

# SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

in the CITY OF NEW YORK

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 17, 2023** 

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.

Introit

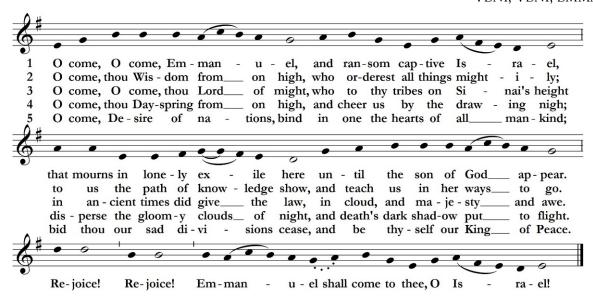
Rachel Aarons (b. 1984)

Come, Thou Redeemer of the earth, and manifest thy virgin birth, Let every age adoring fall, Such birth befits the God of All.

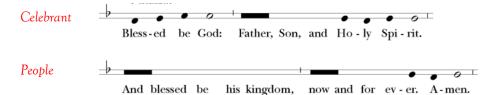
St. Ambrose; tr. John Mason Neale

Hymn

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL



# 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.

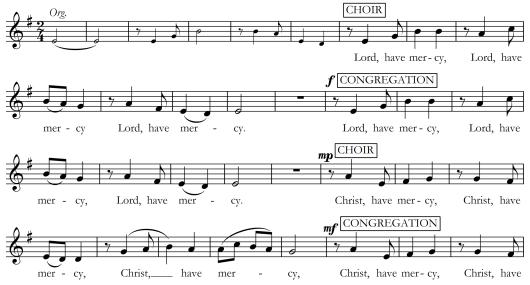
#### Celebrant and People

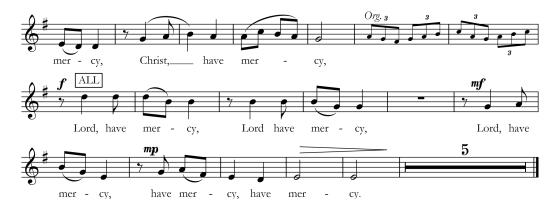
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son 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 Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126:1-4 VENI EMMANUEL

The choir sings the refrain and all repeat.



When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. *Refrain* 

Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them." The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed. *Refrain* 

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

John 1:6-8, 19-28

The Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At the end

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily Fr. Moretz

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 candle is lit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, light of the world, John told the people to prepare, for you were very near. As Christmas grows closer day by day, help us to be ready to welcome you now. **Amen**.

# The Prayers of the People (Special Form)

The Leader says

On this Gaudete Sunday, let us pray for the Church and for the world.

God of joy, may your church rejoice in the coming of your Son, may he bring wisdom to those who teach; acceptance to all who are excluded; and guidance to all who follow.

People Come quickly, O Lord Jesus, bring joy to your church. Amen.

God of joy, may this world rejoice in the coming of your kingdom, may it bring justice to the oppressed; peace to all the nations; and freedom to all who are enslaved.

#### People Come quickly, O Lord Jesus, bring joy to your world. Amen.

God of joy, may all in need rejoice in the coming of your salvation, may it bring healing to the sick; comfort to all in distress; and safety for those in danger.

# People Come quickly, O Lord Jesus, bring joy to those in pain this day. Amen.

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

Almighty God, Prepare us for the coming of your Son, may he come quickly and find us joyful in your service, watchful in prayer, and trusting in your promises; these and all our prayers we make in the name of the one for whom we wait, Jesus Christ, our saviour and our king.

