

# SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

# in the CITY OF NEW YORK

One West Fifty-third Street New York, New York 10019 Telephone: 212-757-7013 www.SaintThomasChurch.org

Welcome to Saint Thomas Church, 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.

The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, Rector

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**DECEMBER 19, 2021** 

# **SOLEMN EUCHARIST** — 11 a.m. sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

**SETTING** 

Saint Thomas Missa Brevis

Stephen Gauster-Filek

(b. 1970)

**PRELUDE** 

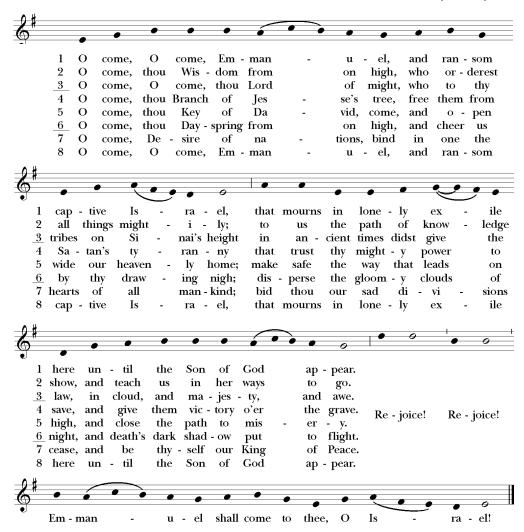
Kyrie, Gott Vater in Ewigkeit, BWV 669

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The People stand at the entry of the Choir. This hymn is sung as the Sacred Ministers go to the altar.

HYMN

#### VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL



#### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

A LMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

#### **KYRIE ELEISON**

Sung by the Choir

CRD, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

#### THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

WE beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

THE LESSON Micah 5:2-5a

The Lector concludes The Word of the Lord. The People respond Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 80:1-7** Sung by the Choir Anglican Chant (Wesley)

#### QUI REGIS ISRAEL

HEAR, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep: shew thyself also, thou that sittest upon the cherubims.

Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasses: stir up thy strength, and come, and help us.

Turn us again, O God: shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

O Lord God of hosts: how long wilt thou be angry with thy people that prayeth?

Thou feedest them with the bread of tears: and givest them plenteousness of tears to drink.

Thou hast made us a very strife unto our neighbours: and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Turn us again, thou God of hosts: shew the light of thy countenance, and we shall be whole.

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 Hebrews 10:5-10

The Subdeacon concludes The Word of the Lord. The People respond Thanks be to God.

The People stand.



Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924) Music: Gabriel's Message, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943) Copyright ©1961, B. Feldman and Co. Ltd., trading as H. Freeman & Co. Reproduced by permission of EMI Music Publishing Ltd., (London). All rights reserved. Used with permission.

# **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

This acclamation heralds the Gospel reading.



People Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Choir Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God:

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

People Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 1:39-55

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke. People



After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.



The People sit.

**SERMON** 

The Rev. Mark Schultz Associate for Pastoral Care

#### THE NICENE CREED

The People stand. It is customary to bow at the underlined words.

BELIEVE in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man: And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures: And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets: And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection of the dead: And the life of the world to come. Amen.

# THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM III)

The Leader says

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, and let us thank God for his mercy.

The People kneel.

Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church; *That we all may be one.* 

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve thee; *That thy Name may be glorified by all people.* 

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; and on this day especially for our twelfth Rector, Andrew Mead, as he celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination to the sacred priesthood. That they may be faithful ministers of thy Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.* 

Give us grace to do thy will in all that we undertake; *That our works may find favor in thy sight.* 

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; *That they may be delivered from their distress.* 

Give to the departed eternal rest; Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise thee for thy saints who have entered into joy; *May we also come to share in thy heavenly kingdom.* 

In a moment of silence, let us bring our own petitions to the Lord.

