

**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](http://www.SaintThomasChurch.org)  
The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022 AT 11 A.M.  
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**THE GREAT LITANY AND SOLEMN EUCHARIST**  
SUNG BY THE SAINT THOMAS CHOIR OF MEN AND BOYS

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.

Contact us: [welcome@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:welcome@saintthomaschurch.org)

*Recording and Photography during the service is not permitted.*

#### **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 Luigi Gioia

*Associate for Adult Education and Formation*

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Nicolas Haigh, *Associate Organist*

Maks Adach, *Associate for Musical Studies and Assistant Organist*

Bruce Smith, *Chief Advancement Officer*

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Lizette Hernandez, *Executive Assistant to the Rector*

#### **SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL**

Christopher Seeley, *Head of School*

202 West 58th Street, New York, NY 10019

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#### **HONORARY CLERGY**

The Reverend Andrew C. Mead, OBE, DD, *Rector Emeritus*

The Right Reverend Andrew R. St. John, DD, *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 Canon Anne Mallonee, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend David F. Mc Neeley, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend Thomas F. Pike, *Honorary Assistant*

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Christopher M. Haley, *Clerk*

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Lloyd G. Stanford, *Warden*

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Brett Moore

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Gregory Zaffiro, *Assistant Treasurer*

Karl C. Saunders, *Treasurer (non-voting member)*

You may contact the Wardens using this address: [Wardens@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:Wardens@SaintThomasChurch.org).

# ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORDINARY OF THE MASS

Missa de Angelis

*Plainsong*

*The People stand at the entry of the Choir and Ministers.*

THE GREAT LITANY

*Henry Loosemore*  
(fl. 1627-1670)

**O** GOD the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

Saint Mary, Mother of God our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
*Pray for us.*

All holy Angels and Archangels, and all holy orders of blessed spirits,  
*Pray for us.*

All holy Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles and Martyrs; and all the blessed company of heaven,  
*Pray for us.*

Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers; neither take thou vengeance of our sins: spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us for ever.  
*Spare us, good Lord.*

From all evil and mischief; from sin, from the crafts and assaults of the devil; from thy wrath, and from everlasting damnation,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vain-glory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine; from battle and murder, and from sudden death,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all sedition, privy conspiracy, and rebellion; from all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and Commandment,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and Circumcision; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

By thine Agony and bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church universal in the right way;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee so to rule the heart of thy servant, The President of the United States, that he may above all things seek thy honour and glory;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to bless and preserve all Christian Rulers and Magistrates, giving them grace to execute justice, and to maintain truth;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to illuminate all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living they may set it forth, and show it accordingly;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to send forth labourers into thy harvest;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give us an heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give all thy people increase of grace to hear meekly thy Word, and to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; and to comfort and help the weak-hearted; and to raise up them that fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to succour, help, and comfort, all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to preserve all that travel by land, by water, or by air; all women in childbirth, all sick persons, and young children; and to shew thy pity upon prisoners and captives;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to defend, and provide for, the fatherless children, and widows, and all that are desolate and oppressed;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all men;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth, so as in due time we may enjoy them;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, Blessed Michael the Archangel, Blessed John the Baptist, the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, Blessed Thomas our Patron, and all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

Son of God: we beseech thee to hear us.

*Son of God: we beseech thee to hear us.*

O Lamb of God: that takest away the sins of the world;

*Grant us thy peace.*

O Lamb of God: that takest away the sins of the world;

*Have mercy upon us.*

O Christ, hear us.

*O Christ, hear us.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Christ, have mercy upon us.

*Christ, 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.

**A**LMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The People sit.*

#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

##### THE LESSON

Isaiah 2:1-5

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

LAETATUS SUM

**I** WAS glad when they said unto me : we will go into the house of the Lord.  
 Our feet shall stand in thy gates : O Jerusalem.  
 Jerusalem is built as a city : that is at unity in itself.  
 For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord :  
 to testify unto Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord.  
 For there is the seat of judgement : even the seat of the house of David.  
 O pray for the peace of Jerusalem : they shall prosper that love thee.  
 Peace be within thy walls : and plenteousness within thy palaces.  
 For my brethren and companions' sakes : I will wish thee prosperity.  
 Yea, because of the house of the Lord our God : I will seek to do thee good.  
 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

Romans 13:11-14

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

*The People stand.*

HYMN

BRISTOL

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior  
 2 He comes, the pri - soners to re - lease in Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -  
 bond - age held; the gates of brass be -  
 soul to cure; and with the trea - sures  
 shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.  
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751). Music: *Bristol*, from *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1621.

