

SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

in the CITY OF NEW YORK

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The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, Rector

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.

Please switch off all cellular telephones. Unauthorized recordings and the taking of photographs during worship at Saint Thomas Church are prohibited.

To contact us, email welcome@SaintThomasChurch.org.

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE)

DECEMBER 15, 2024

SUNG EUCHARIST – 9 a.m. Sung by The Noble Singers

The Ordinary of the Mass

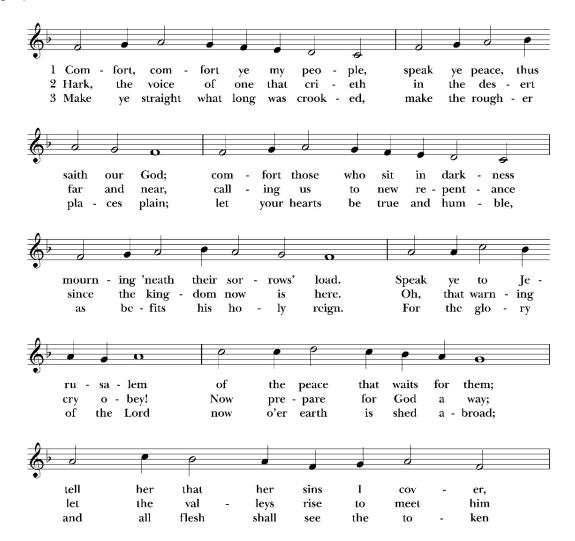
Missa Emmanuel

Maks Adach (b. 1993)

The People stand for the entry of the Ministers.

Opening Hymn

PSALM 42

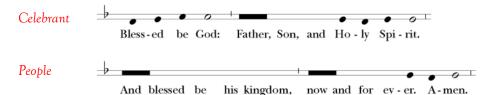




Comfort, comfort ye my people, #67 from The Hymnal 1982 – Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.

Music: Psalm 42, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. Hymnal 1982.

The Penitential Order



The Celebrant welcomes the People and introduces the celebration. Then, the Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The People remain standing. Silence is kept.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Kyrie eleison





The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Silence is kept. The Celebrant says the Collect.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **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 VENI EMMANUEL

The Choir sings the refrain and all repeat.



Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God; who made heaven and earth, the seas and all that is in them; who keeps his promise forever; who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. *Refrain*

The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bow'd down; the Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked. The Lord shall reign forever, your God O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah! *Refrain*

Gospel Acclamation

Advent Alleluia

Stephen Pishner

The People stand. The Cantor sings the Alleluia and all repeat.



Cantor

The spirit of the Lord is upon me, He sent me to bring good news to the poor.

The People repeat the Alleluia.

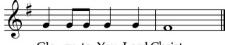
The Holy Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

The Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

People



Glo-ry to You, Lord Christ.

At the end The Gospel of the Lord.

People



Praise to You, Lord Christ.

The Homily Fr. Schultz

The People stand.

The Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

Celebrant Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.

People Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.

Celebrant Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved:

People O Lord God of hosts.

The candles are lit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

God of joy, it is in Your love that we find lasting joy. Teach us to find joy in the gift of Your Son, who came into this world with nothing, yet gave us everything. May His joy fill our hearts and overflow to all we encounter. **Amen**.

The Prayers of the People (Special Form)

The Leader says

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge.

Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom.

Maranatha:

People Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

"Maranatha" is an Aramaic word used in the scriptures which means "come."

Come to your world as King of the nations.

Before you rulers will stand in silence.

Maranatha:

People Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter.

Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress,

and set us free to serve you for ever.

Maranatha:

People Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls.

We remember those who have died. Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death.

Maranatha:

People Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory. Lift us up to meet you, that with Holy Mary, Mother of God, Saint Thomas and all your saints and angels we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

Maranatha:

People Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

After the prayers, silence is kept, then the Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people, who trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

People 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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Greetings

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory Anthem Show me the way! Maks Adach
(b. 1993)

I am looking for Jesus, I want to find him,
But I don't know the way.
I heard angels announcing the wondrous
tidings, I'll travel night and day.
Follow that star to Bethlehem Follow that star to Bethlehem And see the babe in the hay!

