

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, DECEMBER 10, 2023 AT 11 A.M.  
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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



STC  
200

**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)**

*Please do not take photographs or videos, or make recordings during the service.*

**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 Dr. Luigi Gioia  
*Theologian in Residence*

**STAFF**

Dr. Jeremy Filsell, *Organist and Director of Music*  
Nicolas Haigh, *Associate Organist*  
Maks Adach, *Associate for Musical Studies and Assistant Organist*  
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*  
David Bryan, *Head Verger*

**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 Mark Brown, *Honorary Assistant*  
The Reverend Gina Gore, *Honorary Assistant*  
The Reverend Canon Anne Mallonee, *Honorary Assistant*  
The Reverend Stephen Morris, *Honorary Assistant*  
The Reverend David F. Mc Neeley, *Honorary Assistant*  
The Reverend Thomas F. Pike, *Honorary Assistant*

**THE LAY MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY**

Lloyd G. Stanford, *Warden*  
Karen Duncan  
Christopher M. Haley, *Clerk*  
Darren Littlejohn  
Winnie Kung

Gregory Zaffiro, *Warden*  
Samuel Lee  
John G. Oghia  
Benita Potters  
Inge Reist  
Karl C. Saunders, *Treasurer*

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

**THE ORDINARY OF THE MASS**

Missa Brevis

Andrea Gabrieli  
(c. 1532-1585)**PRELUDE**

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)**THE GREETINGS***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.

**M**ERCIFUL God, who didst send thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The People sit.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

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

PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13

*Sung by the Choir*

Anglican Chant (*Ives*)

BENEDIXISTI, DOMINE

**L**ORD, thou art become gracious unto thy land:  
thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.  
Thou hast forgiven the offence of thy people : and covered all their sins.  
I will hearken what the Lord God will say concerning me :  
for he shall speak peace unto his people, and to his saints, that they turn not again.  
For his salvation is nigh them that fear him : that glory may dwell in our land.  
Mercy and truth are met together : righteousness and peace have kissed each other.  
Truth shall flourish out of the earth : and righteousness hath looked down from heaven.  
Yea, the Lord shall shew loving-kindness : and our land shall give her increase.  
Righteousness shall go before him : and he shall direct his going in the way.  
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

2 Peter 3:8-15a

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

*The People stand.*



HYMN

WINCHESTER NEW

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make  
3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our  
4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and  
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -  
3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we  
4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy  
5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.  
2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.  
3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.  
5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry*, #76 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt. Music: Winchester New, melody from *Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

Mark 1:1-8

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



After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

The Rev. Alison J. Turner  
*Associate for Children & Family Ministry and School Chaplain*

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

THE NICENE CREED

*Said by all, standing. 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.

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

*The People offer one another a sign of peace.*

*The Celebrant says the Offertory Sentence, and the People sit.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM

*Sung by the Choir*

*Joel Martinson  
(b. 1960)*

**O**COME, O Dayspring, from on high and cheer us by your drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night; and death's dark shadow put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of humankind;  
O bid our sad divisions cease, and be for us our King of peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*9th Century Latin Hymn, tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)*



*Please scan this QR code if you wish to give online from your mobile device or text **Give** to 855-938-2085.*

*The People stand.*



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant* *People*  
The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.

*Celebrant* *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.

*People*  
It is meet and right so to do.

*The Celebrant continues*

IT 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

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

Benedictus qui venit  
in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

*The People kneel or stand.*

Holy, 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 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*

OUR 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

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then is said*

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

*People* There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

## 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

*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 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

**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 (dipping the host in the chalice) is not permitted.*

*You are welcome to receive in one kind only. Gluten free hosts are available - please ask the priest.*

MIDDLE VOLUNTARY

Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam, BuxWV 180

Dieterich Buxtehude  
(1637-1707)

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 on us.*

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

MOTET

Robert W. Lehman  
(b. 1960)

**T**HE last and greatest herald of Heaven's King girt in rough skins, hies to the deserts wild.  
Among the savage brood the woods forth bring, which he more harmless found that man,  
and mild. His food was locusts, and what there doth spring, with honey that from virgin hives  
distilled: parched body, some uncouth thing made him appear long since from earth exiled.  
There burst he forth: 'All ye whose hopes rely on God, with me amidst these deserts mourn.  
Repent! Repent! And from old errors turn!' Who listened to his voice, obeyed his cry?  
Only the echoes which he made relent, ring from their flinty caves. 'Repent! Repent!'