After a period of silence, the Celebrant concludes with this collect

WE beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts, that we who have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought unto the glory of his resurrection; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* 

#### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

The Celebrant says

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Celebrant and People

A LMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us; the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant says

A LMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

#### THE PEACE

The Celebrant says

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. And with thy spirit.

People

# THE GREETINGS

# THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

# AT THE OFFERTORY, MOTET

Sung by the Choir

Matthew Martin (b. 1976)

A VE, maris stella, Dei Mater alma, atque semper virgo, felix caeli porta.

Solve vincla reis, profer lumen caecis, mala nostra pelle, bona cuncta posce.

Monstra te esse matrem summat per te preces, qui pro nobis natus tulit esse tuus.

Vitam praesta puram, iter para tutum, ut videntes Jesum, semper collaetemur.

Sit laus Deo Patri, summo Christo decus Spiritui Sancto, tribus honor unus. Amen. Hail, star of the sea, loving Mother of God, and also always a virgin, happy gate of heaven.

Break the chains of sinners, bring light to the blind, drive away our evils, ask for all good.

Show yourself to be a mother, may he accept prayers through you, he who, born for us, chose to be yours.

Keep life pure, make the journey safe, so that, seeing Jesus, we may always rejoice together.

Let there be praise to God the Father, glory to Christ in the highest, to the Holy Spirit, one honor to all three. Amen.

### HYMN

### PERSONENT HODIE



#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you. People And with thy spirit. Lift up your hearts. Celebrant

We lift them up unto the Lord. People Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. Celebrant

People It is meet and right so to do.

The Celebrant continues

T is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, 🗘 give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

#### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Sung by the Choir

**OLY**, holy, holy, **▲** Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory, Glory be to Thee, O Lord most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

#### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The People kneel. The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

The People respond AMEN.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Celebrant says

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People

UR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

#### PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Celebrant and People

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

BEHOLD the Lamb of God: behold him that taketh away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

People Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof, but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.

The People remain kneeling until the bell rings.

# AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (for those unable to receive Holy Communion)

**BELIEVE** in thee, O my Jesus, present in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar; I love thee above all things, and I desire to receive thee into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive thee sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace thee, and I unite myself to thee as if thou wast already there.

Never permit me to be separated from thee!

O Lord Jesus Christ, let the sweet and consuming force of thy love absorb my whole soul, that I may die for the love of thee, who wast pleased to die for the love of me. Amen.

#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion. The Sacrament is distributed in one kind only in the Crossing. Gluten free hosts are available; please ask the priest.

# AGNUS DEI

Sung by the Choir

LAMB of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

MOTET

Sung by the Choir

Cristóbal de Morales
(c.1500-1553)

ECCE Virgo concipiet et pariet filium, et vocabitur nomen ejus:
Admirabilis, Deus fortis.
Super solium David, et super regnum ejus sedebit in aeternum.

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called:
Wonderful, mighty God.
Over the throne of David, and over his kingdom, he will reign in eternity.

Isaiah 7:14; Communion Antiphon for Advent IV

#### THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

A LMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

#### THE BLESSING

HYMN

The Celebrant says

MAY the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.* 

ES IST EIN ROS e'er bloom-ing ten - der stem hath sprung! fromsa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose have in mind, Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with fills the sweet - ness air, old of have sung. Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo ther kind. pel in glo-rious splen - dor the dark - ness ery - where; It blos - som bright, mid came, To show God's love a - right, she bore to from God, true sin and man. yet ve ry half spent cold when the night. of win ter. was half spent us Sa vior. when was the night. death now and share our load.

#### THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to prepare the way of the Lord People Thanks be to God.

Johann Sebastian Bach

#### **VOLUNTARY**

# **PARISH NOTICES**

Contributions for Christmas Flower Memorials are now being received in memory of departed loved ones. The names of the faithful departed in whose memory the church will be adorned will be listed in the Christmas service leaflet on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. In order to cover the cost of Christmas flowers, we suggest a minimum donation of \$25 per name. Please send your check, made payable to Saint Thomas Church, and a printed list of those in whose memory you are making your donation to the parish house receptionist. The deadline is **Sunday, December 19**.

