

Church of

# Saint Thomas the Apostle



35 Adams Place, Delmar, New York 12054

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E-mail: [office@stthomas-church.org](mailto:office@stthomas-church.org)

Website: [www.stthomas-church.org](http://www.stthomas-church.org)

**Rev. David V. Berberian J.C.L., Pastor**  
[dberberian@stthomas-church.org](mailto: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](mailto:pholm@stthomas-church.org)

**Barbara Ruggirello, Bookkeeper**

**Paul Edmundson, Office Assistant**

[pedmundson@stthomas-church.org](mailto:pedmundson@stthomas-church.org)

**Peter Bukowski, Facilities Manager**

[pbukowski@stthomas-church.org](mailto:pbukowski@stthomas-church.org)

**Maura Barrett, LMSW, Pastoral Care Associate**  
[mbarrett@stthomas-church.org](mailto:mbarrett@stthomas-church.org)

**Avery Tunningley, Parish Music Director**  
[tunnac@aol.com](mailto:tunnac@aol.com)

**Nelly Brown Bunk, Choir Director**  
[nellybrownbunk@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:pstaerker@stthomas-church.org)

**Elizabeth Kerins, MS and HS Coordinator**  
[ekerins@stthomas-church.org](mailto:ekerins@stthomas-church.org)

**Mary Ann Hospodar, Assistant MS and HS Coordinator**  
[mhospodar@stthomas-church.org](mailto:mhospodar@stthomas-church.org)

**Colleen Harrigan, Secretary**  
[charrigan@stthomas-church.org](mailto:charrigan@stthomas-church.org)

**PARISH TRUSTEES: Carmel Foltan and Adele Nucci**

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

[www.stthomas-school.org](http://www.stthomas-school.org)

[info@stthomas-school.org](mailto:info@stthomas-school.org)

**Thomas Kane, School Principal**

[tkane@stthomas-school.org](mailto:tkane@stthomas-school.org)

**Jennifer Murphy, Associate for Enrollment and Development**

[jmurphy@stthomas-school.org](mailto: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 31-April 1, 2018, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday*

	<u>CELEBRANT</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>SERVERS</u>	<u>EM TEAM</u>
8:00 p.m.	Father Berberian	SIGN UP	SIGN UP	SIGN UP
8:00 a.m.	Father Leskovar	Jeff Conklin & Alba Giordano	TBD & Brian Gallagher	SIGN UP
9:30 a.m.	Father Berberian	Matt Scheidler & Annemarie Farrell	Jack Keating & TBD	SIGN UP
11:00 a.m.	Father Berberian	Tom Heffernan & Sarah Comi	Ryan McCarroll & Eileen Desharnais	SIGN UP

## *Pastor's Corner*

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be held this Friday, March 30, at 3 p.m. in the church. All are welcome.

**FAST AND ABSTINENCE** ~ Good Friday is a day of fasting (limiting the consumption of food) and abstinence (refraining from eating meat). Therefore, all Catholics, 14 years of age and older are obliged to refrain from eating meat. All Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59 are obliged to fast on Good Friday. 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.

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED** ~ The Parish Office will be closed on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Monday following Easter. **There will be services on those days.**

**HOLY THURSDAY** ~ Mass of the Lord's Supper will be on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. The church will remain open for adoration until 10:00 p.m.

**GOOD FRIDAY** ~ The Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord will begin at 7:00 p.m.

**EASTER VIGIL AND SUNDAY** ~ The Easter Vigil is scheduled for after sunset, so this year it will be on Saturday evening at 8:00 p.m. We will have the regular Mass schedule on Easter Sunday: 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

**REHEARSALS** ~ There will be a rehearsal for participants in the Holy Thursday liturgy on Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the church. The rehearsal for the Good Friday service will be on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. There will be a rehearsal on Saturday at 11 a.m. for the participants in the Easter Vigil.

