

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*

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2025 AT 4 P.M.
CHRISTMAS EVE

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 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*

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

Kenneth Koen

Gregory Zaffiro, *Warden*

Samuel Lee

John G. Oghia

Benita Potters

Inge Reist

Karl C. Saunders, *Treasurer*

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



PRELUDE

VIII. Noël "Étranger"

Louis-Claude Daquin
(1694-1772)

X. Noël

Louis-Claude Daquin

A Festive Voluntary: Variations on 'Good King Wenceslas'

Petr Eben
(1929-2007)

Variations sur un Noël, Op. 20

Marcel Dupré
(1886-1971)

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

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

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

HYMN

IRBY

Choir Only:

ONCE in royal David's city,
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

Choir Only:

He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor, and mean, and lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

All:

And, through all his wondrous childhood,
he would honor and obey,
love, and watch the lowly maiden,
in whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children all must be
mild, obedient, good as he.

All:

For he is our childhood's pattern,
day by day like us he grew,
he was little, weak and helpless,
tears and smiles like us he knew;
and he feeleth for our sadness,
and he shareth in our gladness.

All:

And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love,
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

All:

Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
when like stars his children crowned,
all in white shall wait around.

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)



THE BIDDING

BELOVED in Christ, at this Christmastide, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all his people; for unity and brotherhood within the Church he came to build, and especially in this city and diocese of New York.

And because this would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are for ever one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the Throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant 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 Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life, and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

The People sit.



CAROL

Sung by the Choir

*arr. Sir Philip Ledger
(1937-2012)*

ON Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring.
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before his grace,
then life and health come in its place.
Angels and men with joy may sing
all for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God and peace to men,
now and for evermore, Amen!"

Sussex Carol (17th Century)

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise
and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

Read by a Chorister

CAROL

Sung by the Choir

*Laura Shiels
(b. 1996)*

A DAM lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long;
And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took,
As clerkes finden
Written in their book.
Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never our lady
A been hevenè queen.
Blessed be the time
That apple take was.
Therefore we moun singen
"Deo gracias."

15th century carol

Please turn the page quietly



CAROL

Elizabeth Poston
(1905-1987)

THE tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit and always green;
The trees of nature fruitless be,
Compared with Christ the Apple Tree.

His beauty doth all things excel,
By faith I know but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see,
In Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought;
I missed of all but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the Apple Tree.

I'm weary with my former toil -
Here I will sit and rest awhile,
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed
shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

Read by a Young Member of the Parish

CAROL

Sung by the Choir

Mateo Flecha the Elder
(1483-1553)

RIU, Riu, Chiu,
la guarda ribera,
Dios guardó el lobo
de nuestra cordera.

El lobo rabioso
la quiso morder,
mas Dios poderoso
la supo defender,
quisole hazer que
no pudiesse pecar:
ni aún original
esta virgen no tuviera.

Riu, Riu, Chiu...

Riu, riu, chiu
The riverbank is protected
God has kept the wolf
From our ewe lamb

The rabid wolf
Wanted to bite her
But Almighty God
Knew how to defend her
He willed to make her
Unable to sin
Even original sin
This virgin did not have.

Riu, riu, chiu...



Este qu'es nascido
es el gran monarcha,
Christo patriarcha
de carne vestido.
[H]anos redimido
con se hazer chiquito,
aunque era infinito,
finito se hiziera.

Riu, Riu, Chiu

Yo vi mil garçones
que andavan cantando,
por aquí volando
haziendo mil sones,
diziendo a gascones:
Gloria sea en el cielo
y paz en el suelo,
pues Jesús nasciera.

Riu, Riu, Chiu...

Pues que ya tenemos
lo que deseamos,
todos juntos vamos,
presentes llevemos;
todos le daremos
nuestra voluntad,
pues a se igualar
con el hombre viniera.