Adult Education. At 10 a.m. today, the Reverend Dr. Julie Faith Parker, our guest teacher, concludes her three-session sequence entitled "Three Women and a Little Baby: Advent and Luke 1-2." This session is "Anna and the Power of Vision", and explores, as Dr. Parker writes: "the Old Testament and ahead to the life of Jesus through the lens of prophecy. Who are the women prophets in the Hebrew Bible? How do their experiences lead to Anna's prophetic witness? Anna is an octogenarian. Come and discover what she teaches us about visionary contributions to the life of the Christ child, born of wisdom." You are welcome to join us in person on the Fifth Floor of the Parish House or on Zoom using the link provided in our E-News. There will be no class on December 26 or January 2. It will resume January 9.

Children and Families' Gatherings. Each Sunday begins with a Sung Mass at 9 a.m., which is especially suitable for children. Afterwards, Sunday School is offered for children ages 4 to 11 on the third floor of the Parish House until 10:45 a.m. Nursery care is available from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration for all 2021-22 Children and Family events and programs is essential. You may access the registration form Here. For any the above or to receive our weekly newsletter regarding please ChildrenandFamilies@SaintThomasChurch.org. A quiet Children's area in the Chantry Chapel is also available for parents with their children during the 11 a.m. Mass.

The Noble Singers. Our new children's parish choir for singers ages 5-12, under the Direction of Mrs. Rebecca Kellerman-Filsell, is now underway. Rehearsals take place on Tuesdays at 4-4:45 p.m. and/or Saturdays from 10-10:45 a.m. It's not too late to join us. Registration is currently available online. This FREE music program features the acclaimed RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) Voice for Life curriculum in which choristers will gain different colored ribbons by working towards different assessed levels of music and vocal instruction. Our first official appearance as a choir will be at the Crèche Service on Tuesday, December 21, at 5:30 p.m. Beginning in January 2022, we will start singing weekly at the 9 a.m. service. No audition is necessary, just enthusiasm and a love of music. For more information, contact RKellerman@SaintThomasChurch.org.

Annual Crèche Service on Tuesday, December 21, at 5:30 p.m. Please join us as we mark the approach of Christmas with drama, readings and music led by children for children, culminating in the blessing of our very own Saint Thomas Crèche. This service is especially suited for the young and young at heart, and all visitors are welcome to join the service dressed as their favorite Nativity character. Family members far and wide are also welcome to take part in this year's celebration via the livestream. Music will be led for the first time by our new Children's Choir, *The Noble Singers*, and by our Grade 8 Choristers. We look forward to seeing you!

The Bookstore will be open today, Sunday, December 19, after the 11 a.m. service until 3 p.m., and by appointment at Bookstore@SaintThomasChurch.org. Just in time for the holiday season, CD's featuring the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys are now available on our website or by emailing the Bookstore.

**Friday Bible Study** continues at 1:30 p.m. over Zoom, and runs for about an hour. For more information, please contact Fr. Bennett at **RBennett@SaintThomasChurch.org**.

Christmastide Candles in Memory of Loved Ones. During Christmastide, the time between Christmas Day and New Year's Day, we will light an eight-day candle for your loved one(s), and place it before the Crèche of Saint Thomas Church. Each candle will be affixed with the name you submit. The suggested donation for each eight-day candle is \$25. We also offer a one-day candle, which can be lit at any time during Christmastide, and the names will be added to the prayer list of that day. A candle will be lit at Our Lady of Fifth Avenue. The suggested donation for each one-day candle is \$5.

Welcome the Christmas Season into your home with on-demand performances featuring The Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys. Whether you are re-living these concerts or watching them for the first time, our December livestream concert presentations are available for a limited time only. Don't miss the magic of Christmas at Saint Thomas Church. On-demand tickets are available on our website. Support Concerts at Saint Thomas by becoming a Friend of Music. To make your donation with our team, email Concerts@SaintThomasChurch.org or call 212-664-9360.

