

SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE
in the
CITY OF NEW YORK



One West Fifty-third Street
New York, New York 10019
Telephone: 212-757-7013
www.SaintThomasChurch.org
The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024 AT 4 P.M.
SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

FESTAL EVENSONG
SUNG BY THE SAINT THOMAS CHOIR OF MEN AND BOYS



STC
200

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

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

contact us: welcome@saintthomaschurch.org

Please do not take photographs or videos, or make recordings during the service.

ASSISTING CLERGY

The Reverend Matthew Moretz
Vicar and Chief Operating Officer

The Reverend Alison J. Turner
Associate for Children & Family Ministry and School Chaplain

The Reverend Mark Schultz
Associate for Pastoral Care

The Reverend Prisca Lee-Pae
Associate for Pan-Asian Ministry

The Reverend Dr. Luigi Gioia
Theologian in Residence

The Reverend Preston Gonzalez-Grissom
Assistant Priest for Children and Family Ministry

STAFF

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*

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

INTROIT

Reginald Alwyn Surplice
(1906-1977)

O PRAISE the Lord of heaven: praise him in the height.
Praise him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars and light.
Let every thing that hath breath: praise the Lord.

Psalm 148:1, 3; Psalm 150:6

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

HYMN

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Unison

1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright ser - a - phs, cher - u -
 2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more glo - ri - ous than the
 3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye pa - tri - archs and
 4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su - per - nal an - them

Harmony *Unison*

bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain, Al - le - lu - ia! Cry
 ser - a - phim, lead their prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia! Thou
 pro - phets blest, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Ye
 ech - o - ing, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! To

out, do - min - ions, prince - doms, powers, vir - tues, arch - an - gels, an - gels'
 bear - er of the e - ter - nal Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the
 ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the
 God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in



Harmony

choirs, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Lord, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 song, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 One, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Unison

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Ye watchers and ye holy ones. #618 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: John Athelstan Laurie Riley (1858-1945).
 Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

Martin How
(1931-2022)

The Officiant and Choir sing the opening responses.

- V. O Lord, open thou our lips.
- R. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

- V. O God, make speed to save us.
- R. O Lord, make haste to help us.

- V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
- R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

- V. Praise ye the Lord.
- R. The Lord's Name be praised.

The People sit.

WELCOME



PSALM 104

Sung by the Choir

Anglican Chant (*Murrill, Attwood*)

BENEDIC, ANIMA MEA

PRAISE the Lord, O my soul : O Lord my God, thou art become exceeding glorious;
thou art clothed with majesty and honour.
Thou deckest thyself with light as it were with a garment :
and spreadest out the heavens like a curtain.
Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters :
and maketh the clouds his chariot, and walketh upon the wings of the wind.
He maketh his angels spirits : and his ministers a flaming fire.
He laid the foundations of the earth : that it never should move at any time.
Thou coveredst it with the deep like as with a garment : the waters stand in the hills.
At thy rebuke they flee : at the voice of thy thunder they are afraid.
They go up as high as the hills, and down to the valleys beneath :
even unto the place which thou hast appointed for them.
Thou hast set them their bounds which they shall not pass :
neither turn again to cover the earth.
He sendeth the springs into the rivers : which run among the hills.
All beasts of the field drink thereof : and the wild asses quench their thirst.
Beside them shall the fowls of the air have their habitation : and sing among the branches.
He watereth the hills from above : the earth is filled with the fruit of thy works.
He bringeth forth grass for the cattle : and green herb for the service of men;
That he may bring food out of the earth, and wine that maketh glad the heart of man :
and oil to make him a cheerful countenance, and bread to strengthen man's heart.
The trees of the Lord also are full of sap : even the cedars of Libanus which he hath planted;
Wherein the birds make their nests : and the fir-trees are a dwelling for the stork.
The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats : and so are the stony rocks for the conies.
He appointed the moon for certain seasons : and the sun knoweth his going down.
Thou makest darkness that it may be night : wherein all the beasts of the forest do move.
The lions roaring after their prey : do seek their meat from God.
The sun ariseth, and they get them away together : and lay them down in their dens.
Man goeth forth to his work, and to his labour : until the evening.
O Lord, how manifold are thy works : in wisdom hast thou made them all;
the earth is full of thy riches.
So is the great and wide sea also : wherein are things creeping innumerable,
both small and great beasts.
There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan :
whom thou hast made to take his pastime therein.
These wait all upon thee : that thou mayest give them meat in due season.
When thou givest it them they gather it :
and when thou openest thy hand they are filled with good.
When thou hidest thy face they are troubled : when thou takest away their breath they die,
and are turned again to their dust.
When thou lettest thy breath go forth they shall be made :
and thou shalt renew the face of the earth.
The glorious majesty of the Lord shall endure for ever : the Lord shall rejoice in his works.
The earth shall tremble at the look of him : if he do but touch the hills, they shall smoke.
I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live : I will praise my God while I have my being.
And so shall my words please him : my joy shall be in the Lord.



