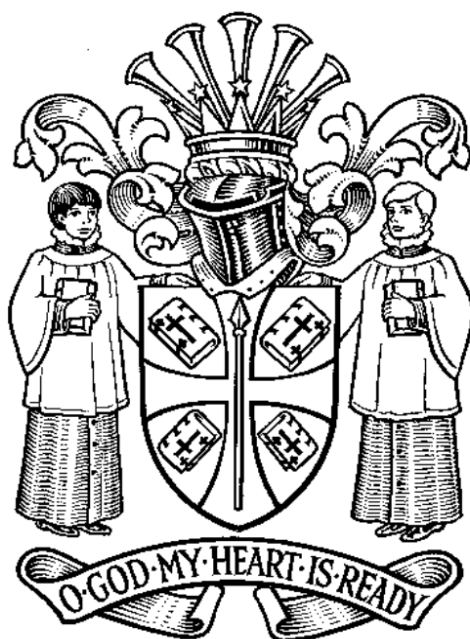


SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE
in the
CITY OF NEW YORK



One West Fifty-third Street
New York, New York 10019
Telephone: 212-757-7013
www.SaintThomasChurch.org
The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024 AT 11 A.M.
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE)

FESTAL 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

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
The Reverend Preston Gonzalez-Grissom
Assistant Priest for Children and Family Ministry

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
email: 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 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.



THE ORDINARY OF THE MASS

Saint Thomas Missa Brevis

Philip Moore
(b. 1943)

PRELUDE

Nun komm der heiden heiland, BWV 660

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

THE GREETINGS

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

HYMN

MERTON

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing; "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak-ened by the sol-emn warn-ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex-pect-ed, comes with par-don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo-ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon-or, glo-ry, might, and bless-ing to the Fa-ther and the Son,

1 "Cast a-way the works of dark-ness, O ye child-ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis-pel-ling, shines up-on the morn-ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor-row, one and all to be for-given;
4 may he with his mer-cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev-er-last-ing Spi-rit while un-end-ing a-ges run.

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding, #59 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.;
tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861, alt. Music: Merton, William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

THE PENITENTIAL ORDER

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

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

The Celebrant says

BREAK forth together in singing you waste places of Jerusalem;
For the Lord hath comforted his people. (*Isaiah 52:9*)

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.



The People kneel. Silence is kept.

Celebrant and People

ALmighty 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

THE 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.**

KYRIE ELEISON

Sung by the Choir

KYRIE eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, 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.

STIR up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us;
and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins,
let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

The People sit.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 146:4-10

Sung by the Choir

Anglican Chant (Lane)

LAUDA, ANIMA MEA

BLESSED is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help :
and whose hope is in the Lord his God;
Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that therein is : who keepeth his promise for ever;
Who helpeth them to right that suffer wrong : who feedeth the hungry.
The Lord looseth men out of prison : the Lord giveth sight to the blind.
The Lord helpeth them that are fallen : the Lord careth for the righteous.
The Lord careth for the strangers, he defendeth the fatherless and widow :
as for the way of the ungodly, he turneth it upside down.
The Lord thy God, O Sion, shall be King for evermore : and throughout all generations.
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

Philippians 4:4-7

The Subdeacon concludes The Word of the Lord.

The People respond Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

HYMN

PSALM 42



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,
let the val - leys rise to meet him
and all flesh shall see the to - ken
and her war - fare now is o - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Comfort, comfort ye my people, #67 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.
Music: *Psalm 42*, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. *Hymnal 1982*.

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

Luke 3:7-18

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

People
Glo - ry 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 Rector

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 IV)

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

The People kneel. After each petition

Leader Lord, in thy mercy.

People **Hear our prayer.**

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

MERCIFUL 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 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.

People The peace of the Lord be always with you.
 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

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Jesus Christ the apple tree

Anthony Piccolo
(b. 1946)

THE tree of life my soul hath seen laden with fruit and always green.
The trees of nature fruitless be, compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel: by faith I know but ne'er can tell
the glory which I now can see, in Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought and pleasure dearly I have bought.
I missed of all but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil; here I will sit and rest awhile:
under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive; it keeps my dying faith alive;
which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

Divine Hymns or Spiritual Songs, 1784



*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

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

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

Rorate Coeli

Melissa Dunphy
(b. 1980)

AGNUS DEI

Sung by the Choir

AGNUS 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

Arr. Andrew Carter
(b. 1939)

ANGELUS ad virginem,
Subintrans in conclave,
Virginis formidinem
Demulcens, inquit "Ave!
Ave, regina virginum:
Coeli terraeque dominum
Concipies et paries intacta
Salutem hominum;
Tu porta coeli facta,
Medela criminum."

"Quomodo conciperem,
Quae virum non cognovi?
Qualiter infringerem,
Quae firma mente vovi?"
"Spiritus sancti gratia
Perficiet haec omnia.
Ne timeas, sed gaudeas
Secura, quod castimonia
Manebit in te pura
Dei potentia."

