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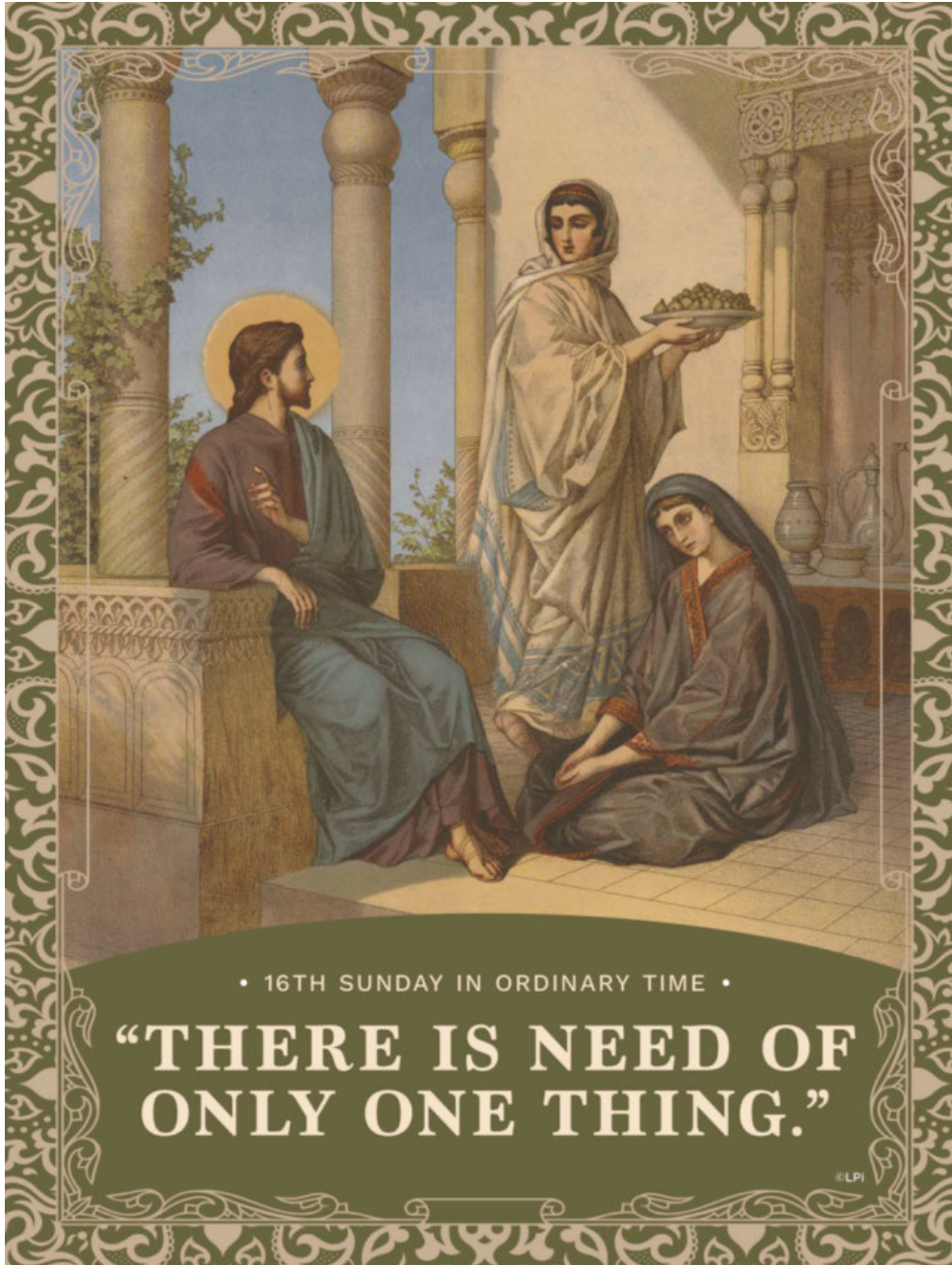
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# St. Thomas the Apostle Church



• 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

**“THERE IS NEED OF  
ONLY ONE THING.”**

©LPI

## SERVED BY

**Rev. Matthew Duclos, Pastor**  
[matthew.duclos@rcda.org](mailto:matthew.duclos@rcda.org)

**Dcn. Al Manzella, Deacon**  
[amanz31999@aol.com](mailto:amanz31999@aol.com)

## MASS SCHEDULE

Monday: 7:30 am  
Tuesday: 12:15 pm with  
11:30 am Reconciliation  
Thursday: 7:30 am  
Friday: 12:15 pm with  
1:00 pm Adoration  
Saturday: 5:00 pm with  
4:00 pm Reconciliation  
Sunday: 7:30 am | 10:30 am | 5:00 pm

† Reconciliation also by appointment.