#### People Amen.

#### The Peace

#### The Celebrant says

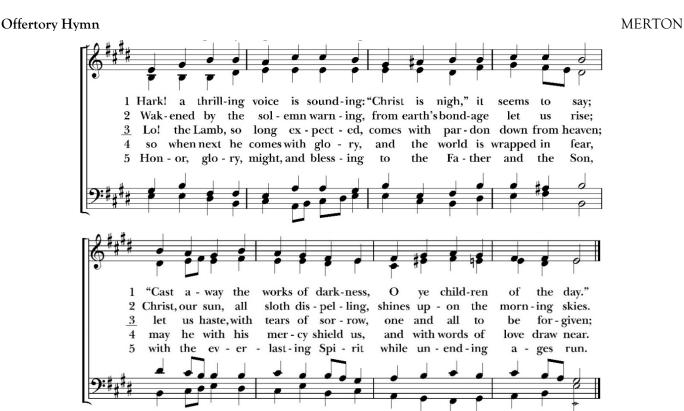
In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

#### People And also with you.

# The Greetings

# The Liturgy of the Eucharist



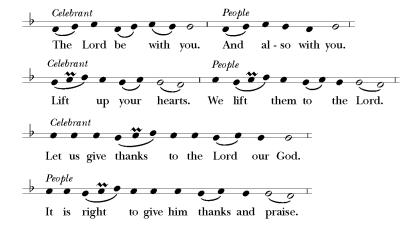
Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding, #59 from The Hymnal 1982 — Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.;
tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861, alt. Music: Merton, William Henry Monk (1823-1889).



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



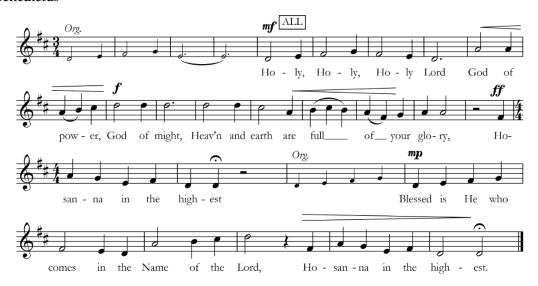
#### The Celebrant sings the Preface

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:

#### Sanctus & Benedictus



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

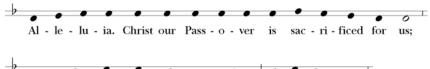
Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

#### 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.

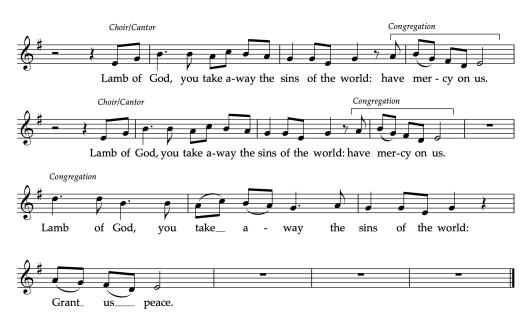
# The Breaking of the Bread

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





# Agnus Dei



#### 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.

Communion Anthem

Terre Johnson
(b. 1959)

Twas in the moon of winter-time, when all the birds had fled, That God the Lord of all the earth sent angel choirs instead; Before their light the stars grew dim, and wandering hunters heard the hymn: Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!

Within a lodge of broken bark the tender babe was found, A ragged robe of rabbit skin wrapped his beauty round; But as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high: Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!

O children of the forest free, the angel song is true; The holy child of earth and heaven is born today for you. Come kneel before the radiant boy, who brings you beauty, peace, and joy. Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!

Jean de Brébeuf (1593-1649)

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.

#### The Blessing and Dismissal

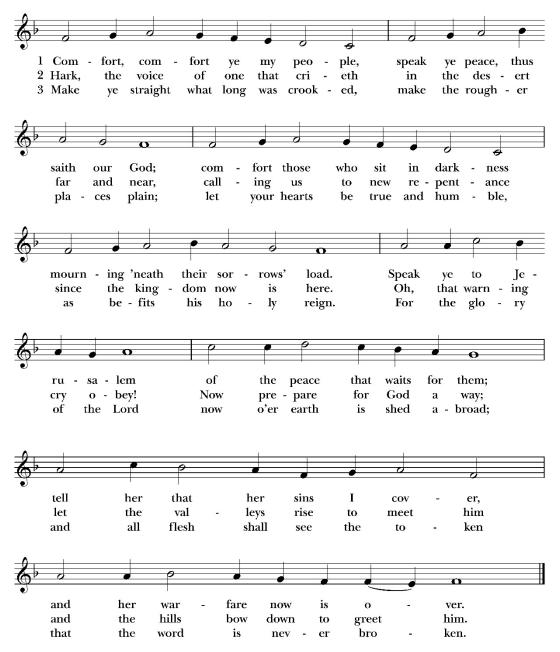
#### The Celebrant says

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.