**LENTEN RICE BOWLS** ~ Your donation will be accepted at the Holy Thursday Mass. If you can't attend that Mass, you may place your donation in any offertory or drop it off at the parish office. We will share our parish almsgiving with our sister parish in Mexico and send the remaining half to Catholic Relief Services. **If you would like to issue a check for the total collected instead of handing in a box of coins, that would be appreciated.** Just be sure to note "rice bowl" in the memo line. Thank you for your generosity.

## *Prayer & Worship*

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER** Bernard teRiele and Barbara Reuter whose funerals were held last week at St. Thomas. May the Lord welcome them into Eternal Life.

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

### **Ministers Needed for the Triduum and Easter Sunday**

**Liturgies** ~ Sign-up sheets are available on the oval table near the church foyer if you are able to serve as an Acolyte, Eucharistic Minister or Lector. See Pastor's Corner for rehearsal schedules. Please do not sign up to serve as an acolyte on Holy Thursday, Good Friday or for the Easter Vigil Mass unless you are able to attend the rehearsal. Thank you for serving!

## *Pastoral Care*

(Contact: Maura Barrett, LMSW)

**"Never miss an opportunity to do good."** – St. Francis de Sales

### **Pastoral Care Visitation Training for the Sick, Elderly**

**and Homebound** ~ A 6 week Formation and Skill Building Workshop will be held at Christ Our Light Catholic Church, 1 Maria Dr., Loudonville. This program will be held on Thursdays from April 5 – May 10 and will provide information on: the art of pastoral visitation; communication skills; illness issues; spiritual assessment; grief and loss; suffering and faith; death and dying; ritual and sacraments in pastoral ministry; theology of pastoral care and care giving issues. Weekly sessions include presentations and interactive exercises, as well as readings. Two pastoral visits are required along with a journal process. Fee: \$40 which includes book and materials. Pre-registration is required and limited to 24 attendees. Registration deadline is **March 28, 2018**. All faith traditions welcome. To register: <https://portal.rcda.org:81/PastoralCareRegistration/> For more information contact: Maria @ [maria.schollenberger@rcda.org](mailto:maria.schollenberger@rcda.org) or 518-641-6818.

**"Tools for Caregivers"** ~ The Capital Region Caregiver Coalition will offer their 11<sup>th</sup> 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 [crcreq@gmail.com](mailto:crcreq@gmail.com) or 518-248-3807. For more information visit [www.capitalregioncaregiver.com](http://www.capitalregioncaregiver.com)

**SAVE THE DATE** ~ Planning is underway for our **Annual Pastoral Care Volunteer In-Service & 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.

## Palm Sunday

**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 for more assistance.

### Faith Formation

#### ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-5)

(Contact: Patti Staerker)

**Preparations for Next Year are Underway!!** ~ For the 2018-19 year, 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. **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.

Our annual **5th grade moving up ceremony** for 5th grade faith formation students and their families will be held on **Monday, April 23 at 6:00 p.m.** in the chapel. We look forward to celebrating with our families and telling them all about the wonderful opportunities that lie ahead for them as they continue their faith formation as middle schoolers next year!!!

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

(Contact: Elizabeth Kerins)

**Classes are over!** ~ Please continue to complete parish and community service hours. Service sheets are due by May 31. Registration for 2018-2019 has begun! Registration forms are located on the website.

**Confirmation registration and sponsor forms** should be completed ASAP and returned to the faith formation office.

**Confirmation** will be held on Friday, May 11 at 6:30 in the church.

### Youth Ministry

(Contact: Mary Ann Hospodar)

**God Bless all of you who participated in our Lenten Drives & Projects this Lent** ~ Together we assisted in collecting more than 1000 Children's books, provided Sr. Maureen Joyce Center with beautiful re-gift Birthday items, collected hundreds of "gold nuggets" travel size toiletries for the homeless, donated 51 Price Chopper Gift cards to needy seniors along with personal Easter Greetings Cards & shared personal Easter Cards & Easter magnets with Pastoral Care, & prepared 100 brown bag lunches for the Capital City Rescue Mission.