# SERVICES THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

# The Church is open for Private Prayer and Visits

Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Proof of vaccination, face masks, hand sanitization and health screening are required for entry.

# **Shrine Prayers (Intercessions)**

Monday - Saturday at 12 p.m. Live audio stream and then on-demand.

Please send your requests for prayers via the website click here or emailed to: prayer@saintthomaschurch.org

# The Daily Eucharist

Monday – Saturday at 12:05 p.m. *Live audio stream and then on-demand.* Thursday at 5:30 p.m. in the Chantry Chapel.

# CHORAL SERVICES THIS WEEK

All choral services are video livestreamed, and, thereafter, available on-demand

# TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

5:30 p.m. The Blessing of the Crèche sung by the Noble Singers

# **▼** FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

# **CHRISTMAS EVE**

# 4 p.m. A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys
Music of Dirksen, Robinson, Ledger, Edwards, M. Martin, Hancock, Pott and Preston
(followed by a short, Said, Vigil Mass in the Chantry Chapel)

10 p.m. (Doors open at 9:30 p.m.) Christmas Music for Strings

# 10:30 p.m. The Solemn Eucharist of the Nativity (Midnight Mass)

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys with Strings Music of Mozart, Hancock, Dirksen and Preston Sermon by The Rector

# **★ SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25**

# **CHRISTMAS DAY**

**9 a.m. Said Eucharist** Sermon by Mo. Turner

# 11 a.m. The Solemn Eucharist of the Nativity

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys Music of Filsell, Dirksen, Bairston, and Ledger Sermon by Fr. Moretz

# **CHORAL SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY**

All choral services are video livestreamed, and, thereafter, available on-demand

# **▼ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26**THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

# 9 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Cantor: Rebecca Kellerman-Filsell
Sermon by The Rector

#### 11 a.m. Festal Eucharist

sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir Sermon by The Rector

#### ASSISTING CLERGY

The Reverend Matthew Moretz, Vicar
and Chief Operating Officer
The Reverend Alison J. Turner,
Associate for Children & Family Ministry
and School Chaplain
The Reverend Mark Schultz,
Associate for Pastoral Care
The Reverend Prisca Lee-Pae,
Associate for Pan-Asian Ministry
The Reverend Ryan Bennett, Assistant Priest

#### **STAFF**

Dr. Jeremy Filsell, Organist and Director of Music
Nicolas Haigh, Associate Organist
Aaron W. Koch, Head Verger
Bruce Smith, Chief Advancement Officer
Adam MacDonald, Director of Development
Blake Martin, Director of Communications
and Digital Production
Lizette Hernandez, Executive Assistant to the Rector

#### SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL

Christopher Seeley, Head of School 202 West 58th Street, New York, NY 10019 Telephone: 212-247-3311 www.ChoirSchool.org admissions@choirschool.org

# HONORARY CLERGY

The Reverend Andrew C. Mead, OBE, DD, Rector Emeritus
The Right Reverend Andrew St. John, Bishop in Residence
The Reverend Dr. Patrick S. Cheng, Theologian in Residence
The Reverend Mark Brown, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Gina Gore, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend David F. Mc Neeley, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend William A. Norgren, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Thomas F. Pike, Honorary Assistant
The Rev. Canon Prof. J. Robert Wright, Honorary Assistant

#### THE VESTRY

The Rector, Chair

Kazie Metzger Harvey, Warden Karen Duncan Christopher M. Haley, Clerk Darren Littlejohn Edith Morrill Lloyd Stanford, Warden Stephen Gauster-Filek Winnie Kung Brett Moore Inge Reist

Gregory Zaffiro, Assistant Treasurer Karl C. Saunders, Treasurer

You may contact the Wardens using this address: Wardens@SaintThomasChurch.org.