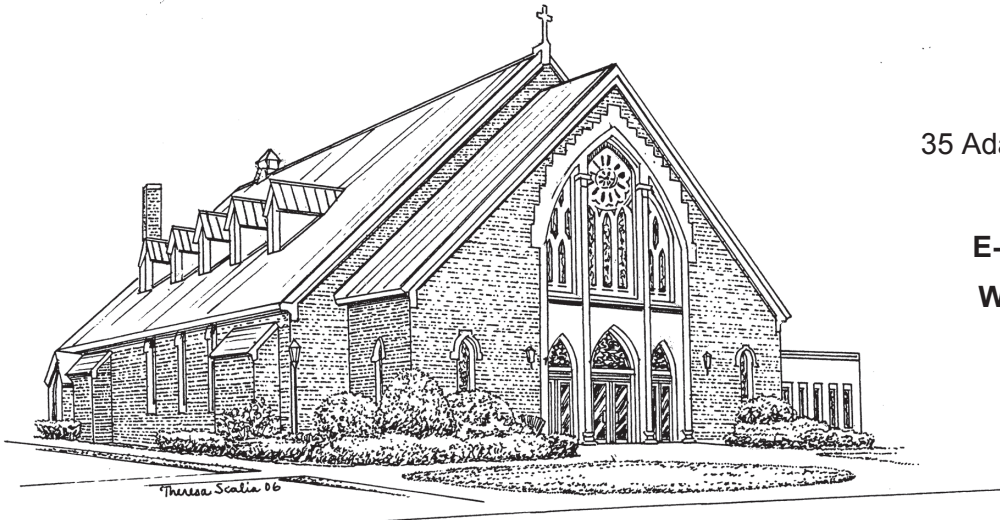


Church of

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. Thomas J. Hayes, D. Min., Pastor
thayes@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: Patrick Gallagher and Adele Nucci

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL: 439-5573 Fax: 478-9773

www.stthomas-school.org
info@stthomas-school.org

Thomas Kane, School Principal

Carmel Foltan, Dir. Community Relations & Enrollment Mgmt.
cfoltan@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 from 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. in the Daily Mass Chapel.

BAPTISM: Baptism of infants is usually celebrated on the 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month. Contact Father Tom for arrangements. Preparation sessions for parents presenting infants for Baptism are held monthly.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS: Contact Father Tom for information.

MATRIMONY: Arrangements for marriage should be made at least 6 to 8 months in advance and before scheduling a reception. Contact Father Tom 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 to meet with Father Tom.

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, January 14-15, 2017, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
5:00 p.m.	Father Hayes	Sandie Flynn & Dan Ehring	Shelby Whitman & Raegan Ehring	4
8:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Barbara Kavanagh & Mickey Kavanagh	Tyler Harrigan & Isabel Scisci	4
9:30 a.m.	Father Hayes	Elizabeth Kerins & Paul Connolly	Olivia Poust & Maggie Rimmel	2
11:00 a.m.	Father Hayes	Karen Jones & Tom Hedderman	Ryan McCarroll & Mikolaj Wloszczynski	2

Father Tom's Corner

Congratulations to the family of Amelia Rose Morrill who was baptized last Sunday at St. Thomas.

Letter from Our Sister Parish ~

Dear Fr. Tom and parishioners,

WE, in the parish of San Antonio de Padua wish you all in St. Thomas the Apostle parish a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HOLY AND SAINTLY NEW YEAR. We do remember you all every day during the rosary before the morning mass and we offer also the daily mass for you. This is the only way, we can be connected with you, thanking you always for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Loving thoughts and prayers,

Sr. Leonila Francisco Sanchez, CSJB, for:

Fr. Raul Francisco Cardoz Fernandez

Parish Priest, St. Anthony the Padua, Granjas Merida

Prayer & Worship

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

Christmas Environment Take Down ~ Our Christmas Season has come to an end and there is a need to deconstruct our Holyday Environment. Help is needed to remove the Nativity scene and Christmas trees amongst other things. Please find time to give an hour or two to this New Year activity at 9 a.m., January 10. Virginia Acquario.