*Cantor* *People*

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. \_\_\_\_\_

*Cantor* 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*

Al - le - lu - ia. \_\_\_\_\_

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.

*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

*After the Gospel, the Deacon says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Luigi Gioia  
*Associate for Adult Education and Formation*

*A period of silent reflection may follow the sermon.*

## THE NICENE CREED

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

**I 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 PEACE

*The Celebrant says*

**I**N 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.

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

## THE GREETINGS

### THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

AT THE OFFERTORY, MOTET

*Sung by the Choir*

*William Byrd*  
(c. 1540-1623)

**V**IGILATE, nescitis enim quando dominus domus veniat,  
sero, an media nocte, an gallicantu, an mane.  
Vigilate ergo, ne cum venerit repente, inveniatur vos dormientes.  
Quod autem dico vobis, omnibus dico: vigilate.

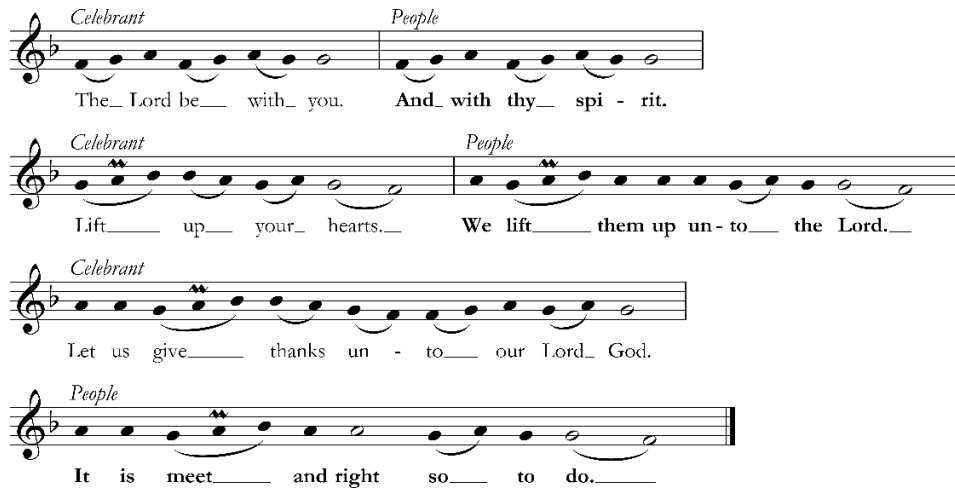
*Watch ye therefore: for you know not when the master of the house cometh,  
at even, or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning:  
lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.  
And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.*

*Mark 13:35-37*

*The People stand.*



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



*Celebrant*                      *People*  
The Lord be with you.      And with thy spirit.  
*Celebrant*                      *People*  
Lift up your hearts.      We lift them up unto the Lord.  
*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
*People*  
It is meet and right so to do.

*The Celebrant continues*

**I**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*

**S**ANCTUS, Sanctus, Sanctus  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt caeli et terra Gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

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

Benedictus qui venit  
in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

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

*The People kneel or stand.*

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes*

By whom, and with whom, and in 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*

**O**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.

## AGNUS DEI

*Sung by the Choir*

**A**GNUS Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona nobis pacem.

*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.*

## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

*Celebrant and People*

**W**E 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

*The Celebrant says*

**B**EHOLD 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 shouldst 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)*

**I** 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 at the Crossing. Intinction is not permitted.  
You are welcome to receive in one kind only. Gluten free hosts are available - please ask the priest.*

**MOTET**

*Sung by the Choir*

*Paul Trepte  
(b. 1954)*

**D**ROP down, ye heavens from above,  
and let the skies pour down righteousness.

Be not wroth very sore, O Lord,  
neither remember iniquity for ever:  
thy holy cities are a wilderness,  
Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:  
Our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee.

