

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, February 17 - 18, 2018, First 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	Julia Kloss & Lizzy Kloss	2
8:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Jeff Conklin & Mary Richards	Kailee Harrigan & Isabel Scisci	2
9:30 a.m.	Father Berberian	Tom Kane & Martha Snyder	Paul Holstein & Morgan Sears	2
11:00 a.m.	Father Berberian	Jack Canning & Barbara Kavanagh	Doug Maeder & Susan O'Connor	2

Pastor's Corner

THIS WEDNESDAY IS ASH WEDNESDAY ~ We will celebrate the Eucharist in the church at 7:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Ashes are blessed and distributed during the Mass after the homily. Throughout the day, the blessed ashes will be available in front of the altar for distribution to the homebound. If you wish to take some, simply bring a small envelope with you to church to secure some blessed ashes. When you distribute them to the sick or homebound use the formula "Repent and believe the Good News of Jesus" as you place the ashes on the forehead.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE ~ Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days 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 Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and the other Fridays of Lent. All Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59 are obliged to fast.

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. They are expressions of our desire to be converted in our hearts, to be reconciled with each other, and to love our neighbor. It is helpful to remember that the ability to decide how much or little one will eat is in itself a gift.

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 DONATIONS - ALMS AND RICE BOWL ~ It has been our tradition in recent years to focus our Lenten donations on the needs of our sister parish in Mexico. Although we recognize that need and continue to support their mission, there is also a tremendous need to financially support Catholic Relief Services and the wonderful work they do throughout the world. Annually the Rice Bowl Collection has supported that need, with 75% of donations supporting global programs and 25% helping those living in

poverty in our Diocese. So, this Lent we have decided to split your generous Lenten donations between the two programs. Rice bowls will be available at church entrances during Lent for your contributions to this shared program. We appreciate your generosity to all those in need.

CONGRATULATIONS ~ to the family of the following child who was baptized recently at St. Thomas: Holland Cole Trappenburg.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS ~ John and Keely Bannister and their children Ruby and Royal.

Bishop's Appeal 2017 ~ The Bishop's Appeal for 2017 formally ends on March 14, 2018. Our current outstanding pledge balance is approximately \$3500. We thank you in advance for meeting your commitment to the Diocese.

Prayer & Worship

Prayer Chain ~ Members respond to urgent prayer intentions. Contact Pam Seward at: 518-439-7845 for your intention to be added.

Lectors, Acolytes, and Eucharistic Ministers for Ash Wednesday, February 14 ~ Please sign up at the oval table near the Gathering Hall if you are able to serve at the 7:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. or 5:30 p.m. Masses.

Pastoral Care

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

"The Church's service to the sick and those who care for them must continue with renewed vigor, in fidelity to the Lord's command (cf. Lk 9:2-6; Mt 10:1-8; Mk 6:7-13) and following the eloquent example of her Founder and Master." – Pope Francis

World Day of the Sick is February 11, 2018, which coincides with **the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes**. It is a day to reflect on the importance of ministering to the sick and praying for those suffering from illness. In addition, we pray for those ministers who provide spiritual support to those who are ill in our parish. Special prayers can be found on the Pastoral Care table in the church foyer.

Join us! ~ There are a number of opportunities for **YOU** to become involved through our vibrant Pastoral Care Ministries too – Communion to the home bound; Rosary and Communion Service leader at Kenwood Manor, Good Samaritan and Delmar Place; sewing, knitting and quilting ministries; prayer chain;

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

meal ministry and more! Check out the St. Thomas website, sign up at the Pastoral Care table in the church foyer, or contact **Maura** for more information.

The Bereavement Support Group, for those who have lost a spouse within the last 2 years, will meet on **Wed., February 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 Barrett at 439-4951 ext. 104 or mbarrett@stthomas-church.org.

Faith Formation

ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-5)

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

Our final 'regular' session of First Eucharist prep classes for families enrolled in that program are being held Sunday, February 11 at 8:15 a.m. and Monday, February 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the school. Babysitting for siblings of first Eucharist children will be available during these sessions for the convenience of parents.

Our annual retreat to culminate our First Eucharist Prep Program, Jesus Day, will be held 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).

