

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](mailto:office@stthomas-church.org)

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

**Rev. David V. Berberian J.C.L., Pastor**  
[dberberian@stthomas-church.org](mailto: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](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**  
[pbukowski@stthomas-church.org](mailto:pbukowski@stthomas-church.org)

**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**

## 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](mailto:pstaerker@stthomas-church.org)

**Rose Ann Garry, Co-Coordinator, Middle/High School Program**  
[ragarry@stthomas-church.org](mailto:ragarry@stthomas-church.org)

**Bridget Zigrosser, Co-Coordinator, Middle/High School Program**  
[bzigrosser@stthomas-church.org](mailto:bzigrosser@stthomas-church.org)

**Mary Ann Hospodar, Coordinator, Youth Ministry Program**  
[mhospodar@stthomas-church.org](mailto:mhospodar@stthomas-church.org)

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

**PARISH TRUSTEES: Carmel Foltan 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**  
[tkane@stthomas-school.org](mailto:tkane@stthomas-school.org)

**Jennifer Murphy, Associate for Enrollment and Development**  
[jmurphy@stthomas-school.org](mailto: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, March 9-March 10, 2019, The First Sunday in Lent

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
5:00 p.m.	Father Berberian	Maureen Roberts & Dan Ehring	Ali Barron & Matthew Barron	4
8:00 a.m.	Father Berberian	Mary Richards & David Rothfuss	Chris Corson & Brian Gallagher	4
9:30 a.m.	Father Berberian	Marianne Conophy & Herman Reinhold	Kathleen Connelly & Jack Keating	2
11:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Maureen Cahill & Tom Hedderman	Cecilia Creamer & Lucy Creamer	2

## Pastor's Corner

**THIS WEDNESDAY IS ASH WEDNESDAY** ~ We will celebrate the Eucharist in the church at 7:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Ashes are blessed and distributed during the Mass after the homily. Throughout the day, the blessed ashes will be available in front of the altar for distribution to the homebound. If you wish to take some, simply bring a small envelope with you to church to secure some blessed ashes. When you distribute them to the sick or homebound use the formula "Repent and believe the Good News of Jesus" as you place the ashes on the forehead.

**FAST AND ABSTINENCE** ~ Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting (limiting the consumption of food) and abstinence (refraining from eating meat).

As a sign of our penance, the Diocese of Albany also preserves the custom of not eating meat on the Fridays of Lent. Therefore, all Catholics, 14 years of age and older are obliged to refrain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and the other Fridays of Lent. All Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59 are obliged to fast.

Fasting refers to the quantity of food eaten. Traditionally, fasting allows for eating only one full meal per day. Two additional, smaller meals may be eaten and there is no eating in between meals.

By retaining these traditions for our Diocese, we do not intend that they be interpreted as laws binding under pain of sin, but as customs from which we will not hold ourselves lightly excused. They are expressions of our desire to be converted in our hearts, to be reconciled with each other, and to love our neighbor. It is helpful to remember that the ability to decide how much or little one will eat is in itself a gift.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be held with the children of St. Thomas the Apostle School on the Fridays of Lent at 2 p.m. (in the church); there will also be Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m. (also in the church). All are welcome.

**"RICE BOWL" For Our Sister Parish and Catholic Relief Services** ~ We are happy to continue to support the needs of our sister parish in Mexico through your generous donations during this Lenten season. And, as we recognize that need and continue to support their mission, there is also a tremendous need to financially support Catholic Relief Services and the wonderful work they do throughout the world. Annually, the Rice Bowl Collection has supported that need, with 75% of donations supporting global programs and 25% helping those living in poverty in our Diocese. So, this Lent we will again split your generous Lenten donations between the two programs as we did last year. Rather than print up separate envelopes for your donations, we have decided to use only the "Rice Bowls". They will be available at church entrances during Lent for your contributions to this shared program. We appreciate your generosity to all those in need. Thank you!!!!