*William Drummond of Hawthornden (1585-1649)*



*After Communion, silence is kept for a while.*

#### 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 BLESSING

*The Celebrant says*

**M**AY 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.**



HYMN

ST. STEPHEN

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and  
2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to  
3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and  
4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by  
5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the  
2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry  
3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing  
4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph  
5 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.  
3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;  
4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.  
5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

*The King shall come when morning dawns*, #73 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Greek; tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925), alt.  
Music: St. Stephen, William Jones (1726-1800), alt.

THE DISMISSAL

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

VOLUNTARY

Contrapunctus I from *Die Kunst der Fugue*, BWV 1080

Johann Sebastian Bach

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



The flowers today are offered to the glory of God and in memory of the following:  
*Mrs. Robert L. Dodge, Margaret Crane Hurlbut, Dr. Lewis Rutherford Morris, and Harold V. Smith*

## WORSHIP THIS WEEK

\* indicates livestreamed.

### Today

#### **1:30 p.m. Korean Holy Eucharist\***

Sermon by Mo. Lee-Pae

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

*sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys*

Sermon by Fr. Moretz

#### **5:15 p.m. Organ Recital**

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

### Monday - Saturday

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

### Tuesday - Our Lady of Guadalupe

#### **5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong\***

*sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys*

### Wednesday - Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse, 304

#### **5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong\***

*sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir*

### Thursday - John of the Cross, Mystic, 1591

#### **5:30 p.m. Concert: Christmas on Fifth Avenue**

*The Boys of Saint Thomas Choir, with The Juilliard Music  
Advancement Program String Ensemble*

### Saturday

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

#### **4 p.m. The Blessing of the Crèche**

A service for children and their families

*sung by the Noble Singers*

### Next Sunday: December 17,

#### **The Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)**

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

#### **9 a.m. Sung Mass**

*followed by Coffee Hour in the Parish House*

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

*sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys*

Sermon by Fr. Schultz

#### **12:30 p.m. Christmas Carols**

Sung from the historic 5th Avenue staircase of the church, immediately following the 11 a.m. Mass

*sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys*

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

*sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys*  
featuring works of French, M. Martin, Latona,  
Wilcox, Moore, Rutter, and Chilcott

## PARISH NOTICES

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

Our Parish **Bookstore and Gift Shop** is temporarily closed as it is being relocated to part of the Narthex nearest the Chantry Chapel. If you have any questions, please reach out to [giftshop@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:giftshop@saintthomaschurch.org).

**The Saint Thomas Theological Education Program**, rooted in Scripture, tradition, and spirituality, is for those who seek a deeper understanding of faith, worship and prayer. Lecturers are The Rev. Dr. Luigi Gioia, Theologian in Residence, and internationally renowned guest speakers committed to making theology accessible to non-specialists. Classes are held Sundays at 10am on the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Parish House and are streamed online. For more info, contact Fr. Luigi Gioia: [lgioia@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:lgioia@saintthomaschurch.org).

**Children and Family Ministries:** Following on from the Feast of Saint Nicholas (December 6), today we look forward to greeting our first Child Bishop at the 9am Mass and welcoming back a familiar Saint to Sunday School at 10am in the Parish House. This Sunday, the Nursery continues to be available for the sole use of babies and toddlers with their parents/caregivers, from 9am-1pm in the Parish House, 3rd floor. To receive our Children and Families weekly newsletter, to participate in our Creche Service on Saturday, December 16 at 4pm or to register your interest in any of our other Advent and Christmas events, please contact [childrenandfamilies@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:childrenandfamilies@saintthomaschurch.org).

**Weekly Bible Study on Fridays at 1pm.** 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). *(Please note that the weekly Bible Study is on hiatus until January 12.)*

**Saint Thomas Choir School** exists to nurture and educate the boy choristers of the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys. Talented students in grades 3-8 come from all over the country to sing, study, play, perform, and live together. If you know a boy who loves to sing, encourage his family to contact Nora Thomson: [nthomson@choirschool.org](mailto:nthomson@choirschool.org).

**The Noble Singers**, our children's parish choir for singers ages 5-14, under the Direction of Mrs. Rebecca Kellerman-Filsell, has resumed weekly rehearsals and singing at the 9am Mass. We welcome new singers at any time. No audition is necessary, just enthusiasm and a love of music! For more info, contact [rkellerman@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:rkellerman@saintthomaschurch.org).

**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 TOMORROW, Monday, December 11.

On Thanksgiving Day our **Angel Tree** was revealed. There are tags on the tree for children from St. Ann's Episcopal Church and Safe Horizons shelter as well as some of the migrant children known to the Ecumenical Outreach Partnership. We hope you will take a tag, and ask you to bring the requested gift to STC before December 19. Would you like to help wrap gifts, decorate the Angel Tree or make tags for the Angel Tree? Please volunteer by contacting Linda Morfi: [lmorfi@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:lmorfi@saintthomaschurch.org).