

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, March 11-12, 2017, Second Sunday of Lent

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
5:00 p.m.	Father Hayes	Barbara Kavanagh & Mickey Kavanagh	Morgan Leonard & Matthew Barron	4
8:00 a.m.	Father Hayes	Mary Richards & Paul Edmundson	Tyler Harrigan & Shayla Harrigan	4
9:30 a.m.	Father Hayes	Elizabeth Kerins & Herman Reinhold	Kathleen Connolly & Matthew Connolly	1
11:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Vera Frangella & Tom Hedderman	Sean Desharnais & Ryan McCarroll	1

Father Tom's Corner

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS ~ Adam McGuire and Kelly Shea of Chrisken Drive, Glenmont; Steve Barber and Susan Pedlow of Couse Lane, Slingerlands.

Remember in prayer Marie Grassucci whose funeral was held last week at St. Thomas. May the Lord welcome her into Eternal Life.

Congratulations to the family of Thomas Sebastian Tesoriero who was baptized last Sunday at St. Thomas.

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.

LENTEN ALMS envelopes are available for use during Lent. Whatever money you might save through the Lenten tradition of "Giving something up for Lent" can be placed in the Lenten Alms envelope to be collected at the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper. Funds raised in this way will be given to our Sister Parish communities in Yucatan, Mexico.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will again be held with the children of St. Thomas the Apostle School on the Fridays of Lent at 2:00 p.m. in the church. All are welcome.

LENTEN READING FOR MINISTERS ~ Fr. Tom has procured copies of the book by Pope Francis **CARE FOR CREATION – A CALL FOR ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION** to be distributed as a gift to all those who offer their time and talent in some form of ministry in the parish (lectors, faith formation volunteers, pastoral care volunteers, etc.).

If you would like to have a copy for your personal use during Lent, contact the coordinator of your ministry or the chair of your committee to obtain your copy.

LENTEN BOOK STUDY ~ In conjunction with our Parish Lenten theme of "Caring for Our Common Home," Fr. Tom will conduct a four week book study in March on the Orbis book, Just Water – Theology, Ethics, and the Global Water Crisis. We will again meet on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. with a repeat session on Monday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The study will begin on Monday March 6 when we will review Chapters 1, 2, & 3 (pages 1 to 51). There are sign-up sheets and books in the Gathering Hall.

Bishop's Appeal 2016 ~ We are nearing the end of the Appeal which started last Spring. We still need to collect approximately \$4,523 in outstanding pledge payments. For those of you who made pledges please do what you can to honor that commitment. Final payments need to be at the Diocesan office by March 15 to count for the 2016 Appeal. Thanks to all of you who are helping us meet our responsibility to the Diocese.

SISTER PARISH VISIT ~ Fr. Raul Cardoz, the pastor of our Sister Parish of San Antonio de Padua, Granjas, Merida in Yucatan, Mexico, is planning to visit us the first week of April. He is being accompanied by Sister Leonila Francisco who works in the parish. Unfortunately, it seems that they will not be here on a weekend but during the week. Once we have more information about what days they will be here, we will plan a special gathering so they will have the opportunity to meet parishioners here at St. Thomas.

Prayer & Worship

Prayer Chain ~ Members respond to urgent prayer intentions. Contact Pam Seward at: 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 Wednesday, April 5.

First Sunday of Lent

Pastoral Care

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

Prayer Chain Update! Welcome to **Kathy Hogan** and **Carmel Foltan** to the Prayer Chain Ministry. Pam Seward reports that since 2014, our ministers have received over 235 requests for prayer. Some calls have been received from as far as New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Florida! Thank you to our two teams for providing this amazing spiritual support: **Pam Seward, Lani Larson, Karen Jones, Mary Bintz, Tricia Buhr, Bella McCarroll, Ruth Pupke, Eileen Lacey, Carol Smith, Mary Davitt, Kelly D'Andrea, Betty McSweeney, Dorann Stagnitta, and Dolores Greagan Powers.** If you would like to become involved in this ministry, or any of our ministries, please contact Maura. Visit the Pastoral Care Website at www.stthomas-church.org for more information.

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 ***Monday, March 6 at 6:00-7:30 p.m. (*please note day of week change).**

Faith Formation

ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-5)

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

Reconciliation services for our 4th grade families will be held on Monday, March 13 and Tuesday, March 14 at 4:30 p.m. in the Chapel. All 4th graders have been studying the sacrament of reconciliation over the last several weeks, and along with their families, are invited to attend one of these services set up just for them!

