

The Roman Catholic Communities of

St. James the Greater
75 River Road
Montague, New Jersey

and

St. Thomas the Apostle
210 Route 206 North
Sandyston, New Jersey

Office for both parishes is located at
210 Route 206 North
Sandyston, NJ 07826

Parish Office: 973-948-2296
Fax: 973-948-4634
E-mail address: stjamesthomas@aol.com
Website address: saintjamesthomas.org
Rectory: 973-293-7582

Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
8:30 AM – 2:30 PM

PASTOR: Father Wayne Varga
DEACON: Mr. Wayne von Doehren
CRE: Mrs. Mary Flexer
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Mrs. Patricia Hope
PARISH SECRETARY: Mrs. Rosemarie Briegel

Mass Schedule at St. James
Sunday: 8:00 AM and 11:30 AM
Saturday: 8:00 AM

Mass Schedule at St. Thomas
Saturday: 4:30 PM – Vigil
Sunday: 9:30 AM
Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri.: 9:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation
St. Thomas the Apostle - Saturday - 4:00 PM - 4:20 PM or by appointment

Religious Education for children (CCD):
Religious Education/Youth Office and classes are located at the Msgr. Gacquin Youth/ Religious Education Center,
122 Layton-Hainesville Road, Sandyston (mail should be sent to parish office address listed above)
Phone: 973-948-7004 ~ Fax: 973-948-7007

Children's Liturgy of the Word (September through April):
At St. Thomas the Apostle Church as part of the 9:30 AM Mass.

New parishioners are invited to fill out a registration form which can be found in the vestibule of the Church. Often when a Catholic is asked to be a Godparent for baptism or sponsor for Confirmation a letter from the pastor of their parish is requested. This can only be given to registered and active members of the parish.

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated during Mass providing that liturgical norms do not dictate otherwise. Please contact the office to schedule a Baptism and to make arrangements for preparations especially for first time parents. Baptisms may be scheduled at other times if extenuating conditions apply. Godparents must be practicing Catholics.

Part of our ministry is to **visit the sick** in hospital or at home. Privacy laws do not allow us to visit or pray publicly for the sick unless permission is given by the individual or their health care proxy. Please inform us of the needs of the sick, and we will be happy to respond as best we can.

Pregnancy Assistance
Call 1-800-395-HELP or Tri-State Pregnancy 570-491-5151
Good Counsel: 1.800.723.8331 for pregnant mothers in need anytime, anyplace.
www.goodcounselhomes.org
Post Abortion Healing:
Project Rachel 973-777-8818, ext. 272
Lumina: Hope and Healing After Abortion: 1.877.LUMINA1 (877.586.4621)
www.postabortionhelp.org
Adoption Services:
Adoption@CatholicCharities.

Welcome -We Are a Tithing Parish

Where Did the Trinity Come From ?

God, Three Persons in One, was always there, of course. He had no beginning, and has no end. On this Feast of the Most Holy Trinity today, we have the chance to grapple a little with this Mystery.

We could never, ever, on our own, come to an understanding that there were three Persons in one God. Logic and reason could never come to this conclusion. It is only because this understanding of God has been *revealed* to us, that we can recognize God as Three in One.

You will not find the word “Trinity” in the Bible. But in the New Testament, in the Gospels, we find references to Jesus as the *Son of God*. He Himself speaks of God in a most familiar way—as *His Father*. Jesus promises to send the *Holy Spirit of God* upon the apostles, so that they can inflame the world with faith.

Yet all of this wasn’t clarified into a doctrine until the 4th century. A noted scholar Tertullian made some progress around 250 A.D. when he first used the words “Trinity” and “Person” to better explain our understanding of God. Still, controversies and heresies about the nature of God abounded, as many other scholars put forward their conflicting explanations on the subject.

The Church Fathers of the 4th century decided to gather and come up with a final, unified, agreed-upon understanding of the nature of God. They came together at the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. to officially define the relationship of the Son to the Father, as well as the place of the Holy Spirit. They came up with the explanation which we still use today: God is Trinity, Three Persons equal in Divinity, united in love. They devised the formula which we know today as the Nicene Creed. We recite it at every Mass.

We acknowledge this understanding of the inner nature of God each time we begin our prayers with the Sign of the Cross. One of our best known prayers is a reminder of this Mystery: “*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ...*”

On this special Feast Day today, may we thank the Lord for revealing so much of Himself to us. The knowledge of God that we have already, is actually an installment towards the day that we will come to know Him more perfectly, face-to-face, in the Kingdom of Heaven.

God bless you,
Father Wayne

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY
May 22, 2016

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Dom & Agnes Giordano at the
Request of their Family

SATURDAY, May 28

8:00AM – Ann Marie Catalano
req. by her Family

THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST
May 29

8:00AM – Charles Lombaerde
req. by his wife, Carol

11:30AM – Robert & Ann Lamb
req. by Peggy & Richard Gray

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,086.00 – Regular Collection – May 15, 2016

\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$1,276.00 – Regular Collection – May 17, 2015

Consider a gift to St. James Parish in your will.

