



**JANUARY 29-30, 2022**

**PARISH STAFF**

- Rev. Rick Lesser, Pastor**  
*Rick.Lesser@rcda.org*
- Rev. Dan McHale, Parochial Vicar**  
*daniel.mchale@rcda.org*
- Deacon Alfred Manzella**  
*Alfred.Manzella@rcda.org*
- Patricia Holm, Pastoral Associate, Administration**  
*pholm@stthomas-church.org*
- Barbara Ruggirello, Bookkeeper**
- Pending, Office Assistant**
- Peter Bukowski, Facilities Manager**  
*pbukowski@stthomas-church.org*
- Pending, Pastoral Care Associate**
- Avery Tunningley, Parish Music Director**  
*tunnac@aol.com*
- Nelly Brown Bunk, Choir Director**  
*nellybrownbunk@gmail.com*
- Konstantin Tsykun, Contemporary Music Director**

**FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY**

- Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Closed Friday.
- Colleen Harrigan, Secretary**  
*charrigan@stthomas-church.org*
- Patti Staerker, Coordinator, Elementary School Program**  
*pstaerker@stthomas-church.org*
- Rose Ann Garry, Co-Coordinator, Middle/High School Program**
- Jennifer Curry, Co-Coordinator, Middle/High School Program**
- Mary Ann Hospodar, Coordinator, Youth Ministry Program**
- MS/HS Faith Formation and Youth Ministry email:**  
**HOPE@stthomas-church.org**

**PARISH TRUSTEES:** Carmel Foltan and Adele Nucci

**ST. THOMAS SCHOOL:**

- 518-439-5573 Fax: 518-478-9773**
- www.stthomas-school.org**
- info@stthomas-school.org**
- Adam Biggs, Principal**  
*abiggs@stthomas-school.org*
- Jennifer Murphy, Associate for Enrollment and Development**  
*jmurphy@stthomas-school.org*

Church of  
*Saint Thomas the Apostle*



**RECONNECT AND REJOICE**

- 35 Adams Place, Delmar, New York 12054**
- Office Phone: (518) 439-4951 • Fax: (518) 439-0108**
- Office E-mail: office@stthomas-church.org**
- Office Hours: Open 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mon. - Fri.**
- Website: www.stthomas-church.org**

**WEEKEND MASS**

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 10:00 a.m., 5 p.m.  
Holy Days As Announced

**WEEKDAY MASS**

Mon and Thurs 7:30 a.m.; Tues and Fri 12:15 p.m.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Friday: After 12:15 p.m. Mass

**RECONCILIATION**

Tuesday: 11:30 a.m., Saturday: 4:00 p.m. or by appointment

**BAPTISM**

Baptism of infants is usually celebrated on the 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month. Contact the Parish Office for arrangements. Preparation sessions for parents presenting infants for Baptism are held monthly.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

Contact the Parish Office for information about the program.

**MATRIMONY**

Arrangements for marriage should be made at least 6 to 8 months in advance and before scheduling a reception. Contact the Parish Office for information.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

First Tuesday of the Month after 12:15 p.m. Mass or by request.

**CARE OF THE SICK**

The Pastoral Care Team responds to the needs of homebound or hospitalized parishioners. Please call the parish office to make us aware of persons who would like a visit or home Communion.

**NEW PARISHIONER**

Please register in the parish by calling the office.

Please remember our parish in your will.  
We are: "St. Thomas' Church of Delmar, N.Y."

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

To proclaim and celebrate the presence of Jesus Christ our Lord in a community of faith, to respond to the Spirit by recognizing the gifts of each individual and by encouraging their use in Christian service to others and to spread the Word to others by the witness of our lives in order to encourage growth in our relationships with God and with one another.

## Pastor's Corner

**NEW MINISTRY OFFERED** ~ In the event that a priest is unable to celebrate a regularly scheduled Mass, we are authorized to have a Deacon or lay person celebrate the **Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion, in the Absence of a Priest**. We currently have several people who are trained to celebrate this liturgy and we are looking for others who may want to serve. If you are interested, please contact Pat Holm in the parish office. Training will be provided.

