

Peter Bukowski, Facilities Manager
pbukowski@stthomas-church.org

Maura Barrett, LMSW, Pastoral Care Associate
mbarrett@stthomas-church.org

Avery Tunningley, Parish Music Director
tunnac@aol.com

Nelly Brown Bunk, Choir Director
nellybrownbunk@gmail.com

Konstantin Tsykun, Contemporary Music Director

Dianne McMullen, Organist

FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Closed Friday.

Patti Staerker, Elementary Coordinator
pstaerker@stthomas-church.org

Elizabeth Kerins, MS and HS Coordinator
ekerins@stthomas-church.org

Mary Ann Hospodar, Assistant MS and HS Coordinator
mhospodar@stthomas-church.org

Colleen Harrigan, Secretary
charrigan@stthomas-church.org

PARISH TRUSTEES: Patrick Gallagher and Adele Nucci

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL: 439-5573 Fax: 478-9773

www.stthomas-school.org
info@stthomas-school.org

Thomas Kane, School Principal
tkane@stthomas-school.org

Jennifer Murphy, Associate for Enrollment and Development
jmurphy@stthomas-school.org

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGY:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m., Sunday Mass: 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Weekdays: Mon. and Fri. at 12:15 p.m., Tues. and Wed. at 7:30 a.m.
Eucharistic Adoration: First Friday, following 12:15 p.m. Mass, until
Benediction at 2:45 p.m.

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday from 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. in the Daily Mass Chapel or
anytime by appointment.

BAPTISM: Baptism of infants is usually celebrated on the 3rd and
4th Sundays of the month. Contact the Parish Office for
arrangements. Preparation sessions for parents presenting infants
for Baptism are held monthly.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS: Contact the Parish Office
for information.

MATRIMONY: Arrangements for marriage should be made at least 6
to 8 months in advance and before scheduling a reception. Contact
the Parish Office for information.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Celebrated on the first Monday of the
month after the 12:15 p.m. Mass or by request.

CARE OF THE SICK: The Pastoral Care Team responds to the
needs of homebound or hospitalized parishioners. Please call to
make us aware of persons who would like a visit or home
Communion. Contact: Maura Barrett.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please register in the parish by calling the
office weekdays to set up an appointment .

Please remember our parish in your will. We are:
"St. Thomas' Church of Delmar, N.Y."

PARISHES OF OUR LOCAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Altamont

St. Lucy/St. Bernadette Church: 861-8770, Sat: 5:00 pm / Sun: 9:30 am

Voorheesville

St. Matthew's Church: 765-2805, Sat: 5:00 pm / Sun: 8:30 & 10:30 am

Westmere

Christ the King Church: 456-1644, Sat: 4:00 pm / Sun: 8:00 & 10:00 am,
12:00 noon

CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE, DELMAR, NY

Saturday-Sunday, November 25 - 26, 2017, Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
5:00 p.m.	Father Berberian	Barbara Kavanagh & Hank Steadman	Paul Holstein & Ryan Ciancio	4
8:00 a.m.	Father Berberian	Maureen Nyilis & Paul Edmundson	Kailee Harrigan & Tyler Harrigan	4
9:30 a.m.	Father Berberian	Marianne Conophy & Michael Connolly	Carolyn Kolberg & Meagan Kolberg	1
11:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Vera Frangella & Bob Conway	Mikolaj Wloszczynski & Ryan McCarroll	1

Pastor's Corner

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY ~ The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday in observance of the Diocesan holiday for Thanksgiving. There are no services scheduled in church on Friday.

PARISH THANKSGIVING LITURGY ~ We will celebrate the Parish Mass for Thanksgiving on **Thanksgiving Day at 9:30 a.m. in the church**. All are invited to bring some non-perishable food to help replenish the parish food bank after the distribution of food to those in need for thanksgiving.

AT HOME WITH THE WORD ~ The new liturgical year begins on the First Sunday of Advent, December 3. The At Home with the Word books, which contain the Sunday readings for the new year, are available this weekend in the Gathering Hall. The donation for the books is \$5.00.

