

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 22, 2024 AT 11 A.M.
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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



STC
200

Welcome to Saint Thomas Church, a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New York.

*Our mission is to worship, love, and serve Our Lord Jesus Christ
through the Anglican tradition and our unique choral heritage.*

contact us: welcome@saintthomaschurch.org

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

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Nicolas Haigh, *Associate Organist*

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

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Christopher Seeley, *Head of School*

202 West 58th Street, New York, NY 10019

Telephone: 212-247-3311

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HONORARY CLERGY

The Reverend Andrew C. Mead, OBE, DD, *Rector Emeritus*

The Right Reverend Andrew R. St. John, DD, *Bishop in Residence*

The Reverend Mark Brown, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend 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*

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Karen Duncan

Christopher M. Haley, *Clerk*

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Winnie Kung

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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

Missa Prima Sexti toni

Giovanni Croce
(1557-1609)

PRELUDE

Magnificat Primi Toni (Fuga I - II - III)

Johann Pachelbel
(1653-1706)

THE GREETINGS

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

HYMN

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
(Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
(Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
(Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
(Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
(Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
(Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the

1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

O come, O come, Emmanuel, #56 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.
Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).



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

The Celebrant says

BEHOLD, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son,
and shall call his name Emmanuel. (*Isaiah 7:14*)

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.

WE beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation,
that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; 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

Micah 5:2-5a

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

MAGNIFICAT

Sung by the Choir

Calvin Hampton
(1938-1984)

MY soul doth magnify the Lord,
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath done for me great things;
And holy is his name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him
From generation to generation.
He hath shown strength with his arm;
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
And hath exalted them of low degree.
He hath filled the hungry with good things;
And the rich he hath sent empty away.
He hath holpen his servant Israel
In remembrance of his mercy,
As he spake to our forefathers,
To Abraham and his seed for ever.

THE EPISTLE

Hebrews 10:5-10

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

The People stand.



HYMN

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say -

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Cantor Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessèd art thou among all women and blessèd is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-45

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



After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

The Rev. Matthew Moretz
Vicar

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 (SPECIAL FORM)

As we pray to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray with Mary,
“My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.”

The People kneel.

Almighty God, thy prophet of old foretold a day when a virgin would conceive
and bear a son who would be called Emmanuel.

Help us to look forward to thy deliverance and to seek the fullness of your kingdom.

For he hath regarded:

People **the lowliness of his handmaiden.**

The angel Gabriel declared unto Mary that she was to be the mother of the Savior.
Help all Christian people to be open to thy word and obedient to thy will.

For behold from henceforth:

People **all generations shall call me blessed.**

Mary rejoiced with Elizabeth and sang thy praise with her Magnificat.
Help us to live joyful lives that sing thy praises.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me,

People **and holy is his Name.**

The child Jesus grew in wisdom and stature in the home of Mary and Joseph.
Strengthen our homes and families, and keep under thy protection all those whom we love.



For his mercy is on them that fear him
People **throughout all generations.**

Mary bore a son of David's line, a king whose reign would never end.
Bless all the nations of the world with Christ's gift of peace.

He hath showed strength with his arm;
People **he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**

At the wedding at Cana in Galilee, Mary said to the stewards "Do whatever he tells you."
May we respond to Christ's call to build the Beloved Community.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
People **and hath exalted the humble and meek.**

At the foot of the cross of Christ stood his mother,
and from the cross she received his lifeless body in her arms.
Give comfort and healing to all who suffer and all who watch the suffering of those they love.

He hath filled the hungry with good things,
People **and the rich he hath sent empty away.**

The apostle John saw a vision of a woman in heaven, robed with the sun. Bring us with all those who
have died in the faith of Christ to share the joy of heaven with Mary and all the saints.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
People **as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.**

In a moment of quiet, let us bring our own prayers to the Lord.

The Celebrant concludes the prayers with this collect

FATHER in heaven, by whose grace the virgin mother of thy incarnate Son was blessed in bearing him,
but still more blessed in keeping thy word: Grant us who honor the exaltation of her lowliness to
follow the example of her devotion to thy will; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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.