Family and Friends of the late Fr. Rich Broderick will gather on Wed., Jan. 11 at 5:30 p.m. for "**A YEAR LATER MONTH'S MIND CELEBRATION**", St. John's Center, 4th Avenue & Franklin St, Albany. We will also be remembering Vera Rabe, a long-time volunteer at St. John's/ St. Ann's Center who recently passed away. All are welcome and are requested to bring a dish to pass and a bag of groceries for the food pantry. The Center will provide the bread and wine. RSVP: jkirwin@nycap.rr.com OR pholm@nycap.rr.com

Pastoral Care

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

Happy New Year! A new year can bring NEW opportunities ~ Please visit our updated webpage at www.stthomas-church.org under the Pastoral Care link. You will find information on all of the pastoral care ministries in which you can become involved!

Wow! Our Hospital Visitation Team has visited over 250 people in 2016 at St. Peter's Hospital and Albany Medical Center. The spiritual support they provide and linkages back to other ministries is invaluable. Thank you all ~ **Brian Browne, Bill Acquario, Ginny Acquario, Melissa Faiola, Mary Kay DelGiaccio, Ann Drapeau, Nancy Applebee, Peter Gallagher, Eileen Gallagher, Barbara Gorman, Lori Keegan-Brady, and Jim Kelly.** You can be a part of this great group too! Scheduling is only once every 5-6 weeks! Contact Maura if you are interested. Training provided.

Attention Caregivers ~ You are not alone ~ There are many supportive resources available to you. Contact Maura if you would like some referral information.

Moving to a senior living community or nursing home? Please let Maura know so that we can continue to provide support to you in your new home. Many times we do not know when and where people have moved after a hospitalization or illness.

Knitting and Quilting with Love ~ Call for squares! Christina Ryan will continue to collect 6"x6" "squares" made of medium weight, or 4"x4" of baby weight, washable yarn. You may drop off your squares in the basket in the church vestibule. This group is putting together beautiful blankets, quilts and baby items for person in our own community. If you are interested in being a part of this group please contact Christina Ryan at 439-8517, group facilitator, or Maura.

The Bereavement Support Group, for those who have lost a spouse within the last two years, is currently full. Please contact Maura Barrett if you would like to be placed on the waiting list and/or would like more information about the program or other bereavement resources. Current attendees please note the next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 11 at 6:00-7:30 pm.**

The Epiphany of the Lord

Faith Formation

ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-5)

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

Elementary Faith Formation classes for 1st-5th graders resume this week, January 10-12 at 4:30 p.m. in the school.

Our 4th session of First Eucharist Preparation Classes will be on Sunday, January 22 at 8:15 a.m. and Monday, January 23 at 6:00 p.m. in the school. Sessions will be identical, so attend whichever fits best with your family schedule. Children will meet in the media center while parents will go to the cafeteria. Families are expected to have completed chapter 3 in the text by the time you come for these classes. Babysitting for siblings of our First Communion children will be provided by our middle and high school faith formation students.

Our Children's Liturgy of The Word program for our 3, 4 and 5 year old parishioners **resumes this weekend** during our regular 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday. Keep in mind that no registration is required for this program. If your family is at Mass, your children are most welcomed to join us in the chapel during the 9:30 a.m. Mass. We could still use an additional catechist or 2 on the rotation for this program. Please consider offering your time and talent to help teach our young Catholics about our faith! Contact the elementary Faith Formation office for more information.

An informational meeting for 4th grade parents regarding your child's starting a unit on the sacrament of Reconciliation will be held at 6 p.m. in the school media center on Tuesday, January 24. This unit is for all 4th graders regardless of whether they have received the sacrament of Reconciliation yet or not. All parents with a 4th grader in our Faith Formation program (or a 3rd or 5th grader preparing for sacraments this year) are strongly encouraged to attend!!

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

(Contact: Elizabeth Kerins)

Safe Environment Training for all 9th graders will be offered on **Wednesday, January 18 and Thursday, January 19 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the St. Thomas Media Center**. Your son/daughter is only required to attend one of the sessions. If you have not yet registered your son/daughter, please email Elizabeth by Friday, January 13 with your preferred date.

Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

Last call for students interested in participating in our NCYC Pilgrimage! The National Catholic Youth Conference is the largest gathering of Catholic Youth in the

United States. It is held every two years in Indianapolis IN. The next conference is scheduled for November 16 -18, 2017 and is open to current eighth to eleventh graders. Last year the Albany Dioceses had 320 participants! Thus far we here at St. Thomas have 5 students who are participating. This year's theme is "Called" "Llamados". A general information night is set for January 10, 2017 at 7 p.m. in the Media Center in the school. Parents and students are invited to learn more about NCYC and reflect on becoming a part of our 2017 NCYC team. Please sign up in the Gathering Hall or email Mary Ann.

NCYC Parent & Student Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00 p.m. We will discuss our Spring Fling Pancake Breakfast/Bake Sale that is scheduled for the weekend of March 25 and general information.

Epiphany Celebration for High School students grades 9-12, TONIGHT, Jan. 8, 7 - 8 p.m. in the Gathering Hall. **Come follow the Light and see where it will lead YOU! (This is a zero hour event !)** Please sign up in

School News

(Contact: Carmel Foltan)

Kindergarten Open House Saturday, January 21 at 10 a.m. ~ Why are families coming to St. Thomas the Apostle School from a 40 mile radius of Delmar? What they know is that our smaller class sizes mean more personalized attention which means higher engagement and achievement. They know that advanced technologies allow for distance learning, more course offerings, and deeper learning. They know that we are expanding physical education, art and music programs while other schools are cutting back. They know that St. Thomas the Apostle School is a safe environment where students are empowered to achieve academic and spiritual excellence. This open house is open to parents & children who are already registered or considering registering. Limited openings are available in the class. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Carmel Foltan by phone or email.

Accepting Preschool Applications ~ St. Thomas Preschool offers a nurturing, compassionate, faith-based preschool program providing early socialization, Kindergarten readiness and unique educational experiences and opportunities for your child. Applications are being accepted for the 2017-2018 year. **Limited openings in the Preschool 3 and 4 class. Classes fill quickly.** For more info or to schedule a tour, contact Carmel Foltan by phone or email

American Girl Themed Brunch: Once Upon a Time ~ Sunday, February 12 at 11 a.m. Shaker Ridge Country Club Ballroom 892 Albany Shaker Rd, Loudonville. \$25 per person. Open to girls in Preschool - Grade 6 & their mother (or other special guest). Guests do not have to be enrolled at St. Thomas to attend. Guests (girls and adults) are invited to participate in our Fashion Show, "Once Upon a Time"

January 7-8, 2017

by creating a costume for each guest (including adults) and doll related to a favorite fairy tale.

You don't need to submit your costume choice until the day of the event. Each guest will receive a magical treat to take home, a photo commemorating the day, and a special hair style for their doll. To reserve your space, send payment and guest names **by January 12** (please indicate which guests adults/children) to Carmel Foltan St. Thomas the Apostle School . 42 Adams Place . Delmar, NY 12054.

Caring for Our Common Home

(Contact: Jeanne Schrempf: jdschrempf@verizon.net)

Pope Francis encourages us to begin this New Year with a commitment to a "culture of care" that will permeate all of society. Each person and each family can take small but significant steps to protect our earth and all who share our common home. As we take down the decorations of Christmas and dispose of wrapping and boxes, let us resolve to recycle them to lessen the impact on landfills.

- Cardboard, paper, clothing can be placed in the Elm Ave CDTA Park and Ride containers
- Broken or unused holiday light can be taken to Lowes or Home Depot
- Clean and dry packing peanuts can be taken to "Ship, Copy & More"
- Plastic disposable bags can be placed in containers at area grocery stores.

Community

The Public Policy Ministry invites parishioners to their meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2017, at 7 p.m. in the Gathering Hall, to plan the next "Food for Thought" event which will be on the Environment. We will be co-hosting this event with the members of the "Caring for Our Common Home" ministry. Contact Marie Copeland at 439-4050 or mariecopeland62@gmail.com.

