



ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • DUPONT CIRCLE



Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 22, 2022

Celebration of Baptism and Dedication of the Columbarium

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.

Prelude

Nocturne in E-flat

Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)

Opening Hymn 178

“Alleluia, Alleluia”

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the

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

ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give

1-4 *Final Ending*

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
 Now we shall live for ev - er. Al - le -
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

Opening Acclamation

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

People: Glory to God for ever and ever.

Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit;

People: There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People: One God and Creator of all.

Celebrant: 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.**

Song of Praise

DIGNUS ES

Benjamin P. Straley (b. 1986)

The choir introduces the refrain, then all repeat.



The choir sings the verses.

For you created every thing that is,
and by your will they were created and have their being; *Refrain*

And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain,
for with your blood you have redeemed for God,
From every family, language, people, and nation,
a kingdom of priests to serve our God. *Refrain*

And so, to him who sits upon the throne,
and to Christ the Lamb,
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor,
for ever and for evermore. *Refrain*

The Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 67 (read by all)

Saint Helena Psalter

- 1 Be merciful to us, O God, and bless us, *
 show us the light of your countenance and come to us.
- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth, *
 your saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
 Let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
 for you judge the peoples with equity
 and guide all the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
 let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has brought forth its increase; *
 may you, our own God, give us your blessing.
- 7 May you give us your blessing, *
 and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of you.

Second Reading

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.


I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day~ and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.


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

Sequence WLP 766

You're called by name



1. You're called by name, for - ev - er loved, a -
2. Marked as Christ's own, signed by the cross where
3. Raised to new life, a life of grace, set
4. Sealed by the Spi - rit, Lord of life, sus -



dopt - ed as a child of God. Now one with us, the
Je - sus for our sins once died. with Je - sus bur - ied
free from sin, in Christ to grow; his res - ur - rec - tion
tained and strength-ened by his might. Joined to the church to

fam - i - ly of those who know and love the Lord.
 in his death, called to con - fess Christ cru - ci - fied.
 to pro - claim, his love in all of life to know.
 share, with us, the in - her - i - tance of saints in light.

Refrain

S
A
T/B
 Lord, in your hands we place your own. Lord,
 In your hands we place your own. Lord,
 Lord, in your hands we place your own. Lord,

in their lives make your love known.

The Holy Gospel

John 14:23-29

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

People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

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

The Sermon

The Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson

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

Presentation of the Candidate

Celebrant The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents: We present *Cillian Thomas Gregory Kennedy* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents I will, with God's help.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *this person* in his life in Christ?

People We will.

Let us join with *those* who *are* committing *themselves* to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the
dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidate

Let us now pray for Cillian who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader: Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Open his heart to your grace and truth.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Send him into the world in witness to your love.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

(The Celebrant says:)

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son; we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

Cillian, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Then the Celebrant places a hand on the candidate's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying

Cillian, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Welcoming the Newly Baptized

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

Dedication of the Columbarium

Bishop Gene Through the ages, Almighty God has moved God's people to build houses of prayer and praise, and to set apart places for the ministry of his holy Word and Sacraments. With gratitude for the Columbarium of St. Thomas' Parish, we are now gathered to dedicate and consecrate it in God's Name.

As we gather to dedicate this columbarium, do you, on behalf of St. Thomas' Parish, promise to do all in your power to care for this space, especially the ashes of those who will be interred here and those who will come here remembering their loved ones? **We will.**

Let us thank God whom we worship here in the beauty of holiness.

Eternal God, the heaven of heavens cannot contain you, much less the walls of temples made with hands. Graciously receive our thanks for this place, and accept the work of our hands, offered to your honor and glory.

For the Church universal, of which these visible buildings are the symbol,
We thank you, Lord.

For your presence whenever two or three have gathered together in your Name,
We thank you, Lord.

For this place where we may be still and know that you are God,
We thank you, Lord.

For making us your children by adoption and grace,
and refreshing us day by day with the bread of life.
We thank you, Lord.

For the knowledge of your will and the grace to perform it,
We thank you, Lord.

For the fulfilling of our desires and petitions as you see best for us,
We thank you, Lord.

For the pardon of our sins, which restores us to the company of your faithful people,
We thank you, Lord.

For the blessing of our vows and the crowning of our years with your goodness,
We thank you, Lord.

