

Church of

# Saint Thomas the Apostle



35 Adams Place, Delmar, New York 12054

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**Rev. Thomas J. Hayes, D. Min., Pastor**  
[thayes@stthomas-church.org](mailto:thayes@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](mailto:pholm@stthomas-church.org)

**Barbara Ruggirello, Bookkeeper**

**Paul Edmundson, Office Assistant**  
[pedmundson@stthomas-church.org](mailto:pedmundson@stthomas-church.org)

**Peter Bukowski, Facilities Manager**  
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**Maura Barrett, LMSW, Pastoral Care Associate**  
[mbarrett@stthomas-church.org](mailto:mbarrett@stthomas-church.org)

**Avery Tunningley, Parish Music Director**  
[tunnac@aol.com](mailto:tunnac@aol.com)

**Nelly Brown Bunk, Choir Director**  
[nellybrownbunk@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:pstaerker@stthomas-church.org)

**Elizabeth Kerins, MS and HS Coordinator**  
[ekerins@stthomas-church.org](mailto:ekerins@stthomas-church.org)

**Mary Ann Hospodar, Assistant MS and HS Coordinator**  
[mhospodar@stthomas-church.org](mailto:mhospodar@stthomas-church.org)

**Colleen Harrigan, Secretary**  
[charrigan@stthomas-church.org](mailto:charrigan@stthomas-church.org)

**PARISH TRUSTEES: Patrick Gallagher and Adele Nucci**

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

[www.stthomas-school.org](http://www.stthomas-school.org)

[info@stthomas-school.org](mailto:info@stthomas-school.org)

**Thomas Kane, School Principal**

**Carmel Foltan, Dir. Community Relations & Enrollment Mgmt.**  
[cfoltan@stthomas-school.org](mailto:cfoltan@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.

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

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS:** Contact Father Tom for information.

**MATRIMONY:** Arrangements for marriage should be made at least 6 to 8 months in advance and before scheduling a reception. Contact Father Tom 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 to meet with Father Tom.

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, February 11-12, 2017, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
5:00 p.m.	Father Hayes	Sandie Flynn & Dan Ehring	Morgan Leonard & Raegan Ehring	4
8:00 a.m.	Father Hayes	Maureen Nyilis & Jeff Conklin	Tyler Harrigan & Shayla Harrigan	4
9:30 a.m.	Father Hayes	Martha Snyder & Paul Connolly	Anne-Marie Kohlberg & Donna Tripp	3
11:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Maureen Cahill & Robert Conway	Maggie Walters & John Henry Walters	3

## Father Tom's Corner

**LENTEN BOOK STUDY** ~ In conjunction with our Parish Lenten theme of "Caring for Our Common Home," Fr. Tom will conduct a four week book study in March on the Orbis book, Just Water – Theology, Ethics, and the Global Water Crisis. We will again meet on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. with a repeat session on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. The study will begin on Monday March 6 and end on March 27. There are sign-up sheets in the Gathering Hall. The books will be available at the discounted cost of \$15.00.

**Remember in prayer** Mark D. Murray whose funeral service was held this week at St. Thomas and Eunice Nabozny whose funeral was last week in Hudson. May the Lord welcome them into Eternal Life.

**Congratulations** to Daniel DiSante and Caroline Lynch who celebrated the Sacrament of Matrimony last weekend at St. Thomas.

**"Mardi Gras" Mass** ~ To kick off the Lenten season, one of our parishioners, Skip Parsons, has offered his musical talents to have a special "Mardi Gras" Mass at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 26, the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday (March 1). There will be a social following the Mass in which the Environment Committee will also make available reusable shopping bags to raise funds to support a fresh water project in a mission parish.

## Prayer & Worship

**Prayer Chain** ~ Members respond to urgent prayer intentions. Contact Pam Seward at: 439-7845 for your intention to be added. **If you are interested in providing support as a member of one of our two prayer chains, please contact Maura.**

**GLUTEN-FREE HOSTS** ~ "Gluten-free" hosts are available at Mass for those who have allergies. These are not 100% gluten-free but satisfy the FDA's requirement as they have a miniscule amount of wheat, less than 20 parts per million, which also satisfies the Church's requirement that the host contain wheat. If anyone wishes to receive communion using this option, please speak to the priest celebrant before Mass so he can place a "gluten-free" host on the altar to consecrate during the Eucharistic Prayer. If you have concerns about whether this host will meet your needs, please contact your healthcare provider.

