

## “TOGETHER” outside the church doors

**Family Promise of Greater Rochester:** assists families at risk who are experiencing homelessness to achieve sustainable independence by providing person-centered, holistic services in collaboration with the greater community.  
Contact: Deacon Andrea Stridiron,  
stritz@frontiernet.net.

**Dress-A-Girl Around the World:** gives hope to girls around the world living in areas where they are regarded as having no voice or value. One dress can and does change a life!  
Contact: Karen Savino, ksavino@aol.com

**A Meal & More:** serves nourishing meals and provides caring hospitality at lunch time on Sundays and Wednesdays for all in need. The kitchen is based at Christ Church in downtown Rochester. St. Thomas’ volunteers on the first Wednesday of each month.

Contact: Carolyn Mok, docmok@gmail.com

**Refugee Resettlement:** assists with housing resettlement and the Layette Project in our Rochester Community.

**St. Mark’s & St. John’s Garden & Food Ministry Partnership:** bag food for pantry

Contact: Maggie Detty, loganchem@aol.com

**Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library:** supports children’s ministry  
Contact: John Cullen at  
john\_cullen@urmc.rochester.edu

**Flower City Habitat for Humanity:**  
St. Thomas’ partners with the Brighton Coalition of Churches to build numerous houses in support of Flower City Habitat for Humanity. Building is done once every three years.

**Brighton Food Cupboard:** is a program of the Jewish Family Service of Rochester working in cooperation with The Brighton Central School District, Foodlink and other community organizations.

Contact: Lisa Hand, lisahand711@gmail.com.

**Creation Care Ministry:**  
The Ministry is about the stewardship of the natural world God gave us at the Creation, with a focus on global warming.  
Contact: Allen Blair,  
allen\_blair@urmc.rochester.edu

**Seasonal Projects:**  
**Advent Outreach collections for SWAN (Southwest Area Neighborhood)**

Contact Linda Coleman,  
coleman9@rochester.rr.com

### St. Thomas’ “TOGETHER” Prayer for the 2023-2024 Program Year

O God, whose love encompasses all, as we continue through this year, we offer ourselves to you. Work through us — through both our strengths and weaknesses — so that together we may be more than we are on our own. Connect us to others through your love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

We pray for our parish, staff, diocese, neighborhood and country. Through all the ups and downs this year will bring, may we know your unfailing love and our connection to each other.

Like the multitude of colors and shapes that make up stained glass, you have made each person unique and beautiful. Help us to see how we fit together, with no piece more important than another, creating a masterpiece of love.

As we go out into the world, let us feel connected to you — the One in whom we live and move and have our being, the One who created all things, the One who loves us completely.

Amen.

## “TOGETHER” St. Thomas’ Engaging in God’s Mission



**St. Thomas’ Episcopal Church**  
2000 Highland Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14618  
585-442-3544

For details see our website:  
[www.stthomasrochester.org](http://www.stthomasrochester.org)

# “TOGETHER” within St. Thomas’ doors

## Worship

**Acolytes:** serve as part of the liturgical party during Holy Eucharist and other rites of the Church. All ages are welcome to serve.

Contact: Deacon Andrea Stridiron,  
stritz@frontiernet.net

**Altar Guild:** works behind the scenes to assist and support all worship services by preparing for Holy Eucharist as well as weddings, funerals and other occasions. All ages are welcome to serve.

Contact: Laura Thomas,  
lsthomas@rochester.rr.com

**Eucharistic Ministers:** serve the chalice during worship services.

**Eucharistic Visitors:** bring Holy Communion to the sick and homebound members.

**Lectors:** read lessons and prayers during worship.

Contact: The Very Rev’d Leslie Burkardt,  
leslie@stthomasrochester.org

**Adult Choir:** leads the congregation in worship through music.

Contact: Rhonda Wright,  
music@stthomasrochester.org.

**Welcome Guides:** serve at Sunday worship services by extending welcome, offering assistance to those entering the building and supporting clergy during the service.

Contact: Susan Henry, shhenry04@yahoo.com

**Livestream Ministry:** Assists with the live-streaming of our weekly service and funerals and weddings.

Contact: Mike McQuinn, blkvgs@yahoo.com

**Confidential Prayer Ministry:** provides daily prayer support for the needs, of our parish and their families and friends.

Contact: The Parish Office,  
office@stthomasrochester.org

**Offering Stewards:** A team of parishioners who count and deposit funds collected during church services.

Contact: Mollie McCormick,  
mcarrollm71@msn.com

## Education

### Adult Formation

**Education for Ministry (EfM):** is a four-year study of scripture, tradition, history and spirituality, with a heavy emphasis on theological reflection. It is a program for anyone who wants to "go deeper" in their life with God.

**The Path – A Journey Through the Bible:** meets on the third Sunday of each month in small groups for a brief lesson and discussion.

Contact: The Parish Office,  
office@stthomasrochester.org

### Children & Youth Formation

**Nursery Ministry:** A team of two adults serve 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. to care for infants & young children.

**Sunday School Teachers:** serve as a team of two during worship service to provide a safe environment for young souls to be nourished.

**Youth Ministry Leaders:** Facilitates & mentors youth.

Contact: Paula Gitlin,  
paula@stthomasrochester.org.

## Ministries at Large

**Fiber Arts Ministry:** enjoys prayerful knitting, crocheting, quilting and sewing, creating prayer shawls, hats, mittens, blankets and other items that are blessed and given to those in need of physical and spiritual comfort.

Contact: Carol Oldenburg,  
carolioa@rochester.rr.com

**Women of St. Thomas’:** meets monthly for lunch, fellowship and outreach projects.

Contact: Susan Pickhardt,  
susan.pickhardt@rochester.rr.com

### Food, Fun & Fellowship

Meet for breakfast in the Lower Hall on the second Saturday of each month.

Contact: Andrea Stridiron,  
stritz@frontiernet.net

## Leadership

**Vestry:** elected lay leaders within an Episcopal parish, serving with the Wardens and the Rector in mutual ministry. Responsibilities include: finances, management of the property and volunteer recruitment, to name a few.

Contact: Susan Henry, Sr. Warden,  
shhenry04@yahoo.com

### Vestry Commissions

**Finance Commission:** Advises the Vestry, develops the initial annual budget, reviews monthly financial reports.

Contact: Jim Stefano, jimst1776@gmail.com

**Endowment Commission:** oversees the endowed gifts and funds established to assure the long-term financial health of St. Thomas’, advising the Vestry of invested assets as the Vestry seeks to live out the mission and vision of the Church.

Contact: Richard Yates,  
richardbyates65@gmail.com

**Stewardship Commission:** facilitates annual campaign, educates and encourages the parish regarding the giving of time, talent and treasure.

Contact: Lee Loomis, leeloomis46@gmail.com

**Property Commission:** oversees the repairs and maintenance of our building and grounds and reports to the Vestry.

Property Contact: Brian Eshenaur,  
beshenaur@gmail.com or Tim Mabb,  
tcecm@yahoo.com

Gardening Contact: Laura Arney,  
larney1206@gmail.com

**Community Engagement Commission:** oversees outreach partnerships and social justice advocacy.

**Repurposing with Purpose:** Assists parishioners with physical limitations who are downsizing.

Contact: Jane Andrews, jane@andrews.me

**Parish Connections Team:** coordinates hospitality hours and special all-parish lunches and dinners.

Contact: Anne Bauer, aobauer1@gmail.com.