

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 31, 2023 AT 11 A.M.  
THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

FESTAL EUCHARIST  
SUNG BY THE GENTLEMEN OF THE CHOIR



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  
Telephone: 212-247-3311  
[www.ChoirSchool.org](http://www.ChoirSchool.org)  
email: [admissions@choirschool.org](mailto:admissions@choirschool.org)

**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).



STC  
200

*God's Love at the Heart of New York*

THE ORDINARY OF THE MASS

Missa de Beata Virgine

Francisco Guerrero  
(1528-1599)

PRELUDE

Das alte Jahr vergangen ist, BWV 614

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

THE GREETINGS

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

HYMN

ST. LOUIS

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,  
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,  
5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;  
5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!  
3 No car may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,  
5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.  
3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.  
5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

*O little town of Bethlehem*, #79 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893).  
Music: St. Louis, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908).

### THE PENITENTIAL ORDER

Celebrant Bless-ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ev - er. A - men.

*The Celebrant says*

**H**EAR the words of the angel to Joseph: “You shall call his name Jesus,  
for he will save his people from their sins!  
Therefore let us seek the forgiveness of God through Jesus the Savior of the world.”

*The People kneel. Silence is kept.*

*Celebrant and People*

**A**LMIGHTY and most merciful father,  
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,  
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,  
we have offended against thy holy laws,  
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,  
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.  
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
spare thou those who confess their faults,  
restore thou those who are penitent,  
according to thy promises declared unto mankind  
in Christ Jesus our Lord;  
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,  
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,  
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

*The Celebrant says*

**T**HE Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins,  
true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



*The People stand.*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

*Sung by the Choir*

**G**LORIA in excelsis Deo,  
et in terra pax  
hominibus bonæ voluntatis.  
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,  
adoramus te, glorificamus te.  
Gratias agimus tibi  
propter magnam gloriam tuam.  
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,  
Deus Pater omnipotens.  
Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe.  
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,  
Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis.  
Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
suscipe deprecationem nostram.  
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,  
miserere nobis.  
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,  
tu solus Dominus,  
tu solus altissimus Jesu Christe.  
Cum Sancto Spiritu  
in Gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace,  
good will towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee, we glorify thee.  
We give thanks to thee  
for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King,  
God the Father almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God,  
Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.  
For thou only art holy;  
thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ.  
With the Holy Ghost, art most high  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word:  
Grant that the same light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives;  
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 People sit.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LESSON

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

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



PSALM 147:12-20

Sung by the Choir

Plainsong (Tone VIII<sup>1</sup>)

LAUDATE, DOMINUM

**P**RAISE the Lord, O Jerusalem : praise thy God, O Sion.  
For he hath made fast the bars of thy gates : and hath blessed thy children within thee.  
He maketh peace in thy borders : and filleth thee with the flour of wheat.  
He sendeth forth his commandment upon earth : and his word runneth very swiftly.  
He giveth snow like wool : and scattereth the hoar-frost like ashes.  
He casteth forth his ice like morsels : who is able to abide his frost?  
He sendeth out his word, and melteth them : he bloweth with his wind, and the waters flow.  
He sheweth his word unto Jacob : his statutes and ordinances unto Israel.  
He hath not dealt so with any nation : neither have the heathen knowledge of his laws.  
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

Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7

*The Subdeacon concludes* The Word of the Lord.

*The People respond* Thanks be to God.

*The People stand.*

HYMN

CAROL

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that  
2 Still through the clov - en skies they come with  
3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the  
4 For lo! the days are haste - ning on, by  
glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing  
peace - ful wings un - furled, and still their heaven - ly  
world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly  
pro - phets seen of old, when with the ev - er -  
near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;  
hymn have rolled thou - sand years of wrong;  
cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from  
a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they  
and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the  
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its

heaven's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn  
bend on hov - ering wing, and ev - er o'er its  
tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and  
an - cient splen - dors fling, and all the world give

still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!  
back the song which now the an - gels sing.

*It came upon the midnight clear*, #89 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876), alt.  
Music: Carol, Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900).

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Cantor* *People*

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Cantor* The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us: and we beheld his glory,  
the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

*People*

Al - le - lu - ia.



THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1-18

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



After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Luigi Gioia  
*Theologian in Residence*

*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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM III)

*The Celebrant says*

**L**ET us pray for the Church and for the world, and let us thank God for his goodness.

*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;  
**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*

**G**RANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we who celebrate with reverence the Paschal feast may be found worthy to attain to everlasting joys; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The People stand.*



THE PEACE

*The Celebrant says*

UNTO us a child is born, unto us a son is given,  
and his name shall be called the Prince 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*

*Heinrich Schütz*  
(1585-1672)

JUBILATE Deo in chordis et organo, in tympano et choro.  
Cantate et exultate et psallite sapienter. Alleluja.