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing,  
and we all do fade as a leaf:  
and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away;  
thou hast hid thy face from us:  
and consumed us, because of our iniquities.

Behold, O Lord, the affliction of thy people,  
and send forth the Lamb, the ruler of the earth  
from Petra of the desert to the mount of the daughter of Sion:  
that he may take away the yoke of our captivity.

Comfort ye, my people,  
my salvation will not tarry:  
why wilt thou waste away in sadness?  
Why hath sorrow seized thee?  
Fear not, for I will save thee: for I am the Lord thy God,  
the holy one of Israel, thy Redeemer.

*The Advent Prose*

## THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*The Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*The People kneel and silence is kept.*

*Celebrant and People*

**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 SOLEMN BLESSING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*The Celebrant says*

**M**AY Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

1. Wake, O wake! with ti - dings thrill - ing The watch men all the  
2. Si - on hears the watch - men shou - ting, Her heart leaps up with  
3. Ev - ery soul in thee re - joi - ces; From men and from an -  
air are fill - ing, A - rise, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!  
joy un - doubt - ing, She stands and waits with ea - ger eyes;  
ge - lic voi - ces Be glo - ry giv'n to thee a - lone!

Mid - night strikes! no more de - lay - ing, 'The hour has come!' we  
See her Friend from heav'n des - cen - ding, A - dorned with truth and  
Now the gates of pearl re - ceive us, Thy pres - ence ne - ver  
hear them say - ing. Where are ye all, ye vir - gins wise?  
grace un - en - ding! Her light burns clear, her star doth rise.  
moreshall leave us, We stand with An - gels round thy throne.

The Bride - groom comes in sight, Raise  
Now come, thou pre - cious Crown, Lord  
Earth can - not give be - low The

high your tor - ches bright! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Je - su, God's own Son! Ho - san - na!  
bliss thou dost be - stow. Al - le - lu - ia!

The wed - ding song Swells loud and strong:  
Let us pre - pare To fol - low there,  
Grant us to raise, To length of days,

Go forth and join the fes - tal throng.  
Where in thy sup - per we may share.  
The tri - umph - cho - rus of thy praise.

## THE DISMISSAL

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

## VOLUNTARY

Wachet Auf, ruft uns die Stimme, Op. 67 no. XLI

*Max Reger*  
(1873-1916)



The flowers today are offered to the glory of God and in memory of the following:  
*Helen Green Battle, Arthur Trumbull Hill, Margaret Crane Hurlbut, and Linda Griffith Vorsanger*

Please join us for Coffee Hour in the Narthex after the service.

## WORSHIP THIS WEEK

\* indicates livestreamed.

### Today

#### 4 p.m. An Advent Procession\*

*sung by the Choir of Men and Boys*

### Monday - Saturday

#### 12 p.m. Shrine Prayers and Holy Eucharist\*

### Tuesday

#### 5:30 p.m. An Advent Procession\*

*sung by the Choir of Men and Boys*

### Saturday

**11-11:45 a.m.** Confessions, Spiritual Advice,  
Ministry of Healing in the Resurrection Chapel  
*Confessor: Mother Lee-Pae*

**11:30 a.m.** Rosary at the Shrine of our Lady of  
Fifth Avenue\*

### Next Sunday: December 4, The Second Sunday of Advent

#### 7:45 a.m. Said Mass

#### 9 a.m. Sung Mass

*especially suitable for Children and Families  
followed by Coffee Hour in the Parish House*

#### 11 a.m. Solemn Eucharist\*

*sung by the Choir of Men and Boys*  
Sermon by The Rt. Rev. Dorsey McConnell,  
8<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Pittsburgh, Retired

#### 4 p.m. Solemn Evensong\*

*sung by the Choir of Men and Boys*  
Sermon by Mother Turner  
*Followed by an organ recital by Amelie Held,  
New York, NY*