† Baptisms, Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA), and Matrimony please contact the Parish Office for info.

† Anointing of the Sick offered the first Tues. of the month after 12:15 pm Mass or by request.

† Please call the parish office to notify of persons who would like a visit or home Communion.

## CONTACT US

35 Adams Place, Delmar, NY 12054  
518-439-4951

[office@stthomas-church.org](mailto:office@stthomas-church.org)

Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

## 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.

## PARISH TRUSTEES

Joseph V. DiStefano and Robert Ricchiuti

JULY 20, 2025

# PARISH MINISTRIES

St. Thomas Parish,

I remember a couple from my time at Corpus Christi Church in Malta, let's call them Bill and Christine, who were the exact example of Mary and Martha from this weekend's Gospel. Bill and Christine would host many gatherings in their home. Different parish groups, community dinners, friends over, family visits, etc. There always seemed to be cars in the driveway and something cooking on the stove. And whenever I was invited, I would go into the living room and Bill would be the on the couch, engaging people in conversation before dinner. Christine would be running all around in her apron, pulling things on and off the stove and in and out of the oven, bustling with plates and utensils, setting up chairs, an 'energizer bunny' type of person!

Whenever I read this Gospel, I think of Bill and Christine. Bill was a "Mary" character, he sat and listened, engaged in conversation, and made people feel welcomed by his presence. Christine, without a doubt, was a "Martha" character, attentive to every detail, making sure things were just right. And, truthfully, both were necessary. Their hospitality worked because they each brought something different.

In the Gospel, Jesus gently reminds Martha that while her service is valuable, there is a deeper invitation: to be still and present to Him. It's not a condemnation of service, but a call to balance, to recognize when it's time to pause, to listen, and to receive. Mary chose the better part in that moment, and sometimes, we are called to do the same.

In our own busy lives, especially during the summer as we plan, prepare, travel, and host, let's not forget to stop and sit with Jesus. Sometimes the most important thing isn't what we accomplish, but who we allow ourselves to become in His presence.

I'm away this weekend (July 19-20) to assist at a retreat in Wisconsin for people who have been harmed by a leader in the Church. My thanks to Fr. Tom Fallati who is here for Masses. Then I head from Wisconsin to a beach for vacation! There will not be weekday Masses from July 21-25.

A note of congratulations: our school principal, Mr. Adam Biggs, graduated last weekend from the Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program at the University of Notre Dame with a Masters of Arts in Educational Leadership, which is a graduate program in the Alliance for Catholic Education. He's been taking classes during the school year and over the summer for the past couple years, and this degree is the culmination of a lot of hard work. It's a blessing and honor to have this kind of credential here at our school and in our Diocese! Congratulations, Adam!

And we're just two months away from our parish picnic, Sunday, September 21! Mark your calendars!

Peace to you,

**FR. MATT**

## 518 FRASSATI (AGES 21-39)

### NEW MEETING DAY

518 Frassati (St. Thomas YA) young adult ministry is switching their weekly lectio divina Bible study meetings from Thursdays to Tuesdays at 7pm.

### PRAYER CHAIN

Members of our Prayer Chain Ministry pray on an ongoing basis for those referred to them, regard-less of need. Please contact Pam Seward, 518-439-7845, to have someone added to the prayer chain or become a volunteer. These calls are confidential.

## ST. THOMAS READS BOOK CLUB

**A GRAND SLAM FOR GOD BY FR. BURKE MASTERS MEETING WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 7PM GATHERING HALL**

Burke Masters had the perfect game plan for his life: he was going to become a Major League Baseball player. But amid severe doubt and personal loss, he learned to embrace his fundamental identity—not as an athlete, but as a beloved son of God and a spiritual father to God's people.

## PARISH PICNIC

### NEXT MEETING

The annual St. Thomas Parish Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, September 21 at the Elm Avenue Park. Our planning committee will meet on July 28 at 7pm in the Gathering Hall. For more information on joining the planning committee, please contact Paul Supple at [paulmsupple@gmail.com](mailto:paulmsupple@gmail.com).