Jesus Day!, our mini-retreat which culminates our Family First Eucharist preparation program, will be on Saturday, March 25. Teen volunteers are needed to help run the various stations throughout the retreat. Check the youth ministry sign up sheets in the Gathering Hall, or contact Mrs. Hospodar or Mrs. Staerker for more information.

5th grade families, mark your calendars!! ~ We will be having a moving up ceremony on Monday, April 10 at 6 p.m. in the chapel to celebrate your graduating from our elementary program and moving on to our middle school faith formation program. It will be an evening of prayer, LOTS of information for next year, song, and refreshments.

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

(Contact: Elizabeth Kerins)

Confirmation at St. Thomas will be held on Friday, May 12 at 5:00 p.m. Please keep the candidates in your prayers as they prepare for the Gifts of the Holy Spirit!

Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

Lenten Opportunities to make a difference!

Sorrowful Rosary tonight Sunday March 5 at 7 p.m. in the Chapel with Sister Margaret Mary from Cathedral Social Services. Come, pray with us and become aware of the needs of our neighbors. Quarters will be collected to kick off our Quarters for Senior Lenten Project. Hope to see you and your family!

Used Clothing/Towels/ Linen Drive ~ This is our final week to receive items for the Capital City Rescue Mission of Albany, who allows the community to shop for FREE! Bagged items can be taken to the Mission or placed in bin in the Gathering Hall. Check out the bulletin board for more information.

Teen/Family Mass will be celebrated on March 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Please join us! Following our Mass, **Middle School & High School Students** are invited to make a splash for WATER at our **Dodgeball for WATER EVENT** from 7:45-9:30 p.m. \$5.00 a player, good will offering for fans, pizza will be sold. All proceeds to benefit our parish's WATER initiative with Catholic Relief Services! Sign up in binder in Gathering Hall. Thanks for making a difference!

Special thanks to Grace Spath, Charlie Nittinger, Stefan Kloss, Daniel Chambers, Robbie Quinlan, Joe & Christine Schrempf and Jane Quinlan for volunteering to cook & serve lunch at the Sr. Maureen Joyce Center!

School News

(Contact: Carmel Foltan)

It all starts at St. Thomas the Apostle School: Accepting Applications for 2017/2018 ~ Whether it's a career in engineering, education, law, science, or the arts, St. Thomas the Apostle School offers what it takes to achieve success. We believe in the importance of establishing a solid foundation in which students explore and live their faith, love to learn, and know how to find the answers. Our students are prepared for the challenges of high school, college & life. Limited openings available in Pk-8. Contact us today to learn more about St. Thomas the Apostle School and to schedule a tour or shadow day for your child. Contact Carmel Foltan 439-5573, cfoltan@stthomas-school.org, or visit www.stthomas-school.org

Accepting Donations for the Annual Garage Sale to Benefit the 8th Grade Trip to Washington, DC ~ We will accept gently used items. TV's, large appliances or computer monitors will NOT be accepted. Donations may be dropped off on Thursday, March 30 between 3 and 6 p.m. (Your car will be unloaded for you). If you need your

donation picked up at your home, please call Mrs. Theresa Heilsberg at the school 439-5573 and leave a message during the school day. Someone will contact you to arrange for a pick up. Your support is greatly appreciated. Presale – Friday, March 30. 4-7 p.m. Sale – Saturday, April 1, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Caring for Our Common Home

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

Caring for Our Common Home ~ As we enjoyed unseasonable warmth last month, did it not also cause us to reflect on why this has happened and what is the future for our earth and its children? Pope Francis urges us to reflect that we are instruments of God and have the ability to protect and care for the earth and its people. Sadly we are not living in a political culture that holds this as a priority – and yet we can make a difference by making adjustments in our own lifestyle and urging our state and national leaders to work with us to protect the earth.

For all parishioners:

- During Lent make an effort to “make a difference” as we sing at Mass by lessening our own carbon footprints – consuming less, recycling more, adding to our family Lenten Rice Bowls, purchasing our own parish recyclable grocery bag to eliminate plastic bags and contribute to our parish efforts to help Catholic Relief Service build wells and water systems for our family in developing countries.