This Wednesday, February 14, is Ash Wednesday. That day only, **elementary faith formation classes will dismiss at 5:10 p.m.** to allow families and volunteers the opportunity to attend the 5:30 p.m. Mass here at St. Thomas.

As a reminder, there will be no faith formation classes February 20-22 when children are on winter recess from school.

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

(Contact: Elizabeth Kerins)

Middle and High School Classes continue THIS WEEK, February 13-15. ~ If you need to change your son/daughter's class day/time, please contact Colleen or Elizabeth in the Faith Formation office.

Inclement Weather ~ Please remember Faith Formation classes are canceled if Bethlehem Central Schools are closed and/or after school activities are canceled.

Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

Muchas Gracias! ~ WE thank you for your support during our SOUPER BOWL Event for our Sister Parish!

Together we raised \$ 721.00! Your generosity is most appreciative! WE thank all of our cooks who prepared Fr. Rich's delicious soup: Sandra Gomez, Harman Family, Gas-telum-Luna family, Jack Vincelette, Ryan Kent, Kaitlin Strokes, Caleb Ells, Steven & GiGi Sitzer, Dylan & Cristina Grigas. And our student workers: Thomas Buffaline, Andrew Brockley, Patrick Martone, Sam Blendell, Steven Sitzer, Kira Duffy, Emma Radzynski, Nathi Clarke, Hugh Sullivan, Kaitlin Strokes, Matthew Collins, Steven & GiGi Sitzer, Ryan McNerney, Caleb Ells, Isabelle Cunningham, Andrew Gower, Lizzy & Julie Kloss, Alice Murphy, our Youth Ministry Parents, and our entire People to People Committee! God bless you all for your solidarity and support of our Sister Parish in Yucatan Mexico! **You made a difference!**

Congratulations to Emily Sagendorph who won the free Super Bowl raffle. The prize was a \$25 gift card to Los Pan-chos restaurant.

Creation Care Team & Youth Ministry are offering you an opportunity to **re gift** those Christmas or birthday gifts that are appreciated, but simply will not be used during Feb.10-Feb.18. Consider donating them to the Birthday Box for **Sr. Maureen Joyce Soup Kitchen** located in our Gathering Hall. WE are **accepting only NEW Small GIFT ITEMS**: purse, tie, body wash, lotion, hat, slippers, wallet, jewelry and so on. This is another way to **open our hearts this Lent** by ridding ourselves of some of the clutter in our lives that someone else can use and appreciate!

Adoration with Fr. Berberian Sunday Feb. 25 at 6:30 -7:30 p.m. in the Chapel. ~ Come and learn about this beautiful tradition in our faith. Bring your family and spend some quiet time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, refreshments to follow.

School News

(Contact: Thomas Kane)

Please join us at St. Thomas the Apostle School for a wonderful evening of music featuring Get Up Jack on Saturday, March 3 ~ Doors open 6:00 p.m. and performance begins at 7:00 p.m. Special performance by Bethlehem Traditional Irish Dance. Cost is \$15 per person. Cash dessert and beverage bar, must be 21 and over to attend. Make your reservation today with checks made payable to St. Thomas the Apostle School and RSVP by February 26, 2018, to Jennifer Murphy at jmurphy@stthomas-school.org. RSVP forms are located in the Gathering Hall or at the school. *All proceeds benefit St. Thomas the Apostle School. Thank you for your support!*

Did you know? ~ Our Middle School students are offered opportunities to participate in advanced math and science, completing the 9th grade Integrated Algebra course and the

New York State Regents level Living Environment (Biology) course. Students may elect to take Spanish and/or Latin. Students who successfully complete the Spanish and/or Latin proficiency exams graduate with high school credit in a Foreign Language. Nearly 60 percent of our 8th grade students graduate with high school credit in 3 or more subject areas.

Creation Care Team

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

Never Doubt That You Can Make A Difference ~ For the several hundred students of St. Albert Shanjero Primary School in Kenya your compassion and generosity is making a life-altering difference. Completion of a rainwater catchment, the second water project funded by parishioners of St. Thomas and facilitated by Water.org, means the children of this Kenya school will no longer need to search for water before school each morning and then carry the heavy water jugs to school. Clean water will now be readily available to them at school. In addition, to promote wellness, your gift is providing the children two hand washing stations and six new latrines, as well as hygiene/infection prevention education. To learn more about the project and the people who benefitted go to:

https://thewaterproject.org/community/projects/kenya/rainwater-harvesting-wash-project-4687?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=project-update&utm_source=rainwater-harvesting-wash-project-4687

A Change Of Heart

- Lent calls us to assess how we are living our lives. Are we respecting the gift of creation, caring for the people who inhabit this planet? Are we in need of a “change of heart” to be a more compassionate, justice-seeking, loving people?
- With Ash Wednesday a few short days away, I am challenging myself to answer...What acts of caring for creation will I make habit during the next 40 days? I invite you to the same challenge.