## ANNUAL VESTRY ELECTIONS

The Annual Election for the Vestry of Saint Thomas Church will be held on November 29, 2022. The following parishioners are standing for election: As Warden, Gregory Zaffiro; and for the Vestry, Samyel Lee, John G. Oghia, Benita Potters, and Karl C. Saunders. The by-laws of the parish define those eligible to vote as follows: "Persons of full age belonging to the Parish, who have been baptized and are regular attendants at its worship and contributors to its support for at least twelve months prior to such election or special meeting, shall be qualified voters at any such election or special meeting." Ballots have been mailed electronically, mailed via USPS to those without online access, and will also be available at the reception desk of Saint Thomas Church (1 West 53rd St.)

If you have not received a ballot and are a qualified voter, please contact Lizette Hernandez at [\(212\) 757-7013](tel:2127577013).

## PARISH NOTICES

**Saint Thomas Church Tours** are available on Sundays after the 11 a.m. service. It is a great way to experience and learn about the church. Tours generally last an hour and 15 minutes. If you are interested, please meet the Tour Guide on the south side of the Narthex near the "Tour Guide – Meet Here" sign.

The **Bookstore and Giftshop** is open following the 11 am Mass until 3 p.m. Please access the shop via the Parish House entrance round the corner at 1 West 53<sup>rd</sup> Street where you will find a wide selection of books for Advent & Christmas, Advent Calendars, Christmas cards, Choir Boy Ornaments, and CDs.

**Weekly Bible Study on Fridays at 1 p.m.** Fr. Schultz leads a series of sessions that will serve as a deep dive into the Gospel of John. Join us as we continue our exploration of the Book of Signs (John 1:18 through chapter 12). For more information, please contact Fr. Schultz at [MSchultz@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:MSchultz@SaintThomasChurch.org).

**Angel Tree 2022:** It's time for the Saint Thomas community to open our hearts to the children of Saint Ann's Episcopal Church in the Bronx and to children staying with their mothers in a temporary shelter for survivors of domestic abuse. To make a monetary donation to this initiative, which is so vital to these children and their families, or for more details, visit our website or contact Linda Morfi: [lmorfi@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:lmorfi@SaintThomasChurch.org).

**Children and Families: Join us** throughout **Advent** as we gather to learn more about this special season of waiting and preparing for Jesus. This Sunday at 10 a.m. in the Parish House, families are welcome to participate in our Annual Family Advent Wreath making. Candles and rings will be provided. Please bring greenery and decorations. **Sign up** for our weekly newsletter, with details of Advent and Christmas outreach, services and activities, including our Blessing of The Creche service, December 17 at 4 p.m.  
[Childrenandfamilies@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:Childrenandfamilies@saintthomaschurch.org)

**Concerts at Saint Thomas** is pleased to announce that an annual tradition returns on Tuesday, December 6 and Thursday, December 8 at 7:30pm ET as **New York Baroque Incorporated** joins the **Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys** and soloists for 2 performances of Handel's *Messiah*. On Thursday, December 15, another holiday favorite returns as the **Boys of the Saint Thomas Choir**, along with harpist Bridget Kibbey, present *Christmas on Fifth Avenue*, an hour long concert in celebration of the Christmas Season. Please [visit our website](#) for tickets and more information. Support Concerts at Saint Thomas by becoming a **Friend of Music**. To make your donation with our team, email [concerts@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:concerts@saintthomaschurch.org) or call 212-664-9360.

**The Noble Singers**, our children's parish choir for singers ages 5-12, under the Direction of Mrs. Rebecca Kellerman-Filsell, sings at the 9 a.m. Mass on Sundays during the program year. We welcome new singers at any time! No audition is necessary, just enthusiasm and a love of music. For more information, and to register your singer for the Fall Term, contact [RKellerman@SaintThomasChurch.org](mailto:RKellerman@SaintThomasChurch.org).

We have launched our **2023 Annual Appeal: Invitation, Community, Discipleship**. You can make a pledge via the QR code below to be taken to the website or email [giving@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:giving@saintthomaschurch.org). Every pledge makes a difference.