## CREATION CARE

### PLASTIC FREE JULY – IT'S NOT TOO LATE

It's not too late to be a part of Plastic Free July and to make a difference in the lives of our family, friends and the world. Take an audit of single-use plastics in your home. What can you eliminate? Plan a plastic free lunch or family picnic. As you replace toys for your pet, choose non-plastic items. Go to Beyond Plastics website and read about what you can do to reduce plastic pollution. Together We Are Hope For God's Creation. <https://www.beyondplastics.org/pubs>

## GET IN TOUCH

### PARISH STAFF

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**Patti Staerker,** Coordinator, Elementary Discipleship Formation  
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**Rose Ann Garry,** Co-Coordinator, Middle/High School Discipleship Formation

**Jennifer Curry,** Co-Coordinator, Middle/High School Discipleship Formation

**Mary Ann Hospodar,** Coordinator, Youth Ministry MS/HS  
Faith Formation and Youth Ministry email: [HOPE@stthomas-church.org](mailto:HOPE@stthomas-church.org)



# PARISH MINISTRIES

## DISCIPLESHIP FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

### DISCIPLESHIP REGISTRATION

#### WE HAVE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!



Have you heard the GOOD NEWS? We are not only accepting registration for our Middle School/High School Discipleship Formation and two year Confirmation Prep Program... we are also accepting registration for CONFIRMED IN THE SPIRIT! All Confirmed High School Students are welcome to register it's free! Join us for our High School Agape Latte Sessions, be a leader at our Faith & Fun Nights and MORE! Please register using our QR code! We look forward to accompanying you on your faith journey!

## ST. THOMAS ACTIVE OLDER ADULTS

### THANK YOU

We would like to thank Fr. Rick, Fr. Matt, and the Sacrificial Giving Committee for the financial support of our 24-25 Senior Luncheons. We would like to thank our parishioners, and youth ministry young people who provided us with delicious baked goods. Thanks to our volunteers who helped to decorate, set up, serve food, and clean up. Also, we extend a special thank you to our attendees who came each month to share time with fellow parishioners. Watch the bulletin in late August for info on our next luncheon in September.

## TUESDAY DRIVES

### SUMMER BLESSING BAGS!

Thank you Tuesday Drive folks for spreading sunshine to our homebound seniors! Our young Disciples assembled 24 Blessing Bags filled with goodies, necessities and a whole lot of KINDNESS! We thank our Creations Care Ministry and all you Clynkers for purchasing the colorful bags! Extra food items and

paper products were shared with our friends at the South End Children's Cafe. "The smallest thing when done for the love of God is priceless!" St. Teresa of Avila. Thank you for your love of God and neighbor!

### GENTLE REMINDERS

Tuesday Drives resume Tuesday August 12 School Supplies and Healthy Snacks for the South End Children's Cafe! Happy Summer!

### PARISH OFFICE

#### AFTER MASS REFRESHMENTS

Spread joy and hospitality to our fellow parishioners after the 10:30am Sunday Mass (and potentially other Masses if we get enough volunteers). The ministry involves setting up and staffing tables with beverages (coffee, tea, hot chocolate and juice) as well as homemade snacks. The time commitment is from 9:30am till about noon (including you attending the 10:30am Mass). There's no need to commit to any date or set of dates - you can host once a year or once a month - whatever works for you. Training is provided. If you have any questions or would like to participate in this ministry, please contact Jay Buhr at 518-331-0541.

### NO DAILY MASSES THIS WEEK

We will NOT have any Daily Masses on July 21, 22, 24 and 25 at St. Thomas the Apostle as well as no Adoration on June 25.

### WELCOME TO THE WELCOME TABLE

You are invited to stop by the Welcome Table at the main entrance to Church. There you will find Mass intention sign-ups, parish registration forms, forms for proof of baptism/confirmation, and devotional booklets. Venmo envelopes, seasonal, and flower donation envelopes are also available. Or just stop by to say hello. If we can't answer your question, we will find someone "in the know" to help!

## STEWARDSHIP

This bulletin was published before the financial figures were available. The totals for the weekend of July 12-13 will be published in next weekends bulletin. Your continued support is appreciated. Thank you.