Riu, riu, chiu

The one who is born
Is the Great Monarch
Christ the Patriarch
Clothed in flesh
He has redeemed us
By making himself small
Though he was infinite
He became finite.

Riu, riu, chiu...

I saw a thousand Angels
Who were singing
Flying around
Chanting in a thousand voices
Saying to the shepherds
Glory in Heaven
And peace on earth
For Jesus is born.

Riu, riu, chiu...

Now we have
What we desire
Let us go together
To present him gifts
Let us all give him
Our will
For he came
As our equal.

Riu, riu, chiu...

16th Century Catalan Carol

[Riu is the Catalan word for River, and Chiu is thought to be the cry of the Kingfisher protecting its nest on the riverbank. The Wolf is the Devil, and the Lamb the Blessed Virgin Mary.]

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

Read by a Gentleman of the Choir



CAROL

Sung by the Choir

arr. Philip Moore
(b. 1943)

IN *dulci jubilo* [sweet rejoicing] Let us our homage shew:
Our heart's joy reclineth *In praesepio*; [in a manger]
And like a bright star shineth *Matris in gremio*, [in his mother's lap]
Alpha es et O! [beginning and end!]

O Jesu parvule, [O little Jesus] My heart is sore for Thee!
Hear me, I beseech Thee, *O puer optime*; [O perfect child]
My praying let it reach Thee, *O Princeps gloriae*. [O Prince of glory]
Trahe me post te. [Draw me after thee]

O patris caritas! O Nati lenitas! [O love of the Father! O love of the Son!]
Deeply were we stained. *Per nostra crimina*: [through our sins]
But Thou for us hast gained *Coelorum gaudia*, [Heavenly joys]
Qualis gloria! [Such glory!]

Ubi sunt gaudia, [Where are the joys?] If that they be not there?
There are Angels singing *Nova cantica*; [New songs]
And there the bells are ringing *In Regis curia*. [In the King's court]
O that we were there!

The People stand.

HYMN

FOREST GREEN

All:

O LITTLE town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

All:

O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth;
for Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

Choir Only:

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

All:

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

The People sit.



FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

The Peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

Read by a Lector of the Parish

CAROL

Sung by the Choir

Kerensa Briggs
(b.1991)

A TENDER shoot has started
Up from a root of grace,
As ancient seers imparted,
From Jesse's holy race,
It blooms without a blight,
Blooms in the cold bleak winter,
Turning our darkness into light.

This shoot Isaiah taught us
From Jesse's root should spring;
The Virgin Mary brought us
The branch of which we sing;
Our God of endless might
Gave her this child to save us,
Thus turning darkness into light.

*German 15th Century Versified by Otto Goldschmidt (1829–1907)
Translated by William Bartholomew (1793–1867)*

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Read by a Priest of the Parish

CAROL

Sung by the Choir

Benedict Tanner
(b. 2006)

I SING of a maiden that is makeles [immaculate]
King of all kings for her son she ches. [chose]
He came all so still where his mother was,
as dew in Aprille that falleth on the grass.
Mother and maiden was never none but she;
well may such a lady Goddes mother be.

15th Century English Poem



CAROL

Sung by the Choir

Matthew Owens
(b. 1971)

THE holly and the ivy,
When they are both full grown,
Of all the trees that are in the wood,
The holly bears the crown.

Refrain

*The rising of the sun
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.*

The holly bears a blossom,
As white as the lily flower,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
To be our sweet Saviour. *Refrain*

The holly bears a berry,
As red as any blood,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
For to do us sinners good. *Refrain*

The holly bears a prickly,
As sharp as any thorn,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
On Christmas Day in the morn. *Refrain*

The holly bears a bark,
As bitter as any gall,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To redeem us all. *Refrain*

The holly and the ivy,
When they are both full grown,
Of all the trees that are in the wood,
The holly bears the crown. *Refrain*

19th Century English Carol

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

Saint Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.
Read by the Organist and Director of Music



CAROL

Sung by the Choir

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

The People stand.