As for sinners, they shall be consumed out of the earth, and the ungodly shall come to an end :
praise thou the Lord, O my soul, praise the Lord.

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.

FIRST LESSON

Daniel 10:4-21

The People stand for the Office Hymn and Magnificat.

HYMN

DARWALL'S 148TH

Descant

4 My soul, bear thou thy part, tri - umph in God a - bove: and
 1 Ye ho - ly an - gels bright, who wait at God's right hand, or
 2 Ye bless - ed souls at rest, who ran this earth - ly race and
 3 Ye saints, who toil be - low, a - dore your heaven - ly King, and
 4 My soul, bear thou thy part, tri - umph in God a - bove: and

with a well - tuned heart sing thou the songs of love! Let all thy
 through the realms of light fly at your Lord's com - mand, as - sist our
 now, from sin re - leased, be - hold the Sa - vior's face, God's prais - es
 on - ward as ye go some joy - ful an - them sing; take what he
 with a well - tuned heart sing thou the songs of love! Let all thy

days till life shall end, what - e'er he send, be filled with praise.
 song, for else the theme too high doth seem for mor - tal tongue.
 sound, as in his sight with sweet de - light ye do a - bound.
 gives and praise him still, through good or ill, who ev - er lives!
 days till life shall end, what - e'er he send, be filled with praise.

Ye holy angels bright, #625 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Richard Baxter (1615-1691); rev. John Hampden Gurney (1802-1862). Music: *Darwall's 148th*, melody and bass John Darwall (1731-1789); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.; desc. Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947).



MAGNIFICAT

Collegium Regale

Herbert Howells
(1892-1983)

MY SOUL doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
 he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
 as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.
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 People sit.

SECOND LESSON

Revelation 5

The People stand for the Nunc dimittis and the Creed.

NUNC DIMITTIS

Collegium Regale

Herbert Howells

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation;
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
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 APOSTLES' CREED

I BELIEVE in God, the Father almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
 who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, dead, and buried.
 He descended into hell.
 The third day he rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
 From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
 the holy Catholick Church, the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.



THE PRAYERS

Sung by the Choir

V. The Lord be with you.

R. *And with thy spirit.*

The People kneel.

Let us pray.

R. *Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

*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. Amen.*

V. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

R. *And grant us thy salvation.*

V. O Lord, save the State.

R. *And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.*

V. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

R. *And make thy chosen people joyful.*

V. O Lord, save thy people.

R. *And bless thine inheritance.*

V. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

R. *Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.*

V. O God, make clean our hearts within us.

R. *And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

OVERLASTING God, who hast ordained and constituted the ministries of angels and men in a wonderful order: Mercifully grant that, as thy holy angels always serve and worship thee in heaven, so by thy appointment they may help and defend us on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*



THE COLLECT FOR PEACE

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed:
Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give,
that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee,
we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

THE COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;
and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The People sit.

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Hymn to Saint Michael

Robert Lehman
(b. 1960)

O JESU, life-spring of the soul, the Father's power, and glory bright!
Thee with the angels we extol; from thee they draw their life and light.
Thy thousand hosts are spread embattled over the azure sky;
but Michael bears thy standard dread, and lifts the mighty cries on high.
He in that sign the rebel powers did with their dragon prince expel;
and hurled them from the heaven's high towers down like a thunderbolt to hell.
Grant us with Michael still, O Lord, against the Prince of Pride to fight;
so may a crown be our reward, before the Lord's pure throne of light.