**Special Collection** next weekend is for Peter's Pence which unites us & Catholics around the world more closely with the Holy Father in two ways: it supports the structures of the Holy See through which the Pope governs the Church as well as his charitable efforts to assist victims of war, oppression natural disasters, and others most in need. Please be generous in next week's Collection supporting the Holy Father as a witness of charity to those who are suffering.

## ALZHEIMER VOLUNTEER CARE TEAM

### READY FOR A NEW ADVENTURE THIS FALL?

Join the St. Thomas Alzheimer Volunteer Care Team Ministry! Our team works in pairs to give respite and social engagement to people with Alzheimer's or another form of dementia. We support caregivers so they can take a much-needed break. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! Non-medical support only. Training is provided and you never have to visit alone. For more information about volunteering or utilizing our services, text or call Mary Coleman at 518-250-9880 or email [mary.coleman@sphp.com](mailto:mary.coleman@sphp.com). Join us at a Care Team meeting in the Gathering Space to learn more on 7/28 or 9/15 at 4:30pm. Care Teams are led by Eddy Alzheimer Services.

## EDUCATIONAL, SPIRITUAL & SOCIAL EVENTS

**Sunday Hospitality:** July 20, 11 am

**Women of Mary Prayer Group:** July 21, 7 pm | Gathering Hall

**Rosary:** July 23, 11 am | Mary Chapel

**St. Thomas Reads Book Club:** July 23, 7 pm | Gathering Hall | *A Grand Slam for God* by Fr. Burke Masters

**Parish Picnic Committee Meeting:** July 28, 7 pm | Gathering Hall

For more information visit our website!



## MASS INTENTIONS

**MONDAY, JULY 21 | 7:30 AM**  
NO DAILY MASS

**TUESDAY, JULY 22 | 12:15 PM**  
NO DAILY MASS

**THURSDAY, JULY 24 | 7:30 AM**  
NO DAILY MASS

**FRIDAY, JULY 25 | 12:15 PM**  
NO DAILY MASS

**SATURDAY, JULY 26 | 5:00 PM**  
Mary Hollner Burns  
requested by Paul & Joan  
Strait  
Donald Ford  
requested by Karen Jones

**SUNDAY, JULY 27 | 7:30 AM**  
For the People

**SUNDAY, JULY 27 | 10:30 AM**  
Anna LaPietra  
requested by her daughter  
& family  
Thomas McGovern  
requested by the Lopes  
Family

**SUNDAY, JULY 27 | 5:00 PM**  
Deacon Robert Esposito  
requested by the Gargiula  
Family  
Mary Laicha  
requested by the Teplitzky  
Family

## COMMUNITY GOOD NEWS

### NPM ON THE ROAD (NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PASTORAL MUSICIANS)

NPM Albany Chapter Officers & Board Members are planning to attend NPM On the Road in Philadelphia, August 6-7, 2025. Registration is open now. Click the link for details, pricing and to register. <https://npm.org/2024/10/10/npm-on-the-road-2025/>

### DIOCESE OF ALBANY -- STEP UP MEN'S CONFERENCE 2025



Saturday, August 9 from 8:15-3:30 pm at St. Edward the Confessor Church in Clifton Park. The Step Up Men's Conference will give men the tools needed to grow in holiness in their everyday lives including presentations from Dcn. Harold Burke-Sivers and Fr. James Walsh, Reconciliation, Mass, Adoration, Rosary, refreshments, & lunch. Early registration is \$45 per person until July 31 and includes lunch. College age and younger men are FREE, but must register. For more info and to register: [rcda.org/StepUp](https://rcda.org/StepUp)

### 4TH ANNUAL DIOCESE OF ALBANY'S YOUNG ADULT ADORATION, BBQ, & CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT

When: Thursday, July 24 at 5:30 PM  
Where: St. Clement's Church: 231 Lake Avenue, Saratoga Springs  
Adoration & Reconciliation: 5:30PM  
BBQ Dinner: 6:30PM Corn Hole Tournament & Ice Cream Social  
Attendee's Must Register: <https://forms.gle/EFQ624xK2ndkNnTy8>

### UNLEASHING LOVE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Save the Date: October 18 at St. Edward the Confessor Church, 569 Clifton Park Center Rd., Clifton Park.

