

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, March 17-18, 2018, Fifth Sunday of Lent

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
5:00 p.m.	Father Berberian	Dan Ehring & Carol Tomlin	Raegan Ehring & Laiba Gill	2
8:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Anthony Scisci & Alba Giordano	Nancy Chiu & Brian Gallagher	2
9:30 a.m.	Father Berberian	Paul Connolly & Marianne Conophy	Kayleigh Bigwarfe & Bridget Connolly	3
11:00 a.m.	Father Berberian	Bob Conway & Cathy Semenoff	Eileen Desharnais & Katie Desharnais	3

Pastor's Corner

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held the Fridays of Lent, 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 ~ Chelsea and Thomas Moore and their children, Kiernan and Thomas; Beth McCrea and Patti and Lou Corsi.



WE CONGRATULATE
ANDREW LISOWSKI AND PAIGE LaFRANCE
WHO CELEBRATED THE SACRAMENT OF
MARRIAGE
ON MARCH 3, 2018

MAY THE LORD CONTINUE
TO BLESS THEM

Pastoral Care

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

"One must do all one can do for everybody, expecting no return save from God only." -St. John Vianney

Welcome to Jennifer King ~ Our newest volunteer with Pastoral Care! She will be working with our hospital visitation team and nursing home visitation team. We are happy to have you! YOU can join us too! **Please see the website or contact Maura to become involved in one (or more!) of the many active Pastoral Care Ministries we have going at St. Thomas.**

Beginning Experience Weekend of Hope and Healing ~ for divorced, widowed, and separated men and women will be offered at the St. Lawrence Retreat Center, Beacon, NY, on the weekend of April 6-8. Beginning Experience is endorsed by the Archdiocese Office of Family and Youth. This program is designed for those who wish to let go of the painful past and create a more peace-filled future. All faiths are welcome. Pre-registration is required. Contact Janice (845)-490-7466 or Phyllis (914)-261-5812 or email ny.hudson.valley@beginningexperience.org. For more information please visit the website: www.beginningexperience.org/hudsonvalley.

"Tools for Caregivers" ~ The Capital Region Caregiver Coalition will offer their 11th annual event on Saturday, April 14, 2018 at Beltrone Living Center, 6 Winners Circle, Albany from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Workshops, continental breakfast, caregiver healing touch, vendor resource fair will all be offered. Free. Advanced registration is required. Contact Angela at crcereg@gmail.com or 518-248-3807. For more information visit www.capitalregioncaregiver.com

SAVE THE DATE ~ Planning is underway for our Annual Pastoral Care Volunteer In-Service and 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 in the office for more assistance.

Prayer & Worship

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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER Edward T. Otto whose funeral was held last week at St. Thomas. May the Lord welcome him into Eternal Life.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Faith Formation

ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-5)

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

Jesus Day is Next Saturday, March 17 ~ First Eucharist 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 beginning with 9:45 a.m. registration. Families celebrating First Communion at one of the Saturday morning 11 a.m. Masses are to attend the afternoon session beginning with a 12:20 p.m. registration time.

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

Can you believe we've begun planning for next year already?? ~ 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** for the 2018-19 year. 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.

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 are due no later than March 16. Forms can be mailed 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)

Photograph/Art Display Due this week ~ Take a photograph, sketch or paint something in our community that illustrates to YOU **why it is important to care for God's Creation** and write a brief reflection. **Or Illustrate the mistreatment of God's Creation** in our community and reflect on how we can avoid this mistreatment! Entries will be displayed in the Gathering Hall the week of March 17-23!

Join us in Our Lady's Chapel this Sunday, March 11 to pray the Sorrowful Rosary, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Next Teen/Family Mass is on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 5 p.m. Please join us!

Middle School Students are invited to join some of our High School Students in a Lenten Experience Friday, March 23, 6.- 9:00 p.m. in the school gym. Please sign up in the Gathering Hall.

Our young church is making a difference ~ Students & adults volunteered at: **Northeastern Food Bank** sorted frozen meats, **Sr. Maureen Joyce Center Soup Kitchen** completed food prep & served lunch, **St. John/St. Ann's Outreach Center** provided desserts, fruit, prepared 50 lbs of chicken, 15 lbs of macaroni salad and served 100 meals!

Special thanks to Fr. Berberian, Theresa McMahon, Paul Supple, Katherine, Anna & Sarah Bernasconi for a humbling and beautiful Evening with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament!

Scout Mass ~ WE thank Fr. Berberian, Scout Leaders Mary Ellen Sagendorph & Rose Ann Garry & all our scouts who took on leadership roles during Mass. Thank you all for "walking humbly with our God".

School News

(Contact: Thomas Kane)

Thank you to everyone who made our St. Patrick's Celebration a success! ~ Special thanks to our amazing volunteers and to our sponsors as well as the members of Get Up Jack and Bethlehem Traditional Irish Dance.