**CONGRATULATIONS** ~ to the families of the following children who were baptized recently at St. Thomas: Victoria Mae Dwyer, Benjamin Alan Olivenstein and Aoife Hanora Barrett.

**WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS** ~ Frank and Carole Blake and Lauren and Steven Correll and their daughters, Avery and Lyla.

**COUNTERS NEEDED** ~ Can you volunteer for several hours on a Sunday morning every five weeks or so? Or be available as a substitute to fill in once in a while? We need volunteers to help count our weekend offertory collection. No experience is needed and we will train you. If you have basic computer skills that's a plus, but definitely not required. If interested, please contact Pat Holm in the parish office.

## Prayer & Worship

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

**Lectors, Acolytes and Eucharistic Ministers for Ash Wednesday, March 6.** ~ Please sign up at the oval table across from the Community Bulletin Board if you are available to serve on Ash Wednesday at the 7:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. Masses. Thank you.

## Pastoral Care

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

**"Let us love God, but with the strength of our arms, in the sweat of our brow."**  
– St. Vincent dePaul

**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.

**The Bereavement Support Group,** for those who have lost a spouse within the last 2 years, will meet on **Monday March 4 at 6:00-7:30** in the large conference room in the parish office. **You must register** with Maura if you are interested in joining this group. For more information, please contact Maura Barrett, at 439-4951 ext. 104 or mbarrett@stthomas-church.org.

# The First Sunday in Lent

**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.

**Potential New Ministry ~ Parish Pals Telephone Ministry** ~ from the convenience of your home. Weekly calls between volunteers and parishioners who could use some added spiritual support and connection with the parish. If you are interested in hearing more, please contact Maura. More to come!

**Please Note:** Due to privacy regulations we may not know if you or your loved one is in the hospital. Be sure to inform the hospital staff that you are from our parish to be included on our visitation list. Upon discharge, let us know if you or your loved one is moving to a facility so we can provide support to you there. Contact Maura in the office.

## Faith Formation

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

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

**Early Dismissal from Elementary Faith Formation classes on March 6!** ~ On Ash Wednesday, March 6, Elementary Faith Formation classes will dismiss at 5:10 p.m. to allow families and catechists to attend 5:30 p.m. Mass.

Our next **First Eucharist Preparation class will be next Sunday, March 10 at 8:15 a.m.** in the school. Please have chapters 4 and 5 completed with your children by the time you come for this March session. Babysitting will be available, provided by our middle and high school faith formation students.

**Reconciliation Service for 4th graders and their families** will be held on Monday, March 18 at 4:30 p.m. in the chapel.

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION**

(Contact: Rose Ann Garry or Bridget Zigrosser)

**9th Graders — Safe Environment Training** is this **Tuesday, March 5, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.** in the Large Conference Room. Please let the Faith Formation Office know if you will be attending.

**Middle and High School students NO classes this week** so families can attend Mass on Ash Wednesday. Please continue putting your Catholic faith into action and fulfilling your Faith Formation service hours.

**Reminder: When BCSD closes or cancels after school activities, Faith Formation programs are also cancelled.**

## Christian Service

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

## Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

**Join us this Sunday, March 3 from 2-3 p.m. for a special Tour of our Church** with our pastor Fr. David Berberian. Families are welcome to come and learn about our Church's rich history and traditions. (Parish Service Hour)

This Sunday, March 3, **YM CORE Team** celebrates St. Patrick's Day!, 6-7:15 p.m. in the Gathering Hall.

**Special shout out** to Darius Palange Cristina Grigas, Zach & Ryan Jeffers, Ericka Ruth, Evan O'Grady, Sarah NeJame, Kira Duffy and Kerry Douglas Duffy who shared their time over winter break to work at the Sr. Maureen Joyce Center's Food Pantry and /or Soup Kitchen! You made a difference!

**NCYC Spring Fling Breakfast** is set for Sunday, March 24, 8:30 a.m.-noon in the school café. Breakfast includes: pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice, coffee and tea. Donations are \$7.00 for one ticket or \$25 for four tickets. All proceeds benefit our 2019 NCYC Team! Tickets go on sale next Sunday after all Masses or in our Faith Formation Office! Thank you for your support!

