

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

FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY

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

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

Rose Ann Garry, Co-Coordinator, Middle/High School Program
ragarry@stthomas-church.org

Bridget Zigrosser, Co-Coordinator, Middle/High School Program
bzigrosser@stthomas-church.org

Mary Ann Hospodar, Coordinator, Youth Ministry Program
mhospodar@stthomas-church.org

Colleen Harrigan, Secretary
charrigan@stthomas-church.org

PARISH TRUSTEES: Carmel Foltan 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 4:00 p.m. in the Daily Mass Chapel or anytime by appt.

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.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF 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, January 12-January 13, 2019, The Baptism of the Lord

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
5:00 p.m.	Father Berberian	Lynne Lenhardt & Dan Coffey	Laiba Gill & Sarah Gill	4
8:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Colleen Flynn & Paul Edmundson	Doug Maeder & Jim Moran	4
9:30 a.m.	Father Berberian	Amanda Smith & Tom Kane	Jack Keating & Maggie Rimmel	3
11:00 a.m.	Father Berberian	Maureen Roberts & Bob Conway	Cecilia Creamer & Lucy Creamer	3

Pastor's Corner

Thank You ~ Father Leskovar and I are very appreciative of the many Christmas greetings, cards and other delights that sometimes just appeared at the office. It is our sincere hope and prayer that as we conclude the Christmas season that the Light of Our Savior's birth will continue to warm your hearts and homes..

Congratulations to the families of the following children who were baptized recently at St. Thomas: Aubrey Juliet Quackenbush, Anthony Ryan Butler, Aisley Penelope Merrill, Eloise Ann Streeter and Claire Elizabeth Hebert.

Prayer & Worship

Please Remember in Prayer Katherine M. Lilly whose funeral was held recently at St. Thomas. May the Lord welcome her into Eternal Life.

PRAYER CHAIN ~ Members respond to urgent prayer intentions. **Calls are confidential.** Contact Pam Seward at: 518-439-7845 for your intention to be added.

Pastoral Care

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

"May the Holy Spirit enkindle you with the fire of His Love so that you may persevere, unflinchingly, in the love of His service."—St. Hildegard von Bingen

The Alzheimer's Care Team ~ from St. Thomas parish is a team of caring individuals who provide non-medical support and friendship to individuals and families living with dementia. Training is provided and time commitment is about 2-4 hours a month. The team meets together about 1x/month to review cases and schedules. **There is a growing number of people** in our community living with dementia and related diseases who could use our help. Please contact Maura if you would like to learn more about assisting this dynamic team.

Hospital Visitation Ministry ~ We have an active team that provides support for hospitalized parishioners. They could use a couple of additional helpers. Scheduling is about 1x every 5 weeks. If you would like to learn more about this ministry, please contact Maura. We would love for you to join our team.

Unable to get to Mass due to illness? ~ Our Pastoral Care Team can provide Communion visitation to the home-bound on a short or long term basis. Contact Maura for more information.

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 (Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 8:00-3:00).

Faith Formation

ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-5)

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

Elementary Faith Formation classes resume this week, January, 8-10. Welcome back for the 2nd half of our program year!!

The next in our series of **First Eucharist preparation classes** is scheduled for next Sunday, January 13 at 8:15 a.m. Babysitting will be available, provided by our middle and high school faith formation students.

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

(Contact: Rose Ann Garry or Bridget Zigrosser)

MS/ HS Faith Formation classes will resume FEBRUARY 26-28.

10th Graders: SAVE THE DATE ~ Wednesday, January 16, at 6:30 p.m. in the Church. We will gather for our Confirmation Informational meeting. All Confirmation prep students and their parents/guardians are asked to attend this key meeting.

9th Graders: Pick a Date and SAVE it for your mandatory safe environment training ~ Please select either Tuesday, January 22 or Tuesday, January, 29. We will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Office Large Conference Room. All 9th grade families will receive an email with registration information.

