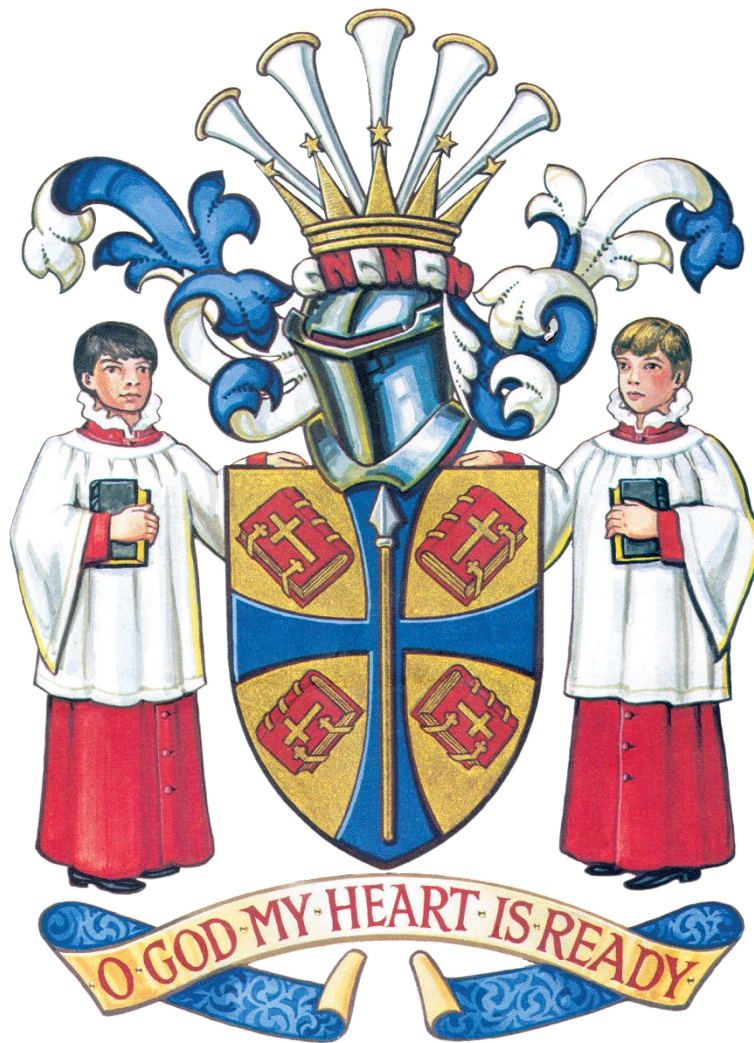




SAINT THOMAS CHURCH
NEW YORK

December 25, 2025
Christmas Day at 11 a.m.
Sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

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 Dr. Alison J. Turner

Associate for Children and 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

Associate Priest for Children and Family Ministry

STAFF

Richard Tanner, *Organist & 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*

SAINT THOMAS CHOIR SCHOOL

The Rev. Dr. Alison J. Turner, *Director of Transition*

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*

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

The Reverend Mark Brown, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend Canon Victor Conrado, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend Canon Anne Mallonee, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend David F. Mc Neeley, *Honorary Assistant*

The Reverend Stephen Morris, *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

Kenneth Koen

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.



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORDINARY OF THE MASS

Missa Brevis

Jonathan Dove
(b. 1959)

ORGAN PRELUDES

X. Noël

Louis-Claude Daquin
(1694-1772)

A Festive Voluntary: Variations on 'Good King Wenceslas'

Petr Eben
(1929-2007)

The People stand at the entry of the Ministers.



THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Do I not fill heaven and earth? Saith the Lord.
People Now he is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.

Celebrant From eternity to eternity thou art God,
People And now we see thee as a new-born child.

Celebrant Alleluia. Unto us a child is born.
People O come let us adore him. Alleluia.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

ADESTE FIDELES

arr. David Willocks
(1919-2015)

- O** COME, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the King of angels;
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
2. God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created:
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
3. See how the shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
4. Lo! star-led chieftains
Magi, Christ adoring,
Offer him incense, gold, and myrrh;
We to the Christ Child
Bring our hearts' oblations:
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
5. Child, for us sinners
Poor and in the manger,
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;
Who would not love thee,
Loving us so dearly?
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
6. Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
In the highest:
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
7. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!



Bless-ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho-ly Spi-rit.

