



# ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH DUPONT CIRCLE



## Fourth Sunday of Easter – May 3, 2020

Opening Hymn

“Morning Has Broken”

*Unison or harmony*

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird. \_\_\_\_\_  
like the first dew - fall on the first grass. \_\_\_\_\_  
born of the one light E - den saw play! \_\_\_\_\_

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The first system includes three numbered verses. The second system continues the lyrics with blank lines for additional verses.

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
 Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
 Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass.  
 God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

### Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen!  
 People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

### The Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.  
 People: **And also with you.**  
 Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### First Reading Acts 2: 42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

## The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm

Lyrics and Music by Bobbie McFerrin

The Lord is my Shepard, I have all I need  
She makes me lie down in green meadows  
Beside the still waters, She will lead

She restores my soul, She rights my wrongs  
She leads me in a path of good things  
And fills my heart with songs

Even though I walk, through a dark and dreary land  
There is nothing that can shake me  
She has said She won't forsake me  
I'm in her hand

She sets a table before me, in the presence of my foes  
She anoints my head with oil  
And my cup overflows

Surely, surely goodness and kindness will follow me  
All the days of my life  
And I will live in her house  
Forever, forever and ever

Glory be to our Mother, and Daughter  
And to the Holy of Holies  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be  
World, without end

## The Holy Gospel

John 10: 1-10

**Celebrant:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
**People:** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate.

Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you Lord Christ.

## The Sermon

Mildred Reyes

Missioner for Formation and Diocesan Initiatives

✠ Please observe a moment of silence following the sermon

## Hymn

### “O Lord Hear My Prayer”

Taize

O Lord hear my pray'r, O Lord hear my pray'r.

When I call, an - swer me. O Lord hear my pray'r. O

Lord hear my pray'r, Come and lis - ten to me. O

## Prayers of the People

Let us empty our hearts and minds and make room to recognize the Risen Lord in our lives, praying, **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Risen Lord, in times of unrest and uncertainty, help us to not look backward in fear at what seems lost, but rather forward with conviction, trusting that with you there is redemption and strength.

**Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

The book of Hebrews teaches us to “run with perseverance the race marked out for us.” We pray for our Priest in Charge, our Vestry and lay leaders, and our bishops. We pray that they may be filled with Divine stamina as they minister to your people.

**Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lord, the Apostle Peter said, “If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.” We pray for the leaders of this city, this nation, and this world, and particularly for all healthcare workers, first responders, and other personnel essential to our daily lives.

**Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lord, the Psalms offer that “He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge.” We pray for those who are underemployed, unemployed, homeless, or hungry. Reveal to those of us who are able how we can uphold our brothers and sisters in need.

**Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lord, Isaiah says, “Then your light will break forth like dawn, and your healing will quickly appear.” We pray for the sick that they may be made well, and for the dying that they may find peace.

**Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lord, when we are separated physically, remind us that none of us is truly alone. Bless us in our brokenness, mend our hearts when they ache, and let us rejoice in the resurrection of our Savior.

**Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list.

*(The people are invited to offer prayers and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud, ending with)*

**Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died. Give rest, Risen Christ,  
to your servants with your saints,  
*where sorrow and pain are no more,  
neither sighing, but life everlasting.*  
Comfort those who grieve with your love and peace. **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

Celebrant: The Peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

✠*The people greet one another with a sign of God’s peace.*

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**O**UR FATHER IN HEAVEN,  
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from  
the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.



## Spiritual Communion Prayer

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion. The presider invites the following prayer to be said by all:*

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

*(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)*

## Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Dismissal

**Celebrant:** Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!

**People:** Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!

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# ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • DUPONT CIRCLE

Announcements for Sunday May 3, 2020

## A Note from Our Priest in Charge

Dear Friends,

It was great to see so many of you on Facebook and Zoom on Sunday. What joy to celebrate Cindy Adkins on Sunday and wish her well in retirement. Today, it is my joy to share music ministry news with you! I'm thrilled to share with you that Michael Lodico will serve as our Interim Music Director, starting June 15.



