

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 16-March 17, 2019, The Second Sunday in Lent

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
5:00 p.m.	Father Berberian	Lynne Lenhardt & Denis Hurley	Aidan Ciancio & Ryan Ciancio	1
8:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	TBD & Anthony Scisci	Shayla Harrigan & Isabel Scisci	1
9:30 a.m.	Father Berberian	Annemarie Farrell & Tom Kane	Carolyn Kolberg & Meagan Kolberg	3
11:00 a.m.	Father Berberian	Vera Frangella & Hank Steadman	Eileen Desharnais & Katie Desharnais	3

## Pastor's Corner

**FAST AND ABSTINENCE** ~ Good Friday is a day 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!!!!

## Prayer & Worship

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER** Louis H. Unright whose Memorial Mass was held recently at St. Thomas. May the Lord welcome him 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.

**ENVELOPES FOR EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS** are now available in the office or at the Church entrances for those who would like to make a donation. If you choose to make a donation in memory of a particular person, those memorials will be listed in the bulletin at Easter time. Please submit memorial donations that are to be listed in the bulletin to the parish office no later than Friday, April 12.

## Pastoral Care

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

**"A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just." – Pope Francis**

**Welcome to Bobbie Amiri!** ~ She has joined our Pastoral Care Ministry Team. You are welcome to join us too! There are several ministries in which you could become involved. Give as much or as little time as you can! Contact Maura.

**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!

**Beginning Experience Healing Weekend** ~ This program is for divorced, widowed, and separated men and women, and will be held at the St. Lawrence Retreat Center, Beacon, NY on April 26-28, 2019. This invitation is open to men and women of all ages who have suffered the loss of a spouse through death, divorce, or separation. It is a time to heal and a time to begin anew. Beginning Experience is endorsed by the Archdiocese Office of Family and Youth, but all faiths are welcome. Pre-registration is required. Contact: Denise (845) 325-3147 or Margaret (845) 383-1746. Website: [www.beginningexperience.org](http://www.beginningexperience.org).

**Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound** provide a valuable spiritual connection for those who are unable to get to mass. We need extra helpers from time to time. If you are interested in becoming involved in this ministry, contact Maura.

**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.

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

**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.

# The First Sunday in Lent

## Faith Formation

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

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

**A Reconciliation Service for 4th graders and their families** will be held on Monday, March 18 at 4:30 p.m. in the chapel. All are encouraged to come and celebrate the wonderful gift of God's forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**Jesus Day!**, our mini-retreat for families preparing a child for First Communion, will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.! This event is the culmination of our preparation program for First Eucharist. We look forward to seeing you there!

Our Annual **5th grade Moving Up Ceremony** will be held on **Monday, April 8 at 6:00 p.m.** in the chapel. All 5th graders and their families are encouraged to attend to celebrate ending your elementary level faith formation lessons, and will receive lots of information on moving up to our middle school program!

### MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

(Contact: Rose Ann Garry or Bridget Zigrosser)

**MS/HS Faith Formation Classes** resume the week of March 12. If it is necessary to attend a class other than your regularly scheduled class remember not all grades meet on all days and at all times. Please refer to the Class Schedule chart posted on the Faith Formation website.

**Save the date, April 16, Stations of the Cross** led by our faith formation students.

**Confirmation Candidates** ~ Makeup for Wednesday's snow closure will be April 10. Your Confirmation packets can be returned during classes this week, dropped off or mailed (emailed) to the Faith Formation Office **by March 16**. Remember to talk with your sponsor about "A Little Less for Lent".

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

## Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

**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!

**Creative Expressions of Creation Due in FF Office week of March 25. (Parish Hour)**

**Lenten Opportunity Gr. 1-10** ~ Sacrifice a treat, gather loose change in your room, car or pockets and bring it to your FF Class this week or next. All change will be used to purchase \$10 gift cards for our neighbors served at our Bethlehem Food Pantry and Cathedral Social Services. This Lent "Love life! Live Lent! Transform the World!"

**We Rejoice and give thanks** to Fr. Berberian, our scouts, leaders, Konstantin, Theresa McMahon, Paul Supple and YOU for making our Scout Mass a true celebration!

**Special thanks** to Fr. Berberian for an informative tour of our church! God Bless YOU!

**Think Summer! ~ Diocesan Camp Opportunities: June 26 -30 at Pyramid Life Center.** Early Camper Registration is available if you apply by April 1. Contact Brian Evers, Camp Director [brian.evers@rcda.org](mailto:brian.evers@rcda.org) or Mary Ann for more information. **Applications in summer binder in the Gathering Hall.** Find out about the three camp breakaways.

