

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

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

Elizabeth Kerins, MS and HS Coordinator
ekerins@stthomas-church.org

Mary Ann Hospodar, Assistant MS and HS Coordinator
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
appointment.

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.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR 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 10-11, 2018, Fourth Sunday of Lent

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
5:00 p.m.	Father Berberian	Denis Hurley & Lynne Lenhardt	Aidan Ciancio & Ryan Ciancio	1
8:00 a.m.	Father Berberian	David Rothfuss & Colleen Flynn	Tyler Harrigan & Isabel Scisci	1
9:30 a.m.	Father Berberian	Herman Reinhold & Amanda Kras Smith	Samantha Gomez & Steven Gomez	2
11:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Bob Conway & Maureen Roberts	John Henry Walters & Maggie Walters	2

Pastor's Corner

ABSTINENCE ~ As a sign of our penance, the Diocese of Albany 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 the Fridays of Lent

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.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE ~ This year the Lenten Reconciliation Service for the local parishes will be held on Tuesday evening, March 20 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Matthews Church, Voorheesville. All are welcome.

LENTEN RICE BOWLS ~ We encourage you to continue to use your Rice Bowl throughout Lent to put aside money for those in need. Please see detailed information under "Creation Care Team" in this week's bulletin. We will be happy to accept your contribution at any time during Lent, and if you would like to issue a check for the total collected instead of handing in box of coins, **that would be appreciated**. Just be sure to note "rice bowl" in the memo line. Thank you for your generosity.

Prayer & Worship

Prayer Chain ~ Members respond to urgent prayer intentions. 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 Thursday, March 22.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER Loretta Carney and Anna M. Abaray whose funerals were held last week at St. Thomas. May the Lord welcome them into Eternal Life.

Pastoral Care

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

"Give your hands to serve and your hearts to love." – Mother Teresa

Welcome to Lorraine Reilly! ~ She has recently joined our Pastoral Care ministries. We are happy to have you! YOU can join us too! **Please see the website or contact Maura to become involved in one (or more!) of the many active Pastoral Care Ministries we have going at St. Thomas.**

The Knitting, Quilting & Crocheting with Love Ministry is growing! ~ You can become involved too! Christina Ryan will continue to collect 6"x6" "squares" made of medium weight, or 4"x4" of baby weight, washable yarn in a basket on the Pastoral Care table in the church foyer from anyone who would like to make them. Our team provides beautifully crafted baby items, winter items, blankets and quilts for people in our own community. What a bounty we collected at our last meeting! If you would like to learn more about this group please contact Christina Ryan at 439-8517, group facilitator, or Maura.

Beginning Experience Weekend of Hope and Healing for divorced, widowed, and separated men and women will be offered at the St. Lawrence Retreat Center, Beacon, NY 12508, on the weekend of April 6-8. Beginning Experience is endorsed by the Archdiocese Office of Family and Youth. This program is designed for those who wish to let go of the painful past and create a more peace-filled future. All faiths are welcome. Pre-registration is required. Contact Janice (845)490-7466 or Phyllis (914)261-5812 or email ny.hudson.valley@beginningexperience.org. For more information please visit the website: www.beginningexperience.org/hudsonvalley.

Pastoral Care Support ~ Our Pastoral Care Department can provide support to you in your time of need. We provide consultation, referral and educational materials on a variety of topics and issues in a confidential manner. Contact Maura in the office for more assistance.

Faith Formation

ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-5)
(Contact: Patti Staerker)

Our annual retreat to culminate our First Eucharist Prep Program, Jesus Day, will be held **IN TWO WEEKS** on Saturday, March 17. Mark your calendars!!

Families celebrating First Communion during one of our regular Sunday liturgies (Saturday at 5 p.m. or any Sunday Mass) are to attend the morning session from 10 a.m. (arrive at 9:45 a.m. to register). Families celebrating First Communion at one of the Saturday morning Masses (11 a.m.) are to attend the afternoon session beginning at 12:30 p.m. (arrive at 12:20 p.m. to register).