## Pastoral Care

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

**HAPPY FEBRUARY!** ~ With Valentine's Day approaching you might want to think about how you can demonstrate love and care to those who could use some added support. The Pastoral Care Ministries provide a variety of supportive services to the aged, infirm, bereaved, and needy in our parish. If you are interested in joining **any** of our ministries please contact Maura by email or phone, or sign up in the church foyer. Give as little or as much time as you are able. **Thank you** to all of our volunteers who spread so much kindness, love, and spiritual support throughout our community!

**Prayer Chain** ~ Pam Seward and Maura are reorganizing the prayer chain for the new year. Participating in this ministry is a wonderful opportunity to provide spiritual support on your own time. We currently have 2 prayer chains that are active. You may want to consider being a part of this important ministry. Contact Maura or Pam Seward at 439-7845 for more information.

**Moving to a senior living community or nursing home?** ~ Please let Maura know so that we can continue to provide support to you in your new home. Many times we do not know when and where people have moved after a hospitalization or illness.

**The Bereavement Support Group**, for those who have lost a spouse within the last two years, is currently full. Please contact Maura Barrett if you would like to be placed on the waiting list and/or would like more information about the program or other bereavement resources. Current attendees please note the next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 15 from 6:00-7:30 pm.**

**Our Meal Ministry Team** provides **short-term, home delivered meals** to parishioners who have experienced issues such as: acute illness, recent hospitalization, death of a loved one, birth or adoption of a new baby, etc. **If you are in need, or know of a parishioner who could use this support**, please contact Maura Barrett by phone or email. Calls will be returned during Pastoral Care hours (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.).

## Fitth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Faith Formation

#### ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-5)

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

**Signups for First Eucharist mass choice** are to-day, Sunday, February 5, from 9 a.m. -12 p.m. in the Gathering Hall. If you are unable to make this sign-up time, contact my office this week to secure one of the remaining openings.

**Our next sessions of First Eucharist prep classes** are Sunday, February 12 at 8:15 a.m. and Monday, February 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the school. Attend whichever session is more convenient for your family.

**Winter Break** ~ There will be no classes during the week of February 21-23 as the schools are on winter break.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

(Contact: Elizabeth Kerins)

**Confirmation Meetings** ~ *If you were unable* to attend one of the mandatory informational Confirmation meetings last week, please contact Elizabeth at the parish office to schedule an evening appointment to pick up the required forms.

### Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

**Haz la Diferencia!** ~ Just in time for Valentine's Day! The Pueblo to People Committee and Faith Formation students will be selling beautiful handwoven palm baskets, memory/keep sake purses, iPad covers and festive colorful bracelets after all masses next weekend, February 11 and 12. Pick out a beautiful handmade gift for yourself or a friend! All proceeds benefit the mission of our Pueblo to People Committee "to show love & care of the Church beyond frontiers." Show your Solidarity! Make a difference in the lives of our friends in Mexico!

#### **Touch down Faith Formation at St. John St. Ann's Welcome Table**

~ Special thanks to our cooks: Josh Bates, Anna Bernasconi, Madeline Ferreira & Patrick Leary, our servers: Jordan Lawyer, Maia Coleman, Nathi Clarke, Lindsey Isenberg, David Axtell, Kevin Harder, Jason Piccolino, Hunter Szymaszek, Nicole Keller and Sammi Keller and all of our wonderful bakers who shared festive brownies, cookies, and cupcakes! The donated gift cards were most appreciated too! We could not have done it without Fr. Tom and the Sacrificial Fund, our head cook and dishwasher Jeff Bates and volunteers: Sue Clarke, Annamarie Coleman, Kim Lawyer, and Michele Bernasconi! All left overs were taken to the woman's shelter in Albany and baked goods were frozen for this weekend! Wonderful team effort by all! Go St. Thomas!