The Outreach Community Meals Committee would like to thank the following faith formation students, grades 6 - 10 and their families, for providing the luncheon at St. Stephen's Church on December 19: Natalie Qualia, Will Marotta, Sherri Monteleone, Liam and Maggie Byrnes, Matt Stento, Patrick Banas, Ryan Teplitzky, Isabelle and Alison Gray, Ethan Royka, Will Lanzoni, Steven Sitzer, Natalie Jada, and Maddy and Halley Cerza. Thank you all for caring and sharing your time and talent with the frail elderly of the Town of Bethlehem. We would also like to thank Mary Ann Hospodar for coordinating all the details of the meal! Marie Vitillo and Marie Copeland, Co-Chairs.

Senior Luncheon and Service Project – Faith, Fun and Food ~ Please join us on **Friday, January 20** in the Gathering Hall at 10:45 a.m. for coffee and donuts and writing Valentine cards for shut-in members of our parish

community. Please bring a box of Valentine cards to share. We will attend mass at 12:15 p.m. and then enjoy lunch together. This is a great opportunity to meet some of your fellow parishioners. Encourage a friend to come along with you. For reservations, cancellations or transportation, contact Steve or Christine Corson at 439-3286 **Monday, January 16**.

Parishioners ~ If you like to bake, could you please help out the Seniors Spiritual and Social activities ministry this month with sliced sheet cakes. Please contact Steve or Christine Corson at 439-3286 to help with baked goods.

Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

Bishop's Appeal 2016-17 ~ We thank all of those who have been so generous in helping us meet our parish obligation to the Diocese. However, **we still have outstanding approximately \$10,742 of those pledged dollars**. If you haven't given yet to this year's Appeal, we ask that you consider making a donation to provide a needed "cushion" for those not able to meet their pledge commitment. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE CHRISTMAS—December 24-25, 2016

Offertory	\$43,200.38
Offertory from E-Giving (Vanco)	\$2,605.00
Total Offertory Received	\$45,805.38

December 31, 2016 –January 1, 2017

Offertory	\$13,071.08
Offertory from E-Giving (Vanco)	\$930.00
Total Offertory Received	\$14,001.08
Tithe from this Offertory	\$700.05

Thank you for your continuing support of the parish!

Calendar

Sun	1/8	After All Masses	Hospitality	GH
Wed	1/11	6 pm	Bereavement Support Group	LCR1
Wed	1/11	7 pm	Environment Committee Meeting	PO
Thu	1/12	10 am	Bible Study	LCR1

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 January 9 - 13, 2017

Mon.	12:15 pm	Steven Ruzzi <i>The Family</i>
		Gail Dwyer <i>The Family</i>
Tues.	7:30 am	Living Intentions for the Setlur Family
		Living Intentions for the Kelsey Family
Wed.	7:30 am	Living Intentions for the LaMonica Family
		Living Intentions for the Klob Family
Fri.	12:15 pm	Sheila Kelleher <i>Fran Royo</i>
		Mary Egan, 28th Anniv. <i>The Esposito Family</i>

Next Weekend, January 14-15, 2017

Sat.	5:00 pm	Lillian Blanchard <i>Charlotte and Doug Maeder</i>
		Lonnie Tomlin <i>RoseAnn Garry and Karen Jones</i>
Sun.	8:00 am	Paul Scott <i>Frank and Peg Kelly</i>
		Cherise Vitillo <i>Family of Otto Vitillo</i>
	9:30 am	For The People
	11:00 am	Aline Cardona <i>Helen Gray</i>
		Lonnie Tomlin <i>His Wife Carol</i>

Scripture Readings: Week of January 8, 2017

Sunday	Is 60:1-6 / Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Mt 2:1-12
Monday	Acts 10:34-38 / Mt 3:13-17
Tuesday	Heb 2:5 -12 / Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday	Heb 2:14-18 / Mk 1:29-39
Thursday	Heb 3: 7-14 / Mk 1:40-45
Friday	Heb 4:1-5, 11 / Mk 2:1-12
Saturday	Heb 4:12-16 / Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday	Is 49:3,5-6 / 1 Cor 1:1-3 / Jn 1:29-34