

# 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**

# Being a Good Steward

***“No servant can serve two masters.”***

Luke 16: 13

Have you heard about the dying man who won the lottery ? Concerned that the excitement might be too much for him, the man’s family asked their parish priest to tell him the good news. When the pastor told the man that he had just won \$ 10 million, the man replied: “Father, I want to give half of it to the Church.” The priest was so surprised that *he* promptly had a heart attack !

This little joke tells us how much of an impact money can have on us .

Today’s Gospel asks to consider: “What is your attitude towards money ?” Here are a few ideas that might help you answer that question.

First, having money is not a sin. It’s our *love of money* that separates us from God. Jesus wants to be first in our lives—above our money and possessions.

Second, Jesus asks us to be good stewards of our money. He wants us to be prudent, honest, and responsible. We should never allow greed or dishonesty to dominate us. Instead, we should use our money wisely, invest wisely, and be as generous as we can.

Third, donating to the Church and to other charities, even if we can only give a small amount, is a key aspect of our stewardship. Scripture calls us to hear “the cry of the poor” (Proverbs 21: 13). We can be assured that whenever we give away our earthly treasures, God will reward us with heavenly treasures—“eternal dwellings” (Luke 16: 9).

Finally, remember that your money is not yours; it belongs to God. The moment you die, you will no longer own your money. Yes, you can give it to your children or to charity. However, money will be absolutely useless to you. The only way it will matter is the degree to which you have used it to help people: your family, your friends, the Church, and the poor.

Money is a very complex and emotional topic, so ask the Holy Spirit to help you learn how to keep it in the right perspective.

**Jesus, teach me to be a good steward.**

--from *The Word Among Us*  
September 2016

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**September 18, 2016**

**St. James the Greater**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Rosemarie Bastian at the  
Request of her Family

**SATURDAY, September 24**

8:00AM – Kate Olivo  
req. by her Family

**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**September 25**

8:00AM – Warren Jankowski  
req. by the Cerra Family

11:30AM – Matthew & Carol Ann Chaplin and  
Paul Kalinoski  
req. by a Friend

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$1,189.00 – Regular Collection – September 11, 2016**  
**\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need**  
**\$1,670.00 – Regular Collection – September 13, 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, Derya Dimertas, 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 Spinapolice at 973-293-7031.

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Ralph Gioielli at the  
Request of his Children

**MONDAY, September 19**

9:00AM – Bob Walker  
req. by his daughter, Mary Burkhardt  
- Intentions of Deacon Wayne  
Birthday Celebration

**TUESDAY, September 20**

9:00AM – Intentions of Jane Purcell  
req. by her sister, Kathleen

**WEDNESDAY, September 21**

9:00AM – Intentions of John Kerrigan  
req. by his daughter, Kathleen

**THURSDAY, September 22**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, September 23**

9:00AM – Intentions of the Gorman Family  
req. by Wife & Mother

**SATURDAY, Vigil, September 24**

4:30PM – Jimmy Reed  
req. by his Mom & Dad  
- Thomas & Barbara Rogers  
req. by the Wainwright Family

**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**September 25**

9:30AM – Patricia Burke Hughes  
req. by Marc & Susan Cunico

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$2,012.00 – Regular Collection – September 11, 2016**  
**\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need**  
**\$2,219.00 – Regular Collection – September 13, 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.



**Catechetical Sunday –**  
**“Prayer: The Faith Prayed”**

Today, we celebrate Catechetical Sunday and will honor those who share in the evangelization mission of the Church through a special Rite of Commissioning and Blessing. We ask your prayer and support for the following men and women of our parishes who selflessly devote themselves to the ministry of catechesis and share the faith of the Catholic Church with the adults, families, youth and children of our parishes: Rita Straka, Meagan Gibbons, Karen Steinert, Marie Mendez, Patrice Kealy, Chris Higgins, Jennifer Guida, Cathy McNanna, Mike Bussow, John Lucadamo, Maggie Nicole, Dan and Lucy O’Keefe, Alex Sousa and Patricia Hope. Thank you all for showing us how to live our faith! Special Congratulations to Mike Bussow, Tom and Cindy Costello and John Lucadamo who are being honored by the Diocese of Paterson for 10 years of dedication and service on their special anniversaries! Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel, and it is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

It is with bittersweet but grateful heart, that we announce the “retirement” of Donna Blevins, Tom and Cindy Costello, Tracy Edwards and Rita Wenning from our catechetical staff. **We thank them for their combined 39 years of ministry** in our parishes and ask the Lord to continue to bless them for all they have done in His Name! We will then begin/resume our catechetical sessions at the Msgr. James Gacquin Youth and Religious Education Center as follows:

- Grades 9 & 10 – Sat., Sept. 17 – 4:30PM Mass – 7:15PM
- Grades 6, 7 & 8 – Sun., Sept. 18 – 9:30AM Mass until 12:30PM
- Grades 1 & 2 – Tues., Sept. 20 & 27 – 4:00PM until 5:15PM
- Grades 3, 4 & 5 – Wed., Sept. 21 & 28 – 4:00PM until 5:15PM

**Registrations for 2016/2017 Catechetical Year**

Re-registrations for children in **Grades 2-8** and **teens in the Confirmation Preparation Program** for the upcoming catechetical year **were due back by July 30<sup>th</sup> to avoid the late fee. We are still waiting for many re-registrations!!! Please return all registrations ASAP!!! Thank you.**

**No re-registrations will be taken the week of September 18<sup>th</sup> (first week of classes). All late re-registrations must be brought to the Religious Education Office after September 18<sup>th</sup>. Please call to schedule an appointment.**

Parents of children entering first grade, new children to the parish, children enrolled in Catholic school or home school who will be preparing to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Eucharist or Confirmation must call the Religious Education Office to register. To enroll your child(ren) in the parish program, you must be a registered and participating member of the parish.