For the faith of those who have gone before us and for our encouragement by their perseverance,
We thank you, Lord.

For the fellowship of Saint Thomas, our patron, and of all your Saints,
We thank you, Lord.

For a new space in our community to inter your beloved children.
We thank you, Lord.

For continued joy at sharing hospitality and the commitment of our community to care for all who are entrusted to us.
We thank you, Lord.

For this Columbarium, which will be an ever present reminder of those who came before us, and that we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.
We thank you, Lord.

Almighty God, throughout the ages you have moved your people to build houses of prayer and praise, and to set apart places for the ministry of God's Word and Sacraments.

We give you thanks for this columbarium to receive the ashes of those who have departed in faith, and to worship you in the beauty of holiness. Bless and accept the work of our hands, offered to your honor and glory, and with thanksgiving for St Thomas Parish. May all who visit here remember that we are dust, and to dust we shall return. Grant us the wisdom and courage to be still and know that you are God.

Lord Christ, you are the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Bless this congregation now and in the years to come as we accept the responsibility of being the sacred stewards of this place, and may these remains of the dead-and-resurrected be a reminder to the living that You are our beginning and our end.

Grant your peace to those whose ashes will be interred here, and all who die in the Lord. Let light perpetual shine upon them, and in your loving wisdom and almighty power, move them from glory to glory in your eternal presence. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, sheep of your own fold, lambs of your own flock, sinners of your own redeeming. Receive them and us into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **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.*

Offertory Anthem

Jubilate in F

John Ireland (1879-1962)

1. O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
2. Serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.
3. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
4. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.
5. For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

~ Psalm 100

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. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your children, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

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.

Then the Celebrant continues

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 Anthem 335

“I am the Bread of Life”



1 I am the bread of life;— they who
 2 (The) Bread that— I will give— is my
 3 (Un-) less— you eat— of the
 4 I am the re - sur - rec - tion, —
 5 (Yes,) Lord, — we be - lieve— that—



1 come to me shall not— hun - ger; they who be -
 2 Flesh for the life of the world, — and they who
 3 Flesh of the Son of — Man — and —
 4 I — am the — life. — They who be -
 5 you — are the — Christ, — the —



1 lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 2 eat — of this bread, they shall — live for
 3 drink — of his Blood, you shall not have life with -
 4 lieve — in me, e - ven — if they
 5 Son — of God who — has



1 me — un - less the — Fa - ther draw them.
 2 ev - er. — they shall — live for ev - er.
 3 in you. you shall not have life with - in you.
 4 die, — they shall — live for ev - er.
 5 come — in - to — the — world. —



And I will raise them up, and I will raise them



And I will raise them up, and I will raise them



up, and I will raise them up on the

up, and I will raise them up on the

last day. 5 Yes, day.

last day. 2 The 3 Un- day. 4 — 5 Yes, (♯)

The descant may be sung after stanzas 4 and 5.

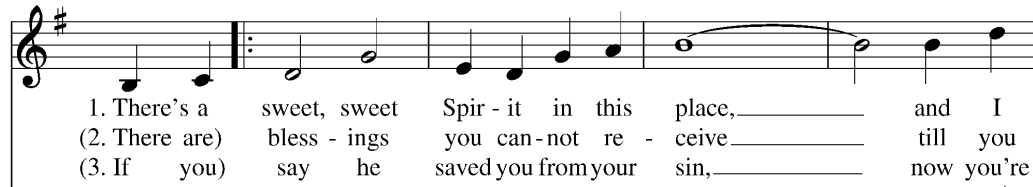
Post Communion Prayer

✠ All pray together

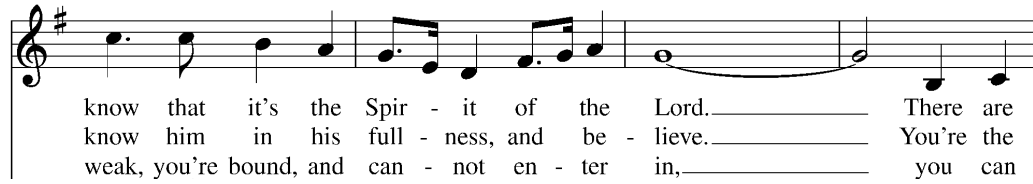
God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and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



