

Church of

# Saint Thomas the Apostle



35 Adams Place, Delmar, New York 12054

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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**

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

**Elizabeth Kerins, MS and HS Coordinator**  
[ekerins@stthomas-church.org](mailto:ekerins@stthomas-church.org)

**Mary Ann Hospodar, Assistant MS and HS Coordinator**  
[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 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 24-25, 2018, Palm Sunday

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
5:00 p.m.	Father Berberian	Dan Coffee & Tricia Buhr	Ali Barron & Matthew Barron	3
8:00 a.m.	Father Berberian	Paul Edmundson & Maureen Nyilis	Shayla Harrigan & Kailee Harrigan	3
9:30 a.m.	Father Berberian	Michael Connolly & Martha Snyder	Paul Holstein & Olivia Poust	1
11:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Hank Steadman & Barbara Kavanagh	Barbara Veldran & Susan O'Connor	1

## Pastor's Corner

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be held this Friday, March 23, at 2 and 7 p.m. 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. We will share our parish almsgiving with our sister parish in Mexico and send the remaining half to Catholic Relief Services. 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.

**WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS:** Erika and Michael Russo and their children, Owen and Zoey and Jennifer; Brian Buchanan and their daughter, Nola; Carol-Ann and James Bedford and Brian and Marjorie Shields.

**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 the Fridays of Lent. All Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59 are obliged to fast on Good Friday.

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.

**LOST AND FOUND** ~ Last Friday at the 2 p.m. Stations of the Cross one of our STA school girls found a small, silver Eifel tower charm in one of the pews. If it's yours please see Father Berberian.

## Prayer & Worship

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER** Mary Ann Krulcik whose funeral was held last week at St. Thomas. May the Lord welcome her into Eternal Life.

**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.

**Ministers Needed for the Triduum and Easter Sunday Liturgies** ~ Sign-up sheets are now available on the oval table near the church foyer if you are able to serve as an Acolyte, Eucharistic Minister or Lector. A rehearsal is scheduled for Wednesday, March 28 at 7:00 p.m. for lectors and acolytes serving on Holy Thursday and 7:30 p.m. for those serving on Good Friday. A rehearsal is scheduled on Saturday, March 31 at 11 a.m. for lectors and acolytes serving at the Easter Vigil Mass. Please do not sign up to serve as an acolyte on Holy Thursday, Good Friday or for the Easter Vigil Mass unless you are able to attend the rehearsal. Thank you for serving!

## Pastoral Care

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

**"Never miss an opportunity to do good." – St. Francis de Sales**

**Pastoral Care Visitation Training for the Sick, Elderly and Homebound** ~ A 6 week Formation and Skill Building Workshop will be held at Christ Our Light Catholic Church, 1 Maria Dr., Loudonville. This program will be held on Thursdays from April 5 – May 10 and will provide information on: the art of pastoral visitation; communication skills; illness issues; spiritual assessment; grief and loss; suffering and faith; death and dying; ritual and sacraments in pastoral ministry; theology of pastoral care and care giving issues. Weekly sessions include presentations and interactive exercises, as well as readings. Two pastoral visits are required along with a journal process. Fee: \$40 which includes book and materials. Pre-registration is required and limited to 24 attendees. Registration deadline is **March 28, 2018**. All faith traditions welcome. To register: <https://portal.rcda.org:81/PastoralCareRegistration/> For more information contact: Maria at [maria.schollenberger@rcda.org](mailto:maria.schollenberger@rcda.org) or 518-641-6818.

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

**SAVE THE DATE** ~ Planning is underway for our **Annual Pastoral Care Volunteer In-Service & Retreat Day** scheduled for Wednesday, May 2, 2018. More details to come!

**Are you or a loved one no longer able to get to Mass due to illness or injury?** We can arrange for you to receive Communion at home. Contact Maura for more information.

**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 for more assistance.

**The Bereavement Support Group**, for those who have lost a spouse within the last 2 years, will meet on **Wednesday, March 21 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

### Faith Formation

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

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

**4th graders wrapped up their study of the Sacrament of Reconciliation this past week**, and along with their families, will have 2 opportunities to attend a reconciliation service. These will be held this week on Monday, March 19 and Tuesday, March 20 at 4:30 p.m. in the chapel. All are welcome!