Show me the way to Bethlehem - I followed that star as it shone through the I'm coming from Jerusalem! night, and all was calm and bright. Show me the way to Bethlehem - Now I see the shepherds and Mary, Joseph, 'Cause I can't go astray! And Kings with gifts just right.

You can follow the brightest illumination
You can see the star;
You might find it surprising he's in a stable
With wise men from afar.

I have arrived in Bethlehem I have arrived in Bethlehem And I've seen Jesus today!

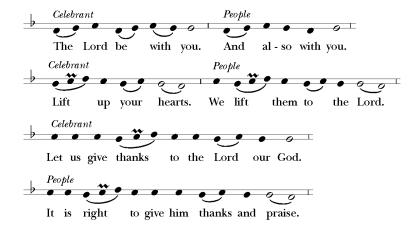
Sarah Norvell (b. 1992)



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

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

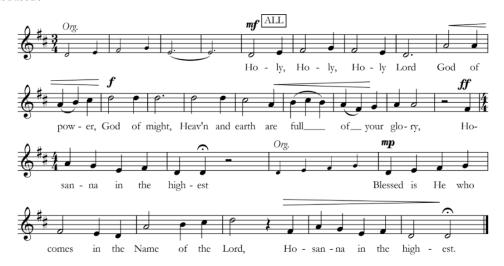


The Celebrant sings the Preface

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your 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 we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



The People remain standing or kneel. The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, St. John the Baptist, St. Thomas our Patron, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

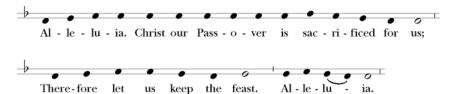
Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.



Agnus Dei

People



The Invitation to Communion

The Celebrant says

Behold the Lamb of God.

Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

People

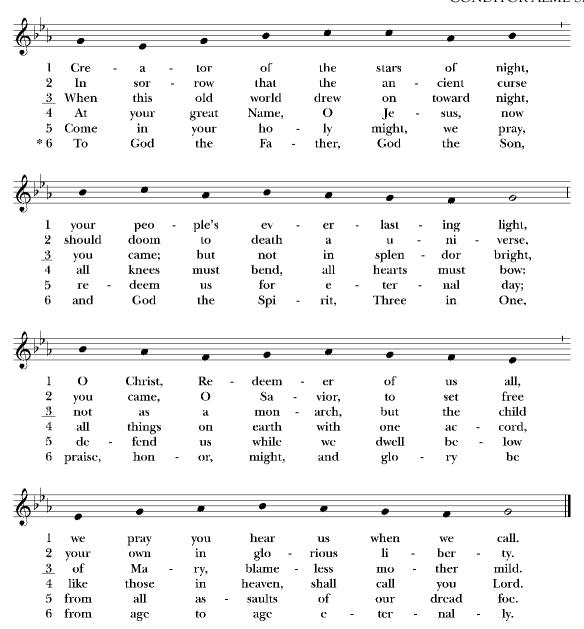
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

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.

Hymn

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM



After Communion, silence is kept. The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

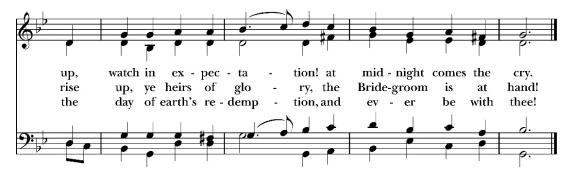
The People stand.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn LLANGLOFFAN





Rejoice! rejoice, believers, #68 from The Hymnal 1982 – Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt.

Music: Llangloffan, melody from Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru, 1865.

The Blessing and Dismissal

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**.

Go in peace to prepare the way of the Lord.

People '

Thanks be to God.

Please join us for Coffee Hour in the Living Room 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)

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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.



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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.



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!



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

11 a.m. Festal Eucharist*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys Sermon by The Rector

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

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!

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.

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 오후1:30에 본당에서 올리는 한국어 감사 성찬례에 여러분을 초대합니다. 오후12:45에 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

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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

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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

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 email: admissions@choirschool.org
www.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 Samyel Lee John G. Oghia Benita Potters Inge Reist Karl C. Saunders, Treasurer

You may contact the Wardens using this address: Wardens@SaintThomasChurch.org.