**"In the poor and outcast we see Christ's Face, by loving and helping the poor, we love and serve God." Pope Francis. Thank you for doing just that!**

### RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

**RCIA TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED** ~ We are in need of additional RCIA team members to facilitate Sunday RCIA classes starting in September. Contact Paul Edmundson, if you are interested. More details in future bulletins.

### School News

(Contact: Thomas Kane)

**Open Enrollment - Tours and Student Visits** ~ As part of the application process, once a family has toured, we invite the child/children to join us for a "Shadow Day". They are invited to spend the entire school day, attend classes and get to know their potential St. Thomas classmates, teachers and staff. **Interested in a Tour/Shadow Day?** Please contact Jennifer Murphy at [518-439-5573](tel:518-439-5573) or [jmurphy@stthomas-school.org](mailto:jmurphy@stthomas-school.org).

**Summer Camp at St. Thomas** ~ We offer a variety of summer camps open to rising 4-year-old preschoolers through current 8th graders. **No need to be a St. Thomas student to attend.** This year's camps will include Clay Creations, Basketball Camp, Creative Writing, Programming, Trivia Camp and much more. For more information, contact Erica Fox at [518-439-5573](tel:518-439-5573) or [efox@stthomas-school.org](mailto:efox@stthomas-school.org).

**Did you know?** ~ In addition to attending Stations of the Cross at St. Thomas Church on Fridays throughout Lent, during Holy Week, St. Thomas students gather in the school gymnasium for Living Stations performed by our seventh graders. This year, we will meet on Tuesday, March 27 at 1:45. **All are welcome to join us for this very special tradition.**

**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 on Friday, April 13 from 4-7 p.m. and the sale on Saturday, April 14 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. If you would like to donate your gently used items (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: [jdschrempf@verizon.net](mailto:jdschrempf@verizon.net)  
or Marie Myer: [myermarie@yahoo.com](mailto:myermarie@yahoo.com).)

#### Happy New Year ... Happy New Life

**"Let us be renewed by God's mercy...and let us become agents of this mercy, channels through which God can water the earth, protect all creation and make justice and peace flourish."** (Pope Francis).

Though the days of Lent are drawing to a close and we are entering the holiest of weeks, the habits of prayer, fasting and almsgiving need not end. Rather, they can be a source of

spiritual renewal. As we “die to self-centered” behaviors of waste that damage God’s creation, we can instead, as Pope Francis suggests, become “agents” of God’s mercy through prayer, fasting from acts that harm and almsgiving to aid those who bear the cross of homelessness or poverty or hunger or thirst.

Easter is not the end of a journey. It can be the beginning of a new life committed to hearing and responding to the “cry of the poor”, to healing damaged relationships, to caring for God’s gift of the natural world, to speaking up when we see injustice and to giving more than taking.

If your New Year’s goals are long forgotten, consider Easter your “New Year” and build on the habits of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving to have a truly “New Life”.

### Things To Do

- Turn the radio off on the way to work one morning this week and consider what habits of Lent you will continue into the “New Year”.
- Talk with your family about selecting one habit of conservation you can commit to as a group. Maybe it’s simply to “skip the plastic straw” or put a paper recycling bin by your desk at home or participate in the parish TerraCycle project (see the display in the Gathering Hall) or volunteer for a community service group. Whatever it is, it will make the world a better, more merciful and holy place.

## Christian Service

**ST. THOMAS FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION** is set for **THIS WEEKEND**, March 24-25. Donations of non-perishable food and personal care items will be collected. Please check expiration dates when donating. Thank you, and as always, your generosity is appreciated.

## Community

**Senior Luncheon – Faith, Fun, and Food ~ Attention St. Thomas Active Older Adults:** Our March luncheon was a huge success. Thanks to Will Vale for serenading us with his Irish songs. Many thanks for our parishioners who baked delicious brownies and to our wonderful volunteers who helped decorate, set up, serve and clean up after the meal. We would also like to thank everyone who brought in a personal care item for the Bethlehem Food Pantry. Mark your calendar for our next luncheon which will be on Friday, April 20. We will attend mass at 12:15 and 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, April 16.