Urban VIII (1568-1644), from the hymn Tibi, Christi, splendor Patris



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

SERMON

The Rev. Landon Moore
Vicar for Vocations, Diocese of Long Island



HYMN

RUSTINGTON

1 Round the Lord in glo - ry seat - ed cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim
 2 Heaven is still with glo - ry ring - ing, earth takes up the an - gels' cry,
 3 "Lord, thy glo - ry fills the hea - ven, earth is with thy full - ness stored;

filled his tem - ple, and re - peat - ed each to each the al - ter - nate hymn;
 "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," sing - ing, "Lord of hosts, the Lord Most High."
 un - to thee be glo - ry giv - en, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord."

"Lord, thy glo - ry fills the hea - ven, earth is with thy full - ness stored;
 With his ser - aph train be - fore him, with his ho - ly Church be - low,
 Thus thy glo - rious Name con - fess - ing, with thine an - gel hosts we cry

un - to thee be glo - ry giv - en, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord."
 thus u - nite we to a - dore him, bid we thus our an - them flow:
 "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," bless - ing thee, the Lord of hosts Most High.

Round the Lord in glory seated, #367 from *The Hymnal 1982* – Words: Richard Mant (1776-1848).
 Music: Rustington, Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918).

THE BLESSING

GOD keep you in the fellowship of his saints; Christ protect you by the ministry of the angels;
 the Spirit make you holy in God's service; and the blessing of God almighty,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**



PSALM 150

Sung by the Choir

Anglican Chant (Talbot)

LAUDATE DOMINUM

O PRAISE God in his holiness : praise him in the firmament of his power.
Praise him in his noble acts : praise him according to his excellent greatness.
Praise him in the sound of the trumpet : praise him upon the lute and harp.
Praise him in the cymbals and dances : praise him upon the strings and pipe.
Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals : praise him upon the loud cymbals.
Let every thing that hath breath : praise the Lord.
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.

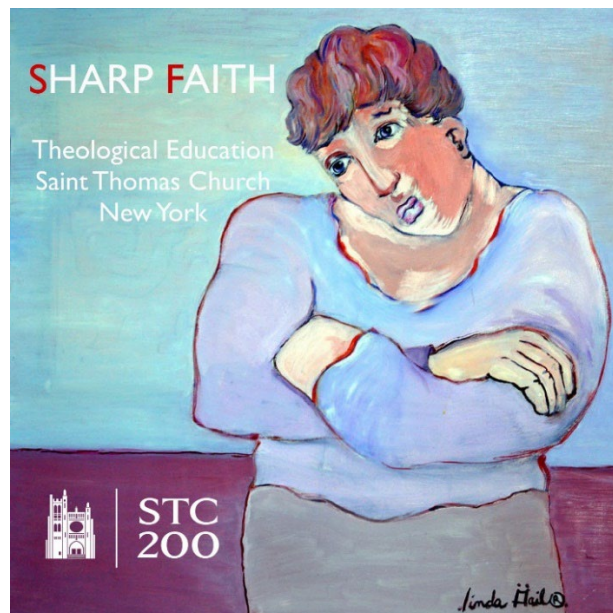
VOLUNTARY

L'Ange à la Trompette (1962)

Jacques Charpentier
(1933-2017)

The Saint Thomas Theological Education Program 2024-25 continues Sundays at 10 a.m. with a series of talks on *The Question of Evil and Suffering* and *The Theology of Healing* by our Theologian In Residence, Fr. Luigi Gioia.

The lectures will be livestreamed on YouTube and video-recorded. If you want to receive weekly updates about the program, or to access the dates and titles of the talks, please register at this link:



The Saint Thomas Theological Education Program is at the service of those who seek a deeper understanding of faith and want to nourish their worship and their prayer. The teaching is rooted in Scripture, Christian tradition and spirituality. The lecturers are The Rev. Dr. Luigi Gioia, Theologian in Residence, and internationally renowned guest speakers who are committed to making theology accessible to non-specialists. The classes are held on Sundays at 10 AM on the Fifth Floor of the Parish House and are streamed online. Additionally, recordings and handouts are made available for those who cannot attend the live sessions. For the registration and the Program of Talks 2024-25 you can write to Fr. Luigi Gioia at lgioia@SaintThomasChurch.org.

50

PILGRIMS' II COURSE FALL 2024



*Want to know more about the Christian Faith? Want to be baptized or confirmed?
Want to become a member of Saint Thomas Church?*

A Follow-Up to the Pilgrims' course will take place in the Fall on **October 22, 29** and **November 5, 12, and 19**.

