

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

To Be Assigned, *Pastor*

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 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, May 20-21, 2017, Sixth Sunday of Easter

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
5:00 p.m.	Father Weider	Maureen Roberts & Brennan Buhr	Juliana Jira & Ali Barron	1
8:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Barbara Kavanagh & Mickey Kavanagh	Isabel Scisci & Shayla Harrigan	1
9:30 a.m.	Father Weider	Elizabeth Kerins & Doug Erickson	Kayleigh Bigwarfe & Samantha Gomez	1
11:00 a.m.	Father Weider	Maureen Cahill & Hank Steadman	Eileen Desharnais & Sean Desharnais	1

Parish News

Until Our New Pastor Arrives ~ The Diocese is in the process of identifying the best possible candidate to be our new pastor. At this time we do not know when someone will be assigned but we will do our best to keep you informed, via the bulletin and our website www.stthomas-church.org, when we have news to share. During this transition, the Diocese will assign priests to cover our weekend Masses. If we have that information in advance we will include it in the bulletin. If not, we will update our homepage as the priest is assigned. For the month of May, Fr. Leskovar will preside at each of the 8:00 a.m. Masses on Sunday. He will also preside at our regularly scheduled weekday Masses with one exception. We will not have Mass on Monday, May 29. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office.

"Being Ambassadors for Christ" -- Bishop's Appeal 2017 ~ During May and June we are focusing on our 2017 Bishop's Appeal. Last weekend we conducted the in-pew collection after the homily at all the masses. Our goal this year is \$205,326, which is \$6,800 more than last year's assessment. To date we have received 92 gifts and pledges, a total of \$38,205 toward our goal. Thank you in advance for your generous support.

CONGRATULATIONS go out to all those who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday. We are grateful to Elizabeth Kerins, Mary Ann Hospodar and their volunteer catechists who have worked with our young men and women to prepare them for the sacrament.

CONGRATULATIONS to the family of John William Fiorita who was baptized last Sunday at St. Thomas.

Prayer & Worship

Please Remember in Prayer Sylvia Shaffer Bates 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: 439-7845 for your intention to be added.

Pastoral Care

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

Thank you ~ to ALL of our Pastoral Care Volunteers! We had a wonderful turn-out for our Annual In-Service/Retreat Day. Our speaker, Maura Fleming, from the Alzheimer's Association, did a stellar job in enriching our knowledge on Dementia and Pastoral Care. It was a lovely day of fellowship and learning. Thank you all for everything you do to support your fellow parishioners.

Welcome ~ to **Debbie Agney** and **Deanna Agney**! They have just joined the parish and are ready to hit the ground running in ministry. We are happy to have you! **YOU can become involved too!** There are many ways to assist those who are aged, ill, and needy in our parish. Working full-time? No problem! We have a number of ministries that offer **flexible scheduling, with opportunities for as little or as much time as you are able to give.** Visit the Pastoral Care link on the parish website or contact Maura at mbarrett@stthomas-church.org or by phone for more information. I am sure we can find a place for you!

Hospital Visitation Ministry ~ Would you like to join us? Our team of ministers visits hospitalized members of our parish to provide spiritual support and assist in linking them with services in our parish upon discharge. This is a very meaningful ministry for both the recipient and the minister. Visits can be done days, evenings, or weekends, and are usually once every 5 weeks. Training provided. Let Maura know if you would be interested in assisting in this area on a regular basis, or as a substitute.

Has a family member moved to an Assisted Living or Nursing Home? Please let the Pastoral Care office know so that you can receive parish visits. Due to privacy policies, we may not otherwise know. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer who visits our parishioners, please contact Maura. It is truly a rewarding opportunity.

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, OR if you would like to join the team** please contact Maura Barrett by phone or email. Calls will be returned during Pastoral Care hours (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.).

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Faith Formation

ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-5)

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

Registration for next year's classes has begun! ~ Please download a registration form from our church website <http://www.stthomas-church.org/ff-forms> and submit it as soon as you can. Once again, we are offering an 'Early Bird Special' for those submitting their completed forms by May 31, 2017!

We are now seeking new and returning catechists and assistants to staff our classes for the 2017-18 faith formation year ~ We are looking for confirmed adults to lead our 1-5 grade classes once a week for our program year, September-April. Lesson plans, teaching guides and materials are provided for you along with as much guidance and support as we can give! Please contact our office to learn more about how you can help spread the Good News to our youngest parishioners!

