



ST. THOMAS' PARISH


EPISCOPAL CHURCH • DUPONT CIRCLE



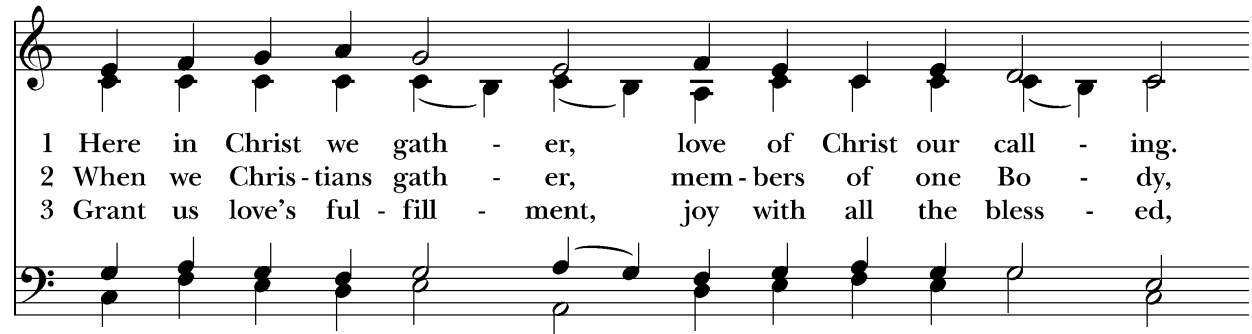
Seventh Sunday of Easter – May 29, 2022

Welcome to St. Thomas' Parish and to our worship this Easter season! Your presence amongst us overflows our joy. Together, we all tell the Good News of God's love in Christ. Sing and pray with us as you are comfortable. You are welcome to fully participate in every part of this service, including Holy Eucharist (aka the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion, or Mass). If you would like to learn more about St. Thomas' Parish, the Episcopal Church, or deepening your faith with us please fill out a welcome card and hand it to an usher or clergy person.

Refrain



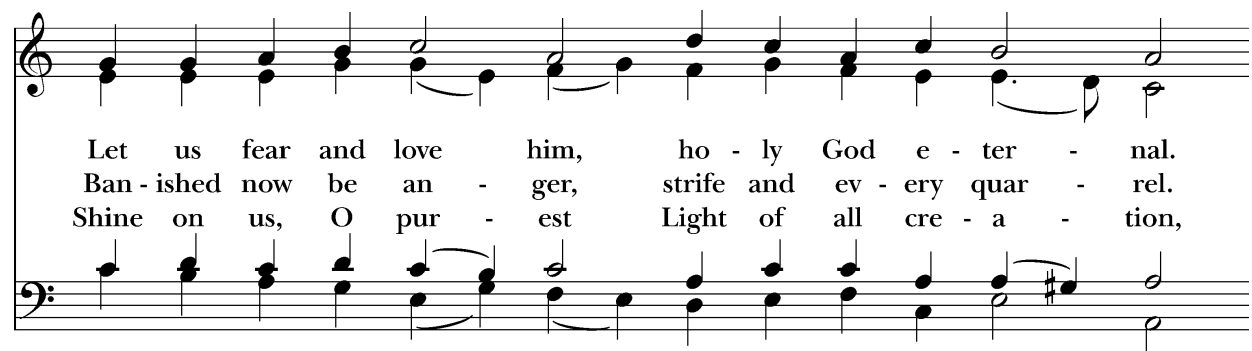
God is love, and where true love is God him - self is there.



1 Here in Christ we gath - er, love of Christ our call - ing.
 2 When we Chris - tians gath - er, mem - bers of one Bo - dy,
 3 Grant us love's ful - fill - ment, joy with all the bless - ed,