### NEW LIFE MATERNITY SLICE FOR LIFE GOLF OUTING

Like to play golf? Here's a chance to play golf and help a good cause at the same time. Join us for our Slice for Life Golf Tournament on Saturday, September 6, 2025 at The Sycamore Golf Club in Ravena. You can find all the details at and sign up at: <https://newlifematernity.org/events>

### WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Jesus calls us to love one another. Deepen your communication, rekindle your romance and renew your sacrament by attending the next upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. Dates to sign up are: August 15-17, 2025 at Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford, CT September 19-21 in Huntington, NY  
Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or <https://www.mectw.org/>.



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL



## GET IN TOUCH

### ST. THOMAS SCHOOL

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**Adam Biggs**, Principal

[abiggs@stthomas-school.org](mailto:abiggs@stthomas-school.org)

## Summer at St. Thomas



### Summer Library Hours!

Join us on Fridays in August at the STS Library  
from 12-4 with Story Time from 1-2\*  
August 8, 15 & 22

### Open House!

Tuesday, July 15th  
11:00am-1:00pm & 4:00-6:00pm



### STS Movie Night!

Wednesday, August 6th @ 6:00 - Despicable Me  
Burgers, Hotdogs, Cotton Candy, Popcorn!  
Bring your own beverage and chair\*

### LIMITED OPENINGS IN KINDERGARTEN – ENROLL NOW!

It's not often we have space in our outstanding kindergarten program this late in the year—but a few spots have just opened up at St. Thomas School! Are you looking for a warm, faith-filled, and academically strong start to your child's education? Our kindergarten program at St. Thomas School offers a nurturing environment where young learners grow in knowledge, confidence, and love for God. Spots are limited! Call the school office today to schedule a tour!

We are thrilled to celebrate a very special milestone—**70 years of St. Thomas School!** Rooted in faith and committed to academic excellence, our school has been a place where generations of students have grown in knowledge, and love of God. Please mark your calendars for the upcoming events as we give thanks for our past and for the students, families, and educators who have shaped who we are today. We look forward to the future with joy!

## SAVE THE DATE

2025-2026

IN HONOR OF OUR 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY, WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATION AT THESE UPCOMING EVENTS. MARK YOUR CALENDARS. MORE DETAILS WILL BE COMING SOON!

SEPTEMBER  
06, 2025

TIGER TROT 5K &  
KIDS RUN

OCTOBER  
17, 2025

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# REFLECTION & CATECHESIS

## REFLECT

### FIRST READING

Abraham's treatment of the three strangers modeled the value of hospitality in the ancient world. What are some ways you show kindness and warmth to others?

### SECOND READING

Paul found reasons to rejoice despite suffering for his faith in Christ and his mission to the Gentiles. How do you find joy and hope in difficult situations?

### GOSPEL

Jesus teaches Martha that her anxiety and worry can be calmed by listening to his words. How can you be present this week to an anxious friend or co-worker?

©LPi



## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 20, 2025

**Sunday:** Gn 18:1-10a/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5 (1a)/Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42

**Monday:** Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 12:38-42

**Tuesday,** Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

**Wednesday:** Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28/Mt 13:1-9

**Thursday:** Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Mt 13:10-17

**Friday, Feast of Saint James, Apostle:** 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28

**Saturday,** Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Mt 13:24-30

**Next Sunday:** Gn 18:20-32/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 (3a)/Col 2:12-14/Lk 11:1-13

## CATHOLIC CULTURE

### DEVOTIONS, EXPLAINED!

### CONNECT WITH TRADITION AND GROW YOUR FAITH

#### ST. BRIDGET PRAYERS

St. Bridget of Sweden (d. 1373) was a noblewoman of the Middle Ages whose renowned mysticism centered on the passion of Christ. A mother of eight and an attendant at the royal court in Sweden, as a widow she founded the Order of the Most Holy Savior, advocated for reform in the church and for the return of the Pope to Rome from France.

The St. Bridget Prayers refer to 15 prayers attributed to Bridget which evoke the imagery of Christ's suffering and death, plead for the forgiveness of the supplicant's sins, for a happy death, for fear and love of the Lord, and for a renunciation of worldly desires.

For many years, these prayers were associated with divine promises, though in 1954 the Catholic Church declared that it could not be said that these promises were of supernatural origin. The prayers themselves remain beloved and popular devotions to Christ's passion.

©LPi

## LIVE THE LITURGY

### PRAYER FOR FOCUS

Lord, help me to remember what matters and who matters.

And then help me to prioritize rightly and wisely, with Your heaven as my guide.

Amen. ©LPi



This week we encourage you to patronize our bulletin sponsor Bethlehem Traditional Irish Dance



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