Please continue working on your parish and community service.....Happy New Year!!

Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

National Catholic Youth Conference NCYC -

"Blessed, Broken, Given" is set for Nov. 21-24, Indianapolis, Indiana. It is a unique three day experience of prayer, community and empowerment for Catholic teenagers. Consider joining 30,000 teens like yourself along with Cardinals, Bishops, Priests and Religious from all over the country for this amazing faith experience! Events include keynote presentation, prayer,

The Epiphany of the Lord

workshops, liturgy, reconciliation, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and recreational activities, concerts and exhibits. The Thematic Park is a blend of traditional exhibit booths with interactive areas featuring service projects, games, recreation, live music and sports. This event happens only every other year. IF you are interested in joining our 2019 NCYC team from St. Thomas, please contact Mary Ann at mhospodar@stthomas-church.org. Join our 2017 NCYC team in the Gathering Hall next weekend, Jan. 12-13, to hear firsthand what their NCYC experience was like for them!

Next Youth Ministry CORE Team Meeting, in the Gathering Hall, is tonight at 6 p.m. Join us as we celebrate Epiphany.

MS/HS Movie Night in the school this Friday Night, 7:30 -10 p.m. **Princess Bride!** Free popcorn, games, prizes! Wear your comfy lounge sweats, bring a blanket and join your friends as we watch an old classic. Please sign up in the Gathering Hall. Remember your permission slip!

School News

(Contact: Thomas Kane, Principal)



St. Thomas School

Visit us at www.stthomas-school.org or on Facebook at St. Thomas the Apostle School - Delmar

Happy New Year!

Open Enrollment - Tours and Student Visits ~ As part of the application process, once a family has toured, we invite the child/children to join us for a "Shadow Day". They are invited to spend the entire school day, attend classes and get to know their potential St. Thomas classmates, teachers and staff. **Interested in a Tour/Shadow Day?** Please contact Jennifer Murphy at [518-439-5573](tel:518-439-5573) or jmurphy@stthomas-school.org.

Did you know? ~ St. Thomas students participate in several field trips, both curricular and service-related, throughout the school year. Students visit the Ronald McDonald House, Reilly House, The NYS Museum, The Mohawk Hudson Humane Society, Boston Aquarium and Museum of Science, Howe Caverns and Washington DC to name just a few.

Thank you to everyone who has purchased gift cards through our Scrip program. Cards are available year-round and are a great way to plan for gifts throughout the year as well as weekly/monthly purchases at places like ShopRite and WalMart. Visit <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/Shop> to view which cards/denominations are available. Order forms are available in the Gathering Hall and can be dropped off or mailed in with cash or check payment to St. Thomas the Apostle School, [42 Adams Place, Delmar](http://42AdamsPlace.Delmar). If you have any questions, please contact Erica Fox at [518-439-5573](tel:518-439-5573) or efox@stthomas-school.org.

Christian Service

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

Creation Care Team

(Contact: Jeanne Schrempf: jdscshremp6@gmail.com or Marie Myer: myermarie@yahoo.com.)

A wonder of God's creation ... **a star** ... led the Magi to Jesus. In 2019 we too can be **led by the wonders of God's creation** to a closer relationship with Jesus by pledging to consistently care for the universe He entrusted to us. Each act of kindness, each prayer said for another's well-being, each drop of water saved, each plastic straw declined, each piece of paper recycled, each choice to reuse rather than waste ... **is a step in the journey of caring for creation**. The Creation Care Team invites you to join us in this journey. Check the St. Thomas website in 2019 for information that can guide and inspire you.

Community

Active Older Adults Luncheon and Service Project – Faith, Fun, and Food ~ Our next luncheon will be on Friday, Jan. 18. We will meet at 11 in the large conference room in the rectory to write out Valentine cards for our local parishioners. Please bring a pen and Valentine cards for our local parishioners. We will attend Mass at 12:15. For reservations, transportation or cancellations, please contact Steve or Christine Corson at 518-439-3286.