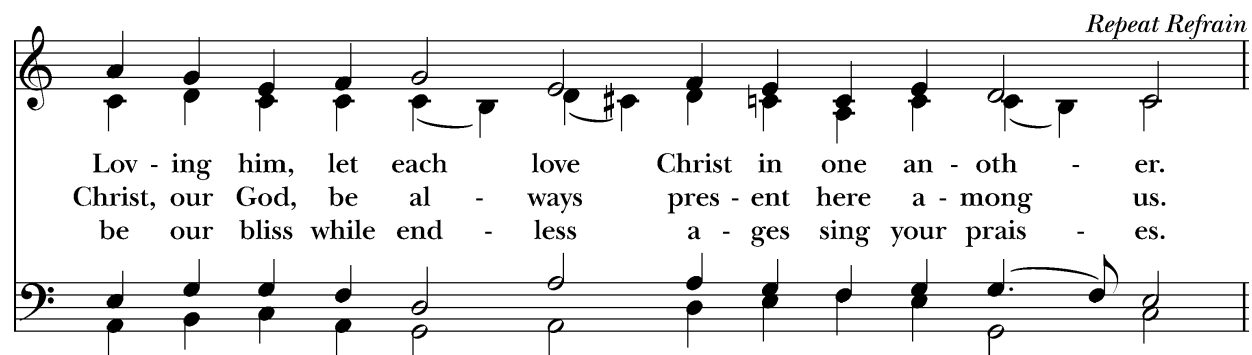


Christ, our love, is with us, glad - ness be his greet - ing.
 let there be in us no dis - cord but one spi - rit.
 when we see your face, O Sa - vior, in its glo - ry.



Let us fear and love him, ho - ly God e - ter - nal.
 Ban - ished now be an - ger, strife and ev - ery quar - rel.
 Shine on us, O pur - est Light of all cre - a - tion,

Repeat Refrain



Lov - ing him, let each love Christ in one an - oth - er.
 Christ, our God, be al - ways pres - ent here a - mong us.
 be our bliss while end - less a - ges sing your prais - es.

Words of Welcome

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: Glory to God for ever and ever.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child

Welcoming Lena Miriam Rizkalla to St. Thomas' Parish

Dear Friends: The birth of a child is a joyous and solemn occasion in the life of a family. It is also an occasion for rejoicing in the Christian community. I bid you, therefore, to join Ibrahim and Bettina in giving thanks to Almighty God our Creator, the Lord of all life, for the gift of Lena Miriam to be their daughter.

Will you who are present for this presentation of Lena, do all in your power to support her in her life in Christ? **We will.**

Into your hands, O God, we place your child Lena. Support her in her successes and in her failures, in her joys and in her sorrows. As she grows in age, may she grow in grace, and in the knowledge of her Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

May God the Creator, who by Baptism adopts us as God's children, grant you grace. **Amen.**

May God the Son, who sanctified a home at Nazareth, fill you with love. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit, who has made the Church one family, keep you in peace. **Amen.**

First Reading

Revelation 22:12-14,16-17,20-21

At the end of the visions I, John, heard these words:

"See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."
And let everyone who hears say, "Come."
And let everyone who is thirsty come.
Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 97 (read by all)

Saint Helena Psalter

- 1 You reign, O God; let the earth rejoice; *
 let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about you; *
 righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne.
- 3 A fire goes before you *
 and burns up your enemies on every side.
- 4 Your lightnings light up the world; *
 the earth sees it and is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at your presence, O God, *
 at your presence, O God of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens declare your righteousness, *
 and all the peoples see your glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! *
 Let all gods bow down before you.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
 because of your judgments, O God.

- 9 For you are God,
 most high over all the earth; *
 you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 You love those who hate evil; *
 you preserve the lives of your saints
 and deliver them from the hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous *
 and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
- 12 Rejoice in God, you righteous *
 and give thanks to God's holy Name.

Sequence Hymn 488

Be Thou My Vision

We will sing verses 1-2 before the Gospel, verse 3 after the gospel.



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,



all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!



thou my best thought, — by day or by night,
 thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;
 Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
 still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

The Holy Gospel

John 17:20-26

Celebrant: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

Jesus prayed for his disciples, and then he said. "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Lisa Ahuja

✠ *Please observe a moment of silence following the sermon.*

Nicene Creed

WE BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for this new day and new opportunity to gather with joy to celebrate the Resurrection of your Son, Jesus. In the Easter season, help us all to watch for the presence of Christ in our midst. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

Today we give thanks for all in our communities: members of the parish, classmates, family, friends, and colleagues. Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. Today we remember those on our parish prayer list.

Silence

Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

O God our Father, whose beloved Son took children into his arms and blessed them: Give us grace to entrust your beloved children of Uvalde to your everlasting care and love, and bring them fully into your heavenly kingdom. Pour out your grace and loving-kindness on all who grieve; surround them with your love; and restore their trust in your goodness. We lift up to you our weary, wounded souls and ask you to send your Holy Spirit to take away the anger and violence that infects our hearts, and make us instruments of your peace and children of the light.