Isaiah 9:6

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

MOTET AT THE OFFERTORY

Sung by the Choir

Cristóbal de Morales
(c. 1500-1553)

ECCE Virgo concipiet et pariet filium,
et vocabitur nomen ejus: Admirabilis, Deus fortis.
Super solium David, et super regnum ejus
sedebit in aeternum.

*Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and his name shall be called: Wonderful, mighty God.
Over the throne of David, and over his kingdom,
he will reign in eternity.*

Isaiah 7:14



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

HYMN

ES IST EIN ROS

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,
* 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,

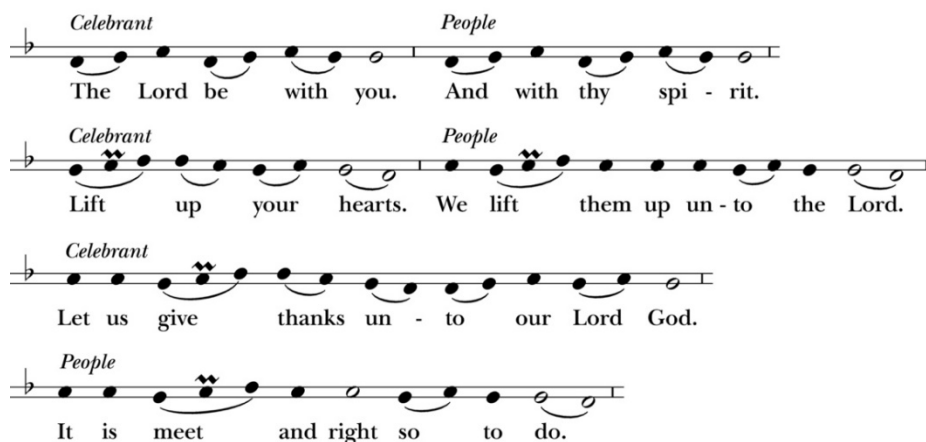
Of Jes - sc's lin - cage com - ing as seers of old have sung.
with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.
dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the
To show God's love a - right, she bore to
true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and



Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming, #81 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: St. 1-2 German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). St. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859); tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925); ver. *Hymnal 1940*. St. 3, Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Es ist ein Ros*, melody from *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621).

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen
from 11 Chorale Preludes Op. 122

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

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

Benjamin Britten
(1913-1976)

THERE is no rose of such vertu
As is the rose that bare Jesu. *Alleluia.*
For in this rose containèd was
Heaven and earth in littel space, *Res miranda.* [miraculous thing]
By that rose we may well see
There be one God in persons three, *Pares forma.* [in the parent's image]
The aungels sungen the shepherd to:
Gloria in excelsis Deo! *Gaudeamus.* [we rejoice]
Leave we all this werldly mirth,
And follow we this joyful birth. *Transeamus.* [we follow]

Anonymous 14th 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

WOODLANDS

1. Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
2. Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
3. Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
4. Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of his word!

Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.

ten - der to me the pro - mise of his word;
his mer - cy sure, the from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord



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God's Love at the Heart of New York



in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.
his ho - ly Name - the Lord, the Might - y One.
the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!, #438 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926); based on *The Song of Mary*.
Music: Woodlands, Walter Greatorex (1877-1949).

THE DISMISSAL

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

VOLUNTARY

Pageant from *Three Pieces* (1981)

Calvin Hampton

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 Margaret Crane Hurlbut, and pray for the repose of her soul.

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

ANNUAL APPEAL



We launched our 2025 Annual Appeal: *Weaving a Rich Tapestry* on October the 6th, 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!



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 - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 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

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.**



PARISH NOTICES

The Book & Gift Store will be open in the Narthex today after the 11 a.m. service and 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.

Children and Family Ministries: Sunday School (3-9) and Faith Alive (10-14+) are on break until Sunday, January 5th. 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 weekly newsletter or register your interest in attending any of our December events please 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 now on Christmas Break. The choir will continue to accept new choristers in the new year and weekly rehearsals will resume on January 9, 2025. We rehearse on Thursdays and Fridays from 4:15-5:15pm with choristers selecting one rehearsal to attend each week. The choir sings 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 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.
Note: We are on hiatus until February 2.