Prayer & Worship

Prayer Chain ~ Members respond to urgent prayer intentions. Contact Pam Seward at: 518-439-7845 for your intention to be added.

ALTAR FLOWERS ~ Envelopes are now available in the office or at the church entrances for those who would like to make a donation for Christmas altar flowers. If you choose to make a donation in memory of a particular person, those memorials will be listed in the bulletin at Christmas time. Please submit memorial donations that are to be listed in the bulletin to the Parish Office by Fri., Dec. 15.

Ministers for the Thanksgiving Day Needed ~ If you are available to serve as **Lector, Acolyte or Eucharistic Minister** at the November 23 Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:30 a.m., Please sign up at the oval table near the Gathering Hall. Thank you for volunteering for these valuable ministries.

Save the date! ~ You and your family are invited to celebrate The Feast of St. Juan Diego & Our Lady of Guadalupe on Friday December 15! Serenade begins in the Gathering Hall at 6pm, Bilingual Mass at 6:30pm followed by food and entertainment in the school gym. All are Welcome!

Pastoral Care

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

"Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up," – Galatians 6:9

In **Pastoral Care** we attend to the emotional and spiritual needs of people in our parish community. We provide such services as: Eucharistic ministry to the homebound, Rosary and Communion services at local agencies, hospital visitation, meal ministry, bereavement and funeral support, to name a few.

We most recently welcome **Mary Ann Mitchell** to our Pastoral Care Team! There is a place for you too! Give as much or little time as you are able. Check out the St. Thomas website under Pastoral Care for more information.

Here are areas in need of more assistance:

Hospital Visitation Ministry ~ Our team visits hospitalized members of our parish to provide spiritual support and assist in linking them with services in our parish upon discharge. This is a very meaningful ministry for both the recipient and the minister. Visits can be done days, evenings, or weekends, and are usually once every 5 weeks. Training provided. Let Maura know if you would be interested in assisting in this area on a regular basis, or as a substitute.

Atria Delmar Place and Kenwood Manor are the two Assisted Living facilities in our parish community where we provide weekly Rosary and Communion Services on Tuesday and Thursday, respectively. Most of those residents can no longer get to Mass and rely on these services for continued spiritual growth. They are so very appreciative of our services. Scheduling is once every 4-5 weeks, or you can serve as a substitute. Let Maura know if you are interested in joining this great team.

Faith Formation

ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-5)

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

The November sessions for the **First Eucharist family prep classes** are today at 8:15 a.m. and tomorrow at 6 p.m. in the school. Babysitting for siblings of our First Communion children will be provided by our Middle School and High School Faith Formation students. Attend whichever one of these two sessions is more convenient for your family. In

Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

planning ahead, the December sessions will be held on Sunday December 10 at 8:15 a.m. and Monday, December 11 at 6 p.m. in the school.

Reconciliation services for 2nd grade families

are scheduled for this week, Monday, November 20 and Tuesday, November 21 in the chapel at 4:30 p.m. Please attend whichever day works best for your family.

There will be no faith formation classes this week of Thanksgiving, November 21-23

~ We wish all of you a most blessed and wonderful time with your families as you join together to give thanks to the Lord for the abundance of blessings He has given all of us! Classes will resume next week, November 28-30.

Our **annual Christmas Boutique** for 3rd-5th graders will be held the week of December 12-14 during regular faith formation classes. Children in these grades will have a chance to do some Christmas shopping for loved ones with thanks to Mrs. Hospodar and the middle school faith formation program.

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

(Contact: Elizabeth Kerins)

Last week was the final class of this "semester"

~ Please continue to participate in community and parish service activities during the break!

Save the Date ~ The Advent Prayer Service will be held Sunday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Our 7th graders will be the celebrants. All are welcome!

Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

We thank everyone for your generous donations this month to our Toiletry Drive for St. John St. Ann's Outreach Center!