Risen Lord, **Hear our prayer.**

You are invited to offer additional prayers of petition and thanksgiving, aloud, online, or in the silence of your heart.

Celebrant:

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of Christ be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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

Welcome and Announcements

<p><i>Birthday Prayer: (said by all)</i></p> <p>Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up when they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.</p>	<p><i>Anniversary Prayer: (said by all)</i></p> <p>Eternal God, creator and preserver of all life, author of salvation, and giver of all grace: Look with favor upon the world you have made, for which your Son gave his life, and surround this couple with your love. Grant that their wills may be so knit together in your will, and their spirits in your Spirit, that they may grow in love and peace with you and one another all the days of their lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen</p>
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Offertory Anthem

Morning Has Broken

Gaelic Folk Tune

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

The ushers will collect a financial offering during the Offertory. If you'd prefer to give electronically to our operating funds, please text STTHOMASDC (\$) to 73256 or follow the QR Code.

When you scan this QR Code with your phone's camera, it will take you directly to St. Thomas' Giving Page.



The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Hymn WLP 785

“Santo, Santo, Santo”

Sung first in Spanish, and then in English.

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and

eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 forever. **AMEN**

The Lord's Prayer

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

OUR 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.

PADRE NUESTRO, que estás en el cielo.
Santificado sea tu nombre.
Venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad
en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos
del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la gloria
Por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts, by faith with thanksgiving.

Distribution of Holy Communion

All are welcome to receive holy communion here at St. Thomas' Parish. The bishop has given the diocese permission to share the bread and wine at communion again. She does not permit us to intinct, or dip, our wafers in the wine. An usher will invite the congregation to come forward row by row to receive. When you come forward, there are two stations to receive bread. Gluten free wafers are available. If you prefer a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this to the priest.

Communion Music

Medley

arranged & performed by Joseph Coleman

Post Communion Prayer

✠ All pray together

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Final Blessing

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with his new life; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Final Hymn 296

We know that Christ is Raised

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. _____
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death. _____
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life. _____
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows _____

Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold; _____
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life _____
 The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God. _____
 as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood. _____

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy. _____
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. _____
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One. _____ Al - le -
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing: _____

Final Ending

lu - ia! — Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

Dismissal

Celebrant: With the power that raised Jesus from the dead at work within you,
 go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude

Prelude No. 1

George Gershwin (1898-1937)

The flowers today are given in thanksgiving for Lena Miriam Rizkalla.

Our hymns today are reprinted under One License # A-734785.
 Spoken liturgy reprinted from The Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Public domain.



ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • DUPONT CIRCLE

Announcements for Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 29, 2022

God of abundant love,

In the aftermath of another horrific act of violence, we pray for blessing and healing in the Uvalde, Texas community. We pray for the innocent lives lost, their loved ones and all who were present during the attack and who are grappling with its aftermath. Inspire each of us to act with prophetic love so that violence has no place to grow in this world. Amen.

-Adapted from Ignation Spirituality Network.

Dear Friends,

After another horrific and preventable act of violence this week, when it is hard to find the words to respond or pray, I found the above prayer helpful. I also found being with colleagues today at the Washington National Cathedral for prayer and action reminded me that connecting to one another and Christ is a comfort and strength for what lies ahead of us.

If you are in town this weekend, I hope you will join us in worship. If you are away, I hope you will find a place to worship or join us online. Worship has the power to unite us in prayer in times of sorrow or despair. Worship has the power to nourish us with Christ's presence in holy communion, holy scriptures, music, and beloved community. Worship has the power to plant within us reminders of what this world could look like when justice and healing are fully present, and propel us forward ready to act as Christ in the world. Sundays in worship, as Bishop Gene reminded us in his sermon last week, are days of resurrection. They are days to live in the knowledge that death is not the end, and that at our beginning and end the love of God is with us. Our togetherness reminds us we are not alone in this.

So let us pray, connect with one another, and take action. God is with us.

Peace,

The Rev. Lisa Ahuja

New Administrative Assistant at St. Thomas' Parish

This week we share wonderful news. We've hired Robert Alexander to be the new Administrative Assistant. He will be with us 30 hours/week.

His first day in the office will be June 2, and he will join us for worship on June 5.

