

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, April 6 - April 7, 2019, The Fifth Sunday of Lent

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
5:00 p.m.	Father Berberian	Lynne Lenhardt & Dan Coffey	Ali Barron & Mathew Barron	4
8:00 a.m.	Father Berberian	Mary Richards & Anthony Scisci	Christine Corson & Jim Moran	4
9:30 a.m.	Father Berberian	Marianne Conophy & Tom Kane	Maya Richter & TBD	3
11:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Barbara Kavanaugh & Bob Conway	Eileen Desharnais & Katie Desharnais	3

Pastor's Corner

ADORATION ~ THIS WEEKEND, Sunday, March 31, 6 - 7 p.m. **ALL ARE WELCOME!** **ADORATION:** An evening of prayer and silence for 45 minutes with our Lord in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Don't miss this Lenten Opportunity to tune out the outside world, to put all earthly cares aside and just be with Jesus. Fr. Berberian will lead us. Refreshments to follow.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held this Friday, April 5, at 2 and 7 p.m. 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 did last year, we have also chosen to financially support Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the wonderful work they do throughout the world. Your contributions will be split between the two programs. Annually, the "Rice Bowl" Collection has supported CRS with 75% of donations supporting global programs and 25% helping those living in poverty. This year we ask you to use the "Rice Bowls" which will be available at church entrances during Lent for your contributions to this shared program. We appreciate your generosity to all those in need.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS ~ Jamie and Christopher Brayton and their children, Owen and Natalie; Maura and James Corbett; Clare and Matthew Zappen and their daughter, Mary Clare.

CONGRATULATIONS to the families of the following children who were baptized last week at St. Thomas: Carter Paul Downs, Maureen Elizabeth Tompkins and Lily Grace Haker.

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.

Mary's Way of the Cross, St. Matthew's Church, Voorheesville Friday, April 5, 7:00 p.m. ~ A special presentation by women from All Saints Catholic Church's "Angels to Each Other."

"I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me as you say." Those words, some of the very few Mary speaks in Scripture, set in motion the process of our redemption. Those words also opened for Mary a life that she could never have imagined one that certainly was blessed with happiness as well as great sorrow. Mary, Mother of Jesus, made the first way of the cross. In this special presentation, we see through Mary's eyes what Jesus was going through on the way to Calvary.

Please join us at St. Matthew's as we make this part of our Lenten prayer journey.

ENVELOPES FOR EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS are 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)

"What you are is God's gift to you. What you become is your gift to God." - Hans Urs von Balthasar

Potential New Ministry ~ In an effort to reach out to those who feel socially isolated or lonely in our parish, we are looking to start a new ministry ~ **St. Thomas Parish Pals Telephone Ministry!** This ministry will consist of pairing adult volunteers and parishioners through a weekly call that consists of friendly conversation and prayerful support. No travel, no expense - except for a little time (15 min/week min.), and the desire and ability to converse on the phone. If you, or someone you know, could benefit from this ministry OR if you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Maura.

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, please 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.

Faith Formation

ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-5)

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

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

5th Grade Moving Up Ceremony is scheduled for Monday, April 8 at 6 p.m. in the chapel. All 5th grade faith formation students (including those on home instruction as well as those attending classes) and their families are invited to attend this wonderful event to pray, celebrate and learn all about what lies ahead for them as part of our middle school faith formation program!

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

It is time to start thinking about next year's program already!! ~ Registration forms have been updated and are available online through the parish website. Submit your family's registration before May 15 to take advantage of our Early Bird Special! And PLEASE consider how you can volunteer in our program by being a catechist, class assistant or gatekeeper. These roles are incredibly important to the success of our program!!

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

(Contact: Rose Ann Garry or Bridget Zigrosser)

Faith Formation service hours and the season Lent are a special time for us to renew our Baptismal commitment and follow the Lord's commandment to "Love one Another".

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

Confirmation Candidates ~ This week is Service week—if you haven't turned in your Lenten donation please bring it with you to class. Confirmation packets are due, please be sure you have chosen a retreat date! Makeup for Wednesdays' snow closure will be April 10.

Reminders ~ If it is necessary to attend an alternate class please refer to the Class Schedule chart posted on the Faith Formation website for class availability.

Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

AMAZING! THANK YOU! ~ Together we raised \$1,700.38 at our Spring Fling Bake Sale and Breakfast! We could not have done it without YOU! God bless our generous families who baked and decorated a wonderful variety of yummy treats! Special thanks to our Prep Cooks: Colleen Harrigan, Bruce McShane, Debbie Terriquez, Jeff and Josh Bates, Tom Baker and Cat Sitzer, and all of our of our parents and students who worked the bake sale, prepared plates, served, cooked, and cleaned up! Excellent Team Work! WE thank Fr. Berberian for his support of our young church, St. Thomas School and all of YOU, our faithful who are MOST GENEROUS! God Bless you!

Raffle Winners at the Breakfast! ~ Linda Dwyer and Kevin Walters both guessed 130 so the money was divided in half. Floppy Ear Bunny: Aidan Ciancio, HE His Risen plaque and ice cream cones: Olivia Skuza and Maggie Brynes.

ADORATION ~ All are invited to Adoration TONIGHT, Sunday, March 31, 6 -7 p.m. Come spend the evening with Jesus. (Parish Hour)

SORROWFUL ROSARY ~ All are invited to join us in the Lady's Chapel as we pray the Sorrowful Rosary, next Sunday, April 7, 5 p.m. (Parish Hour)

CORE MEETING ~ Sunday, April 7 at 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. Our next CORE Meeting is in the Gathering Hall. "April Fool's Pranks" is the theme.

YM Lenten Experience ~ Friday, April 12 for MS and HS students, 6:15 - 9 p.m., featuring a witness talk by a CORE Member, Prayer, Games, Pizza, and Fun! (Parish hours)

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

Spring Cleaning? We'll take those unwanted items off your hands! ~ Garage Sale Donation Day is Thursday, April 4 from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.. Students will be available to unload your car. Pick-up of your donation can also be arranged. Call [518-439-5573](tel:518-439-5573) and leave a message for Mrs. Heilsberg for details. **TVs, computer monitors, mattresses, large appliances or broken/non-working items cannot be accepted.**

St. Thomas the Apostle School's Annual Garage Sale is Right Around the Corner! ~ All proceeds help our eighth graders go to Washington, D.C. in May! The pre-sale will take place on Friday, April 5, 4 -7:30 p.m. (\$5 Admission) and the sale on Saturday, April 6, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. (Free Admission).

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!

Preschool 3 – Grade 8 Open Enrollment for 2019-2020 ~ Two options for Preschool 3! (We're adding a Monday/Wednesday 12:45-3:15 p.m. class!) We have limited space available in both our part-time and full-day Preschool 4 classes. As part of the application process, once a family has toured, we invite the child/children to join us for a "Shadow Day" or a visit to the classroom. 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 or jmurphy@stthomas-school.org.

Community

"FISH FRY DINNER" proudly presented by the Elsmere Firehouse, Fridays; 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.

March 30-March 31, 2019

Worldwide Marriage Encounter ~ God always waits for us with open, loving arms. Let God be the strength of your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Oct 18-20 in ALBANY, NY and Apr 13-14 in Brewster, MA. For more information, call Ed & Rhonda Staats at 518-279-3243 or visit them at <https://wwmenyalb.org/>.

Attention Catholic Nurses ~ You are invited to attend the Albany Council of Catholic Nurses' Annual Spring Banquet, on Saturday, April 27, 2019 It will take place at the Knights of Columbus, 328 Troy Schenectady Rd | Latham, from 1200- 3:30 p.m. The Council Mass is at 12 p.m., celebrated by Fr. Michael Farano, Chaplain. Admission Fee for the Luncheon is \$22.00 per person. Please RSVP by April 23 to: Joan at 518-810-9401.

Attention St. Thomas Active Older Adults ~ Mark your calendar for our next luncheon which will be on Friday, April 12. We will attend mass at 12:15 and then enjoy lunch together. Please encourage a friend to come along with you. This is a great chance to meet some of your fellow parishioners. If possible, please bring a nonperishable food item for the food pantry. Reservations, cancellations or transportation arrangements can be made with Steve or Christine Corson at 518-439-3286 by Monday, April 8.

Parishioners ~ If you like to bake, could you please help out the seniors' luncheon this month with cream pies. Contact Steve or Christine Corson at 518-439-3286 to help with baked goods.

Creation Care Team

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

We are confronted with a choice which cannot be ignored: either to improve or to destroy the environment. Every step we take, whether large or small, individual or collective, in caring for creation opens a sure path for that generous and worthy creativity which brings out the best in human beings. (Pope Francis)

Join with the Community in Caring for God's Creation.