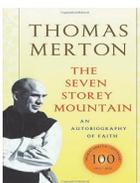
**STATUS—WEARING MASKS AT MASS** ~ There is no longer a mandate to wear masks in New York State, but as the COVID infection rate is still elevated, it would be prudent and charitable for those who can wear a mask indoors to do so. Social distancing will be practiced on the right side of the church. Please be respectful of those around you who are wearing a mask. Those seated on the left side of the church need not practice social distancing.

### OUR TUESDAY "DRIVE"~



Our Tuesday Drive on February 1, 3-4pm is for the **Veterans Miracle Network**. Most in need of 13 gallon trash bags, quart & gallon size bags, paper towels, toothpaste, toothbrushes, lotions, deodorant, soap, shaving cream, razors, Complete Microwavable Meals or pull-tab canned meals like stews and ravioli. Thank you for sharing LOVE with our veterans and their families.

**St. Matthew's Movie Series: The Chosen** ~ This movie visually represents the gospel while showing us the humanity of Jesus and his disciples. You won't want to miss this unique experience! 1:00 p.m. at St. Matthew's, Voorheesville, showing episodes 2 and 3 this Sunday, January 30, continuing most Sundays through the end of March. And, stay for discussion, coffee and dessert! See our Community bulletin board for details.



**St. Thomas Book Club Discussion -The Seven Storey Mountain ~ February 10 at 7 p.m., in the Gathering Hall.** *The Seven Storey Mountain* tells of the growing restlessness of a brilliant and passionate young man, Thomas Merton, who at the age of twenty-six takes vows in one of the most demanding Catholic orders—the Trappist monks. The book is available at most book sellers in paperback form. This book will take some time to read, but is worth the journey! Hope to see you in February!

**"Baptism Angels"** ~ If your child was baptized between March, 2021 and the end of October, 2021, we have an angel with their name on it. Please stop in the parish office during the week or go to the Welcome Table in the church foyer when attending weekend Mass. **We will hold these items for you until the end of February.** Thank you.

**WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS** ~ Andrew and Danielle Castellano and their children, Francesca and Joseph.

## Prayer & Worship

**PRAYER CHAIN** ~ Members respond to urgent prayer intentions. **Calls are confidential.** Contact Pam Seward at: 518-439-7845 for your intention to be added.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER** Thomas Gallup whose service was recently held at St. Thomas. May the Lord welcome him into Eternal Life.

**COME JOIN THE "WOMEN OF MARY"** Would you like to meet other women of faith? Grow your faith family? Do you want to learn to pray the rosary? Do you feel called to pray with others for our country? Our world? To grow in faith?

The Blessed Mother said that "Prayer and fasting can stop wars and change the laws of nature." As we live through this pandemic together, it is more important than ever to know and support each other.

**Women of all ages** are invited to join in prayer and fellowship. Next month's meeting is **Monday, February 7** in the Gathering Hall.

- 7:00-7:30 p.m. Pray the Rosary
- 7:30-8:00 p.m. Informal Friendship Activity

**We can't wait to meet you.**

## Pastoral Care

**"IN LOVING MEMORY" PHOTOS, AND CROSSES FOR DECEASED LOVED ONES** ~ Before and after All Souls Day, parishioners were invited to bring in a photo of a loved one to be displayed. And, at our **Mass of Remembrance** on November 2, families were able to collect their loved ones' crosses which had been displayed in the church during the previous year.

We still have a number of photographs and crosses to be claimed. They are available in the parish office during the week. We will also have them at the Welcome Table in the church foyer at weekend Masses for your convenience. **We will hold all of these items for you until the end of February.** Thank you.

## Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

### ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION (GRADES 1-5) (Contact: Patti Staerker)

**Choice of First Communion Masses** ~ If you were not at last week's parent meeting for those with a child preparing for First Communion this Spring, please contact our office asap to get information and materials and to sign up for you choice of First Communion Masses.

**Elementary Faith Formation classes** this Tuesday, February 1, will be held in the church as the school will be unavailable.

**There will be no Faith Formation classes when the children are on Winter break the week of February 21-25.**

### MIDDLE /HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY

(Contact: Rose Ann Garry, Jennifer Curry, Mary Ann Hospodar: [HOPE@stthomas-church.org](mailto:HOPE@stthomas-church.org))



We ask you to remember in prayer our young Confirmation Candidates who are on retreat this weekend. May the Holy Spirit continue to set their hearts ablaze, living out their Baptismal promises.

