Welcome to Saint Thomas, a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. Our mission is to worship, love and serve Our Lord Jesus Christ through the Anglican tradition and our unique choral heritage.

Please switch off all cellular telephones and pagers.

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 1, 2016

FESTAL EUCHARIST – 11 a.m.

Setting Messe en sol Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)

Prelude Prière, Op. 37 no. 3 Joseph Jongen (1873-1953)

Hymn 180 UNSER HERRSCHER

The Opening Acclamation and the Collect for Purity

Gloria in excelsis

The Lesson Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67 Anglican Chant (Luard Selby)

Sung by the Choir. The People remain seated.

G od be merciful unto us, and bless us,* and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us;

2 That thy way may be known upon earth,* thy saving health among all nations.

3 Let the people praise thee, O God;* yea, let all the people praise thee.

4 O let the nations rejoice and be glad;* for thou shalt judge the folk righteousness, and govern the nations upon earth.

5 Let the people praise thee, O God;* yea, let all the people praise thee.

6 Then shall the earth bring forth her increase;* and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.

7 God shall bless us;* and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,* and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,* world without end. Amen.

The Epistle Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

Hymn 385 DAKOTA INDIAN CHANT

Gospel Alleluia

Please stand. This acclamation heralds the Gospel reading.

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

People Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Choir I am the first and the last says the Lord and the living one.

People I was dead and behold I am alive for evermore.

Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
LIGHT of the World, we know Thy praise,
The angels and archangels raise and all the host of Heaven;
More worthily than our faint hymns,
Whose jarring sound that glory dims,
Which God to Thee has given.
But thou didst not disdain to take our low estate,
or e’en to make the tomb Thy resting place;
So Thou might bring into our night the dawn of Thine eternal Light
To shine upon our face.
Nor death, nor hell, nor sin, is Lord,
But Thou, O Son of God.
Thy Word is now our sovereign law.
Therefore we thank Thee, and we pray
Thy Light may shine unto the Perfect Day,
On us forevermore.

from ‘The Light of Life,’ text by E. Capel-Cure

ETERNAL Light, shine into our hearts,
Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil,
Eternal Power, be our support,
Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance,
Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Alcuin of York

Acknowledgment: Eternal Light. Text: Christopher Idle, © 1982 The Jubilate Group; All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-724712.
We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship thee; the Father everlasting.
To thee all angels cry aloud: the Heavens and all the powers therein.
To thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry,
Holy, Holy, Holy; Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of thy glory.
The glorious company of the Apostles praise thee.
The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise thee.
The noble army of Martyrs praise thee.
The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee;
The Father of an infinite Majesty;
Thine honourable, true and only Son;
Also the Holy Ghost: the Comforter.
Thou art the King of Glory: O Christ.
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.
When thou took'st upon thee to deliver man: thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.
When thou had'st overcome the sharpness of death: thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God: in the Glory of the Father.
We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants: whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy Saints: in glory everlasting.
O Lord, save thy people: and bless thine heritage.
Govern them: and lift them up for ever.
Day by day we magnify thee;
And we worship thy Name ever, world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord: to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us: have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us: as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted: let me never be confounded.

Psalm 150 (Sung by the Choir.)  
Anglican Chant (Talbot)  
Herbert Howells

Voluntary  
Paean, from Six Pieces for Organ  
Herbert Howells

(Music for the Church, 43rd Annual Choirmasters’ Conference, Mr. Andrew Nethsingha, Conductor)
Francis Poulenc (1899-1963) was one of 20th-century France’s most colorful and individual composers. During the First World War he worked as a typist for the Admiralty in Paris and became one of the six French composers (with Honegger, Auric, Tailleferre, Durey and Milhaud) known as Les Six, who rejected the overwhelmingly popular romanticism and impressionism of the day. His music was initially light-hearted and ironic in style, very much the ‘salon’ music of Parisian café culture but the death of a friend in a car accident in 1935 saw Poulenc adopt a new and more profound style. After a deeply-affecting pilgrimage to Rocamadour, Poulenc returned to the Catholic Faith in 1936 and his Mass in G was written in 1937.

In the Sanctus we hear the never-ending hymn of praise in a figure of captivating elegance and charm, concluding with a ‘Hosanna’ of thick chords in gloriously rich harmony. The Agnus Dei sees Poulenc at his most intimate, weaving a solo treble line into a movement of sublime beauty, the top note of the chord on the final ‘Dona nobis pacem’ seeming almost to reach to heaven itself.

The flowers today are offered to the glory of God and in memory of the following: Margaret Crane Hurlbut, Margaret Havens Hurlbut and The Rev’d Leslie John Alden Lang.

‡

Sunday Services: 8, 9, 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.
Monday through Friday Services: 8 a.m., 12:10 and 5:30 p.m.
(The Tuesday 12:10 p.m. Eucharist includes a healing service.)
Saturday Eucharist: 12:10 p.m.

Festal Evensong on Monday, May 2, at 5:30 p.m.
Choral Evensong on Tuesday, May 3, at 5:30 p.m.
Festal Evensong on Wednesday, May 4, at 5:30 p.m.
Sung by The Gentlemen of the Choir
Solemn Eucharist for Ascension Day on Thursday, May 5, at 5:30 p.m.

Monday through Friday at 12 p.m.
Prayers at the Shrine of our Lady of Fifth Avenue
Intercessions may be sent via the website by using the Prayer Request Tab
or by leaving a written request in the box near the Shrine itself.

The clergy are available to hear confessions by appointment.

SUNDAY, MAY 8

11 A.M. FESTAL EUCHARIST
Sermon by Father Spurlock

4 P.M. FESTAL EVENSONG
Sermon by Father Austin

PARISH NOTICES

Please Note: Unauthorized recordings and the taking of unauthorized photographs at SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE are prohibited.