Community

St Thomas “Caring for Creation” recyclable grocery bags ~ If you missed the Mardi Gras celebration, you can purchase a new St. Thomas “Caring for Creation” recyclable grocery bag this weekend in the Gathering Hall after all Masses.

Senior Luncheon – Faith, Fun, and Food ~ Attention St. Thomas Active Older Adults: Thank you to all who helped out with the February luncheon. We appreciated the delicious bundt cakes donated by parishioners. Thank you to Diane Cameron for her wonderful talk on Grace and Gratitude. Get your reservations in soon for our St. Patrick’s Day luncheon which will be on **Friday, March 17**. We will attend Mass at 12:15 followed by our luncheon. This is a great opportunity to meet some of your fellow parishioners. Please encourage a friend to come along with you. After our luncheon, we will be entertained with some Irish songs and music. Reservations, cancellations or transportation arrangements can be made with Steve or Christine Corson at 439-3286 by **Monday, March 13**.

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

St. Lucy/St. Bernadette Church presents “Irish Night”, March 11, 2017 from 6-9 p.m., Starring Nick Visio, Jr. and Group, **Presale RESERVATIONS A MUST**, \$5 now or \$8 at the door/children free, Light Fare offered at additional price, Held at the Parish Center – Grand Street, Altamont, Call: 861-8770.

Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

Counters Needed ~ Volunteers are needed to spend several hours every month or so on Sunday morning to help count the weekend collection. Please let me know if you are interested. Thanks for considering this opportunity to support the parish.

2016 Combined Diocesan Collection for the Black and Native American and Latin American Missions ~ We ask your support in the Diocesan Collection this weekend March 4/5, for Black, Native American and Latin American Missions. Thank you

Did you lose a bracelet? ~ A bracelet was found in the church after Mass on Sunday, February 19. If you are missing it, please contact Pat Holm at the parish office.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE February 25 - 26, 2017

Offertory	\$11,942.73
Offertory from E-Giving (Vanco)	\$1,190.00
Total Offertory Received	\$13,132.73
Tithe from this Offertory	\$656.64

Thank you for your continuing support of the parish!

Calendar

Mon	3/6	1pm / 7pm	Lenten Book Study	GH
Mon	3/6	6 pm	Bereavement Support Group Meeting	LCR1
Mon	3/6	6 pm	Sacrificial Giving Committee	PO
Wed	3/8	7pm	Creation Care Team	GH
Thu	3/9	10 am	Bible Study	LCR1
Fri	3/10	2 pm	Stations of the Cross	CH
Sun	3/12	9 am	RCIA Weekly Meeting	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 March 6 - March 10, 2017

Mon.	12:15 pm	Edward Habich <i>The Whitman Family</i>
		John Barrett <i>Marie Frasier</i>
Tues.	7:30 am	Ralph W. "Bill" Rahm <i>Ralph J. Rahm</i>
		Florence M. DuBois <i>David Roos</i>
Wed.	7:30 am	John Barrett <i>Dwyer Family</i>
		Anthony Mattera <i>Paul and Helen Hoole</i>
Fri.	12:15 pm	Karen Boughton <i>The Family</i>
		John Barrett <i>Dwyer Family</i>

Next Weekend, March 11-12, 2017

Sat.	5:00 pm	Lonnie Tomlin <i>Walter and Barbara Gould</i>
		Donald and Elizabeth Galvin <i>Katie and Luke</i>
Sun.	8:00 am	George Stagnitta <i>The Family</i>
		Tony Morrell, 1st Anniv. <i>His Family</i>
	9:30 am	For The People
	11:00 am	Estelle Wall <i>Nelly and Bill Bunk</i>
		Sr. Mary Elise Heick <i>Kathleen and George Bragle</i>

Scripture Readings: Week of March 5, 2017

Sunday	Gn:2:7-9; 3:1-7 / Rom 5:12-19 / Mt 4:1-11
Monday	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 / Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday	Is 55:10-11 / Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday	Jon 3:1-10 / Lk 11:29-32
Thursday	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 / Mt 7:7-12
Friday	Ez 18:21-28 / Mt 5:20-26
Saturday	Dt 26:16-19 / Mt 5:43-48
Next Sunday	Gn:12:1-4a / 2 Tm 1:8b-10 / Mt 17:1-9