All Confirmation candidates please see the St. Thomas Confirmation webpage [High School Confirmation - St Thomas the Apostle Church - Delmar, NY \(stthomas-church.org\)](http://HighSchoolConfirmation-StThomastheApostleChurch-Delmar,NY(stthomas-church.org)) for updates and resources.



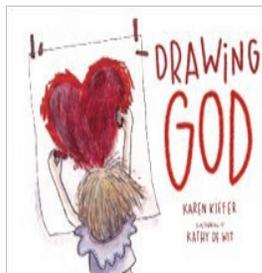
Students are reminded to keep track of their H.O.P.E. experiences and submit their HOPE Reflections using our H.O.P.E. Google Reflection Form found on our Middle School/High School Website [Middle & High Faith Formation - St Thomas the Apostle Church - Delmar, NY \(stthomas-church.org\)](http://Middle&HighFaithFormation-StThomastheApostleChurch-Delmar,NY(stthomas-church.org)).

Please submit your Fall Reflection this week. Thank you!



Middle School Students are invited to join us Sat., Feb. 5 following the 5pm Mass in the Gathering Hall for our FAITH & FUN Night! Join us as we Celebrate God's LOVE for us! 6-7:15pm! PIZZA! FUN! FAITH!

High School Students are invited to join us Sun., Feb. 6 following the 5pm Mass for our February Agape Latte Gathering 6-7:15pm in the Large Conference Room "Café"! Join our hosts Ryan Ciancio and Sarah Bernasconi who welcome back Mr. Gerety, and his fiancé Catherine, who will share their story of LOVE. "Agape a LOVE that seeks nothing in return!" **God is LOVE!**



**What does God Look Like to YOU?** Be creative and share your image of God! Please submit your Drawing of God (11x 18) to our Faith Formation Office by Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>. All masterpieces will be displayed in our Gathering Hall to Celebrate **God's Love** for ALL of us this Valentine's Weekend! **HOPE** hour.



Pueblo to People Committee and Youth Ministry will be hosting our annual Souper Bowl Sale, Sun., Feb 12 & 13 after all Masses! Committee members and Youth Ministry Families will prepare take out containers of **Fr. Rich Broderick's "Third World**

**Soup,"** a delicious tomato base with rice and veggies. All proceeds will benefit our Sister Parish in Yucatan Mexico. Thank you for remembering our Sister Parish in your prayers! Know that they are praying for you too! God Bless!

*Check out our Youth Ministry Page for more details & other H.O.P.E. Opportunities!* [Youth Ministry Grades 6th -12th - St Thomas the Apostle Church - Delmar, NY \(stthomas-church.org\)](http://YouthMinistryGrades6th-12th-StThomastheApostleChurch-Delmar,NY(stthomas-church.org))

## School News

**DISCOVER ST. THOMAS OPEN HOUSE**  
PK3 - Grade 8  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

### **St. Thomas the Apostle School in Delmar -**

Preschool 3 through Grade 8 in a private faith enriched school setting. Several preschool options including a full day four-year-old program (and a full day three-year-old program starting in September!) with small group learning, PE, Music, Art and Spanish beginning in Preschool. Bussing for K-8 students available from many areas. Please join us on **Tuesday, February 1 from 6 - 8 pm** to discover all that St. Thomas the Apostle School has to offer your family. For more information, please contact Jennifer Murphy at 518-439-5573 or [jmurphy@stthomas-school.org](mailto:jmurphy@stthomas-school.org).

## Community

### ST. THOMAS ACTIVE OLDER ADULTS ~

Unfortunately, we are cancelling the Senior Luncheons for February and March due to the surge in Covid-19 cases. Watch for details in the March bulletin about starting up the luncheons again.

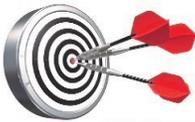
If you have some **Valentine cards** for our homebound and long-term care residents, signed with "Your friend from St. Thomas Church", there will be a basket on the piano in the Gathering Hall where you may leave your valentines **by the end of the 10 o'clock mass on Sunday, January 30**. We would appreciate valentines from any of our parishioners.

## Creation Care Team

(Contact: Marie Myer: [myermarie@yahoo.com](mailto:myermarie@yahoo.com).)