The angel came to the Virgin,
entering secretly into her room;
the Virgin's fear
calming, he said, "Hail!
Hail, queen of virgins:
you will conceive the Lord of heaven and earth
and bear him, still a virgin,
to be the salvation of mankind;
you will be made the gate of heaven,
the cure of sins."

"How can I conceive,
When I have never known a man?
How can I transgress
resolutions that I have vowed with a firm mind?"
"The grace of the Holy Spirit
shall do all this.
Do not be afraid, but rejoice
without a care, since your chastity
will remain in you unspoilt
through the power of God."



Ad haec, virgo nobilis
Respondens inquit ei,
“Ancilla sum humilis
Omnipotentis Dei.
Tibi coelesti nuntio,
Tanti secreti conscio,
Consentiens et cupiens videre
Factum quod audio,
Parata sum parere
Dei consilio.”

Eia Mater Domini,
Quae pacem reddidisti
Angelis et homini
Cum Christum genuisti!
Tuum exora filium
Ut se nobis propitium
Exhibeat, et deleat peccata,
Praestans auxilium
Vita frui beata
Post hoc exsilium.

To this, the noble Virgin,
replying, said to him,
“I am the humble maidservant
of almighty God.
To you, heavenly messenger,
and bearer of such a great secret,
I give my consent, and wishing to see
done what I hear,
I am ready to obey
the will of God.”

Hail, Mother of our Lord,
who brought peace back
to angels and men
when you bore Christ!
Pray your son
that he may show favor to us
and blot out our sins,
giving us help
to enjoy a blessed life
after this exile.

Anonymous 13th Century

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

ALmighty 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

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.**

HYMN

LLANGLOFFAN



1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - plc-nish them with oil;
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!
the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!



STC
200

God's Love at the Heart of New York

THE DISMISSAL

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

VOLUNTARY

Allegro con brio (III) from Sonata

Philip Moore

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



Saint Thomas gives thanks for those who have given endowed funds to provide flowers to beautify the church in perpetuity. This week, we give thanks for the memory of *Mary Clark deBrabant, Margaret Crane Hurlbut, and Parsons Trotter*, and pray for the repose of their souls.

May the glory of the LORD endure for ever, may the LORD rejoice in his works. (Psalm 104:31)



Saint Thomas Church Angel Tree 2024: Please join us in helping children by participating in our annual Christmas Angel Tree. We provide gifts of toys and clothes for children of Saint Ann's Episcopal Church in the Bronx, children known to the EOP feeding program at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, and children staying with their mothers at a temporary shelter for survivors of domestic abuse. We ask that you take a tag hanging on our Angel Tree, then sign the book letting us know that gift is accounted for. Unwrapped gifts should be brought to Saint Thomas TODAY. Monetary donations also gratefully appreciated – we'll do the shopping! To ensure that the children beneficiaries remain anonymous, the tags are numbered. Thanks, you're an angel!



Contributions for Christmas Flower Memorials: The names of the faithful departed in whose memory the church will be adorned will be listed in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day leaflets. In order to cover the cost of Christmas flowers, we suggest a minimum donation of \$25 per name. You can make your donation to the parish house receptionist. Note: The deadline is MIDNIGHT TONIGHT.



Christmas 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(s)** you submit. The suggested donation for each eight-day candle is \$25. All of these names will be added to the prayer list for that day.





The Saint Thomas Book & Gift Store will be open in the Narthex Sundays after the 11 a.m. service through December 22, 2024. Additional times are Sunday, December 22 after 4 p.m. Nine Lessons & Carols, and Christmas Eve December 24 from 12 p.m. until after the 4 p.m. Nine Lessons and Carols. Stop by and view our collection of Calendars, Mugs, Ornaments, Christmas cards, CDs, and books for Advent & Christmas.

ANNUAL APPEAL



We launched our 2025 Annual Appeal in October, which marked the close of our Bicentennial year. In his sermon, Father Turner preached: *Remembrance; thanksgiving; new beginnings: It's what we have done this past year, and prepares us for the future. Remember – give thanks – look forward: It is the vision of Saint Thomas Church, to be a community of love and praise, and an oasis of prayer in the middle of New York, actively weaving a tapestry of divine proportions.* As we look ahead to the next century, we need your help. Make a pledge today!



PILGRIMS' COURSE 2025



It's not the destination, but the journey that matters

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 Tuesday, January 14, 2025. 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 scan this code:



☞
NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR
The Saint Thomas Community Outreach Program



On October 26th we launched **Neighbor to Neighbor**, a service program which provides coffee, tea, croissants, and fresh fruit to community members in need. The program serves guests **between 9am and 10am every Saturday**, with volunteers arriving at the cloisters of the church on 53rd Street around 8:30am. Please note there is a **signup form** for interested volunteers to ensure we do not have too many or too few present. If you are interested in getting involved, **please register to the mailing list for this group using the QR code below.**



WORSHIP THIS WEEK

* indicates livestreamed.