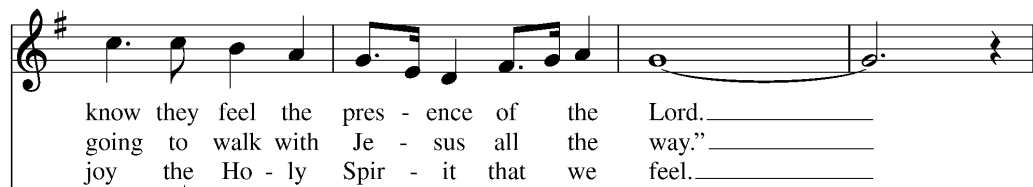
1. There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, and I
 (2. There are) bless - ings you can - not re - ceive till you
 (3. If you) say he saved you from your sin, now you're



know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord. There are
 know him in his full - ness, and be - lieve. You're the
 weak, you're bound, and can - not en - ter in, you can



sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I
 one to pro - fit when you say, "I am
 make it right if you will yield; you'll en -



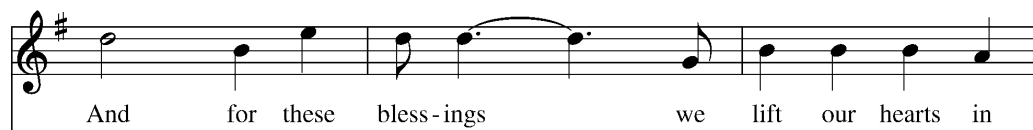
know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.
 going to walk with Je - sus all the way."
 joy the Ho - ly Spir - it that we feel."



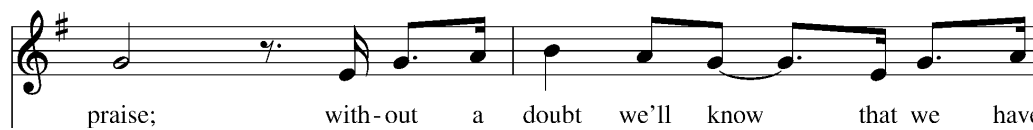
Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it, Sweet Heav - en - ly Dove,



Stay right here with us, fill - ing us with your love.



And for these bless - ings we lift our hearts in



praise; with - out a doubt we'll know that we have



been re - vived when we shall leave this place. 1. 2. 2. There are
 3. If you place.

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

Frédéric Chopin

The flowers today are given in thanksgiving for the baptism of Cillian Thomas Gregory Kennedy and the dedication of the Columbarium.

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ST. THOMAS' PARISH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • DUPONT CIRCLE

Announcements for Sixth Sunday of Easter May 22, 2022

Dear Friends,

Today shall be a beautiful Sunday with much to celebrate! At our 10:30 am service, we will baptize Cillian Thomas Gregory Kennedy. We welcome his family and friends at our worship, and we all make promises to do all in our power to support him in his life with Christ. Bishop Gene Robinson will dedicate and bless our Columbarium. It is the last Sunday with music interns for this academic year, so we will give thanks for them as well! Below, please read more about the Columbarium and Music Interns. Please plan to join us for a festive Coffee Hour after the worship!

Peace today,
Lisa+

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.

Music Interns

Today we thank our Music Interns who have sung with us weekly this season. We recognize the incredible musical skills they have shared with our community and appreciate the joy they have brought to our choir and larger community. You can read their names and universities below, and I recommend you follow their careers as our Music Interns forge their journey ahead.

Sydney Black, mezzo soprano, University of Maryland College Park

Keegan Brush, baritone, Catholic University

Brynn Farlow, tenor, University of Maryland College Park

Sofía Hermoza, soprano, National Cathedral School

Grace Null, soprano, University of Maryland College Park

Isabel O'Hagan, soprano, Catholic University

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.