**Bishop Ed will be at camp on Friday June 28 to celebrate mass! Don't miss these opportunities to make new friends and create lasting summer memories!**

## School News

(Contact: Thomas Kane, Principal)

**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!

### **"What St. Thomas Means to Me"**

"Everybody at the school is like a family. It is just so amazing at this school". - Ciara, Grade 3

**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!

**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

**Thank you to everyone who attended our middle school students' Mulan Jr. performances last week-end! Your support means so much!**

## Creation Care Team

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

As we move out of winter in anticipation of Spring and Daylight Saving Time, **let us together as a parish community renew our commitment to care for our earth and all creation.** Whether you are a family of one or many, we offer these suggestions:

- Let us renew our commitment to bring reusable shopping bags to grocery stores and other businesses. Keep a supply in your car, involve the whole family in this not just mom or dad, appoint one family member to be the leader here. Believe that your example can matter. Follow the proposed legislation to eliminate disposable plastic bags and find ways to support this.
- Take a walk around your home area and plan areas that you can renew by planting seeds, annuals and perennials that offer a habitat and nutrition for threatened wildlife.
- If you live in an apartment complex without your own garden, consider being part of a community garden or purchase a bag of wildflower seeds and scatter them in barren areas along roadsides.
- Involve your children in these projects, asking them for their suggestions and letting them lead a family project.

## 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.

**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

**"FISH FRY DINNER"** proudly presented by the Elsmere Firehouse Fridays; March 22, April 5 and April 19 at the Elsmere Firehouse 15 West Poplar Drive, Delmar 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Come and enjoy a pleasant Lenten supper with many other St. Thomas parishioners.

## Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

**Electronic Giving \_ A Convenient Method to Financially Support the Parish** ~ Our electronic giving program,

through **Vanco**, is a convenient and secure method for making contributions to the parish, and it ensures that your support to the parish is on an ongoing basis. We encourage you to take advantage of this program. There are several options to get you started. You can now **go to our website**, [www.stthomas-church.org](http://www.stthomas-church.org), and **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! 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.

**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.

**2019 Combined Diocesan Collection for the Black and Native American and Latin American Missions**  
~ We ask your support in the Diocesan Collection **THIS WEEKEND**, for Black, Native American and Latin American Missions. Thank you.

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE – FOR MARCH 2-3, 2018

<b>OFFERTORY RECEIVED FROM WEEKLY COLLECTION **</b>	<b>\$13,171.06</b>
<b>OFFERTORY RECEIVED VIA E-GIVING (VANCO)</b>	<b>\$2,190.00</b>
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY RECEIVED</b>	<b>\$15,371.06</b>
<b>WEEKLY BUDGET AMOUNT NEEDED TO MEET EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$14,500.00</b>
<b>TITHE (5% OF TOTAL OFFERTORY)</b>	<b>\$761.05</b>
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF GIFTS</b>	<b>381</b>
<b>** INCLUDES LOOSE CASH GIFTS</b>	<b>\$1,437.53</b>

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

## Calendar

Sun	3/10	After All Masses	Hospitality	GH
Wed	3/13	7 pm	Creation Care Team	PO
Thu	3/14	10 am	Bible Study	LCR
Fri	3/8	2 & 7 pm	Stations of the Cross	CH

**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 11, 2019 - March 15, 2019***

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>Karen Boughton</b> <i>Family</i>
		<b>Ernestina Carrisoza</b> <i>Martha Mancilla and Family</i>
<b>Tue.</b>	<b>7:30 am</b>	<b>George Stagnitta</b> <i>Family</i>
		<b>Phil Perrone</b> <i>Bob and Martha Keens</i>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>7:30 am</b>	<b>Bernard TeRiele</b> <i>Family</i>
		<b>Jack Follis</b> <i>Kanuk Family</i>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>Mary Anastasi</b> <i>Kanuk Family</i>
		<b>Bruno Aimi</b> <i>Pat Pinchback</i>

### ***Next Weekend, March 16-March 17, 2019***

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Kathleen Buck, 2nd Anniv.</b> <i>Bob and Johanna Shogan and Family</i>
		<b>Ethyl Pennamacoor</b> <i>Dale and Jim Gallagher</i>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Daniel B Walsh</b> <i>David E. Roos</i>
		<b>Ruth Williamson</b> <i>Catherine Daley</i>
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Robert Pietrykowski</b> <i>Virginia and Carl Pietrykowski</i>
		<b>Robert Peter Klein</b> <i>Rick and Sandy Riccio</i>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>For the People</b>

### ***Scripture Readings: Week of March 10, 2019***

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Dt 26:4-10 / Rom 10:8-13 / Lk 4:1-13</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 / Mt 25:35-46</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Is 55:10-1 / Mt 6:7-15</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Jon 3:1-10 / Lk 11: 29-32</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 / Mt 7:7-12</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Ez 18:21-28 / Mt 5:20-26</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Dt 25: 16-19 / Mt 5:43-48</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Gn 15:5-12, 17-18 / Phil 3:17-4:1 / Lk 9:28b-36</b>