Faith Formation Offices will be closing for the Summer on June 8 at 2 p.m. Emails and voicemails received after that time will be responded to on an intermittent basis over the summer months. Offices will re-open for the 2017-18 faith formation year on Monday, August 21. We wish all of you a happy, fun and blessed summer vacation!!

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

(Contact: Elizabeth Kerins)

Congratulations to all of our Confirmation students and their families! We look forward to your leadership in our parish and community as you share the gifts of the Spirit! Faith Formation is a life long journey.

Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

Youth Ministry High School Picnic 9-12 graders ~ Set for Tuesday, May 23, 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. in the St. Thomas School yard. Food, prizes and games. Hosted by your NCYC Team: Josh, Carolyn, Julia, Julie, Kailee and Sheila! Dish, laundry & floor detergent will be collected for the Albany Veterans Miracle Center which provides for those who served our country, now in need of our assistance. Parents are invited back for dessert and closing prayer for our Troops at 7:10 p.m. Please RSVP in the Gathering Hall binder with your dish to share or email Mary Ann at mhospodar@stthomas-church.org.

God Bless all of our Mothers, Grandmothers, Godmothers, Sisters & Aunties. Thank you for your gift of life and love! Happy Mother's Day!

School News

(Contact: Carmel Foltan)

8th Grade at St. Thomas the Apostle School ~ One of the capstone activities for students at St. Thomas the Apostle School is a trip to Washington, DC. The 4 day trip, May 23-26, brings to life much of what the students have been studying throughout the year. In addition to the trip, many students in 8th grade are preparing to take both the Integrated Algebra Regents and the Living Environment Regents in June in addition to proficiency exams in one or two world languages. Many 8th grade students will graduate from St. Thomas with as many as four high school credits. The 8th grade class will graduate on Friday, June 16th at 5PM in the Church. All are welcome to attend. Discover St. Thomas the Apostle School today! Visit www.stthomas-school.org or to schedule a visit, contact Carmel Foltan.

Spring is a time for new beginnings...begin with a Catholic education at St. Thomas the Apostle School ~ Register now for Pre-K and Kindergarten. Limited openings in our program. The Preschool offers a nurturing, compassionate, faith-based preschool program for 3 and 4 year old children, providing early socialization, Kindergarten readiness and unique educational experiences and opportunities for your child. The Kindergarten program provides a variety of social, physical, emotional, and academic learning experiences, and features a full day program, an introduction to world languages, and opportunities to participate in a variety of after school clubs and activities. To schedule a visit and for more information, please contact Carmel.

Sister Ann Eleanor Scholarship ~ In celebration of St. Thomas the Apostle School's 60th Anniversary, an anonymous donor will offer six (6) \$1500 scholarships named in honor of the school's first principal, to girls who enroll in St. Thomas the Apostle School's 2017/2018 Kindergarten class. The deadline for acceptance into the program to receive consideration is July 1, 2017. Each family must have a signed letter of intent on file and paid the down payment to secure placement into the class. Families who wish to apply for the scholarship are asked to submit a letter to the attention of Mr. Thomas Kane, Principal, St. Thomas the Apostle School, 42 Adams Place, Delmar, NY 12054. In the letter, parents should provide the name of the student and indicate why they have chosen to send their daughter to St. Thomas the Apostle School.

Spring Concert ~ All are welcome to attend the annual St. Thomas the Apostle School Spring Concert. Enjoy selections performed by the school band, 3 - 8 grade chorus and the Liturgy Choir. Tuesday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Register for Summer Camp at St. Thomas the Apostle School: Scholarships Available ~ Campers will participate in theme based activities, arts and

crafts, indoor and outdoor play daily. Full day campers will also have daily reading time, water play and field trips! A St. Thomas the Apostle School Guardian Angel has very generously donated 5 Summer Camp Scholarships each valid for 1 week of Summer Camp 2017 for 1 student currently enrolled at St. Thomas the Apostle School. Interested families are asked to send a letter of interest to Mr. Thomas Kane, Principal by Friday, May 12, 2017. The letter should outline your need and must include the name of the child wishing to attend camp. For more information and to register, visit www.stthomas-school.org or call (518) 439-5573.