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/1LUB81kfNY49mTeoyJ2kAF9DvuSuGDWOrjxJdnnqs_p4/edit?usp=sharing

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/>

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



Sunday, May 22:

9:15 am
 9:30 am
 10:30 am
 11:30 am
 12:00 – 2:00 pm

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Choir Rehearsal
 Nursery 4th floor
 Worship in-person and streamed to Facebook
 Welcome Coffee Hour
 Sorting of donations for the refugees

Friday, May 27:

5:00 pm

Sidewalk Series

Sunday, May 29:

9:15 am
 9:30 am
 10:30 am
 11:30 am
 12:00 – 2:00 pm

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Choir Rehearsal
 Nursery 4th floor
 Worship in-person and streamed to Facebook
 Welcome Coffee Hour
 Sorting of donations for the refugees

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. Our upcoming dates for baptism at St. Thomas' Parish are:

- Pentecost: Sunday, June 5 at 10:30 am

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'

Donations for Afghan Refugees:

St. Thomas' Parish is responding to Afghan refugee needs in the DMV by providing much-needed items for people resettling in our area. The Parish has ample space to use as a central repository for collecting and packing all donations. So please be generous! For more information, contact David Swanson at dswansondc@gmail.com To volunteer, go to <http://tinyurl.com/signup3rdfloorsorting>

Drop Off Donations at church on Sundays from 12:00-2:00 pm.

Household items: Pots and pans, vacuums, pressure cookers, trash cans, dutch ovens, laundry baskets, blenders, new bed sheets & pillows, bowls, new shower curtains & hooks, thermoses, bath mats, tea pots & electric kettles Children's Items: Strollers, Items for newborns, baby swings.

Clothing donations are no longer needed.

Requests for Support

- Mental Health Care for Person in Detention: Paul White is a Black, bisexual migrant who is currently detained in Caroline Detention Facility. He is facing imminent deportation and while we're trying to expedite a U-visa, we are working hard to find Paul access to mental health services while he is inside. Paul lives with chronic depression and has tried to end his life several times while being locked inside Caroline Detention Facility. Here is a toolkit with more information on Paul's case: <https://b.link/FreePaulToolkit> We have found a practitioner who can meet with Paul, but the cost of each session is \$100. We are seeking support to help pay these fees. Here is the GoFundMe for Paul: <https://t.co/2CGoDHlccO>
- Help for People Sent From Texas to DC: For the past two and a half weeks, Gov. Greg Abbott has been busing people from Texas to DC as part of some sick and twisted publicity stunt. There have been 19 buses so far carrying hundreds of people, including children and infants. The DMV community has shown up to receive every single bus to support our new neighbors. It is a grassroots effort by community orgs, mutual aid groups and individuals. It is a huge undertaking and an expensive one. The buses keep coming, DC keeps showing up but we need money and supplies.
 - Donate: [Paypal](#) (preferred) or [venmo](#) @SanctuaryDMV with "Texas Solidarity" in the memo
 - SDMV is not a nonprofit, if that matters
 - If venmo and paypal are not your style, you can [donate online](#) to the co-op feeding our new neighbors
 - Purchase: Order supplies of the wishlist, it is updated daily: bit.ly/TXsolidaritysupplies

Sidewalk Series

We are excited for this spring Sidewalk Series! Please consider joining us, inviting friends, and committing to one Friday afternoon as a parish host, helping people find bathrooms and water and giving tours as needed. Please see Michael Lodico with questions, and sign up on the bulletin board to help (or by emailing administrator@stthomasdc.org with your preferred Friday.)



SIDEWALK CONCERT SERIES

ST. THOMAS' PARISH FRIDAYS 5-6PM

1517 18TH ST. NW
NEAR DUPONT METRO

Noah Getz, Series Director
Michael Lodico, Director of Music
Rev. Lisa Ahuja, Rector



<https://stthomasdc.org/>

- 4/1 - Deepak Ram - Indian Classical Flute
- 4/8 - Michael Lodico - Works by Ludovico Einaudi
- 4/22 - Off on Four - Saxophone Quartet
- 4/29 - Bobby Muncy - Jazz Combo
- 5/6 - Simone Baron - The World Music Collective
- 5/13 - Kimia Hesabi - Yasna Iranian Folk Ensemble
- 5/20 - Taisha Estrada - Singer-Songwriter
- 5/27 - Whistling Hens - Clarinet & Voice

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 Beaney (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

Mary Jane Smith
Harvey Snyder
Chris Spangler
Chester Thompson

For those who have died

Jim Figert
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 @BishopGRobinson |
| The Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson | Bishop in Residence | młodico@stthomasdc.org |
| Michael Lodico | Director of Music | |
| 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

www.stthomasdc.org ✉ info@stthomasdc.org