We are hosting our annual **Ugly Sweater and Giving Tree Party**, Sunday, November 26 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the school. Our guests from this year's Giving Tree include Sr. Peg Sullivan from Sacred Heart Outreach & St. Mary's Outreach and a representative from Mary's Corner! Followed by games, fun and prizes! Please sign up in the Gathering Hall! Chaperones are needed. Don't forget your favorite ugly sweater!

CLYNK Bags! ~ Please remember to take a CLYNK bag from the Gathering Hall and fill it with your New York State Deposits during your Family Thanksgiving Celebrations! All proceeds continue to support our Creation Care Projects! Thank you for making a difference!

"WE Give thanks to the Lord. For He is good, for HIS mercy endues forever!" Wishing you and your family a Blessed Thanksgiving! From Faith Formation and Youth Ministry.

School News

(Contact: Thomas Kane)

It's amazing what happens when you make faith a part of a child's everyday learning experience

~ Please help us grow in our ministry for Catholic education through our Continuing the Vision Campaign. Your gift allows us to keep tuition affordable for all families. A monthly gift, a one-time gift, a celebratory gift during Christmas and Easter or any other gift as you see fit, makes the difference in the lives of our students. Brochures and donation cards are available in the Gathering Hall and in the School Lobby. Thank you for making a difference!

Preschool and Kindergarten spots for the 2018-19 school year are filling up quickly! ~ Now is the time to submit your application. Interested in a tour? Please contact Jennifer Murphy at jmurphy@stthomas-school.org or call (518) 439-5573. If you need an application, contact us or visit our website at www.stthomas-school.org under the "Admission" tab. Come and find out why St. Thomas the Apostle School is a wonderful option for your family.

Did you know? ~ St. Thomas students in grades 5-8 get to choose daily class electives all year long, each class lasting five weeks. Some examples include Creative Writing, Pottery, Sewing, Ceramics, Robot Building, Computer Coding, Origami, Embroidery and Skit Writing. We are blessed to have such talented faculty members share their knowledge and help our students develop skills in their areas of interest!

Creation Care Team

(Contact: Jeanne Schrempf: jdschrempf@verizon.net or Marie Myer myermarie@yahoo.com.)

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Parish Water Project.

To read the **Story of the Parish Well Projects**, go to St. Thomas the Apostle Website

<http://www.stthomas-church.org/>

Click on Ministries – scroll to Creation Care Team

While you're online, check out the progress of the Parish's first water project

and the grateful faces of the people of Kenya that it will benefit:

<https://thewaterproject.org/community/projects/kenya/shallow-well-project-4784>

Christian Service

Grocery Gift Cards for ST. JOHN'S/ST. ANN'S OUT-REACH CENTER are being requested for assistance in providing Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets to the poor of Albany's South End. You can help by donating Price Chopper, Hannaford or Shop Rite gift cards that will be used to purchase food items for the baskets. Please place them (labeled "St. John's/St. Ann's") in the collection basket or bring them to the Parish Office.

ST. THOMAS FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION is set for **NEXT WEEKEND**, November 25-26. Donations of non-perishable food and personal care items will be collected. Please check expiration dates when donating. Thank you, and as always, your generosity is appreciated.

Mercy House Meal Ministry ~ Do you like to cook and bake and know that your creation is not only greatly appreciated but makes a difference in someone's life? Then the Mercy House Meal Ministry may be for you. For over 25 years St. Thomas parishioners have reached out to the residents of Mercy House, a transitional residence for women in Albany, through this ministry. Organized into teams of 6-7 people each, each team prepares a meal 4 times a year. Please give Pat Clement a call at 518 439-4636 or e-mail at ptclement116@gmail.com with questions or to volunteer.

The Parish Giving Tree is in the Church this weekend. We ask parishioners to choose a tag and to fulfill the request on it. Please return the gift (**with tag attached**) to the School Gym on Saturday, December 9 or by **noon sharp** on Sunday, December 10. The Advent season is a time for preparation for the coming of the Christ Child and is a perfect time to perform works of charity.

No gift should cost more than \$30; many are less costly. If you take a tag, please fill the request (**many gifts are for specific people**) and return the gift on or before December 10 at noon sharp. All gifts will be delivered that afternoon.