**Please check out the many service and parish opportunities available** to our students Grade 6-12 in the Gathering Hall, "Make a Difference Binder" and the many opportunities offered by our diocese this spring and summer! **YOU** can make a difference, meet other young people and have some fun!

### School News

(Contact: Carmel Foltan)

**St. Thomas the Apostle School Annual Giving Campaign** ~ God has blessed each of us with a multitude of gifts. We are called to share those gifts with one another in thanksgiving to God. The success of our annual campaign provides the necessary support for this generation of students and for generations to come. To learn more about the Campaign or to make a contribution, please take a 2016-2017 campaign brochure, available at the back of the church, or call St. Thomas the Apostle School at 439-5573 or visit [www.stthomas-school.org/giving/annual/](http://www.stthomas-school.org/giving/annual/).

**Did You Know....?** ~ Our Middle School students are offered opportunities to participate in advanced math and science, completing the 9th grade Integrated Algebra course and the New York State Regents level Living Environment (Biology) course. Students may elect to take Spanish or Latin. Students who successfully complete the Spanish or Latin proficiency exam graduate with high school credit in a foreign language. Nearly 60 percent of our graduates graduate with high school credit in 3 or more subject areas. For more information, contact Carmel Foltan or visit [www.stthomas-school.org](http://www.stthomas-school.org).

**Find Your Pot of Gold at the Annual St. Patrick's Day Party!** ~ We hope you'll join us for our annual St. Patrick's Day Party on Saturday, March 4. In addition to music by Get Up Jack, you will be treated to an Irish Step Dance performance, 50/50 raffle & fun with friends all night! Doors Open at 6pm. \$25 per person, **includes dinner**. Cash dessert & beverage bar. Must be 21 & over. For tickets, call 439-5573, [info@stthomas-school.org](mailto:info@stthomas-school.org) or stop by the School between 9 a.m. and 2p.m., Monday-Friday.

### RCIA

**RCIA INQUIRIES WELCOME** ~ Is God calling you or someone you know to become a Catholic Christian? If so, and you would like more information, come join us at our weekly meeting on Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Large Conference Room 1 to learn more about the RCIA program.

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is for Baptized Christians and individuals who have never been baptized who wish to learn more about and explore

## February 4–5, 2017

the possibility of joining our Catholic faith and for Baptized Catholics who wish to be confirmed.

Contact Paul Edmundson, if you have any questions. We have a wonderful group of people who would like to accompany you on such a faith journey.

### Caring for Our Common Home

(Contact: Jeanne Schrempf: [jschrempf@verizon.net](mailto:jschrempf@verizon.net))

**On Care for Our Common Home** ~ The scriptures for this weekend send us a powerful message. Light breaks through darkness as in dawn after the night. God calls us to shelter the homeless and oppressed, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and “*not turn our backs on our own*” (Isaiah 58-7-10). In today’s Gospel, Jesus calls us to be “*salt of the earth*” and “*light of the world*”. He calls us to illumine the world with our light and to know the power of letting others see the good deeds that we do. (Matthew 5:13-16)

**Actions for this week:**

- Remember to bring your grocery bags with you on shopping trips. A conservative estimate is that the average American uses 350 plastic bags each year. Multiply that by family members. Plan to reduce this waste that ends up in rivers, oceans, and landfills. Remember to return plastic bags to the receptacles in our neighborhood stores.
- Thank shoppers that you see for bringing recyclable bags to stores. Introduce yourself and tell them that you are from St. Thomas and we are working together to care for creation.

### Community

**HOSPITALITY** to be offered after Sunday Masses **next weekend. All are welcome** to join us in the Gathering Hall for coffee and treats.

