

# 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](mailto:stjamesthomas@aol.com)  
Website address: [saintjamesthomas.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.postabortionhelp.org)  
**Adoption Services:**  
Adoption@CatholicCharities.

**Welcome -We Are a Tithing Parish**

## *Reverence and the Body of Christ*

You've heard the song: "*He's Got the Whole World in His Hands.*" And it's true: God is the Creator and Sustainer of our entire universe and everything within it. To contemplate this, is to have just a hint of how great is the power of God.

Yet, in a sense, we go one step further. At each Mass, as we come forward to receive the Blessed Sacrament, placed in *our* hands (or on our tongue) is the Body of God Himself—Jesus Christ. It is an awesome thought, to think that we, mere human beings, are privileged to handle the Body of Christ. To truly realize this, makes us stop in wonder and awe.

And, at the same moment, we are also transported back in time. As we receive the Body and Blood of our Lord, we have nothing less than what the first apostles had. In fact, it is as if we are sitting around the Last Supper table with them, hearing Jesus speak those words which transform ordinary bread and wine into the sacred elements.

To realize that we are privileged to take part in this very mystery of our salvation should make us pause and reflect. (It is the Spirit's Gift of Reverence that compels us to do so.) It should make us understand that, as we receive and consume the precious Body and Blood of the Lord, we have His very presence flowing within us. That makes us to be sacred, holy people, cherished and saved by His very sacrifice on the cross.

With the help of the Gift of Reverence, stop and consider your attitude the last time you came up the aisle in the Communion Procession. Did you truly acknowledge that we are so privileged to have Jesus dwelling with us? Were you conscious of His presence within you as you went through your day—and as you entered into the rest of the week? As the first apostles did, did you look for ways to advance Jesus' presence in the world by your own words and works done in faith? Did you realize that the host you held in your hand has the power to change the world—through you?

Jesus made the "new and everlasting covenant" with the Father so that we could be confident of the Father's continuing love for us throughout life. May we take time to consciously prepare to receive the Lord each week at Mass. May we consciously try to spread His love and influence by the way we live each day.

God bless you,  
Father Wayne

**THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST**  
**May 29, 2016**

**St. James the Greater**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Robert & Ann Lamb at the  
Request of Peggy & Richard Gray

**SATURDAY, June 4**

8:00AM – Andrei Vas

**TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**June 5**

8:00AM – Helen Briegel  
req. by her Family

11:30AM – George Cole, Jr.  
req. by Harry & Diane Cole

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$1,306.00 – Regular Collection – May 22, 2016**

**\$ 300.00 – Peter's Pence**

**\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

**\$1,317.00 – Regular Collection – May 24, 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, Mary Guimes, 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 Spinapolic at 973-293-7031.

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Cathy Pullis at the  
Request of her Family

**MONDAY, May 30**

9:00AM – William Lange  
req. by Gerry Mahon & Family

**TUESDAY, May 31**

9:00AM – Mike Wenning  
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer  
-Intentions of the Legion of Mary  
req. by the Legion of Mary

**WEDNESDAY, June 1**

9:00AM – Bob Walker  
req. by Ken & Mary Burkhardt

**THURSDAY, June 2**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, June 3**

9:00AM – Daniel Barr  
req. by his Goddaughter, Mary Flexer

**SATURDAY, Vigil, June 4**

4:30PM – Deloris Spinks  
req. by her husband, Russ  
-Russell B. Spinks  
req. by his Dad

**TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**June 5**

9:30AM – Michael Bailo  
req. by his Mom, Grace Decker  
-Robert Fritsch  
req. by Marion & Margie

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$1,752.00 – Regular Collection – May 22, 2016**

**\$ 470.00 Peter's Pence**

**\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

**\$2,284.00 – Regular Collection – May 24, 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.

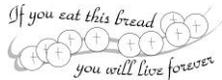


### **Catholic Summer Camp**

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 20<sup>th</sup> through Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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!!!

### **A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS HIS WORD TODAY** by Rev. William J. Reilly



#### **The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**

**May 29, 2016**

**“As the day was drawing to a close, the twelve approached him and said: ‘Dismiss the crowd so they can go to the surrounding villages and farms and find lodging and provisions, for we are in a deserted place here.’ He said to them, ‘Give them some food yourselves.’ They replied, ‘Five loaves and two fish are all we have, unless we ourselves go and buy food for all these people.’ They all ate and were satisfied.”**

The celebration today sets us apart as Catholics. We do not only recall how Jesus fed the multitude but Luke offers us a glimpse of the action which takes place at every mass. He tells us 1. Jesus took the loaves and fish, 2. Looked up, raising His eyes in prayer, 3. Said the blessing, 4. Broke the bread, a sign of sharing, and 5. Gave it to the disciples for them to share. Not just for them to eat but for all.