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

THE sun of righteousness has dawned with healing in his wings.
Let us come to the light of Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

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

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.**

*We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee.
We give thanks to thee
for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.*



Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus altissimus Jesu Christe.
Cum Sancto Spiritu
in Gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ.
With the Holy Ghost, art most high
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

ALmighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, being regenerate and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The People sit.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LESSON

Isaiah 52:7-10

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

PSALM 98

Sung by the Choir

Anglican Chant (Suter)

CANTATE DOMINO

OSING unto the Lord a new song : for he hath done marvellous things.
With his own right hand, and with his holy arm : hath he gotten himself the victory.
The Lord declared his salvation :
his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.
He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel :
and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.
Shew yourselves joyful unto the Lord, all ye lands : sing, rejoice, and give thanks.
Praise the Lord upon the harp : sing to the harp with a psalm of thanksgiving.
With trumpets also and shawms : O shew yourselves joyful before the Lord the King.
Let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is : the round world, and they that dwell therein.



Let the floods clap their hands, and let the hills be joyful together before the Lord :
for he is come to judge the earth.
With righteousness shall he judge the world : and the people with equity.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Hebrews 1:1-12

Subdeacon The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

HYMN

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

arr. David Wilcocks
(1919-2015)

- O**F the Father's heart begotten
Ere the world from chaos rose,
He is Alpha: from that Fountain,
All that is and hath been flows;
He is Omega, of all things
Yet to come the mystic Close,
Evermore and evermore.
2. By his word was all created;
He commanded and 'twas done;
Earth and sky and boundless ocean,
Universe of three in one,
All that sees the moon's soft radiance,
All that breathes beneath the sun,
Evermore and evermore.
3. This is he, whom seer and sybil
Sang in ages long gone by;
This is he of old revealèd
In the page of prophecy;
Lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;
Let the world his praises cry!
Evermore and evermore.
4. Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;
Angels and Archangels, sing!
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,
Let your joyous anthems ring,
Every tongue his name confessing,
Countless voices answering,
Evermore and evermore.

Prudentius (b. 348), tr. Roby Furley Davis, 1906

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Plainsong (Mode VI)

arr. Colin Mawby
(1936-2019)

This acclamation heralds the Gospel reading. The Choir sings the Alleluia and all repeat.



Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

People Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us: and we beheld his glory,
the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

People Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Choir Alleluia!



THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

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



People Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord.

After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.



People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The People sit.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Luigi Gioia
Theologian in Residence

A period of silent reflection may follow the sermon.

THE NICENE CREED

The People stand. At Christmas, it is customary to kneel at the underlined words, otherwise to bow.

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)

The Intercessor says

UNTO us a child is born, unto us a Son is given.
Let us bring before God the needs of the world.

The People kneel.

Wonderful counsellor, give thy wisdom to the rulers of the nations,
and especially to our President and to all in authority.

Lord, in thy mercy

People **hear our prayer.**

Mighty God, make the whole world know that the government is upon thy shoulders.
Bless Matthew our Bishop, and all who proclaim thy truth.

Lord, in thy mercy

People **hear our prayer.**

Everlasting Father, establish thy reign of justice and righteousness for ever.
We pray for all who are suffering today; the homeless in our city,
all refugees, and all who are suffering through war, famine, invasion, or oppression.

Lord, in thy mercy

People **hear our prayer.**

Prince of peace, bring in the endless kingdom of thy peace;
we pray for those who have died, and especially our loved ones,
and those for whom these flowers are given in memory,
and for whom these candles burn at the Christmas Crèche.

Lord, in thy mercy

People **hear our prayer.**

In a moment of silence, let us bring our own special prayers to God.

The Celebrant says

OGOD, who makest us glad by the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only
Son Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer,
so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our Judge;
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

People **Amen.**



THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

THE PEACE

The People stand. 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.

People The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

The Celebrant says the Offertory Sentence, and the People sit.

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Sung by the Choir

*Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck
(1562-1621)*

HODIE, Christus natus est. Noë, noë.
Hodie Salvator apparuit. Alleluia.
Hodie in terra canunt Angeli.
Laetantur Archangeli. Noë, noë.
Hodie exsultant justi, dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Alleluia. Noë, noë.

*Today Christ is born. Noel, noel.
Today the Savior appeared. Alleluia.
Today on Earth the Angels sing.
Archangels rejoice. Noel, noel.
Today the righteous rejoice, saying:
Glory to God in the highest.
Alleluia. Noel, noel.*

Antiphon to the Magnificat at Vespers on Christmas Day

The People stand.

HYMN

GOD REST YOU MERRY
arr. David Willcocks

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>GOD rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born on Christmas Day;
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.</p> <p>2. From God our heavenly Father
A blessed angel came
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.</p> | <p>3. The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoicèd much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding
In tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway
This blessèd babe to find:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.</p> <p>4. Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All others doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.</p> |
|--|--|



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.