Michael Lodico is a highly skilled organist and seasoned director of music ministry. He has a Bachelor of Music from the Curtis Institute of Music, Philadelphia, PA, was a Fulbright Scholar to the Netherlands, and received a Master of Music from the Het Conservatorium van Amsterdam, Netherlands in 2006. He has been the Director of Choral Activities at St. Anselm's Abbey School since 2006. While at St. Anselm's, Michael has concurrently served a few parishes as Director of Music Ministry. First at Wye Episcopal Church in Maryland and then moving to St. John's Church, Lafayette Square. At St. John's, Michael first served as Associate Music Director and Organist, then served as the Interim Music Director, and then as Director of Music Ministry and Organist. He has provided leadership in the American Guild of Organists and the wider Episcopal Church.

I've known Michael since 2009, as we met serving together at St. John's Church, Lafayette Square. I have always known he was accomplished and loved listening to him play the organ (I remember one concert played entirely with his feet!). The reason I asked him to consider our position is the way I know him to positively build up community life in the parish and collaborate on a staff level, while providing excellent musical leadership. You may recognize him in his photo and video introduction, as he has worshiped at our parish a few times with his family, and he was our substitute organist when Cindy was away a few months ago. He will have a meet and greet via Zoom with the choir sometime before he starts on June 15.

God bless you!

Lisa+

**From our New Interim Music Director,  
Michael Lodico**

It is with pleasure and gratitude that I am able to join your staff and community this June. I am eager to get to know each of you, learn about how music speaks to you, and hear your voices in congregational song. I have had the chance to experience worship in your amazing new space and am inspired by its musical possibilities to glorify God. I look forward to working with your choir, and again with Rev. Lisa, who brings such joy to her ministry.



Michael



**Here is our Zoom online schedule for this coming week.**

**Sunday, May 3:**

9:30 am	<b>“Acts in Easter”</b> study
10:30 am	Worship (on Zoom, or go to our Facebook page)
11:15 am	Coffee Hour

**Monday, May 4:**

<b>7:30-8:00 am</b>	<b>Morning Devotions and Chat – new</b>
6:30-7:00 pm	Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)
7:00-7:30 pm	<b>“The Way of Love”</b> Small Group

**Tuesday, May 5:**

6:30-7:00 pm	Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)
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**Wednesday, May 6:**

<b>10:00-11:00 am</b>	<b>Open Office Hours – new</b>
6:30-7:00 pm	Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)

**Thursday, May 7:**

**7:30-8:00 am**

**Morning Devotions and Chat – new**

**6:00-6:30 pm**

**Open Office Hours – new**

6:30-7:00 pm

Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)

7:00-7:30 pm

“The Challenge of Paul” Small Group

**Friday, May 8:**

6:30-7:00 pm

Evening Worship (with Evening Prayer or Compline.)

**Sunday, May 9**

9:30 am

“Acts in Easter” study

10:30 am

Worship (on Zoom, or go to our Facebook page)

11:15 am

Coffee Hour

**New Zoom Code for all of our Worship, Social (Coffee Hour, etc.), Study, and Open Office Hours.**

Meeting ID: 947 6442 4718

Password: 151718th

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94764424718?pwd=WFhJM0M5N2VxT2dVbVpaelljaVQ2UT09>

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

**Open Office Hours:**

You'll notice time on our weekly schedule for open office hours. Nolan and I will be on this zoom session on Wednesdays, and I'll be joined by different parishioners on Thursdays prior to our Evening Worship.

This is a time to stop by if you'd like to chat, have questions for us on ministries or the building, or would like assistance with technology (using zoom, Realm, etc.) This is a time Nolan and I usually meet, but we are happy for you to pop in! We have missed the flow of St. Thomas' parishioners stopping by the office.