Among the topics there will be two highly appreciated talks by the Rector:

- “**Divine Design:** a guided exploration of Saint Thomas Church and of the liturgical signification of its architecture with the Rector”
- “**Unpacking the Sunday High Mass:** A step-by-step explanation of what happens and why”

A poll will be sent to the participants of the Pilgrims' course of the past few years to ask them which topics they would like to revisit or deepen. If you wish to be kept informed about the Pilgrims' Follow Up Course, please register here:



please join us for a

BICENTENNIAL

Closing Celebration

OCTOBER **5** AT 6 PM

Cocktails and Live Music

SCAN HERE
FOR TICKETS

You may also email
bicentennial@saintthomaschurch.org
to purchase your ticket(s).

Bonnell Hall, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian

WORSHIP THIS WEEK

* indicates livestreamed.

Monday – Friday

12 p.m. Shrine Prayers*

12:05 p.m. Holy Eucharist*

Tuesday – Thérèse of Lisieux

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong*

Followed by a short, said Mass

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Wednesday – Holy Guardian Angels

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong*

Followed by a short, said Mass

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Thursday

5:30 p.m. Choral Evensong*

Followed by a short, said Mass

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Friday

3 p.m. Contemplative Prayer

In the Resurrection Chapel

Saturday

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

Confessor: The Rector

11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. The Rosary at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fifth Avenue *(includes Shrine Prayers)*

12 p.m. Holy Eucharist*

(Saturday Mass of Our Lady)

Next Sunday: October 6, Patronal Feast Day

10 a.m. Procession and Solemn Eucharist*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys, and the Noble Singers

Sermon by The Rector

4 p.m. Solemn Evensong*

sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys

Sermon by The Rt. Rev. Allen Shin,

Bishop Suffragan, Diocese of New York

5:15 p.m. Sunday Recital Series

*Jeremy Filsell, piano, and Balint Karosi, clarinet
New York, NY*



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

Margaret Crane Hurlbut, Nydia Mason, James Massey, and Frances Wasson Scoville

PARISH NOTICES

Children and Family Ministries: CFM Registration is now open. Please register your children on the church website for the 2024-2025 CFM Program Year. Sunday School (ages 3-10) and Faith Alive (10-14+) meet at 10 a.m. Sunday School meets in the Sunday School Room (3rd Floor) and Faith Alive meets in the Dining Room (2nd Floor). The Nursery continues to be available for the sole use of babies and toddlers with their parents/caregivers, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. 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 now accepting new choristers. The choir rehearses weekly on Thursdays and Fridays from 4:15 - 5:15 p.m. Choristers select one rehearsal to attend each week and sing weekly at the 9 am 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.

Join us on Saturday, November 23 at 3 p.m. as **Concerts at Saint Thomas** presents Austrian organist **Lukas Hasler** playing **Bruckner and Beyond: Austrian Organ Masterpieces**. This concert is presented in collaboration with the Austrian Cultural Forum New York and will feature music of Bruckner, Mozart, Planavsky, and Liszt. For in-person or livestream tickets and for information about future concerts, please email us at concerts@saintthomaschurch.org or visit <https://www.saintthomaschurch.org/music/concerts>. Support *Concerts at Saint Thomas* by becoming a *Friend of Music*. To make a donation, please call 212-664-9360.

You are cordially invited to the **Holy Eucharist in the Korean language** every second Sunday of the month at 1:30 p.m. It is preceded by brunch at 12:45 p.m. 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.

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 3 p.m. 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.

Friday Zoom Bible Study—Christ and Ekklesia: John's Wondrous Vision of Light. Led by Fr. Schultz Fridays at 1 p.m. 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.

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 Social Justice Outreach Group gathers volunteers from our community to address the needs of vulnerable people facing special challenges and who struggle to meet basic needs. With St. Patrick's Cathedral and Fifth Avenue Presbyterian, Saint Thomas Church is part of the EOP (Ecumenical Outreach Partnership). The EOP employs two social workers who make sure that volunteer work is done professionally, in compliance with regulations and safeguarding, and in such a way that people in need are helped to improve their life situations. Parishioners from Saint Thomas can join the distribution of meals by the EOP on 55th Street from 1-2 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. Those who would like to join can write to Fr. Luigi Gioia at Lgioia@saintthomaschurch.org.