## School News

(Contact: Thomas Kane, Principal)

**Now enrolling for 2018-19 - Pre-K through Grade 8 ~** From our youngest students in PreK 3 to our 8th Grade students who are preparing for High School, it is always our goal to empower each and every student to achieve academic and spiritual excellence in an environment which is rich in Catholic tradition. For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact Jennifer Murphy at (518) 439-5573 or [jmurphy@stthomas-school.org](mailto:jmurphy@stthomas-school.org).

**Help St. Thomas the Apostle School to advance the programs that have served our families for over 60 years** ~ 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 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. Gifts may be made via cash, check, or by credit card online at <https://www.stthomas-school.org/giving/annual/>. Thank you for making a difference!

**St. Thomas the Apostle School Annual Garage Sale ~** We are now accepting donations for the school's annual garage sale! All proceeds help our eighth graders go to Washington, D.C. in May. The pre-sale will take place on Friday, April 5 and the sale on Saturday, April 6. If you would like to donate your gently used articles (no TVs, computer monitors, large appliances or broken/non-working items please), call 518-439-5573 and leave a message for Mrs. Heilsberg for details. Pick-up of your donation can be arranged. Thank you!

**Scrip gift cards** are available year-round and are a great way to plan for gifts throughout the year as well as weekly!

## March 2-March 3, 2019

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](#). If you have any questions, please contact Erica Fox at [518-439-5573](tel:518-439-5573) or [efox@stthomas-school.org](mailto:efox@stthomas-school.org).

### Creation Care Team

(Contact: Jeanne Schrempf: [jdschremp6@gmail.com](mailto:jdschremp6@gmail.com)  
or Marie Myer: [myermarie@yahoo.com](mailto:myermarie@yahoo.com).)

**A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good ... (Luke 6:45)**

In today's Gospel Jesus teaches us to **look honestly at ourselves and change what keeps us from living as people who care** for others, care for creation ... It is only a few days before we enter the season of **Lent** ... a time for introspection ... **a time to make changes that build our stores of goodness** ... a time to **Pay that Goodness Forward** in acts that demonstrate we are followers of Christ, grateful for the gift of life and creation.

**Consider Paying It Forward** this Lent by "hard-wiring" a habit that changes how you care for creation ... donate food or time to an area food bank, shorten showers to avoid water waste, take the extra moment to recycle, skip the plastic straw, choose compostable products or ones made with recycled elements, use environmentally friendly cleaning products, have an electronics free night once a week, set a zero-waste.

### Community

**Senior Luncheon – Faith, Fun, and Food** ~ Get your reservations in soon for our March luncheon which will be on Fri., Mar. 15. We will attend Mass at 12:15 p.m. followed by our luncheon. This is a great opportunity to meet some of your fellow parishioners. Please encourage a friend to attend with you. Reservations, cancellations or transportation arrangements can be made with Steve or Christine Corson at 439-3286 by Monday, March 11.

**Parishioners:** We are very grateful for donated baked goods for our luncheons. If you can help out in March, we would appreciate cupcakes. Contact Steve or Christine Corson at 439-3286 to help with baked goods.

**The Public Policy Ministry** meets the third Wednesday of each month in the Gathering Hall. Please contact Co-Chairs: Marie Copeland, 518-439-4050; email [mariecopeland62@gmail.com](mailto:mariecopeland62@gmail.com), or Debbie Agney, 518-756-6049; email [debbie.agney@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.agney@gmail.com), if you have any questions.