**Parishioners:** If you like to bake, could you please help out the seniors’ luncheon this month with cupcakes. Contact Steve or Christine Corson at 439-3286 to help with baked goods.

**“FISH FRY DINNER”** proudly presented by the Elsmere Firehouse, Friday, 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.

## Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

### **Annual Collection for the Holy Land on Good Friday ~**

On Good Friday our parish will take up the annual collection for the Holy Land. Your financial contribution helps to support the struggling Catholic Community in the Middle East and protect Christianity’s holiest shrines. Many Christians in the Holy Land depend on this collection for living their faith. Please help by giving to the collection on Good Friday.

**Counters Needed for Easter Collection ~** All “Counters” who are available to count the Easter collection on Tuesday, April 3 at 9 a.m. are asked to sign up at the oval table next to the church foyer. Thanks!

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE March 17-18, 2018

Offertory	\$12,226.68
Offertory from E-Giving (Vanco)	<u>\$1,138.00</u>
Total Offertory Received	\$13,364.68
Tithe from this Offertory	\$668.23

*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 17-18 our collection was \$13,364.87. This was donated by approximately 402 families, which we are able to identify through envelope, check or electronic giving use. This total also included about \$1,677 in loose cash from other donors.*

**Thank you for your generous support of the parish**

## Calendar

Mon	3/26	6:30 pm	Scouts for Religious Emblem Awards	GH
Tue	3/27	7 pm	Finance Committee	PO
Wed	3/28	7 & 7:30 pm	Rehearsal- Holy Thursday and Good Friday Ministers	CH
Thu	3/29	7:00 pm	Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper	CH
Fri	3/30	3 pm	Stations of the Cross	CH
Fri	3/30	7:00 pm	Good Friday Celebration of the Lord’s Passion	CH
Sat	3/31	11 am	Rehearsal for Vigil Mass	CH
Sat	3/31	8 pm	Easter Vigil Mass	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 26 - March 30, 2018*

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>Herbert Leisenfelder</b> <i>The Family</i>
		<b>Richard and Danielle Gomez- Living Intentions</b> <i>Diana Barry</i>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>7:30 am</b>	<b>Mary Ann Krulcik</b> <i>Raymond and Leona Zifzal</i>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>7:30 am</b>	<b>Harold Houck</b> <i>The Family</i>
		<b>Kevin Greagan- Living Intentions</b>
<b>Thur.</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Holy Thursday Mass For The People</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Good Friday Service</b>

### *Next Weekend, March 31-April 1, 2018*

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>8:00 pm</b>	<b>Tony Giordano</b> <i>The Ritz Family</i>
		<b>Maurice Garvey</b> <i>Alan Hughes</i>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>For the People</b>
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Tony Giordano</b> <i>The Ritz Family</i>
		<b>Michael and Gail Dwyer</b> <i>The Family</i>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>George W. Bragle</b> <i>Kathleen Bragle</i>
		<b>Tony Giordano</b> <i>The Ritz Family</i>

### *Scripture Readings: Week of March 25, 2018*

<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>Mk 1:1-10 / Is 50:4-7 / Phil 2:6-11 / Mk 14:1-15:47</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Is 42:1-7 / Jn 12:1-11</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Is 49:1-6 / Jn 13:21-33, 36-38</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Is 50:4-9a / Mt 26:14-25</b>
<b>Holy Thursday</b>	<b>Ex 12:1-8,11-14 / 1 Cor 11:23-26 / Jn13:1-15</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>Is:52:13-53:12 / Heb 4:14-16,5:7-9 / Jn 18:1-19:42</b>
<b>Easter Vigil</b>	<b>Gn 1:1, 26-31a / Gn 22: 1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 / Ex 14:15-15:1 / Is 55:1-11 / Rom 6:3-11 / Mk 16:1-7</b>
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>Acts 10:34a, 37-43 / Col 3:1-4 / Jn 20:1-9</b>