**Preparations for Next Year are Underway!!** ~ For the 2018-19 year, 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. **Registration will begin April 9!!**

As a reminder to all families, there will be **no faith formation classes during Holy Week, March 27-29, nor the following week, April 3-5** while the children are on Spring Break from school. Classes will resume on April 10 and continue for 3 weeks ending on April 26.

Our annual **5th grade moving up ceremony** for 5th grade faith formation students and their families will be held on **Monday, April 23 at 6:00 p.m.** in the chapel. We look forward to celebrating with our families and telling them all about the wonderful opportunities that lie ahead for them as they continue their faith formation as middle schoolers next year!!!

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

(Contact: Elizabeth Kerins)

**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!!

**Confirmation registration and sponsor forms** should be completed ASAP. Forms can be returned to the office or turned into your son/daughter's catechist.

**Confirmation** will be held on Friday, May 11 at 6:30 in the church.

### Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

**Congratulations to Colleen Ells**, a Confirmation Student, and her family for coordinating a gently used and new book drive for Albany Chapter of Christ Child Society! Together you assisted Colleen in collecting over 1000 books for children who live in low income neighborhoods! Thank you Colleen for your leadership and for giving us an opportunity to help our neighbors!

**After Mass**, please take a moment to admire the **beautiful, educational photos & art work submitted by St. Thomas Students** under the direction of art teacher Denise Chonski & students in our Faith Formation Program, who have captured the beauty of God's Creation and provided us with reflections on the importance of caring for our environment. **Thank you for encouraging us to have a change of heart in caring for HIS creation.**

**Middle School Students** are invited to join some of our High School Students in a Holy Week Experience Friday, March 23, 6 p.m.-9:00 p.m. in the school gym. Join us for games, fun, Prayer, Pizza, Craft and Prizes! Bring a friend and sign up in the Gathering Hall today!

**Save the Date** ~ Saturday, June 2, at our 5 p.m. Mass we will be honoring all of our senior graduates and their families with a special blessing at Mass followed by refreshments. Please RSVP in the Make a Difference Binder or email Mary Ann at [mhospodar@stthomas-church.org](mailto:mhospodar@stthomas-church.org).

### School News

(Contact: Thomas Kane)

**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](#). 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).

**Now Accepting Applications for Preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2018-2019 school year** ~ Come and learn how we prepare our students to learn, succeed and lead. We believe in the importance of establishing a solid foundation in which students explore and live their faith, love to learn, know how to find the answers, and think critically. Our students are prepared and supported through the challenges of middle school, so that they are as prepared as they can be for high school, college and life beyond. To schedule a tour or for more information please contact Jennifer Murphy at (518) 439-5573 or [jmurphy@stthomas-school.org](mailto:jmurphy@stthomas-school.org).

**Did you know?** ~ St. Thomas offers a variety of summer camps open to rising 4-year-old preschoolers through current 8th graders. **No need to be a St. Thomas student to attend.** This year's camps will include Clay Creations, Basketball



# March 17-18, 2018

Camp, Creative Writing, Programming, Trivia Camp and much more. For more information, contact Erica Fox at [518-439-5573](tel:518-439-5573) or [efox@stthomas-school.org](mailto:efox@stthomas-school.org).

## 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](tel:518-439-5573) and leave a message for Mrs. Heilsberg for details. Pick-up of your donation can be arranged. Thank you!

## Creation Care Team

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

**Protecting Creation** ~ A recent Times-Union editorial carried the alarming story that Columbia University working with EPA has discovered 16 types of pharmaceuticals in the Hudson River from Troy to New York City. This is caused by aging sewer treatment plants and the improper disposal of unused medicines by flushing them down drains and toilets. We can protect our water supplies by **never disposing of unwanted medicines and pharmaceutical products by flushing them down our drains**. These products may be safely disposed by