Caring for Our Common Home

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

Caring for Our Common Home ~ In today's Gospel. Jesus encourages us to not let our hearts be troubled – to have faith in God and faith in Jesus. He speaks about the many dwelling places in the Father's house. Our parish has been opening up the Word of God in our caring for our earth and its people. We are not the only parish that has embraced this mission. Ronnie and Jim Blendell have been sharing the bulletins from St. Andrews Church in Sacketts Harbor, New York. This parish has also been breaking open Pope Francis' encyclical weekly in their bulletin encouraging their parishioners to reduce their carbon footprint by offering websites as guides for their parishioners. We offer their suggestions to our own community at St. Thomas <http://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org>, www.empowermentinstitute.net/lcd, and www.arborday.org/trees/treefacts. As you travel this spring and summer, look for parishes throughout the country who are embracing care for the environment as essential to our Catholic faith and share their insights with our parish.

Community

The Public Policy Ministry requests that you **SAVE THE DATE of Monday, October 16**, for the seventh "Food for Thought" entitled, *Earth: Our Common Home*, presented by Linda Neil, CSJ. The program weaves the art of Marion Honors, CSJ, with discussion, music, poetry, story and science. Watch the Bulletin for further details. Join the Public Policy Ministry; call Marie Copeland at 439-4050 or email mariecopeland62@gmail.com.

Federal Funding for Hunger and Poverty ~ The Public Policy Ministry urges you to send letters to your federal senators and representative asking them to make funding decisions that will reduce hunger and poverty in the US and around the world as they work on the 2017-2018 budget and spending bills. Please see the Public Policy page of the St. Thomas website www.stthomas-church.org for a sample letter or go to www.bread.org/act to send an email to your federal members of Congress. Remember to personalize your letters or emails to Congress as they are much more influential than form messages. Thank you for your advocacy.

Senior Luncheon – Faith, Fun, and Food ~ St. Thomas Active Older Adults: Mark your calendar for our next luncheon which will be on **Friday, May 19**. We will attend Mass at 12:15, 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. Reservations, cancellations or transportation arrangements can be made with Steve or Christine Corson at 439-3286 by **Monday, May 15**.

Parishioners ~ We are very grateful for donated baked goods for our luncheon. Could you please help us out next month with cookies? Contact Steve or Christine Corson at 439-3286.

Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE May 6-7, 2017

Offertory	\$13,173.63
Offertory from E-Giving (Vanco)	\$2,500.00
Total Offertory Received	\$15,673.63
Tithe from this Offertory	\$783.53

Thank you for your continuing support of the parish!

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 ministry opportunity.

Calendar

Wed	5/17	2 pm	Knitting, Quilting and Crocheting with Love Group	GH
Wed	5/17	6 pm	Bereavement Support Group	LCR1
Wed	5/17	7 pm	Public Policy Group	GH
Thu	5/18	10 am	Bible Study	LCR1
Fri	5/19	12:15 pm	Senior Luncheon	GH
Sun	5/21	9 am	RCIA 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 May 15 - May 19, 2017

Mon.	12:15 pm	Miriam Cassidy Mullen, 25th Anniv. <i>Luke Mullen</i>
		Jeanne L. Van Vlack <i>John Appel</i>
Tues.	7:30 am	Ronald Russo, 7th Anniv. <i>The Family</i>
		Richard Lehner <i>A Friend</i>
Wed.	7:30 am	Logan Penzabene <i>The Whitman Family</i>
		For Our Sister Parish
Fri.	12:15 pm	Mary E. Hudacs <i>John and Susanne Hudacs</i>
		Patricia Dillon <i>The Family</i>

Next Weekend, May 20-21, 2017

Sat.	5:00 pm	For the People
Sun.	8:00 am	Francis W. Rodgers <i>Arlene Stilan</i>
		Helen Kreszner <i>Richard and Marcia Bassotti</i>
Sun.	9:30 am	Carmelo Papa <i>Severina Papa and Family</i>
		Angela Norris <i>Her Uncle, Henry Spina</i>
	11:00 am	Herbert Leisenfelder Jr. <i>The Seward Family</i>
		Robert Robillard

Scripture Readings: Week of May 14, 2017

Sunday	Acts 6:1-7 / 1 Pt 2:4-9 / Jn 14: 1-12
Monday	Acts 14:5-18 / Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday	Acts 14:19-28 / Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday	Acts 15:1-6 / Jn 15:1-8
Thursday	Acts 15:17-21 / Jn 15:9-11
Friday	Acts 15:22-31 / Jn 15:12-17
Saturday	Acts 16:1-10 / Jn 15: 18-21
Next Sunday	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 / 1 Pt 3:15-18 / Jn 14: 15-21