Creation-friendly choices are being offered by the Town of Bethlehem this Spring. **Composters at 50% discount**, rain barrels and other garden items are also available as part of **Bethlehem's Backyard Sale**. *Composting keeps useable resources out of the landfill, while giving you natural fertilizer for your garden.*

Orders must be placed on-line by April 1 and can be picked up during the Town's **Spring Recycling Fest, April 13**, from **10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at the **Elm Avenue Park**. **Bring your recyclable items from clothes, to books, electronics and appliances to the Fest.**

For **details** about ordering your composter as well as the **April 13 Fest**, the **Pharmaceutical Return Day, April 27** and **Hazardous Waste Disposal Day, May 4**, go to: <https://www.townofbethlehem.org/692/Recycling-Events>

Christian Service

Do you like to cook? ~ Consider joining the Mercy House Ministry. This St. Thomas ministry has been quietly making and delivering a weekly meal to Mercy House in downtown Albany

for over 30 years. Mercy House is a transitional residence for women and their children in need. As a member of this ministry, you will cook a portion of a meal and deliver it to a team leader here in town who will then take it to Mercy House. You will only be asked to cook 4 times a year and will know the dates at the beginning of each year. This is a very rewarding ministry with the opportunity to volunteer to help make an extra holiday meal, if you wish. The women at Mercy House are always thankful for the delicious dishes. **If you feel that you can share your cooking talents with those in need**, please contact Pat Clement at 518 439-4636 or ptclement116@gmail.com

Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

Catholic Relief Services Collection ~ **This week**, we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to help **Jesus in disguise**. This collection helps six Catholic agencies provide relief and support to struggling communities and work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE – FOR MARCH 23-24, 2018

OFFERTORY RECEIVED FROM WEEKLY COLLECTION **	\$11,856.68
OFFERTORY RECEIVED VIA E-GIVING (VANCO)	\$2,005.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY RECEIVED	\$13,861.68
WEEKLY BUDGET AMOUNT NEEDED TO MEET EXPENSES	\$14,500.00
TITHE (5% OF TOTAL OFFERTORY)	\$693.08
TOTAL NUMBER OF GIFTS	375
** INCLUDES LOOSE CASH GIFTS	\$1,467.90
Fiscal YTD (7/1 - 2/28/2019) collection total	\$489,157
Fiscal YTD (7/1 - 2/28/2019) budget	\$502,667

Please note that for 4 of the last 6 weeks, our offertory collection has been below the amount needed to cover our operating expenses. PLEASE CONSIDER WHAT YOU CAN DO TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE PARISH. THANK YOU.

Calendar

Thu	4/4	10 am	Bible Study	LCR
Fri	4/5	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 April 1, 2019 - April 5, 2019

Mon.	12:15 pm	Intentions of Crudo/Bukowski Families <i>Christopher Schmit</i> Jessica O'Connell <i>Patrick</i>
Tue.	7:30 am	Thomas McSweeney <i>Betty Mc Sweeney</i> Courtney Rosencrans <i>Vera Peek</i>
Wed.	7:30 am	Sr. Austin Cairns, FMSJ <i>Sr. Judith, FMSJ</i> Eileen Silvia <i>Shirley and Family</i>
Fri.	12:15 pm	James Clyne <i>Gerry and Cathy Schimanski</i> Those Enrolled in Memorial Fund

Next Weekend, April 6-April 7, 2019

Sat.	5:00 pm	Janet Mulrooney <i>Norm and Ann Drapeau</i> John Snyder <i>Anne and Art Young</i>
Sun.	8:00 am	Peter Wildzunas <i>Karen Jones</i> Kenneth Anderson <i>Todd Yutzler</i>
	9:30 am	Mary Bukowski, 12th Anniv. <i>Family</i> Intentions of Crudo/Bukowski Families <i>Family</i>
	11:00 am	For the People

Scripture Readings: Week of March 31, 2019

Sunday	Jos 5:9a, 10-12 / 2 Cor 5:17-21 / Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Monday	Is 65:17-21 / Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday	Ez 46: 1-9, 12 / Jn:5 1-16
Wednesday	Is 49:8-15 / Jn 5:17-30
Thursday	Ex 32:7-14 / Jn 5:31-47
Friday	Wis 2:21a, 12-22/ Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25 - 30
Saturday	Jer 11:18-20 / Jn 7:40-53
Sunday	Is 43:16-21 / Phil 3:8-14 / Jn 8:1-11