- **Bringing unused or unwanted prescription or over the counter medications in pill, liquid, and powder form to the Town of Bethlehem Free Medication Collection Event on Saturday, April 28 from 10:00 – 2:00 p.m. at the Town Park. Remove identifying information from labels.**
- **Disposing at home can be done by mixing medications with cat litter, coffee grounds, or dirt, placing in rigid plastic sealable container such as a laundry detergent bottle. Add some water and shake to dissolve. Close cap tightly and tape closed and place in household garbage bin – not recyclable bin.**
- **Purchasing disposable shipping bag from Hannaford, pharmacy and mailing postage free to disposable center.**
- **Never flush medications down toilets or drains.**

## Christian Service

**ST. THOMAS FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION** is set for **NEXT WEEKEND**, March 24-25. Donations of non-perishable food and personal care items will be collected. Please check expiration dates when donating. Thank you, and as always, your generosity is appreciated.

## Community

**2018 Annual NY Rosary Walk for Life with Bishop Scharfenberger & Catholic Young Adult Cookout – NY State** ~ Please join Bishop Scharfenberger at the Fifth Annual Rosary Walk for Life, which will include Mass, rosary procession, talk from the Sisters of Life, and reception. Starting location at 11:00 AM: Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 125 Eagle St., Albany, NY.

**Catholics ages 18 – 39:** Following the Rosary Walk for Life, join Catholic young adults from across NY State for a celebration at 3:00 PM at St. Pius X Parish, 23 Crumitie Rd., Loudonville, NY 12211. For more information: [nyrosarywalkforlife@gmail.com](mailto:nyrosarywalkforlife@gmail.com). All are welcome and bring a friend!

## Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

**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

March 10-11, 2018

Offertory	\$13,654.87
Offertory from E-Giving (Vanco)	\$1,713.00
Total Offertory Received	\$15,367.87
Tithe from this Offertory	\$768.39
Catholic Relief Services	\$947.00

*Our annual parish budget is based on weekly offertory collections of \$14,500, which we need to cover our operating expenses. For the weekend of March 10-11 our collection was \$15,367.87. This was donated by approximately 494 families, which we are able to identify through envelope, check or electronic giving use. This total also included about \$1,469 in loose cash from other donors.*

**Thank you for your generous support of the parish**

## Calendar

Tue	3/20	7 pm	Lenten Reconciliation Service	St. Matthews
Wed	3/21	6 pm	Bereavement Support	LCR
Wed	3/21	6 pm	Public Policy Meeting	PO
Thu	3/22	10 am	Bible Study	LCR
Fri	3/23	2, 7pm	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 19 - March 23, 2018*

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>Tony Giordano</b> <i>Candace and Patrick Stellato</i>
		<b>Jane Frances Hardiman</b> <i>Mike and Marge Kanuk</i>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>7:30 am</b>	<b>Sr. Eithne McCarthy</b> <i>Sister Judith FMSJ</i>
		<b>Mary Ann Krulcik</b> <i>Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Gilligan</i>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>7:30 am</b>	<b>John Quatraro</b> <i>The Family</i>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>Anna Carroll</b> <i>Candace and Anita</i>
		<b>Maria Parker</b> <i>Her Friend Christa</i>

## *Next Weekend, March 24-25, 2018*

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>Mary and Leo Roach</b> <i>The Hooper Family</i>
		<b>Mary Ann McNeil</b> <i>Ed and Marymel Hart</i>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>For the People</b>
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Gavin Daniel Egan</b> <i>Tina and Jeff</i>
		<b>Michael Bintz, 3rd Anniv.</b> <i>His Family</i>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>George W. Bragle</b> <i>Kathleen Bragle</i>
		<b>Donald Urbano</b> <i>His Family</i>

## *Scripture Readings: Week of March 18, 2018*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Jer 31: 31-34 / Heb 5:7-9 / Jn 12:20-33</b>
<b>St. Joseph</b>	<b>2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 / Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22</b> <b>/ Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Nm 21:4-9 / Jn 8:21-30</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 / Jn 8:31-42</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Gn 17:3-9 / Jn 8:51-59</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Jer 20:10-13 / Jn 10:31-42</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Ez 37:21-28 / Jn 11:45-56</b>
<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>Mk 1:1-10 / Is 50:4-7 / Phil 2:6-11 /</b> <b>Mk 14:1-15:47</b>