HYMN

CAROL

IT came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

2. Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel-sounds
the blessed angels sing.

3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and warring humankind hears not
the tidings which they bring;
O hush the noise and cease your strife
and hear the angels sing!

4. For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876)

The People sit.

SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to the manger.

Read by the Director of Transition of the Choir School



CAROL

Sung by the Choir

Sir John Rutter
(b. 1945)

GOING through the hills on a night all starry
On the way to Bethlehem
Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping
On the way to Bethlehem

*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King
Is come to bring us peace on earth
And He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem."*

"Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily
On the way to Bethlehem
Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely
On the way to Bethlehem?"

Angels in the sky...

"None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely
On the way to Bethlehem;
But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies
When I get to Bethlehem."

Angels in the sky came down from on high
Hovered over the manger where the babe was lying
Cradled in the arms of his mother Mary
Sleeping now at Bethlehem

"Where is the new King, shepherd boy piping merrily
Is He there at Bethlehem?"
"I will find Him soon by the star shining brightly
In the sky o'er Bethlehem."

Angels in the sky...

"May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily
Come with you to Bethlehem?
Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle
Is it far to Bethlehem?"

Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King
Is born in the stable yonder, born for you and me."

Sir John Rutter



EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

The Wise Men are led by the star to Jesus.

Read by a Member of the Vestry

CAROL

Sung by the Choir

Andrew Millington
(b. 1952)

EASTERN monarchs, Sages three,
Come with gifts in great plenty.
Worship Christ on bended knee ~
Cum Virgine Maria. [with the Virgin Mary]

Gold, in honour of the King,
Incense to the Priest they bring,
Myrrh, for time of burying ~
Cum Virgine Maria.

His the praise and glory be,
Laud and honour, victorie,
Power supreme! And so sing we
Cum Virgine Maria.

15th Century Latin

CAROL

Sung by the Choir

Harold Darke
(1888-1976)

I N the bleak mid-winter
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone:
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter,
Long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter
A stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom Cherubim
Worship night and day,
A breastful of milk,
And a mangerful of hay:
Enough for him, whom angels
Fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel
Which adore.

What can I give him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man
I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him,
Give my heart.

Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

The Rector will invite the People to stand when he goes to the Lectern



NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

Saint John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Read by the Rector

HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY

ADESTE FIDELES

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!

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!

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!

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!

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!

John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others

THE CHRISTMAS COLLECT

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

O GOD who makest us glad with 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 Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**



THE BLESSING

CHRIST, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,
grant you the fullness of inward peace and goodwill,
and make you partakers of the divine nature; and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN

MENDELSSOHN

HARK! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born 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 new-born King.*

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come
offspring of the 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 new-born King.*

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 new-born King.*

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

VOLUNTARY

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

Johann Sebastian Bach

Sortie on 'In Dulci Jubilo' (2007)

David Briggs
(b. 1943)

**The Vigil Mass of Christmas will be celebrated at the High Altar immediately after this service
You are welcome to stay and make your Christmas Communion**



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 *Parsons Trotter, Mary Clark deBrabant and Margaret Crane Hurlbut* 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)

Christmas at Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue

Wednesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

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

5:45 p.m. Vigil Mass of Christmas at the High Altar

10:30 p.m. Organ Music for Christmas *Live video-stream*

10:30 p.m. Midnight Mass

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys with the Saint Thomas Brass and Timpani
Sermon by the Rector

Thursday, December 25 - Christmas Day

The Church is open from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m.
for Private Prayer and Visits to the Christmas Crèche

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

11:00 a.m. Solemn Eucharist *Live video-stream*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys
Sermon by Fr. Gioia

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. 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 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**, our children's parish choir for singers (ages 5-14+) sing in the 9am Mass. Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 4:15-5:15pm, and new singers are always welcome. 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 sign-up 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



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!