**Prayer Shawl/Rosary Makers Ministry**

We will begin our ministry again on September 19<sup>th</sup>. We meet at the Msgr. James Gacquin Youth and Religious Center on the first and third Mondays of the month from 11:00AM until 1:00PM and are always ready to welcome new members!



**Catholic Teens**

Our Lady Queen of Peace, St. Thomas the Apostle and St. James the Greater have formed a new youth group for all teens in High School. **Come join us and see what’s going on!!!** Our next meeting will take place in the pavilion at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish **today, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00pm**. There will be plenty of fun, games, music events and prayer. For more information please call Jenn at the office at 973-948-3185.

**Yoga-lates**

St. Thomas is offering a fitness class with a mix of Yoga moves (for flexibility and calm mind) and Pilates (for strength and tone especially in the core muscles). The class will be on Tuesday nights from 6:15-7:15pm for 8 weeks and starts on **October 11<sup>th</sup>**. 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.

**Save the Date**

The famous St. James Annual Spaghetti Dinner will be held on **Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00pm. Bring your own drink. Takeout meals available. Adults: \$12.00, Children under 12: \$6.00 and Children under 6 are free. Tickets will be available after the 8:00am and 11:30am Masses on September 25<sup>th</sup> and October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. You may also call Mike Spinapolice at 973-293-7031 or go to [wjr218@optonline.net](mailto:wjr218@optonline.net). Sit down tickets are limited to 100.

**St. James Christmas Bazaar – December 3**

We will soon be accepting donations of new and like new items for the “Second Time Around” tables. Crafters, bakers and volunteers should also start making plans for their contributions now. If you are a crafter, baker, volunteer or just editing some nice but unwanted pieces from your home, please call Linda Spinapolice 973-293-7031, Maria Henn 973-293-3243 or Joan Henn 973-293-3690. Please mark your calendars and start planning for this exciting fundraiser now.

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

**St. Thomas History** – Following the closure of the two Missions, St. Thomas was given the altar from Our Lady of Blue Mountain which was designed by Fr. Tully, built by Ted Thum with wood donated by Russ Spinks. We also received the Stations of the Cross from St. Matthew.

## 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, September 18, 2016

#### 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

##### Catechetical Sunday

9:30 a.m. REC Mass & Class Gr. 6,7,8

10:30a.m. STC Columbiettes Mtg.

6:00 p.m. Youth Group (at O.L.Q.P. till 8 p.m.)

### Monday, Sept. 19

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

### Tuesday, Sept. 20

10:00a.m. STC St. Thomas Bikers Gang

4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 1 & 2

### Wednesday, Sept. 21

4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 3, 4 & 5

### Thursday, Sept. 22

9:30 a.m. STC Moms & Tots Playgroup

### Friday, Sept. 23

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

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

### Saturday, Sept. 24

### Sunday, September 25, 2016

#### 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. STC C.L.O.W.

9:30 a.m. STC R.C.I.A. (after Mass)

6:00 p.m. Youth Group (at O.L.Q.P. till 8 p.m.)

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### Next Sunday's Readings: 26<sup>th</sup> Ord.

1st Reading: *Amos 6: 1a, 4--7*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 146*

2nd Reading: *1 Timothy 6: 11--16*

Gospel: *Luke 16: 19--31*

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*Mother Teresa loved to say, "Perhaps I don't speak their language, but I can smile." Let us carry her smile in our hearts and give it to those whom we meet along our journey, especially those who suffer.*

--Pope Francis,

Sermon at canonization of Mother Teresa

**Diocesan Men's Conference.** Our Diocese will be holding its first **Men's Conference** on **Saturday, October 15 at St. Paul Inside the Walls in Madison.** Join us from 8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. for the opportunity to enhance men's spirituality and encourage them to be more involved with their parishes. Speakers include: former NFL receiver, Danny Abramowicz; Peter Herbeck, Director of Renewal Ministries; and Pete Burak, Director of Young Adult Outreach for Renewal Ministries. The conference will conclude with Mass celebrated by Bishop Serratelli. Visit [insidethewalls.org](http://insidethewalls.org) for more details and to register.

All men of our parishes are strongly encouraged to attend. A car pool can be arranged.

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Photo Directory.** Our Directory is available for sale after each Mass or through the Parish Office. Cost is \$ 10.

My thanks to Tom Costello for working many hours with the publishing company Jostens, and the photographer SchoolCraft Studios.

**Project Self Sufficiency** of Newton is beginning a **N. J. Youth Corps Program** for Sussex Co. youth who do not have a high school diploma or a job. It will offer an equivalency diploma, plus skills for work and life, plus personal and career counseling.

Program begins with 2 weeks of orientation. Then youth are assigned to small crews which will perform community service for 14 weeks, during which they receive on-the-job training. Participants also receive academic instruction towards a high school equivalency diploma. Transportation and child care (if needed) is also provided, along with a weekly stipend of \$ 100.

Program begins Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>. Must reside in Sussex Co. and be 16–25 years of age. Call 973-940-3500 for more info.

**National Life Chain** will take place on Respect Life Sunday, Oct. 2 from 2 p.m. till 3:30 p.m. at the Newton Green in Newton. Join with other groups throughout the country in a prayerful witness to life. Signs will be provided. Bring a chair if needed.

**San Damiano Fraternity of the Order of Franciscans Secular** is holding an Information Night at the Sacred Heart Center in Newton. Date: Wed. Oct. 12. Time: 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. More Info: call 973-579-1430