**We continue to respond to the need in our community, identified by Al Llanos, Social Worker**

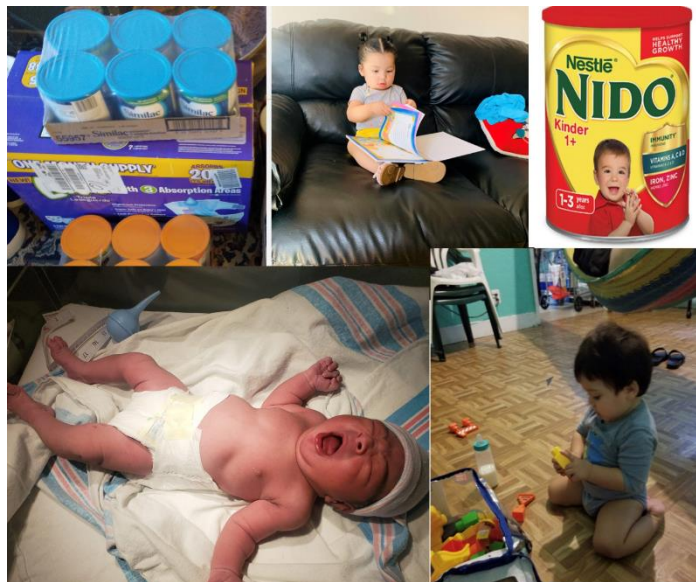
Thank you to so many who have contributed formula, diapers, and even a crib to your families served by St. Thomas' Member Al. He shares that there is still a need for powdered milk (Nido). Al's contact information to contribute/coordinate delivery is: 202-604-3084 or [alllanosdc@gmail.com](mailto:alllanosdc@gmail.com)

See below for the original note from Al, explaining his ministry in the community.

**From St. Thomas' Member Al, who serves as a social worker in Columbia Heights:**

Hope that this email finds you well. I want to share with you a little bit about my work.

Over the past six years my organization – **The United Planning Organization (UPO)** – has been providing Bell Teen Parents and CDC technical assistance to 32 low income families whose parents are immigrants from Central America. Some of them are teen parents (15 years old). Due to the pandemic, most parents are out of work. The children who attend the Center are between two weeks and three and a half years. Today these children stay at home with their families most of the day.



**Parents are in urgent need of items such as formula. (Similac Advance)**

Although they have their WIC checks, these funds are not enough to cover their needs.

I work as a Family Engagement Specialist for UPO / Bell Teen Parents and CDC. One of my functions is to connect Parents with social services and provide them Advocacy and Child Development trainings among others. Unfortunately, in these times of crisis the Center as well as many agencies are closed.

These families are in urgent need. These parents are specifically seeking donations for formula.

Al

*(Al lives near St. Thomas' Parish on Beekman Place, NW. Call him for address or drop off. 202-604-3084)*

**In thanksgiving for the birth of Hannah Lucia Miller,  
born on Wednesday, April 15, 2020**

*Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed Allison and Patrick with the joy and care of Hannah Lucia Miller: Give them calm strength and patient wisdom as they bring Hannah up, that they may teach her to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.*



**A Covid-19 Spiritual Survival Kit: Free Online Course**

Four instructors offer approaches to maintaining spiritual, emotional, and physical health during the Covid-19 crisis. The Covid-19 community experience is turning out to be more of a marathon than a sprint. Isolated, anxious, and unsure of what will happen next, our response to the virus has already taken weeks, and we don't know when it will end.

What can we do to take care of ourselves and others during this difficult time? How can we rely on God to help us survive -- spiritually, physically, and emotionally -- and to do God's work in the world? In this course, four instructors offer suggestions to help us manage this period of anxiety, danger, and social isolation.

<https://www.churchnext.tv/library/a-covid-19-survival-kit/135628/about/>





## Do More 24 - Help Samaritan Ministry provide virtual training!

United Way has created a special #GivingTuesdayNow Campaign for May 5, called **Do More 24: One Day, Our Community**. To donate, use the link below, or search for Samaritan Ministry on the Do More 24 website.

<https://www.domore24.org/SMGW20>

## Saying Good-bye to Cindy



## A Thank You from Cindy...

Dear St. Thomas “peeps!”

My heart is still overflowing with all of your love, support, music, smiles, “techy work,” pictures, sweet words, the whole “coffee hour” experience Sunday, etc!! I cried so much Sunday morning - I think I dried out my tear ducts! They are all “good tears!” Some sweet things were: seeing Henry sing in the virtual choir, Brian putting it together, choir’s anthem, “Bread of Life,” always touches me, and Lisa putting the pictures together during the postlude - cried through the whole thing!! Lol. I also got a kick out of yourall’s stitched “visual aids” at the coffee hour. If in doubt, “STITCH!”