**Grassroot Givers** ~ Volunteers are needed at Grassroot Givers, a remarkable charitable organization whose chief goal is providing books for impoverished citizens in the Capital District. Convinced that literacy is a key route out of poverty and despair, founders Mary Partridge-Brown and Roberta Sandler transformed the closed YMCA’s enormous swimming pool at 274 Washington Avenue in downtown Albany into a magnificent free library, with top quality donated books for all ages, free for residents to keep. The organization has distributed thousands of books to the needy, recently reaching an amazing milestone: the donation of the 100,000<sup>th</sup> book. Other projects include stocking a free community store with donated new or nearly new clothing and household items, building “Little Free Libraries” outside public schools, and assisting homeless citizens transitioning to their own apartments. A wide variety of volunteer opportunities are available. Bathing suits not required: compassion is! To volunteer,

donate, or contribute, first contact [info@grassrootgivers.org](mailto:info@grassrootgivers.org), [www.grassrootgivers.org](http://www.grassrootgivers.org) or call 542-1276 or 817-5921 for hours and information.

**Attention St. Thomas Active Older Adults** ~ Our next luncheon will be on **Friday, February 17**. We will attend mass at 12:15 p.m. and then enjoy lunch. This is a great opportunity to meet some of your fellow parishioners. Please encourage a friend to come along with you. Diane Cameron will be speaking to us about Gratitude and Grace. For reservations, cancellations or transportation, contact Art or Marie Copeland at 439-4050 by **Monday Feb. 13**. This is a change just for the month of February.

**Parishioners** ~ If you like to bake, could you please help out the seniors’ spiritual and social activities ministry this month with bundt cakes. Contact Art or Marie Copeland at 439- 4050 to help with baked goods.

### Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

**Counters Needed** ~ Volunteers are needed to spend several hours every month or so on Sunday morning to help count the weekend collection. Please let me know if you are interested. Thanks for considering this opportunity to support the parish.

**2016 Year-End Donor Statements** ~ Statements were mailed last week. If you have any questions about your statement, please contact Pat Holm in the parish office. Thank you very much for your financial support Last year!

#### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

January 28 - 29, 2017

Offertory	\$11,220.39
Offertory from E-Giving (Vanco)	\$990.00
Total Offertory Received	\$12,210.39
Tithe from this Offertory	\$610.52

**Thank you for your continuing support of the parish!**

### Calendar

Thu	2/9	10 am	Bible Study	LCR1
Sun	2/12	9 am	RCIA Weekly Meeting	LCR1
Sat/ Sun	2/11- 2/12	After All Masses	Hospitality/ Pueblo to People “Sweetheart” Basket and Bracelet Sale	GH

**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 February 6 - 10, 2017*

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>Joan Pisciotta</b> <i>Her Family</i>
		<b>George Cochran</b> <i>His Family</i>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>7:30 am</b>	<b>Ann McGinty, 10th Anniv.</b> <i>The Family</i>
		<b>Father John Roos</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>7:30 am</b>	<b>Gail Dwyer</b> <i>The Family</i>
		<b>Christopher Gehrer</b> <i>Colleen Delaney and Cam Shepardson</i>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>Edythe Kelly Collins</b> <i>The Watson Family</i>
		<b>Kristin Peyrebrune, 2nd Anniv.</b> <i>Sally and Henry Peyrebrune</i>

**Next Weekend, February 11-12, 2017**

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>David Cerneck</b> <i>The Family</i>
		<b>William Bassotti</b> <i>Richard and Marcia Bassotti</i>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Georgianna Brognano</b> <i>Marie and Ralph</i>
		<b>Linda Giglio</b> <i>Chase and Erin Chaskey</i>
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>For The People</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Marie and Henry Mathison</b> <i>Karen Jones</i>
		<b>Lonnie Tomlin</b> <i>Candace and Patrick Stellato</i>

**Scripture Readings: Week of February 5, 2017**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Is:58:7-10 / 1 Cor 2:1-5 / Mt 5:13-16</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Gn 1:1-19 / Mk 6:53-56</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Gn 1:20-2:4a / Mk 7:1-13</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17 / Mk 7:14-23</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Gn 2:18-25 / Mk 7:24-30</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Gn 3:1-8 / Mk 7:31-37</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Gn 3:9-24 / Mk 8:1-10</b>
<b>Next Sunday</b>	<b>Sir:15:15-20 / 1 Cor 2:6-10 / Mt 5:17-37</b>