Peace today, Lisa+

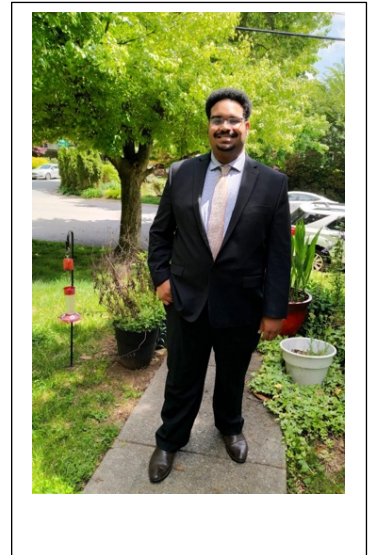
A note from our new Administrative Assistant

Hello Everyone,

My name is Robert Alexander. I'm going to be the new Administrative Assistant for the Parish. I graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) in 2013 after studying psychology and entrepreneurship. I've recently decided that I want my life to focus more on community service and making the world a better place. I'm so excited to start this new chapter of my life with your wonderful community.

May God's grace be with you always,

Robert Alexander



Sunday, May 29:

9:15 am

9:30 am

10:30 am

11:30 am

12:00 – 2:00 pm

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Choir Rehearsal

Nursery 4th floor

Worship in-person and streamed to Facebook

Welcome Coffee Hour

Sorting of donations for the refugees

Saturday, June 4

7 am-4 pm

7 pm

Welcome Refugees

Recital- Some Enchanted Evening

Sunday, June 5:

9:15 am

9:30 am

10:30 am

11:30 am

12:00 – 2:00 pm

PENTECOST

Choir Rehearsal

Nursery 4th floor

Worship in-person and streamed to Facebook

Pentecost Potluck

Sorting of donations for the refugees

The Parish Office will be closed on Memorial Day, May 30.

St. Thomas' Parish Columbarium

What is a columbarium and why does St. Thomas' Parish have one?

A "columbarium" is a sepulchral building, or an area within a church, containing many small niches for cinerary urns, containing the remains/ashes of those who have died. The term is derived from the Latin *columba* ("dove," or "pigeon"), and in ancient times, doves and pigeons were housed in buildings (a pigeon house or dovecote) with individual niches on the walls for their nests. It later acquired its more general meaning due to its similar design, with individual niches.

Over many centuries, it has become desirable to many members of the Church to be buried in or near their churches. It was in their parish churches that members of a congregation would come to believe that Jesus Christ is "the Alpha and the Omega" spoken of in the Book of Revelation. It has become a comforting notion to many that bodily remains or ashes of the departed faithful might be interred in or near the parish church that had nurtured the departed throughout their lives. Hence, we have graveyards beside churches and columbaria both next to and inside the churches themselves.

Much as a homing pigeon would "come home" to its dovecote for safety and rest, so too might we "come home" to God and be interred in a columbarium, symbolizing the safety and rest promised to us in Christ Jesus. Of course, the departed faithful find their eternal safety and rest in the arms of a loving God, no matter where their remains are placed. But for some, it is comforting to think of that place as being within the church and its columbarium. For the St. Thomas' columbarium, that place will be right next to a chapel and altar where worship, study, and celebration will continue for generations.

There is also a pastoral aspect to St. Thomas' hosting a columbarium. It offers a place for the deceased person's family and friends to come, visit, and remember the one who has died, to recall and give thanks for the blessings this person brought to their lives, and to contemplate the mysteries of death and resurrection, and God's eternal care beyond death. Such pre-death planning can be a pastoral blessing to one's family to relieve them of wondering how the deceased might have wanted to be cared for after their passing. To purchase a niche in the St. Thomas' Parish columbarium is to make prior arrangements for the interment of ashes ahead of the time of death, when a family is grieving and already under stress. It's a way to lovingly care for one's family even after one's death.

Designations for those interred here will be simple, consistent, and dignified. Each niche will be identified simply by name, and dates of birth and death. An accompanying Book of Remembrance, kept in the columbarium for public viewing, will contain further information about each of the deceased, as desired by the deceased and/or family.

Because of the generosity of three St. Thomas' donors, whose contributions built the physical columbarium, all proceeds from the sale of niches themselves will go into a special, dedicated endowment to support the continuing mission and ministry of St. Thomas' Parish. Again, it may be comforting to make such arrangements during one's lifetime, knowing that even one's burial plans will support the mission of St. Thomas' Parish for generations to come.