Rosaries for Peace

Please join us Sundays before 9:30am Mass for recitation of the First Glorious Mystery of the Holy Rosary. The remaining mysteries will be recited immediately after Mass. Rosary beads are available in the Gathering Space.

The Saturday eve Mass will also be preceded by a Rosary for Peace, beginning at 4:10 p.m. May we ask our Blessed Mother, Patroness of our Nation, to help us find peace in our nation and in the world.

Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima Statue/Legion of Mary

This beautifully adorned statue is a visible reminder of the love God has shown in the Blessed Mother. Placing such a beautiful image in your home turns hearts to prayer and brings grace to those who open their hearts to any image of God's love. If you would like to have the statue of Our Lady of Fatima in your home, or need any further information about the Legion of Mary in our parishes, please contact Diana, Legion of Mary, at 973-948-7601. *Pray the Family Rosary*

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Margaret Accordino, Mary Cunico, Rachel Gibbs, Barbara Haggerty, Carmen Howell, Clara Kane, Jeff Librizzi, Betty Mastrelli, Sandy Matthews, Brian McKenna, Cathy Moyer, Danielle Parker, Marguerite Phillips, Flo Puccio, Baby Teddy, Jen Vaughn, Lorraine Verga, Tarra Wagner and Thomas Walsh

St. James Rosary & Altar Society If any ladies in the parish are interested in joining, please call Joan Henn at 973-293-3690 or Linda Spinapoliche at 973-293-7031.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Ralph & Anna Gioielli at the
Request of their Children

MONDAY, May 23

9:00AM – Elvira Budesheim
req. by Mark & Donna Lewandowski

TUESDAY, May 24

9:00AM – Julio Lopez and David Whitehead
req. by Mary Flexer

WEDNESDAY, May 25

9:00AM – Ann Bolen
req. by Mary Flexer
- Intentions of Father Wayne
42nd Anniversary of Ordination
- Holy Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY, May 26

No Mass

FRIDAY, May 27

9:00AM – Jerry Demalderis
req. by his wife, Frances & Children

SATURDAY, Vigil, May 28

4:30PM – Eleanor & Edward Stukane
req. by the Wainwright Family

THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST
May 29

9:30AM – Robert Koziol
req. by the Rahoche Family

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,209.00 – Regular Collection – May 15, 2016

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$2,324.00 – Regular Collection – May 17, 2015

Consider a gift to St. Thomas Parish in your will.



The Legion of Mary meets every **Friday** morning at 10:00a.m. in St. Thomas the Apostle Church. Men and women of both parishes are invited to consider Auxiliary or Active membership. For further information, please contact the parish office.



Diocesan Celebration with First Communicants

To highlight the importance of the reception of First Holy Eucharist, Bishop Serratelli will lead the **Diocesan Celebration with First Communicants**. This will take place at St. Peter the Apostle Church, 179 Baldwin Road, Parsippany, NJ on **Sunday, June 5, 2016 at 3:00PM** (arrive at 2:30PM) for those who just received Jesus for the very first time and joined the community at the Table of the Lord.

We are encouraging parents and First Communicants to welcome this very special occasion. This truly is a "one in a lifetime opportunity" for them!!! **Therefore, we ask you to consider this very special opportunity and respond back to the Religious Education Office by Wednesday, May 25th.**

Catholic Summer Camp

As our enrollment for Vacation Bible School has lessened over the past two years, as has also been the case at Our Lady Queen of Peace, we have decided to try something new and combine our talents and join together! We are encouraging all children entering grades Kindergarten through Fifth Grade to join us for a week of learning our faith through music, prayers, games, skits, arts and crafts, friendship and fun at **Catholic Summer Camp**. This will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish on Route 206 in Branchville from Monday, June 20th through Friday, June 24th from 9:00AM until 12:00PM. Registration is free and was handed out to students last week in their classes. **Please return your form by June 3rd, so we can be properly prepared.** If you have any questions or concerns, please call Mary at 973-948-7004. We look forward to a wonderful week with old friends while making new friends too!!!

Yoga-lates

St. Thomas is offering a **Spring** fitness class with a mix of Yoga moves (for flexibility and calm mind) and Pilates (for strength and tone especially in your core muscles). The class is on **Tuesday** nights from 6:15-7:15pm for 8 weeks and **started April 12th. You may join us at any time.** The class is easy to follow but a full body workout. Bring a mat, hand held weights (1-8lbs.), water and a friend. Join for the session for only \$40.00 or pay \$6.00 per class. Twenty percent of the class money will be going to St. Thomas parish. So, please try it out and do something for yourself. Any questions, please call Chris Dube at 973-948-2329.

The next St. Thomas Pot Luck Dinner is scheduled for **Saturday, May 28th** after the 4:30pm Mass.