It has been quite an experience with these sweet “scrappy” people these past 4 years!! Sometimes I look back and wonder how we made it through all of the ups and downs “on the road.” But we did!!! I’m especially grateful to Lisa for all of her guidance, love and support since the middle of January!!!! And, to Jessie, Stephen, and the vestry for bringing her here!

In closing, I love youall, want to hug youall (some day!) and am so grateful for youall! I miss youall & I’ll be back!!

Love,  
Cindy

## ...and Cindy’s Poem

### **SO LONG TO ST. THOMAS.....**

Would you like to go back with me – to the summer 2 thousand sixteen  
Nancy Lee and Jim Mills retired - music Adam left the scene.

I was asked to come & be a sup-ply – on Sundays during that time  
With Becky’s help In learning the service, she made me feel just fine

I remember St. Thomas people being – smiling, sweet & gave peace  
Lynn, Kevin, Jeremy, Catherine on the altar - & others couldn’t be beat!

I went to the church to plan and practice – in the office, Robert gave it a go  
Without a rector or priest in charge, Carol was running the show!

Barbara and George were in and out – every day were doing it all  
We all did try to hold it together – until Alex came in the fall!

I worked on a rickety card ta-ble – pretty much with little clue  
Adam had made some music plans – to know what to try and do!

Out of the building, we did go.. the weather was cold with ice  
Down to St, Stephens Incarnate, Sam and music Michael were nice.

Our office moved across the street – to a modern bldg's first floor  
Later we had to move upstairs – a thousand steps ga-lore!

There we met a really nice man – who had a dog named Duke  
Every Tuesday when I went to work – fed him treats – what a hoot!!

There were 3 years of Holy Weeks – and 2 Christmas Eves  
To St. Margaret's we did go – warm welcomes we received.

On we went closer to the Circle – May of '17 at 16<sup>th</sup> & S  
Organ often had a hum – 2 years it was our nest

Music was stored in many different places – church, office, storage spaces & Home  
Sometimes I couldn't remember a thing – a scavenger hunt to roam!

So now we're getting closer – to our new bldg. on 18<sup>th</sup>  
The spring of 2019 – moving in was quite a feat!

We celebrated Jesus is Risen – on Easter Sunday bright  
With over 200 in attendance – Brass and piano made it right.

The pipe organ was installed gradually – during the next few weeks  
Was ready for Con-se-cra-tion – it made the service peak!

Then we hosted a combined concert – June 2<sup>nd</sup> in the afternoon  
St. Marg, St. Stephens, St. Thomas, universalists – joined in singing tunes

The next week Ales announced he's leaving – a big surprise to me  
I felt fear and sadness and anger – facing a new re-al-i-ty.

The summer went by and then the fall – we got by the best that we could  
Paula and I held down the fort - Stephen and Jessie's support was good

Linda came in November – to guide us through hol-i-days  
And help us get ready for our new priest – to lead us on a new way

And then one day in Jan-u-ar-y, Lisa came to the rescue  
With a loving heart and a great big smile, I knew she'd know what to do!

And then there's Nolan with his smile – and a sweet nice man named Bob  
Together they kept the office going – making ea-si-er our jobs.

Through 4 years I've play a-lot of in-stru-ments with keys  
6 pipe organs and 6 pianos in 6 church sanc-tu-ar-ies

We had rehearsals and ser-vi-ces in many different spaces  
Choir members came and went and stayed – I remember all their faces

Kristen, Evie, Bettina, Karen and Jessie – Lorie, Maddie, Linda fit the bill  
Philip, Peter, Stephen, Ethan, Sam, Chris – Benny, Joseph, Bri-an and Will

Other peeps such as Jane and her humor – Southern Jason provides the laughter  
Bob and David and love of show tunes – and Lynn and her infectious cackle!

KC and his great big smile – Dennis' support right from the start  
And Trey and David handling the money – Greek sister, Karen, bless her heart!

And Jennie is everyone's sweet daughter – and then there's Clay who comes late  
And Dan and his love of service – Jason Creighton and his Rose Day

And then there's Bob M doing it all – and John C. who runs the sound  
I used to get the 2 mixed up – but good hugs all around

There was Vibha and Jean and Henry too – I met along the way  
Rodney and Joe and Benjamin – & other peeps saved the day!