Community

"The Way of the Cross" ~ St. Matthew's Church in Voorheesville, welcomes the IHC Mystery Players who will present " The Way of the Cross" on Tues, Feb 20, 2018, 7:00 p.m. The Immaculate Heart Central High School (IHC) Mystery Players is comprised of High School Seniors who will bring the Stations of the Cross to a modern level through the use of special lighting, music, pantomime and paraliturgical readings, recreating the Paschal Mystery in a moving dramatic presentation. We strongly encourage everyone to attend this unique and powerful Lenten prayer experience. Please be advised, small children may be frightened due to the nature of the play.

Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

2018 Combined Diocesan Collection for the Black and Native American and Latin American Missions

~ We ask your support in the Diocesan Collection on February, 17-19, for Black, Native American and Latin American Missions. Funds support catechesis and evangelization programs throughout the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean. Your gifts will fund catechesis, pastoral programs, marriage and family life projects, seminarian education, and many other necessary programs. The Black and Native American Mission Office provides grants for projects throughout the Missions in North America including programs in the Diocese of Albany. By contributing to next week's collection you will provide seeds to grow the faith for years to come. Please support the Black and Native American Missions of the United States and the Church in Latin America.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

February 3-4, 2018

Offertory	\$12,802.43
Offertory from E-Giving (Vanco)	\$1,678.00
Total Offertory Received	\$14,480.43
Tithe from this Offertory	\$724.02

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 February 3-4 our collection was \$14,480.43. This was donated by approximately 422 families, which we are able to identify through envelope, check or electronic giving use. This total also included about \$1,140 in loose cash from other donors.

Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

Calendar

Sat/Sun	2/10-11	After All Masses	Mardi Gras Celebration/Hospitality	GH
Sun	2/11	9 am	RCIA Weekly Meeting	LCR
Tue	2/13	7 pm	Pastoral Council	LCR
Wed	2/14	7:30am, 12:15 & 5:30pm	Ash Wednesday Masses	CH
Thu	2/15	10 am	Bible Study	LCR
Sun	2/18	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 February 12 - February 16, 2018

Mon.	12:15 pm	Intention of Celebrant	
Tues.	7:30 am	Intention of Celebrant	
Wed.	7:30 am	Pat Dotson	<i>Her Friends</i>
	12:15 pm	Intention of Celebrant	
	5:30 pm	Intention of Celebrant	
Fri.	12:15 pm	Thomas Tipple	<i>Sister Frederick</i>
		Anna Carroll	<i>Candace and Anita</i>

Next Weekend, February 17-18, 2018

Sat.	5:00 pm	Mary Shogan, 14th Anniv.	<i>Bob and Johanna Shogan and Family</i>
		John Flanigan	<i>Paul and Joan Strait and Janet</i>
Sun.	8:00 am	Frank Daley	<i>His Wife</i>
		David Shaffer	<i>Ed and Mary Wilcenski</i>
	9:30 am	Rita Moloney	<i>The Moloney Family</i>
		Jerry DuBois	<i>His Wife</i>
	11:00 am	For the People	

Scripture Readings: Week of February 11, 2018

Sunday	Lv 13:1-2, 44-46 / 1 Cor 10:31-11:1 / Mk 1:40-45
Monday	Jas 1:1-11 / Mk 6:11-13
Tuesday	Jas 1:12-18 / Mk 8:14-21
Ash Wednesday	Jl 2:12-18 / 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 / Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday	Dt 30:15-20 / Lk 9:22-25
Friday	Is 58:1-9a / Mt 9:14-15
Saturday	Is 58:9b-14 / Lk 5:27-32
Sunday	Gn 9: 8-15 / 1 Pt 3:18-22 / Mk 1:12-15