2016: St. Thomas 75th Anniversary Year 1941-2016

Anniversary items are in and ready for sale. Travel mugs with the 75th anniversary logo are now available for \$5 each. Also available are anniversary logo magnets for \$4 each. Items are for purchase before and after the 4:30pm and 9:30am Masses. Grace Reich also has the items available. Be the first to celebrate the occasion of St. Thomas' 75th Anniversary!!

Good Deed Journaling. All parishioners are invited to make note of the good deeds they perform during the course of the day. There are little notebooks on the table in the Gathering Space. Please take one and use it as a personal diary to record the good deeds you perform for the Lord each day. You may surprise yourself. These notebooks are for your personal use only, and can be a wonderful offering to the Lord of your time well spent for His honor and glory.

Calling all "Vintage People"

Perhaps you have great memories of the Catholic Church and the America of our youth. We ask if you would like to share a memory or two with all of our parishioners as we celebrate our 75th year. Please pick up a blue sheet of paper in the gathering space.

Senior "Vintage" Memories – In my parish, St. Thomas the Apostle in Bloomfield, we made our confirmation in 8th grade. The 5th and 6th grades sang from the choir loft and the 7th grade formed an honor guard for the Bishop as he went up the aisle and everyone sang "Ecce Sacerdos Pontus" which means "Hail the High Priest". It was glorious!

St. Thomas History – In Dec., 1942, Rev. Hewetson informed the Bishop that the large windows at St. Thomas were allowing air and wind to penetrate the building in winter and sought to reduce their size while utilizing asbestos shingles to insulate and decorate the building. He felt "...this plan would be most economical and effective, especially under the present war-time conditions".

This Week in Our Parishes

STC – St. Thomas Church or Fr. Lewis Center

SJC – St. James Church or Church Hall

REC – Fr. Gacquin Religious Ed. Center

Sunday, May 22, 2016

Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

10:30a.m. STC Catechists' Breakfast

Monday, May 23

11:00a.m. REC Prayer Shawl & Ros.Makers' Mtg

Tuesday, May 24

6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

Wednesday, May 25

Thursday, May 26

9:30 a.m. REC Moms & Tots Play Group

Friday, May 27

9:00 a.m. STC Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
after Mass, till 12 Noon

10:00a.m. STC Legion of Mary Mtg.

Saturday, May 28

5:30 p.m. STC Pot Luck Dinner

Sunday, May 29, 2016

Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ

Next Sunday's Reading: *Corpus Christi*

1st Reading: *Genesis 14: 18--20*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 110*

2nd Reading: *1 Corinthians 11: 23--26*

Gospel: *Luke 9: 11--17*

Baby Bottle Drive—Good Counsel

Homes. Every year at this time we hold this drive on behalf of Good Counsel Homes. This organization was begun by our parishioner Chris Bell, and serves to give shelter to young women in stressful pregnancies. Usually homeless, without family support, they find a warm welcome and a safe place to have their babies in one of five homes in the N.Y.—N.J. area. Your donations keep these Homes running, on behalf of the Catholic Church. Please take a bottle and fill it with cash, change or check. These bottles will be collected on Sun. June 5th. Know that you are taking part in this 'ministry for life' by your donation.

Next Year's Parish Calendar is in the planning stages as we speak. **All parish organizations and individuals needing to set up parish events for Fall 2016 through Summer 2017 are asked to take a 'calendar planning page' and to fill in their requested dates and premises.** Please return these pages by **June 15**. We will then hold a meeting at the end of June to iron out any conflicts. We will do our best to accommodate everyone. Once the official calendar is set—it will take precedence over any other future events.

Announcing: Our Parishes' Website.

Launched and operational just recently, we proudly announce our Website:

saintjamesthomas.org

It is powered by E-Catholic, and is linked (we think) with the other churches and agencies of the Diocese of Paterson. We hope to have all events and news available continually.

For young men, 15 – 25. Our diocese has developed a unique retreat for young men, ages 15 – 25. It is an informal three-day experience during which you are asked to think about your future, and God's plans for you. It is the **Quo Vadis Retreat**. 'Where are you going?' is the theme, and also the translation in English. The Retreat will be held June 29—July 1. It will be held in our neighborhood: the **Sacred Heart Center in Newton**. It will include reflection time, sports, meals, Mass and discussion. You will meet young priests of our Diocese who will be running the Retreat. High school students and those of college age will have separate programs. And the cost is: Free!

Give yourself a chance to think ahead about your future, and enjoy the time with other young Catholic men of our Diocese. Call the Diocese of Paterson, 973-777-8818 x 711 for more info.

Trips & Travel with St. Thomas. Our one-day trips include *Samson at Sight & Sound Millennium Theatre* (Sat. May 28) and *Hershey Park* (Fri. Jun. 24). We are also gauging interest in a 3-day weekend trip to *Washington D.C.* You may have seen the brochures in the vestibule for our *Irish Pilgrimage* trip available in September. This very special trip, as with all the others, is open to everyone. Feel free to extend the invitation to others outside our parishes. If you are interested in any one of the above, please contact Christy Mahon at this website: cmahon@cruseone.com or call 862-354-8448 for details.