If you are interested in exploring such a place to inter your ashes upon your death, you may contact the parish office for further details.

Preparing for Pentecost, June 5th

Pentecost is a celebration of the Holy Spirit which gathers us together into the body of Christ. It is a day of joy! The festival color of the day is red.

Pentecost Worship

You are invited to wear red to our worship! We will take a parish photo during the Peace. We will also have a reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles in many languages. Please write to Rev. Lisa if you would like to participate in this reading. lahuja@stthomasdc.org.

Taste of Home Potluck - June 5th Sunday

Are there certain dishes that carry a sense of nostalgia and when you make them, you are instantly transported back in time with family and friends that would make these for you? Join us for a church potluck Sunday, June 5th. The potluck theme is Taste of Home - make those recipes that call of a "home" to you. Make it and bring it to share!

Feel free to sign up in the Google Form here and QR code below.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LUB81kfNY49mTeoyJ2kAF9DvuSuGDWOrjXJdnngs_p4/edit?usp=sharing

Here is a QR Code to connect with all of our announcements electronically.



Sign up for Coffee Hour

We enjoy Coffee Hour here at St. Thomas' Parish! A big thank you to those who have provided food for us to gather around and enjoy while building relationship. We are fortunate to have a Sexton each Sunday. Her name is Candace, and part of her role on Sundays is to support Coffee Hour. She makes the coffee, brings the cream, sugar, cold drinks, and food items outside (or to the first floor). There, she sets everything up for us, and cleans up after we leave. If you sign up to bring food, you can bring it in and leave it in the parish office for her to put out or you can help her (your choice!) Please consider signing up to bring food one Sunday this summer. Sign up on the bulletin board down stairs or by emailing: administrator@stthomasdc.org.

Worship with St. Thomas'

Baptism

At baptism we are sealed with the Holy Spirit and marked as one of Christ's own forever. If you seek baptism, or would like for a child to be baptized, please be in touch with Rev. Lisa.

Save the Date for the Rev. Catherine Manhardt's Ordination!

The Rev. Catherine Manhardt has received final approval for ordination to the priesthood. Her ordination will be on Saturday, July 23, at the Washington National Cathedral at 10 am. Please mark your calendars. We will have a reception here at St. Thomas' to celebrate with Catherine on July 24.

Take Action with St. Thomas'

Welcome Refugees at St Thomas' on Saturdays this Summer

Fifteen refugees arrived at St Thomas' early Saturday morning, where we provided respite for the Portuguese and Spanish speaking adults along with their five children. They were bused from TX with no plan by the government for housing, food, medical care or transportation to their ultimate destination. We responded to an urgent request to share our space and found that it was such a meaningful way to support the refugee community. We were asked if we could provide this welcome regularly, and our committee has agreed to do this on Saturdays for the summer. You are invited to join us. The commitment is 3-4 hours. Below you'll read a description of our first day hosting this group, and a link to sign up for one or more shifts.

On Saturday, we served them coffee, orange juice and fruit, plus a meal of beans, potatoes and eggs, and the kids enjoyed exploring the toys and games in the nursery. Some found shoes that fit along with clothes from our 3rd floor, and we purchased underwear for both women and men and shoes for a couple of the men who couldn't find shoes that fit among those we had available.

The two Portuguese-speaking families went on to Maine, where there is a large Angolan community, and the five Spanish-speaking men were housed in a hotel until further plans could be made with them.

We were but a stop along a journey of months – the Angolan families left home in early February – and our hearts were touched by the opportunity to provide a loving and safe space for them for at least 8 hours.

Buses arrive every day except for Tuesdays, and we will be the welcoming place on Saturdays through August. To sign up, please follow this link and let us know what dates/times work for you.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4EA8AE22A02-welcome>

See the link below to read about the large network of people in the DC area who are generating beloved community in response to this unexpected arrival of refugees from a variety of countries into our community.

<https://dcist.com/story/22/05/24/local-mutual-aid-effort-migrants-bused-to-dc/>

Episcopal Church statement on reports concerning Supreme Court case pertaining to abortion.