It all starts at St. Thomas the Apostle School: Accepting Applications for Preschool through 8th 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.

Did you know? ~ At St. Thomas, we never ask our students or families to sell products in order to help raise funds for the school. Instead, fundraising is accomplished through our Continuing the Vision Campaign and Race for Education as well as through fun activities and events held throughout the school year.

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: jdshrempf@verizon.net or Marie Myer: myermarie@yahoo.com.)

Build A Bridge ~ Lent is an opportunity to build bridges and tear down walls that separate us. For forty days, we are called to assess personally and as a community how we are living as Christians, and to act through prayer, fasting and almsgiving to change the habits which divide us from one another, harm our world and estrange us from our God. To guide us on this journey of relationship-building and rebuilding, Catholic Relief Services (CSR) Rice Bowl (<https://www.crsricebowl.org>) suggests we look to the **Good Samaritan** who saw a person in need and acted, giving of his time, his assets; forging a relationship with a person he knew only as vulnerable. Further, he engaged another – the Inn Keeper – in this life-affirming act. This is how healing relationships are realized, how bridges between cultures are built, how communities of caregivers come into being. It is caring for God’s creation...for the people of this earth and our universe.

And it can start with the simplest of acts...

Prayer...for the strength to change personal habits that harm us..

Fasting...maybe just giving up that plastic straw. (*Did you know that every day 500 million plastic straws are used in the United States? Many of these single use objects find their way into our oceans. By 2050 it is predicted that there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish.* (<https://www.strawlessocean.org/>))

Almsgiving...donating the cost of the item you denied yourself to the CSR Rice Bowl and forging a relationship with people you know only as vulnerable.

Community

“FISH FRY DINNER” proudly presented by the Elsmere Firehouse Fridays; March 16 and March 30 at the Elsmere Firehouse 15 West Poplar Drive, Delmar 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Come and enjoy a pleasant Lenten supper with many other St. Thomas parishioners.

Senior Luncheon – Faith, Fun, and Food ~ Attention St. Thomas Active Older Adults: Get your reservations in soon for our St. Patrick’s Day luncheon which will be on **Friday, March 16**. We will attend Mass at 12:15 followed by the luncheon. This is a great opportunity to meet some of your fellow parishioners. Please encourage a friend to attend with you. If possible, please bring a personal care item to be donated to Bethlehem Senior Services. Reservations, cancellations or transportation arrangements can be made with Steve or Christine Corson at 439-3286 by Monday, March 12.

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

Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION ~ THIS WEEK-END our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. This collection supports six Catholic Agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds from the Collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and Christ’s love and respect to all people. This week, please give generously to The Catholic Relief Services Collection and help **Jesus in disguise**

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 4-5, 2018**

Offertory	\$13,299.01
Offertory from E-Giving (Vanco)	\$1,958.00
Total Offertory Received	\$15,257.01
Tithe from this Offertory	\$762.85

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 4-5 our collection was \$15,257.01. This was donated by approximately 418 families, which we are able to identify through envelope, check or electronic giving use. This total also included about \$1,349 in loose cash from other donors.

Thank you for your generous support of the parish

Calendar

Mon	3/12	6:30 pm	Scouts for Religious Emblem Awards	GH
Thu	3/15	10 am	Bible Study	LCR
Fri	2/16	12 pm	Senior Luncheon	LC,GH
Fri	3/16	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 12 - March 16, 2018

Mon.	12:15 pm	Karen Boughton	<i>The Family</i>
		Tony Giordano	<i>Ernie and Pam Seward</i>
Tues.	7:30 am	George W. Bragle	<i>Kathleen Bragle</i>
		Patrick Dillon	<i>Margaret Manning</i>
Wed.	7:30 am	Intention of Celebrant	
Fri.	12:15 pm	Intention of Celebrant	

Next Weekend, March 17-18, 2018

Sat.	5:00 pm	For the People	
Sun.	8:00 am	Patricia Putnam	<i>Barb Shea</i>
		George Stagnitta	<i>The Family</i>
	9:30 am	Theresa M. Santandrea	<i>Barbara J. Bateman</i>
		Tony Giordano	<i>Susan and Ralph Bandel</i>
	11:00 am	Tony Giordano	<i>John Ritz</i>
		Peggy Reagan	<i>Jon Sabina and Lizzie Hunter</i>

Scripture Readings: Week of March 11, 2018

Sunday	2 Chr 36: 14-16, 19-23 / Eph 2:4-10 / Jn 3:14-21
Monday	Is 65:17-21 / Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday	Ez 47:1-9, 12 / Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday	Is 49:8-15 / Jn 5:17-30
Thursday	Ex 32:7-14 / Jn 5:31-47
Friday	Wis 2:1a, 12-22 / Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday	Jer 11:18-20 / Jn 7:40-53
Sunday	Jer 31: 31-34 / Heb 5:7-9 / Jn 12:20-33