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.

Please join us for Coffee Hour in the Living Room after the service.



The flowers today are offered to the glory of God and in memory of the following:

Mary Clark deBrabant, Margaret Crane Hurlbut, and Parsons Trotter

# WORSHIP THIS WEEK

\* indicates livestreamed.

#### Today

#### 11 a.m. Festal Eucharist\*

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

#### 12:30 p.m. Christmas Carols

Sung from the historic 5th Avenue staircase of the church, immediately following the 11 a.m. Mass sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

#### 4 p.m. A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols\*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys featuring works of French, M. Martin, Latona, Wilcox, Moore, Rutter, and Chilcott

# Monday - Saturday

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers and Holy Eucharist\*

#### Tuesday

#### 5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong\*

sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir

#### Wednesday - Ember Day

12 p.m. A Service of Christmas Lessons & Carols\* sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

#### Thursday - Saint Thomas

#### 5:30 p.m. Solemn Eucharist\*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

#### Saturday

11-11:45 a.m. Confessions, Spiritual Advice, Ministry of Healing in the Resurrection Chapel

Confessor: Mo. Turner

Next Sunday: December 24, 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 Gentlemen of the Choir Sermon by Fr. Gioia

#### Christmas Eve

#### 4 p.m. A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols\*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys featuring works of French, M. Martin, Latona, Wilcox, Moore, Rutter, and Chilcott

#### 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass of Christmas

This said service is held at the High Altar directly following the 4 p.m. Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

#### 10 p.m. Christmas Music for Organ and Brass\*

This prelude to Midnight Mass is played by Associate Organist Nicolas Haigh and Associate for Musical Studies and Assistant Organist Maks Adach, with trumpets and timpani

# 10:30 p.m. Procession and Solemn Eucharist of the Nativity (Midnight Mass)\*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys Sermon by The Right Reverend Matthew Heyd, Bishop Coadjutor of New York

# **PARISH NOTICES**

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.

Our Parish Bookstore and Gift Shop is temporarily closed as it is being relocated to part of the Narthex nearest the Chantry Chapel. If you have any questions, please reach out to giftshop@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 5<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Parish House and are streamed online. For more info, contact Fr. Luigi Gioia: lgioia@saintthomaschurch.org. (Please note the class will not meet Sundays Dec 24 or 31; we will resume January 7.)

Children and Family Ministries: Today we welcome back a familiar Visitor, Ms. Pamela Lewis, who will lead our Annual Advent Art Activity after a Bring-And-Share Family Feast at 10am in the Parish House. Parents are welcome to join their children for this annual event in celebration of Gaudete Sunday. Sunday School will be on Christmas Break December 24 and 31, but will resume with an Epiphany Family Feast on Sunday, January 7 at 10am in the Parish House. The Nursery 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. To receive our Children and Families weekly newsletter, or to register your interest in any events for the coming term please contact childrenandfamilies@saintthomaschurch.org.

Weekly Bible Study on Fridays at 1pm. Fr. Schultz leads a series of sessions that will serve as a deep dive into the Gospel of John. Join us as we continue our exploration of the Book of Signs (John 1:18 through chapter 12). For more information, please contact Fr. Schultz at <a href="mailto:mschultz@saintthomaschurch.org">mschultz@saintthomaschurch.org</a>. (Please note that the weekly Bible Study is on hiatus until January 12.)