### Care For Creation

#### Aim For Zero Waste By Following These Basic Principles:



"If you aim at nothing, you will hit it every time"  
Author Unknown

**Refuse what you don't need.**

**Reduce what you do use.**

**Recycle what you can't refuse or reduce.**

**Rot what's left over (compost).**

#### Consider Living These Principles By:

**Making a weekly menu and purchasing only what you need for those meals.**

**Learn how to compost. (This website can help you get started: <https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home> )**

**Use these cold, snowy days to empty your closets of unneeded items and recycle. For where to recycle, check this site: [Recycling Bethlehem, NY - Official Website](http://RecyclingBethlehem.org) ([townofbethlehem.org](http://townofbethlehem.org))**

## Administration

(Contact: Pat Holm)

**2021 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS ~** The parish office will send statements of 2021 contributions to all contributing parishioners by the end of January.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING --A CONVENIENT METHOD FOR FINANCIALLY SUPPORTING THE PARISH ~** As many parishioners know, our electronic giving program, through Vanco, is a convenient and secure method for making contributions to the parish, whether it's offertory contributions, donations for other holy days, or even to the Diocesan Appeal. You can set it up to make contributions weekly, monthly or annually and it ensures that your support to the parish is on an ongoing basis. We encourage you to take advantage of this program, and there are several options to get you started: **go to our website, [www.stthomas-church.org](http://www.stthomas-church.org), click on electronic giving** on the home page which sends you to the **electronic giving** page that has a link to the Vanco site. And, there is still an option to complete the Vanco application form, found on the oval table near the Community bulletin board. Questions about Vanco or need help? Please contact Pat Holm in the parish office.

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE FOR JANUARY 22-23, 2022

OFFERTORY RECEIVED FROM WEEKLY COLLECTION **	\$17,927.25
OFFERTORY RECEIVED VIA E-GIVING (VANCO)	\$2,758.23
TOTAL OFFERTORY RECEIVED	\$20,685.48
MINIMUM AMOUNT NEEDED TO MEET EXPENSES	\$14,500.00
TITHE (5% OF TOTAL OFFERTORY)	\$1,034.27
TOTAL NUMBER OF GIFTS	205
** INCLUDES LOOSE CASH GIFTS	\$818.25

*Please note: This offertory collection includes several large annual donations. We thank all of you for your continued support of the parish.*

## Calendar

Tue	2/1	3 pm	Tuesday Food Drive	OPL
<p><b>PLACE:</b> CH – Church; GH – Gathering Hall; LC – Lady Chapel; MC – Media Center; PO – Parish Offices, PP - Peace Pole, Café-Cafeteria, CR - Conference Room, CHP-Chapel SCH-School, OPL-Office Parking Lot</p>				

**“Advertiser of the Week” ~** This weekend we highlight one of the valued companies advertising in our bulletin:

**Andriano's Pizza**

*Please see their ad in the current bulletin.  
Be sure to patronize their business!*

***Weekday Mass Intentions***  
***For the week of Jan. 31- Feb. 4, 28, 2022***

Mon. 7:30 am Intentions of the Celebrant

Tue. 12:15 pm Jack and Ellie Lesser

Dr. Joe and Ann Prezio

Daniel Harbeck

Paul and Joan Strait

Thu. 7:30 am Intentions of the Celebrant

Fri. 12:15 pm Memorial Fund

***Next Weekend, February 5-6, 2022***

Sat. 5:00 pm Anthony Losavio Sr.  
Rocco and Nancy Losavio

Joseph DeAngelis  
Robert and Suzanne Grassucci

Sun. 10:00 am Joan Pisciotta  
The Family

Thomas J. Dwyer  
Robert and Patricia Ricchiuti

5 pm Intentions of the Celebrant

***Scripture Readings: Week of January 30, 2022***

Sunday Jer 1:4-5,17-19; 1 Cor 12:31- 13:1

Monday 2 Sam 15:13-14, 30, 16:5-13; Mk 5: 1-20

Tuesday 2 Sam 18: 9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3;  
Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday Mal 3: 1-4; Heb 2: 14-18; Lk 2: 22-40

Thursday 1 Kgs 2: 1-4, 10-12; Mk 6:7-13

Friday Sir 47: 2-11; Mk 6: 14-29

Saturday 1 Kgs 3: 4-13; Mk 6: 30-34

Sunday Is 6 1-2a, 3-8; 1 Cor 15: 1-11; Lk 5: 1-11