People
It is meet and right so to do.

The Celebrant continues

IT is 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 give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children.

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

Sung by the Choir

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.

Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he that cometh
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The People kneel or stand.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer

ALL glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.



FOR in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread;
and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
“Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,
“Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you,
and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

WHEREFORE, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make,
with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee,
the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make;
having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us,
and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine,
that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies.
Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the
most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly
benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him,
that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

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.

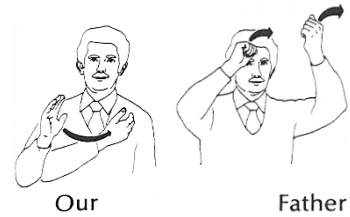
The People respond AMEN.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Padre nuestro, que estás en el cielo
하늘에 계신 우리 아버지
Notre Père qui es aux cieux
Πατερ ημων ο εν τοις ουρανοις
Pai nosso, que estais nos Céus,
Отче наш, що єси на небесах
أَبَانَا الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ،

Vater unser, der du bist im Himmel
Pater noster, qui es in caelis
我們在天上的父
Baba Yetu uliye mbinguni
Padre nostro, che sei nei cieli
天におられる私たちの父よ
हे हमारे स्वर्गबासी पिता,



The Celebrant says

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

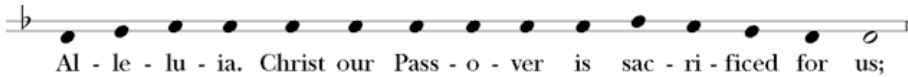
People and Celebrant

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

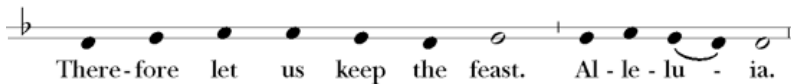


THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



People



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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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 *(for those unable to receive Holy Communion)*

IBELIEVE 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 various stations around the church. Please follow the direction of the ushers.
Intinction (dipping the host in the chalice) is not permitted. Gluten free hosts are available - please ask the priest.*

MIDDLE VOLUNTARY

Puer Natus in Bethlehem, BuxWV 217

Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)



CAROLS

Sung by the Choir

Samuel Scheidt
(c.1587-1654)

A CHILD is born in Bethlehem, Alleluia.
And joy is in Jerusalem, Alleluia.
Rejoice, rejoice, sing high, sing low, Alleluia.
Benedicamus Domino, Alleluia.
To thee, O Lord, be glory be. Alleluia.
O Son of Mary, Mother-Maid, Alleluia.
To Holy Trinity be praise, Alleluia.
With Deo Gratia always, Alleluia.

14th Century Latin Hymn

Gerre Hancock
(1934-2012)

INFANT holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
nowells ringing, tidings bringing,
Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new;
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you!

Attr. Piotrowi Skardze; Paraphrased Edith M.G

arr. Mack Wilberg
(b. 1955)

DING dong! merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky is riven with angels singing.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io by priest and people sungen.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

16th century French



This carol is sung if needed, the People kneeling or sitting.

HYMN

CRADLE SONG

A WAY in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my bedside till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

Anonymous 19th Century American

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 blesses the People

The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

MAY Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN

MENDELSSOHN

arr. David Willocks

HARK! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.*

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.*

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.*

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in the light and peace of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Toccata from Symphonie Improvisée (Boston)

Pierre Cochereau

(1924-1984)

Transcribed by Jeremy Filsell



Christmas at Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue

Friday, December 26 *St. Stephen's Day*

The Church is open from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.
for Private Prayer and Visits to the Christmas Crèche

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers (Intercessions) and Mass *Live audio-stream*

Saturday, December 27 *St. John the Evangelist's Day*

The Church is open from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.
for Private Prayer and Visits to the Christmas Crèche

11 -11.45 a.m. Confessions, Spiritual Advice, and Healing Ministry
Confessor: Mo. Turner

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers (Intercessions) and Mass *Live audio-stream*

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

Sunday, December 28

The Sunday after Christmas

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

The Church is open from 7.15 a.m. until 4 p.m.
for Private Prayer and Visits to the Christmas Crèche

7:45 a.m. Said Mass in the Lady Chapel

9:00 a.m. Said Mass at the High Altar

11:00 a.m. Solemn Eucharist *Live video-stream*
sung by the Saint Thomas Consort
Sermon by Mo. Turner

New Year's Day – Thursday, January 1, 2026

The Church is open from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.
for Private Prayer and Visits to the Christmas Crèche