Third Sunday of Lent

Please remember your quarters for seniors donation and your golden nuggets (travel sized toiletries) when you come for class this week. Collection bins will be in the school lobby each day!

4th graders and their families will have 2 opportunities to attend a reconciliation service following their study of **the Sacrament of Reconciliation** over the past several weeks. These will be held on Monday, March 19 and Tuesday, March 20 at 4:30 pm in the chapel. All are welcome!

Can you believe we've begun planning for next year already? Elementary classes for grades 1-5 will be held from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and 6:00-7:00 p.m. on Tuesday **ONLY** for the 2018-19 year. Registration will begin April 9!!

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION
(Contact: Elizabeth Kerins)

Classes continue this week ~ If you need to change classes, please contact Colleen or Elizabeth at the parish office.

Save the date! ~ Tuesday, March 20 at 7:00 p.m., the 8th and 9th graders will be the celebrants for **Stations of the Cross**. All are welcome!!

Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

All are welcome to **Tour our Church and Chapel with Fr. Berberian today, Sunday, March 4, 2 p.m.-3 p.m.** Come and get an up close look at our church and the life of a priest!

Photograph/Art Display Due the week of March 12
~ Take a photograph, sketch or paint something in our community that illustrates to YOU why it is important to care for God's Creation and write a brief reflection. Or Illustrate the mistreatment of God's Creation in our community and reflect on how we can avoid this mistreatment! Entries will be displayed in the Gathering Hall the week of March 17-23!

New and Gently Used Book Drive for Christ Child runs until March 11! ~ Bins in Gathering Hall and by the Faith Formation Closet in the school. Thank you for opening up a whole new world to children in need.

Sisters of St. Joseph are hosting a day of reflection at the Carondelet in Latham for high school females, Saturday, March 10 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Please consider taking this opportunity to have "girls day out with the sisters." For more information contact Mary Ann at Mhospodar@stthomas-church.org.

Join us in our Lady's Chapel on Sunday, March 11 to pray the **Sorrowful Rosary** 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Middle School Students are invited to join some of our High School Students in a **Lenten Experience** Friday, March 23, 6 -9:30 p.m. in the school gym. Please sign up in the Gathering Hall.

School News

(Contact: Thomas Kane)

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.

Did you know? ~ Students in grades 5-8 recently took a field trip to the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia to see the Terracotta Warriors, one of the most significant archaeological discoveries in history. At St. Thomas, we feel that educational and culturally enriching trips like this are an important supplement to classroom learning.

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 April 13 and the sale on April 14. 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/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](https://www.google.com/maps/place/42+Adams+Place,+Delmar,+DE+19740). If you have any questions, please contact Erica Fox at [518-439-5573](tel:518-439-5573) or efox@stthomas-school.org

Creation Care Team

(Contact: Jeanne Schrempf: jdschrempf@verizon.net
or Marie Myer: myermarie@yahoo.com.)

The 3rd principle or discipline of Lent is almsgiving ~ This word is not common in our language today – and young people and children may not know what it means. The simple dictionary definition is *gifts of food, clothing, or money given to the poor*. Our parish has chosen to use the small cardboard container known as the **Rice Bowl** for our Lenten almsgiving. We are encouraged to donate daily or weekly to our own Rice Bowls and to return them with cash or check written for the amount we are offering at the end of Lent. We will share our parish

almsgiving with our sister parish in Mexico and send the remaining half to Catholic Relief Services, which gives 75% to support services to the poor of the world and 25% to our diocese for those in need here at home.

- Each Rice Bowl has an insert with Lenten suggestions and a calendar of ideas for each day. They offer creative ways to give small amounts daily or weekly that can involve the whole family.
- Have a family discussion and choose a charity that your family will support.
- Intentionally purchase healthy foods and staples to donate to the monthly food pantry cart at our parish or other food pantry collections.
- As seasons change prepare to give outgrown or unneeded clothing to community clothing drives.
- Add the money from your "fasting" choices to your family Rice Bowl or charity choice.