Imagine the wonder and awe, as people saw what was happening and then were fed. Surely it made a great impact.

We come to Eucharist and the same Christ, in the person of the priest, consecrates elements of bread and wine, because we need to satisfy our hunger. I must ask myself, if the gift of Eucharist produces the same effect in me? Do I recognize the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist? Do I hunger to receive the gift the Lord has provided for me? Does my encounter with Christ in the Eucharist produce a unity, a oneness, which is what communion means?

On this special feast I pray that my devotion to Christ in the Eucharist may be revived. May I connect it with my First Holy Communion. I recall a small sign in my church which told the priest ‘Celebrate this Mass as if it were your first Mass.’ Celebrate it as if it were your last Mass.

#### **Right to Life**

First Saturday prayer vigil held monthly at 10am at 8 Moran Street across from Planned Parenthood in Newton. Next vigil will be on **June 4<sup>th</sup>**.

### **2016: St. Thomas 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year 1941-2016**

**Anniversary items** are in and ready for sale. Travel mugs with the 75<sup>th</sup> 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’ 75<sup>th</sup> 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 75<sup>th</sup> year. Please pick up a blue sheet of paper in the gathering space.

**Senior “Vintage” Memories** – After praying in my area Catholic Church asking God to not let my brother die, the next morning my brother awoke from his coma and talking. I knew then that I wanted to become a Catholic. Years later, I met my husband and was baptized at our Lady of Lourdes.

**St. Thomas History** – St. Thomas’ converted schoolhouse must have had an outhouse, as Father Hewetson sought “a new outside toilet and an outside coal-bin”. Water must have been obtained from a neighboring home, as Father noted: “Mrs. Roosa has a fine well”. Permission was sought by Rev. Hewetson to obtain funds for St. Thomas’ needs via a collection to be taken January 17<sup>th</sup> at St. Nicholas Church of Passaic.

#### **Vendors Wanted for Flea Market**

St. James the Greater Church in Montague is having their Annual Flea Market on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00AM to 4:00PM. Indoor and outdoor spaces available. Please contact Betsy Gardner at 845-858-7892 or [Gardnerabstract@aol.com](mailto:Gardnerabstract@aol.com) for questions or to reserve a space.

**First Saturday Mass** will be celebrated at St. James Church on **Saturday morning, June 4<sup>th</sup>, at 8am.** Our Lady of Fatima promised to assist with the graces needed for salvation at the hour of death, all those who on the first Saturday of five consecutive months shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep her company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary with the intention of making reparation.

## 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 29, 2016**

**Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ**

**Monday, May 30**

**Memorial Day**

9:00 a.m. STC Mass for our Nation

**Tuesday, May 31**

6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

**Wednesday, June 1**

**Thursday, June 2**

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

**Friday, June 3**

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

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

**Saturday, June 4**

**Sunday, June 5, 2016**

**10<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 a.m. SJC Coffee Hour after Mass

11:30a.m. SJC Refreshments after Mass

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**Next Sunday's Reading: *Corpus Christi***

1st Reading: *1 Kings 17: 17--24*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 30*

2nd Reading: *Galatians 1: 11--19*

Gospel: *Luke 7: 11--17*

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**Baby Bottle Drive—Good Counsel Homes.**

This drive continues. Your donations keep the five Good Counsel Homes running, on behalf of the Catholic Church. Baby bottles will be collected next Sunday, June 5.

*“And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country.”*

~John F. Kennedy, Inauguration Day Speech, 1961

**Memorial Day** had its beginnings after the Civil War, to honor soldiers of both sides who died in battle. It was meant as a way of healing our nation after that terrible conflict. We will continue the tradition of honoring those who have died in our nation's wars, and praying for our country, as we gather Monday for a special Memorial Day Mass. It will be held **at St. Thomas at 9 a.m.** Please join us, to ask God's wisdom upon our nation's leaders and people—especially in this election year.

**Next Year's Parish Calendar** is in the planning stages as we speak. **All parish organizations and individuals needing to set up parish events from July 2016 through June 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](http://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.