*Rejoice in God with strings and organ, with drum and in chorus.*  
*Sing and rejoice and sing psalms as well as you know how. Alleluia.*

*Paraphrase of Psalm 98:4*

HYMN

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

1 Un - to us a boy is born! The King of all cre -  
2 Cra - dled in a stall was he with sleep - y cows and  
3 He - rod then with fear was filled; "A prince," he said, "in  
4 Now may Ma - ry's son, who came so long a - go to  
\*5 Un - to us a boy is born! The King of all cre -

1 a - tion, came he to a world for - lorn, the  
2 ass - es; but the ve - ry beasts could see that  
3 Jew - ry!" All the lit - tle boys he killed at  
4 love us, lead us all with hearts a - flame un -  
5 a - tion, came he to a world for - lorn, the

1 Lord of ev - ery na - - - - - tion.  
2 he all men sur - pass - - - - - es.  
3 Beth - lehem in his fu - - - - - ry.  
4 to the joys a - bove - - - - - us.  
5 Lord of ev - ery na - - - - - tion.



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*

**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 give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

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

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

Benedictus qui venit  
in nomine Domini.  
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.*

*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

*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.

## 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.*

#### 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.*

#### ANTHEM

*Adrien Willaert  
(c. 1490-1562)*

**O** MAGNUM mysterium  
et admirabile sacramentum,  
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum  
jacentem in praeseptio.  
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt  
portare Dominum Jesum Christum.  
Ave Maria, gratia plena: Dominus tecum.

*O great mystery  
and wonderful sacrament,  
that animals should see the new-born Lord  
lying in a manger!  
Blessed is the Virgin, whose womb  
was worthy to bear Christ the Lord.  
Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.*

*Responsory for Matins on Christmas Day*

*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 Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

HYMN

IN DULCI JUBILO

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.



*Good Christian friends, rejoice*, #107 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.  
Music: *In dulci jubilo*, German carol, 14th cent.; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944).

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon      Go in the light and peace of Christ.  
People      Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

In dulci Jubilo, BWV 729

Johann Sebastian Bach

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



PILGRIMS' COURSE 2024



Want to know more about the Christian Faith?

Want to be baptized or confirmed?

Want to become a member of Saint Thomas Church?

The Pilgrims' Course explores the Christian Faith as the Episcopal Church has received it, and as Saint Thomas expresses it through its mission to worship, love, and serve our Lord Jesus Christ through the Anglican Tradition and our unique choral heritage. Classes are open to all and, each year, a number of parishioners attend to refresh their faith and support those who are new to the faith or to our community. The first class will commence on Wednesday, January 17. A simple hot meal is available at 6:30pm, and the class runs from 7-8pm. Classes are hybrid, so if you cannot be present in-person, you can join us on-line.

To register please email: [pilgrims@saintthomaschurch.org](mailto:pilgrims@saintthomaschurch.org)



The flowers today are offered to the glory of God and in memory of the following:

Charles A. Gould, Margaret Crane Hurlbut, and Albion E. Metcalf



## WORSHIP THIS WEEK

\* indicates livestreamed.

**Monday - Saturday**

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

**Saturday**

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

*Confessor: Fr. Morris*

**11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. The Rosary at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fifth Avenue**

**Next Sunday: January 7, The Feast of the Epiphany**

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

**9 a.m. Sung Mass**

*followed by Coffee Hour in the Parish House*

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

*sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir*

*Sermon by St. Monica Clare, CSJB*

**4 p.m. Solemn Evensong and Benediction\***

*sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir*

## 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. *Note: there is no tour today.*

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). *(Please note the class is on hiatus until January 7.)*

**Children and Family Ministries:** Sunday School will resume with an Epiphany Family Feast on Sunday, January 7 at 10am in the Parish House. The Nursery continues to be available for the sole use of babies and toddlers with their parents/caregivers, from 9am-1pm on Sundays in the Parish House, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. To receive our CFM newsletter, 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.)*

All are invited to **A Manhattan Regional Gathering** with Bishops Dietsche and Heyd on Thursday, January 11, 2024. Light Refreshments from 6pm - 7pm, followed by a Service of Song and Celebration from 7pm - 8pm. Location: St. George's Church, 7 Rutherford Place, NYC. For details and to RSVP, please visit the Episcopal Diocese website: [diocesenyc.org/ednyevent/regional-gathering-manhattan/](https://diocesenyc.org/ednyevent/regional-gathering-manhattan/)

For the second year in a row, Saint Thomas Choir School is partnering with **Rise Against Hunger** to host a Meal-Packaging Event on MLK Jr. National Day of Service. Rise Against Hunger is a US-based non-profit that works to help achieve the UN Sustainable Goal #2 of zero hunger. Last year we packaged 12,096 meals. This year, with your help, we hope to package 20,000 meals. Please join us if you are able on January 15 from 9:45 am-12 pm to help us reach our goal. To register, please contact Lissy Hodge at [lhodge@choirschool.org](mailto:lhodge@choirschool.org). We hope to see you there!