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 all over the country to sing, study, play, perform, and live together. If you know a boy who loves to sing, encourage his family to contact Nora Thomson: <a href="mailto:nthomson@choirschool.org">nthomson@choirschool.org</a>. Also: Save the Date for our Chorister for a Day event, for boys 7-11 years old, on Sunday, February 25. For more information, email <a href="mailto:admissions@choirschool.org">admissions@choirschool.org</a>.

The Noble Singers, our children's parish choir for singers ages 5-14, under the Direction of Mrs. Rebecca Kellerman-Filsell, has resumed weekly rehearsals and singing at the 9am Mass. We welcome new singers at any time. No audition is necessary, just enthusiasm and a love of music! For more info, contact <a href="mailto:rkellerman@saintthomaschurch.org">rkellerman@saintthomaschurch.org</a>.

On Thanksgiving Day our **Angel Tree** was revealed. There are tags on the tree for children from St. Ann's Episcopal Church and Safe Horizons shelter as well as some of the migrant children known to the Ecumenical Outreach Partnership. We hope you will take a tag, and ask you to bring the requested gift to STC before December 19. Would you like to help wrap gifts, decorate the Angel Tree or make tags for the Angel Tree? Please volunteer by contacting Linda Morfi: <a href="mailto:lmorfi@saintthomaschurch.org">lmorfi@saintthomaschurch.org</a>.

#### 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

#### **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
www.ChoirSchool.org
admissions@choirschool.org

#### **HONORARY CLERGY**

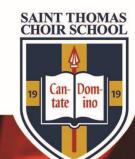
The Reverend Andrew C. Mead, OBE, DD, Rector Emeritus
The Right Reverend Andrew R. St. John, DD, Bishop in Residence
The Reverend Mark Brown, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Gina Gore, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Canon Anne Mallonee, Honorary Assistant
The Reverend Stephen Morris, Honorary Assistant
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.

# A Small School in a Great City



Saint Thomas Choir School educates the treble choristers of the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys. The boys are nurtured and educated in grades three through eight and live together in the heart of Manhattan at the only boarding choir school in the U.S.

Life at the Choir School extends far beyond the choir stalls and classroom—boys enjoy animated conversations at the dinner table with resident faculty, quiet stories read before bed, outings to shows, and Central Park as their backyard. These formative experiences inspire many graduates to recall their time at the Choir School as the "privilege of a lifetime."

The Choir School invites you to visit and learn more about this distinctive educational opportunity. Tuition is modest and generous scholarships are available.

Call to take the next step Nora Thomson Director of Outreach & Enrollment 212-247-3311



choirschool.org

#### CHRISTMAS AT SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE

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Sunday, December 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

4 p.m.

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

5:30 p.m.

VIGIL MASS OF CHRISTMAS (Said at the High Altar)

10 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR ORGAN AND BRASS

10:30 p.m.

PROCESSION AND SOLEMN EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY (MIDNIGHT MASS)

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys with Brass Music of Malcolm, Moore, Willcocks, Rutter, and Filsell Sermon by The Right Reverend Matthew Heyd, Bishop Coadjutor of New York

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Monday, 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 Walton, Martin, Willcocks, and Rutter Sermon by The Rector

#### SERVICES NEXT WEEK

The Church is open for Private Prayer and Visits to the Christmas Crèche

Tuesday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

#### **Shrine Prayers (Intercessions)**

Tuesday - Saturday at 12 p.m. Live audio stream and then on-demand.

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

#### The Daily Eucharist

Tuesday - Saturday at 12:05 p.m. Live audio stream and then on-demand.

Tuesday: Saint Stephen
Wednesday: Saint John
Thursday: Holy Innocents
Friday: St. Thomas of Canterbury

#### Confessions, Spiritual Advice, and Healing Ministry

Saturday, December 30, 11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Confessor: Fr. Mark Schultz

#### Sunday, December 31, 2023 ~ FESTAL EUCHARIST

7:45 a.m. Said Mass

9:00 a.m. Sung Mass

#### 11:00 a.m. Festal Eucharist

sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir Sermon by Fr. Gioia