Today

4 p.m. Festal Evensong*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys
Sermon by The Right Reverend Sean Semple,
Bishop of the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf

Monday - Saturday

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers and Holy Eucharist*

Tuesday

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Wednesday

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong*

sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir

Thursday

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

sung by Boys of the Choir

Saturday

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

In the Chantry Chapel

12 p.m. Christmas on Fifth Avenue Concert*

sung by Boys of the Choir

Next Sunday: December 22, The Fourth Sunday of Advent

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 Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys
Sermon by Fr. Moretz

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

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

PARISH NOTICES

Children and Family Ministries: Sunday School (3-9) and Faith Alive (10-14+) meet together today at 10am in the Sunday School Room (3rd Floor). The Nursery continues to be available for the sole use of babies and toddlers with their parents/caregivers, from 9 am - 1 pm on Sundays in the Parish House, 3rd Floor. To receive our CFM newsletter contact Childrenandfamilies@saintthomaschurch.org.

The Noble Singers, our parish children's choir for singers ages 5-14+, under the direction of Mrs. Rebecca Kellerman-Filsell, is accepting new choristers. The choir rehearses weekly on Thursdays and Fridays from 4:15-5:15pm. Choristers select one rehearsal to attend each week and sing weekly at the 9am Sung Eucharist on Sundays during the program year. No audition is necessary, just enthusiasm and a love of music. For more information, and to register your singer, contact Rkellerman@saintthomaschurch.org.

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.

Contemplative Prayer takes place on Fridays at 3pm in the Resurrection Chapel. You are welcome to join this sacred time of silent prayer and quiet praise in the presence of God. The service includes Taize Songs, Centering Prayer, and Lectio-Divina, and is led by Mo. Prisca Lee-Pae. For more information, please contact Mo. Lee-Pae at Pleepae@saintthomaschurch.org.
Note: We will not meet on December 20 or 27.

You are cordially invited to the **Holy Eucharist in the Korean language** every second Sunday of the month at 1:30pm. It is preceded by brunch at 12:45pm in the Dining Room of the Parish House.

매달 둘째 주일 오후 1:30에 본당에서 올리는 한국어 감사 성찬례에 여러분을 초대합니다. 오후 12:45에 2층 식당에서 브런치를 함께 나누니 조금 일찍 오셔서 친교도 나누세요.

Friday Zoom Bible Study—Christ and Ekklesia: John's Wondrous Vision of Light. Led by Fr. Schultz Fridays at 1pm via Zoom. We have embarked on the Book of the Glory (John 13-21) in which we will witness Jesus' Passion and Resurrection. Bring your Bible, your questions, and yourself as, together, we deepen our relationship with God through scripture. Contact Fr. Schultz with any questions and for the Zoom link: Mschultz@saintthomaschurch.org. *Note: We are on hiatus until January 10.*

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 the greater New York City area and beyond to sing, study, play, perform, and live together at the school. If you know a boy who loves to sing, encourage his family to contact Margaret White: Mwhite@choirschool.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 5th Floor of the Parish House and are streamed online. For more info, contact Fr. Luigi Gioia: Lgioia@saintthomaschurch.org.

CHRISTMAS AT SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE



Tuesday, 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, Farrington, Hampton, Leighton, Lloyd, Pott, Rutter, and Sweelinck

5:30 p.m.

VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS (Said at the High Altar)

10 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR ORGAN

10:30 p.m.

PROCESSION AND SOLEMN EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY (MIDNIGHT MASS)

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys with Saint Thomas Baroque Orchestra

Music of Charpentier, Filsell, Hampton, Sweelinck, and Pott

Sermon by The Rector



Wednesday, December 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

9 a.m.

SAID EUCHARIST at the High Altar

11 a.m.

PROCESSION AND SOLEMN EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Music of Farrington, Filsell, Pott, and Leighton

Sermon by Fr. Gioia

UPCOMING SERVICES

The Church is open for Private Prayer and Visits to the Christmas Crèche

Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Shrine Prayers (Intercessions)

Thursday – Saturday at 12 p.m. *Live audio stream and then on-demand.*

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

The Daily Eucharist

Thursday – Saturday at 12:05 p.m. *Live audio stream and then on-demand.*

Thursday: Saint Stephen

Friday: Saint John

Saturday: Holy Innocents

Confessions, Spiritual Advice, and Healing Ministry

Saturday, December 28, 11 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Confessor: The Rector

Sunday, December 29, 2024

7:45 a.m. Said Mass

9:00 a.m. Sung Mass

11:00 a.m. Solemn Eucharist

sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir

Sermon by Mo. Turner