If you are a visitor this morning, we welcome you to Saint Thomas Church and hope that you are with us again soon. We encourage you to complete a Welcome Card which you can find in the narthex at the front of the church.

You are invited to Coffee Hour, which takes place in the parish house living room and dining room following this service. Please don’t hesitate to introduce yourself to members of the Welcome Committee, who will be distributing name tags, or to members of the clergy. Also, if you’d like to hear from us, please sign the Parish Guest Book.
There is a **guided tour** of the church following the voluntary at the end of this service. To join the tour, please meet the tour guide by the gallery stairs in the narthex.

**Nursery:** We welcome our youngest members and guests to Saint Thomas Church. Nursery care is available for infants and young children of parents attending the 9 and 11 a.m. liturgies. If your child would like to attend the nursery, please ask one of our ushers or staff who will kindly direct you. Once at the nursery, parents will be asked to sign their children in and will receive a silent pager for use during the service.

**Sunday School classes meet at 11 a.m.** Children who are in pre-school through sixth grade are invited to attend. You may drop your child off as early as one-half hour prior to the start of class for some preliminary activities. Children will be brought downstairs to church in time to receive communion or a blessing. Inquiries about any of our children's programs may be directed to Father Spurlock or to Sarah Cornwell at scornwell@SaintThomasChurch.org.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry Spring Sale Today:** The Prayer Shawl Ministry will hold its annual Spring Sale on the second floor landing in the parish house during coffee hour. Hand-made things for babies, the kitchen, fashion items and our new, surprise bath addition . . . back scrubbers! How many times have we all wished we had one to use in the bath or shower? Well, come and visit and see them for yourselves. Remember that Mother's Day is just one week away. We'll be happy to help you choose just the right gift for her!

**Episcopal Charities Sunday is May 8:** This year’s collection will support feeding programs in the Diocese of New York. During 2016, Episcopal Charities is providing funding and operational support to 46 parish-sponsored feeding programs. These include community kitchens, food pantries, brown-bag lunch programs and one program that provides meals to housebound neighbors and those with HIV/Aids. Every program is reporting increased demand for its services. In short, the need is great and we are called upon to act. Saint Thomas will be sending the loose plate collection on May 8 to support this program. We invite you to leave a check in the plate made payable to “Episcopal Charities of the Diocese of New York” to add your own support to this worthy cause.

Join us on Friday, May 13, at 7:30 p.m. as **Concerts at Saint Thomas brings the 2015/2016 season to a spectacular close with Music of Bach and Handel.** Hear the world-renowned voices of the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys and guest conductor Daniel Beckwith with the acclaimed period instrument ensemble, Concert Royal, and soloists Yulia Van Doren, Shannon Mercer, Ian Howell, Steven Caldicott Wilson, and Jesse Blumberg in Handel’s Italianate *Dixit Dominus* and Bach’s Cantatas 106 and 11. The program expressively explores themes from death and the old law to paradise and the ascension. Tickets available online at www.SaintThomasChurch.org/music/concerts, by phone at 212.664.9360 or in person in the Concerts Office.

**The Bookstore,** located on the first floor of the parish house, is open following both the 11 a.m. and the 4 p.m. services. New in stock: *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain. Also available: *A Theology in Outline: Can These Bones Live?* by Robert W. Jenson, *The Grantchester Mysteries* by James Runcie, and books by Father Austin and for adult education classes. The Bookstore is also open Monday and Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**The Soup Kitchen** meets every Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the parish house to prepare bag lunches for distribution on foot along eight routes in mid-Manhattan beginning at 11 a.m. Distribution is completed about 12:15 p.m. You are welcome to join this ministry to the homeless. For further information, please contact Frank Reinauer 212.249.4026.
Genesis: Who Are We? In his final Sunday theology class (which begins today and runs through June 19), Father Austin returns to the beginning of the Bible. This class will draw out some fundamental insights concerning being human. Questions will include the origin of “rule,” the place of animals, and the point of the call to Abraham. The class meets on the fifth floor of the parish house at 10 o’clock.

On Mondays at 12:40 p.m., Father Austin will repeat the Sunday class. These Monday classes will run through May 23. This week only, the Monday class will meet on the fifth floor.

This Tuesday, May 3, the Rector’s Christian doctrine class will be on “Death, Judgment, Hell, and Heaven – Mary and the Communion of Saints.” This class is in Andrew Hall at 6:30 p.m.; Father Austin will be leading the class this week.

Friday, May 6, at 12:45 p.m., Father Spurlock continues his Bible study on the second floor of the parish house.

Good Books & Good Talk: On Monday, May 16, Father Austin will lead a discussion of Mark Twain’s Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. The seminar runs from 6:15 to 7:45 p.m., and anyone who reads the book is welcome to the conversation. When Father Austin was at St. John’s College, Huckleberry Finn was the concluding seminar of the four-year course of study in the Great Books.

Thinking Theologically about Love and Disease: a theological lecture. On May 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the church, Father Austin will reflect on the process of writing a theological memoir, Losing Susan, concerning his late wife. He will also read excerpts from that book, and there will be a book signing.

ASSISTING CLERGY
The Reverend Victor Lee Austin, Ph.D., Theologian-in-residence
The Reverend Michael D. Spurlock, M.Div., Associate for Pastoral Care
The Reverend Joel C. Daniels, Ph.D., Associate for Evangelism

STAFF
Benjamin Sheen, Acting Director of Music
Stephen Buzard, Acting Organist
Andrew L. Kimsey, Head Verger
Aaron W. Koch, Assistant Verger
Barbara W. Pettus, Director of Administration and Finance
Ann H. Kaplan, Director of Development
Douglas M. Robbe, Secretary to The Rector

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