Since 1967, The Episcopal Church has maintained its “unequivocal opposition to any legislation on the part of the national or state governments which would abridge or deny the right of individuals to reach informed decisions [about the termination of pregnancy] and to act upon them.” In light of the recent report about a pending decision in the Supreme Court case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health*, The Episcopal Church reaffirms our commitment to “equitable access to women’s health care, including women’s reproductive health care,” which we view as “an integral part of a woman’s struggle to assert her dignity and worth as a human being.” The Office of Government Relations will continue to advocate at the federal level to protect reproductive rights.

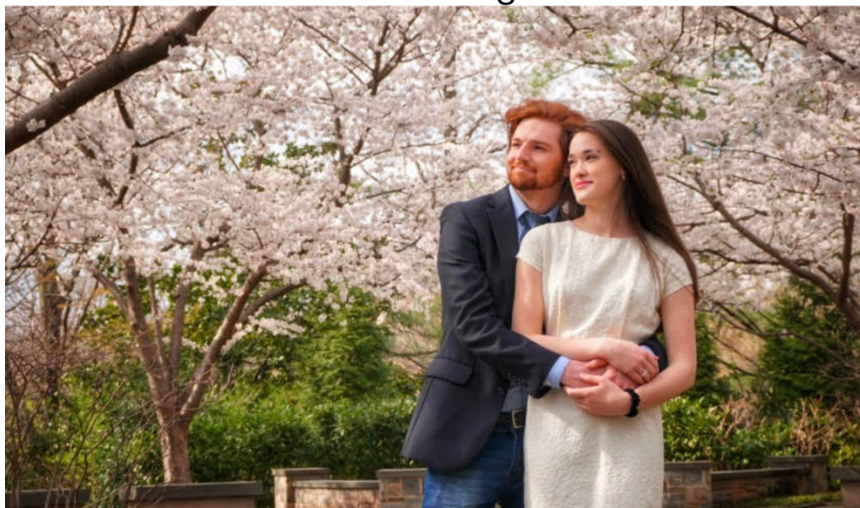
We encourage you to read the overview of The Episcopal Church’s positions on abortion and women’s reproductive health, which is accessible through this link:

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/>

“Some Enchanted Evening” Fundraising Concert for two of St. Thomas’ Music Interns. All are welcome!

Some Enchanted Evening

Isabel O'Hagan &
Keegan Brush



Saturday, June 4th at 7pm
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
in Dupont Circle

Celebrating Our May Birthdays and Anniversaries

David Swanson (May 3)
Colina Beanes (May 4)
Ashley Ashworth (May 5)
Jeremy Ayers (May 19)
Salil Ahuja (May 22)
Bishop Gene Robinson (May 29)

Anniversaries

David Insinga and Bob McDonald (May 7)
Heather Hurlburt and Darius Sivin (May 23)

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed here, please let us know at administrator@stthomasdc.org.

Parish Prayer List

Shaune Bazner
John Bisco
Peggyann Cohen
Kevin Costigan
Craig Evertt
Carol Goldman
Pam Greer
Susan Hannan
Jan Harrison

Betsy Hollingsworth
James & Esther Insinga
Kristin Jones
Mike Knapp
Dave Kucharski
Hugo Llanos
Brian Olson
Joe Rivas
Rich Manhardt
Jane Saari

Eric Scharf
Mary Jane Smith
Harvey Snyder
Chris Spangler
Chester Thompson

For those who have died

Bill Fisher
Eric Little
Lisa Warren Meunier

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



ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • DUPONT CIRCLE

"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."

Vestry

Gregory Zitterkob, Senior Warden
Karen Garlick, Junior Warden
Clay Dursthoff, Treasurer
Jocko Fajardo, Secretary
Knight Champion, Brian Crane, Reggie Greer, Jennifer Mahle,
Noel Miller, Brett Snyder, John Trumbo

Staff

The Rev. Lisa Saunders Ahuja	Rector	lahuja@stthomasdc.org cell: 202-361-2018
The Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson	Bishop in Residence	@BishopGRobinson
Michael Lodico	Director of Music	mlodico@stthomasdc.org
Robert Alexander	Administrative Assistant	administrator@stthomasdc.org
Diana Diaz	Nursery Attendant	
Fabian Berrios	Sexton and Nursery	
Hamida Gawhari	Sexton	
Candace McLamore	Sexton	
Tyrone Moore	Sexton	

St. Thomas' Parish

1517 18th Street NW Washington, DC 20036 (202) 808-3326

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