There will be coffee in the School Gym after all the Masses that weekend, so that everyone can see the wonderful generosity of our whole Parish Community that the Giving Tree gifts represent.

Community

Creation Care Team is hosting a **Christmas Craft Station** on December 10 in the school **during our Parish Giving Tree Return** from 9 a.m.-noon. We need your assistance! WE are collecting the following **NONBREAKABLE ITEMS, NO GLASS PLEASE** in the Gathering Hall: clementine or small wooden boxes, plastic or child proof nativity scenes or parts, small animals that might be at a manger scene, old fashioned Christmas ornaments, wired ribbon, thin ribbon, old fashioned clothespins, small bag of hay or raffia, any wood Christmas ornaments, stars, old wreaths, pipe cleaners, thin florist wire, seashells and open walnut shells! Together WE will create a beautiful NEW Christmas Gift for that someone special

Social Media

Parish App Feature-of-the-Week



Readings

- Daily Mass readings
- Official NAB(re) version
- Easily bookmark readings to reread at a later time

Learn more or download our parish app at myparishapp.com

*Available on Apple and Android Phones.

Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

COLLECTION FOR THE CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (CCHD) ~ THIS WEEK, Respond to Pope Francis' call for the 1st World Day of the Poor. Please be generous in this week's collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in six people lives in poverty. With this collection you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those who are struggling across the country. In addition, 25 percent of funds collected remains in our diocese to fund local antipoverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and work on the margins.

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE
November 11-12, 2017**

Offertory	\$12,355.33
Offertory from E-Giving (Vanco)	\$985.00
Total Offertory Received	\$13,340.33
Tithe from this Offertory	\$667.02

Thank you for your continuing support of the parish!

Calendar

Thu	11/23	9:30 am	Thanksgiving Day Mass	CH
Thu	11/23		Thanksgiving Day Parish Office Closed	
Fri	11/24		Day after Thanksgiving Parish Office Closed, No Mass	
Sun	11/26	9 am	RCIA Weekly Meeting	LCR

PLACE: CH – Church; GH – Gathering Hall; LC – Lady Chapel; MC – Media Center; PO – Parish Offices, PP – Peace Pole, Café-Cafeteria, LCR1 or LCR2-Large Conference Rooms Rec Dining room, CHP-Chapel SCH-School

Mass Intentions

For the Week of November 20 - November 24, 2017

Mon.	12:15 pm	Richard M. Switzer, 14th Anniv. <i>The Family</i>
		Mary Ebert and Family <i>Mary DeVico</i>
Tues.	7:30 am	George W. Bragle <i>Kathleen Bragle</i>
Wed.	7:30 am	Jane E. Ricchiuti <i>Mr. and Mrs. Ralph J. Ricchiuti</i>
Thurs	9:30 am	Thanksgiving Mass Nick Peek, 2nd Anniv. <i>The Family</i>
Fri.		Diocesan Holiday- No Mass

Next Weekend, November 25-26, 2017

Sat.	5:00 pm	Maude and Francis Harris <i>Jim and Michelle Harris</i>
		Elizabeth Meister <i>Joe Meister and Family</i>
Sun.	8:00 am	Josephine Vitillo, 15th Anniv. <i>Mom and Dad</i>
		Bernard Willians <i>Vincent and Dorothy</i>
	9:30 am	Walter A. Gould and Alex Gould <i>The Family</i>
		Lillian Meany and Desmond Byrne <i>The Meany Family</i>
	11:00 am	For The People

Scripture Readings: Week of November 19, 2017

Sunday	Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 / 1 Thes 5:1-6 / Mt 25:14-30
Monday	1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63 / Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday	2 Mc 6:18-31 / Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday	2 Mc 7 :1, 20-31 / Lk 19:11-28
Thursday	1 Mc 2:15 - 29 / Lk 19:41-44
Friday	1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59 / Lk 19:45-48
Saturday	1 Mc 6:1-13 / Lk 20:27-40
Sunday	Ez 34:11-12, 15-17 / 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28 / Mt 25:31-46