Christian Service

Sofas and Beds Needed ~ St. John's/St. Ann's Outreach Center is requesting donations of sofas and beds (**NOT king-size**) for those in need in Albany's South End. If you have a donation, please call [518-472-9091](tel:518-472-9091), x12. They will schedule a convenient time to pick it up from your home. Thank you for your generosity.

Community

"FISH FRY DINNER" proudly presented by the Elsmere Firehouse Fridays; March 16 and March 30 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.

Senior Luncheon – Faith, Fun, and Food ~ Attention St. Thomas Active Older Adults: Get your reservations in soon for our St. Patrick's Day luncheon which will be on **Friday, March 16**. We will attend Mass at 12:15 followed by the luncheon. This is a great opportunity to meet some of your fellow parishioners. Please encourage a friend to attend with you. If possible, please bring a personal care item to be donated to Bethlehem Senior Services. Reservations, cancellations or transportation arrangements can be made with Steve or Christine Corson at 439-3286 by Monday, March 12.

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

Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION ~ NEXT WEEKEND our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. This collection supports six Catholic Agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world.

The funds from the Collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and Christ's love and respect to all people. Next week, please give generously to The Catholic Relief Services Collection and help **Jesus in disguise**

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.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

February 17-18, 2018

Offertory	\$10,896.50
Offertory from E-Giving (Vanco)	<u>\$2,138.00</u>
Total Offertory Received	\$13,034.50
Tithe from this Offertory	\$651.70

Black, Native American and Latin American Missions	\$2,402.00
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February 24-25, 2018

Offertory	\$12,223.74
Offertory from E-Giving (Vanco)	<u>\$1,653.00</u>
Total Offertory Received	\$13,876.74
Tithe from this Offertory	\$693.84

*Our annual parish budget is based on weekly offertory collections of **\$14,500** which we need to cover our operating expenses. For the past two weekends our collections were **\$13034.50** and **\$13,876.74** respectively. As of the end of January, 2018, our year-to-date (YTD) Sunday offertory collection budget is **\$431,375**, with a YTD actual of **\$439,477**. We appreciate your continued support.*

Calendar

Sun	3/4	9 am	RCIA Weekly Meeting	LCR
Wed	3/7	7 pm	Creation Care Team	Music Room
Thu	3/8	10 am	Bible Study	LCR
Fri	3/9	2, 7pm	Stations of the Cross	CH
Sun	3/11	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 March 5 - March 9, 2018

Mon.	12:15 pm	Tony Giordano <i>Luke Mullen</i>
		Robert J. "Tony" Bouchey Sr. <i>Wayne and Gloria</i>
Tues.	7:30 am	Tony Giordano <i>Rev. Richard Leskovar</i>
Wed.	7:30 am	John Juhren, Sr. <i>Rev. Richard Leskovar</i>
Fri.	12:15 pm	Noreen A. Giacone <i>The Family</i>
		Michael Fasulo <i>The Giacone Family</i>

Next Weekend, March 10-11, 2018

Sat.	5:00 pm	Mary Ann McNeil <i>The St. James Family</i>
		David Plummer <i>Ron and Honor Kennedy</i>
Sun.	8:00 am	James A. Cleary <i>Catherine Daley</i>
		Emerson Rose <i>The Rose Family</i>
	9:30 am	For the People
	11:00 am	Tony Morrell, 2nd Anniv. <i>The Family</i>
		Kevin Reilly <i>Michael Dwyer</i>

Scripture Readings: Week of March 4, 2018

Sunday	Ex 17: 1-17 / 1 Cor 1:22-25 / Jn 2:13-25
Monday	2 Kgs 5:1-15b / Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday	Dn 3:25, 34-43 / Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday	Dt 4:1, 5-9 / Mt 5:17-19
Thursday	Jer 7:23-28 / Lk 11:14-23
Friday	Hos 14:2-10 / Mk 12:28-34
Saturday	Hos 6:1-6 / Lk 18:9-14
Sunday	2 Chr 36: 14-16, 19-23 / Eph 2:4-10 / Jn 3:14-21