There's all the Johns and Dave and Eric – Ryan, Gregory with the broom  
There's Brett and Jen and Sally and Jerry – and Reggie who lights up the room!

We made so many new mem-o-ries – Hallelujah Chorus was cool  
Combined concert developed community – Tacky Christmas I acted a fool!

And as I played the organ every Sunday, my back has gotten sore  
I want to hear my daughter sing – brings me joy more and more

And there's my momma who is so sweet – at the age of nine-ty three  
I want to spend much more time – sweet mem-or-ies you see

Before all of this quarantine, newcomers have been pouring in  
Lisa and I had planned most of Lent – choir's recordings were turned in

The beginning of March until now – made it easier for me to leave  
Lisa has been a huge support – her ideas and love I receive.

And all along the way I've had – sweet girls of which there's 3  
They mean the total world to me – Jean-ie, Mag-gie, Ro-sy.

In closing, I guess you're glad to hear that – from the summer of six-teen  
I've grown to love you sweet scrappy people - it sure ain't been a dull scene

I'm staying here where I'm happy – DC has my heart to keep  
I love youall and I'll be back – my sweet St. Thomas peeps!!!

**Reverend Lisa's Contact Information:**

The Rev. Lisa Saunders Ahuja  
St. Thomas' Parish  
1517 18<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
1-202-361-2018 (cell)  
[lahuja@stthomasdc.org](mailto:lahuja@stthomasdc.org)

**Celebrating Our May Birthdays and Anniversaries**

**Birthdays**

David Swanson (May 3)  
Ashley Ashworth (May 5)  
Jeremy Ayers (May 19)  
Kevin Montgomery (May 30)

**Anniversaries**

David Insinga and Bob McDonald (May 7)

*If your birthday or anniversary is not listed here, please let us know at [administrator@stthomasdc.org](mailto:administrator@stthomasdc.org).*

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**Parish Prayer List**

Paula Amadeo	Dodson Family	Dave Kucharski	Hunter Ray
Annemarie Bohler	Michael Fitzpatrick	Asheesh Kumar	Mary Ellen Reed
Matthew Briggs	Cindy Gangler	Chuck Lopez	Gene Robinson
John Paul Clark	Andrew Greer	Catherine Manhardt	Baby Sabag
Brianna Clifford	Chris Hartenau	Bill McDonald	Trisha Shaffer
Peggy Ann Cohen	Len Hawley	David C. Montgomery	Justin Small
Dan Costello	Leighton Honea	Donna Norman	Teresa Zagami
Brian Crane	Kristin Jones	Steve Parsons	

*For the repose of the souls of:*

Andy Bonilla	Nancy Littlefield Stine	Wilfredo Torres
Ed Harri	John Stone	David Yoder

You may submit a name for the list by sending an e-mail to: [administrator@stthomasdc.org](mailto:administrator@stthomasdc.org)

**Please note: the names above will be removed as of June 1, unless the office is informed that the name should continue to be listed, which we are happy to do. Henceforth, names will be listed for three weeks unless otherwise requested. Please send all requests to: [administrator@stthomasdc.org](mailto:administrator@stthomasdc.org).**

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# ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • DUPONT CIRCLE

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*"As St. Thomas' Parish we are followers of Jesus, striving to see Christ in each person, and to be Christ in our community, our city, and our world."*

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## Vestry

Jessie Eddy, Senior Warden  
Stephen Schembs, Junior Warden  
Jennie Allison, Treasurer  
Jean Holman, Clerk  
Jennie Allison, Brian Crane, Jason Crighton, Reggie Greer,  
Bettina Hager, Jane Saari, Gregory Zitterkob

## Staff

The Rev. Lisa Saunders Ahuja	Priest-in Charge	lahuja@stthomasdc.org cell: 202-361-2018
The Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson	Bishop in Residence	@BishopGRobinson
Nolan DiFrancesco	Administrator	administrator@stthomasdc.org
Kimberly Davis	Nursery Care Worker	
Clifford Bowens	Nursery Care Worker	

**Please Note: Our Office is closed through May 16.**

## St. Thomas' Parish

1517 18<sup>th</sup> Street NW Washington, DC 20036 (202) 808-3326  
www.stthomasdc.org ✉ [info@stthomasdc.org](mailto:info@stthomasdc.org)