**St. Patrick's Day Mass** ~ Please join us for the annual St. Patrick's Day Mass on Saturday, March 16 at 9 a.m. at **Blessed Sacrament Church**, featuring music by Harp and Pipe Bands. A reception will follow in the school gym.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter** ~ "Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord." Be firm, steadfast and devoted to your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Oct 18-20, 2019 in ALBANY, NY

and Mar 8-10, 2019 in Duxbury, MA. For more information, call Ed & Rhonda Staats at 518-279-3243 or visit them at <https://www.nyalb.org> and Mar 8-10, 2019 in Duxbury, MA. For more information, call Ed & Rhonda Staats at 518-279-3243

### Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

**2019 Combined Diocesan Collection for the Black and Native American and Latin American Missions** ~ We ask your support in the Diocesan Collection on **March 9-10**, for Black, Native American and Latin American Missions. Funds support catechesis and evangelization programs throughout the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean. Your gifts will fund catechesis, pastoral programs, marriage and family life projects, seminarian education, and many other necessary programs. The Black and Native American Mission Office provides grants for projects throughout the Missions in North America including programs in the Diocese of Albany. By contributing to next week's collection you will provide seeds to grow the faith for years to come. Please support the Black and Native American Missions of the United States and the Church in Latin

#### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE – FOR FEBRUARY 23-24, 2018

<b>OFFERTORY RECEIVED FROM WEEKLY COLLECTION **</b>	<b>\$9,911.17</b>
<b>OFFERTORY RECEIVED VIA E-GIVING (VANCO)</b>	<b>\$1,958.00</b>
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY RECEIVED</b>	<b>\$11,869.17</b>
<b>WEEKLY BUDGET AMOUNT NEEDED TO MEET EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$14,500.00</b>
<b>TITHE (5% OF TOTAL OFFERTORY)</b>	<b>\$593.46</b>
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF GIFTS</b>	<b>305</b>
<b>** INCLUDES LOOSE CASH GIFTS</b>	<b>\$1,514.75</b>

**THANK S FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE PARISH.**

### Calendar

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location
Mon	3/4	6:00 pm	Bereavement Support Group	LCR
Wed	3/6	7:30am, 12:15 & 5:30pm	Ash Wednesday Masses	CH
Thu	3/7	10 am	Bible Study	LCR
Fri	3/8	2 & 7 pm	Stations of the Cross	CH
Sun	3/10	After All Masses	Hospitality	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 March 4, 2019 - March 8, 2019*

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>Sose Gjonaj</b> <i>Leka Gjonaj</i> <b>Katherine Lilly</b> <i>Gene and Kathy Ryan</i>
<b>Tue.</b>	<b>7:30 am</b>	<b>Gerald R. Casey</b> <i>Keith and Paulette Cross</i> <b>Ryan Mead</b> <i>Carole and Frank Blake</i>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>7:30 am</b>	<b>Patricia Spadaro</b> <i>Bielawa Family</i>
	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>James Foley</b> <i>Jira Family</i> <b>James Kavanagh, 10th Anniv.</b> <i>His Brother, Mickey</i>
	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Michael McGovern</b> <i>Rev. Richard Leskovar</i>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>Jack Follis</b> <i>Fran Royo</i> <b>Mary Anastasi</b> <i>Giacone Fsmily</i>

### *Next Weekend, March 9-March 10, 2019*

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Michael K. Sheehan</b> <i>Adele Nucci</i> <b>Janet Mulrooney</b> <i>Jack and Nancy Haggerty</i>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Margaret Kolber, 28th Anniv.</b> <i>Her Family</i> <b>Frank Daley</b> <i>Catherine Daley</i>
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>For the People</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Tony Morrell, 3rd Anniv.</b> <i>Family</i> <b>Dennis Commerford</b> <i>Whitman Family</i>

### *Scripture Readings: Week of march 3, 2019*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sir 27:4-7 / 1 Cor 15:54-58 / Lk 6:39-45</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Sir 17:20-24 / Mk 10:17-27</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Sir 35:1-12 / Mk 10:28-31</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Jl 2:12-18 / 2 Cor 5:20 - 6:2 / Mt 6:1-6, 16-18</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Dt 30:15-20 / Lk 9:22, 25</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Is 58:1-9a / Lk 5:27-32</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Is 58: 9b-14 / Jn 3:22-30</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Dt 26:4-10 / Rom 10:8-13 / Lk 4:1-13</b>