Parishioners: If you like to bake, could you please help us out with sliced sheet cakes this month. Please contact Steve or Christine Corson if you would like to help with baked goods,

RCDA March for Life ~ March as a diocese with Bishop Scharfenberger at the March for Life on Friday, January 18, 2019. Reserve your bus ticket ASAP and view more info at: www.rcda.org/life and on the community bulletin board.

Outreach Community Meal ~ The co-chairs of the Outreach Community Meal Committee wish to **THANK** Mary Ann Hospodar and the faith formation students listed below and their families for the delicious food and desserts they prepared for the luncheon on December 17 at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Thank you also for the treat bags which were such a delight for everyone. The donation of electric toothbrushes were an early Christmas gift for everyone! **THANK YOU** to Sitzer Family, Jill DeCancio, Jenn Brynes, Emily Sagendorph, David Axtell, Claire Gerdeman, Jack Lanzoni, Howie Vargas, Nichols Family, Paige Davenport, Dylan Kowalsky, Sydney Kowalsky, Caitlyn Teplitzky, Ryan Teplitzky, Erich Fischer Michael Kurdziolek, Kaitlin Strokes, Shelby Whitman, Tyler Sagendorph and Nina Vargas.

Public Policy Advocacy ~ The NYS Catholic Conference states that the Assembly and Senate leadership have announced their plans to pass the Reproductive Health Act (abortion expansion) right away in January. On another front, they are hopeful in trying to push a cost of living increase in the state budget for the full human services employee sector. You can still take action on the following issues by going to www.nyscatholic.org "Action Center:" Oppose Late Term Abortion Expansion; Oppose Physician's Assisted Suicide; and Maintain the Ban on Surrogacy.

Please take action on this Federal issue: Earlier this year, Congress acted to lower prescription drug costs for those on Medicare Part D by requiring drug manufacturers to pick up more of the cost. This will help lower premiums and the amount spent

at the pharmacy, especially if your drug costs are higher than most. However, drug manufacturers have been lobbying Congress to overturn this measure and shift more costs back onto older Americans. Congress recently tried to attach an amendment to unrelated legislation that would have rolled back the Part D improvement. AARP and other groups successfully stopped that plan. Call your Senators at 844-567-7800 and tell them to maintain the Medicare Part D improvements. Thank you for your advocacy.

Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

ELECTRONIC GIVING -- A CONVENIENT METHOD FOR FINANCIALLY SUPPORTING THE PARISH

~ As many parishioners know, our electronic giving program, through Vanco, is a convenient and secure method for making contributions to the parish, whether it's offertory contributions, donations for other holy days, or even the Bishop's Appeal. You can set it up to make contributions weekly, monthly or annually and it ensures that your support to the parish is on an ongoing basis. It is a simple process, and you can make changes directly as needed. We encourage you to take advantage of this program and there are several options to get you started. You can now **go to our website, www.stthomas-church.org, click on electronic giving** on the home page which sends you to the **electronic giving** page that has a link to the Vanco site. Also, **myParishapp now provides that same option**, so you can contribute any time, from any where using your smartphone! And, there is still an option to complete the Vanco application form, found on the oval table near the Community bulletin board. Please contact Pat Holm in the parish office for help.

AmazonSmile – Making Donations to St. Thomas the Apostle

~ You can now make donations to St. Thomas Parish and School using Amazon Smile! What is AmazonSmile? AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, pricing and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

Please consider supporting our parish or school by registering with AmazonSmile. To register, enter one of the following addresses in your web browser and follow the instructions for creating an account, registering for AmazonSmile or changing your existing charitable organization:

For the parish: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/14-1364682>

For the school: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/90-0635100>

Thank you to the following, who made donations for our Christmas Altar Flowers:

<p>Donated by</p> <p>The Edmundsons</p> <p>Ralph Rahm</p> <p>Mary and John Pludrzynski</p> <p>The Wildzunas Family</p> <p>Vera Peek</p> <p>Nicholas and Vera Frangella</p> <p>The Weyants</p> <p>The Faiola Family</p> <p>Allison Quinn and Ron Guzior</p> <p>Family</p> <p>Robert G. Conway Jr.</p>	<p>In Memory of</p> <p>Loved Ones</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Ralph W. "Bill" Rahm</p> <p>Barbara and Raymond Mendrick</p> <p>Peter Wildzunas</p> <p>Nicholas Peek</p> <p>Frangella and Lindsey Families</p> <p>Ann and Jack Winters and Mary and Leonard Weyant</p> <p>Francis Cocozza</p> <p>The Quinn and Guzior Families</p> <p>Herbert J. Leisenfelder</p>
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2018 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS ~ The parish office will send statements of 2018 contributions to all contributing parishioners by the end of January.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE – FOR DECEMBER 22-23, 2018

OFFERTORY RECEIVED FROM WEEKLY COLLECTION **	\$14,097.32
OFFERTORY RECEIVED VIA E-GIVING (VANCO)	\$1,988.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY RECEIVED	\$16,085.32
WEEKLY BUDGET AMOUNT NEEDED TO MEET EXPENSES	\$14,500.00
TITHE (5% OF TOTAL OFFERTORY)	\$804.27
TOTAL NUMBER OF GIFTS	395
** INCLUDES LOOSE CASH GIFTS	\$1,768.28
CHRISTMAS COLLECTION (TO DATE)	\$35,344.57

Offertory contribution information for December 29-30 was not available at time of publication. It will be included in a future bulletin.

THANK S FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE PARISH.

Calendar

Sun	1/6	9 am	RCIA Weekly Meeting	LCR
Wed	1/9	6:30 pm	Creation Care Team	GH
Thu	1/10	10 am	Bible Study	LCR
Sat	1/12-13	After All Masses	Hospitality	GH
Sun	1/13	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 January 7, 2018 - January 11, 2019

Mon.	12:15 pm	Michael K. Sheehan <i>Luke Mullen</i>
		Sister Maria Rosario Daley <i>Richard and Marcia Bassotti</i>
Tue.	7:30 am	Sister Maria Rosario Daley <i>Martha and Bob Keens</i>
		Joellen Maloney Toussaint <i>David, Kristin, Karin and Jennifer Toussaint</i>
Wed.	7:30 am	Barbara Sereno <i>Jane and Jim O'Neill</i>
		Patricia Barone <i>Whitman Family</i>
Fri.	12:15 pm	Stephen Ruzzi <i>Family</i>
		Ernestina Carrisoza <i>Martha Mancilla and Family</i>

Next Weekend, January 12-January 13, 2019

Sat.	5:00 pm	Jack Meany <i>Ed and Marymel Hart</i>
		Joan Grady <i>Amodeo Family</i>
Sun.	8:00 am	Michael Sheehan <i>Mary Ann and Terry Mitchell</i>
		Jane Behringer <i>Hogan Family</i>
	9:30 am	For the People
	11:00 am	Victor Zaccardo, 23rd Anniv. <i>Family</i>
		Mary Lou Fendrick, 23rd Anniv. <i>Her Daughter and Grandson</i>

Scripture Readings: Week of January 6, 2019

Sunday	Is 60:1-6 / Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Mt 2:1-12
Monday	1 Jn 3:22-4:6 / Mt 4:12-17, 23-35
Tuesday	1 Jn 4:7-10 / Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday	1 Jn 4:11-18 / Mk 6:45-52
Thursday	1 Jn 4:19-5:4 / Lk 4:14, 22
Friday	1 Jn 5:5-13 / Lk 5:12-16
Saturday	1 Jn 5: 14-21 / Jn 3:22-30
Sunday	Is 40:1-5, 9-11 / Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7 / Lk 3:15-16, 21-22