12pm Said Mass to welcome in the New Year *Live audio-stream*

Parish Notices

Children and Family Ministries: 10am Children's Formation is available for children Pre-K - High School from 10-10:45am following the 9am Mass. There will be no Children's Formation Sunday, December 28th, but we return with a Family Feast on Sunday, January 4th for Epiphany! The Children's area (near the icon of Saint Thomas) is available for families during all services, with quiet activities for young children. The Nursery is available today and will be closed for Sunday, December 28th, returning the following week. The Nursery also continues to be available for the sole use of babies and toddlers with their parents/caregivers, from 9am-1pm on Sundays in the Parish House, 3rd floor. To receive more information, contact childrenandfamilies@saintthomaschurch.org.

The Noble Singers, are off until Sunday, January 4th. There will be no rehearsal that Thursday, but those who can make it to Sunday rehearsals will sing in the 9am Mass. No audition is necessary, just enthusiasm and a love of music! For more information, and to register your singer, contact JLane@saintthomaschurch.org.

Saint Thomas Choir School is home to the boy choristers of the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys. Since September 2025, the Choir School (grades 4-8) has partnered with Professional Children's School for the boys' academic education, while they continue to live and train at STCS in a close-knit, music-centered environment. They sing five weekly services at Saint Thomas Church and perform in the Concerts at Saint Thomas series. If you know a boy who loves to sing and may thrive in this unique setting, please contact Margaret White at mwhite@choirschool.org.

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. 아래 주소로 등록하시면 월요일 아침묵상글을 이메일로 받아볼 수 있습니다. <https://mailchi.mp/saintthomaschurch/korean>

Contemplative Prayer takes place most 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 Taizé 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.

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.

Explore the Beauty and History of Saint Thomas Church each Sunday following the 11am service with a guided tour. These tours offer a unique opportunity to delve into the rich history, sacred art, and exquisite architectural details of our landmark building. To take part, please meet the Tour Guide at the "Tour Guide - Meet Here" sign on the south side of the Narthex. All are warmly welcome.

Friday Bible Study occurs at 1pm on Zoom, currently focusing on the book of Ecclesiastes. To receive the zoom link, contact Fr. Brown at mbrown@saintthomaschurch.org

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 during Christmastide.



The Saint Thomas Community Outreach Program **Neighbor to Neighbor** provides coffee, tea, water, muffins, fresh fruit, yogurt and hot oatmeal to neighbors in need. The program serves guests between 9-10am every Saturday, with volunteers arriving at the Parish House on 53rd Street around 8:15am. Please note that there is a signup form for interested volunteers. If you are interested in knowing more about the program and getting involved, please register to be on the mailing list for this group using the QR code



We will be saying farewell to Nicolas Haigh, Margaret Carpenter-Haigh, and Maks Adach who have worked so hard in the music department for several years, especially through the pandemic. As is our tradition when organists leave, you can contribute to a farewell purse to Nicolas and/or Maks. You can make a one-off donation on-line or send a check to the parish office. If giving on-line, scan the QR code and select the Organist you wish to give to. If writing a check, indicate on the memo line who the funds are intended for.



THE PILGRIMS' COURSE 2026

The Christian Faith for Newcomers

The **Pilgrims' Course** offers a warm and inviting introduction to the Christian faith and to how Saint Thomas lives out the Gospel in the Episcopal tradition through worship, love, and service to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Who is it for?

Designed especially *for those new to Saint Thomas*, this fifteen-week course pairs thoughtful talks with shared reflection and the chance to experience community over a light meal.

When?

Tuesdays, January to May
Beginning January 13, 2026
6:30 to 8:00 pm
In Person Only

Where?

Saint Thomas Church • Parish House, 1 W 53rd Street

What to Expect?

- A warm and friendly welcome
- Meaningful conversation and shared learning
- Clear, accessible introductions to Christian belief and practice

Register today and receive the full schedule and details!



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Find Your Voice, Find Yourself

*A Residential Program for Boys
in Grades 4-8 Who Love to Sing*



SAINT THOMAS



CHOIR SCHOOL

PROFESSIONAL
CHILDREN'S
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Saint Thomas Choir School is a home away from home for the boy choristers of the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys, where students in grades 4–8 live in community, are nurtured by full-time staff, and grow into young men of service and musical excellence. Since September 2025, STCS is partnering with Professional Children's School to offer a unique, music-centered education in Manhattan, combining rigorous academics at PCS with immersive musical, spiritual, and residential life at STCS. For more information, contact **admissions@choirschool.org**.



