

# 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**

# **Not Like Them !!!**

***“I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity.”***

--Luke 18: 11

Have you ever been around someone who has a knack for putting people down ? It seems they feel good about themselves only when they're degrading someone else.

Although we can't say for sure, that could be part of the Pharisee's motivation for thanking God that he's not like everyone else. He may be acting more out of fear and insecurity than out of pure pride and arrogance.

How about you ? It's doubtful that you spend all your time judging everyone else. But are there other ways that you compare yourself ? When you see someone's weakness, do you use that person as a measuring stick to judge yourself—"Am I doing better than him or worse ?"

This spirit of comparison is something to watch out for; it can take the joy right out of your faith ! If you find yourself thinking that way, remember that God isn't comparing you to anyone. He loves you just as you are. No matter how many times you hear that, it can still carry a hint of surprise. After all, we all need improvement, don't we ? But this love of God must be the starting point for any genuine spiritual growth we experience. He just loves us, and there is nothing we can do to make Him love us any less !

As a point of reflection today, try meditating exclusively on God's love for you. Don't dwell on your sins. He already knows about them. Just sit in His presence, and think of all the ways He cares for you. He sent His Son to die for you. He planned from all eternity that you would be part of His Kingdom. He's constantly sending you grace and blessings to keep you in His love. If you reflect on this long enough, you won't worry about how your neighbor is doing. You'll be too busy thanking God !

***“Thank you, Father, for loving me just as I am right now.  
Thank you, too, for Your grace,  
which can always help me become more like You.”***

---from: *The Word Among Us*  
October 2016

**THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**October 23, 2016**

**St. James the Greater**

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

**SATURDAY, October 29**

8:00AM – Intentions of Katelyn Donahue and  
Liam Donahue

**THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**October 30**

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

11:30AM – Walter & Norma Journey

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$ 761.00 – Regular Collection – October 16, 2016**

**\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

**\$ 973.00 – Regular Collection – October 18, 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, Thomas Walsh and Robert Woodcock

**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 Richard W. Pullis at the  
Request of his daughters, Lisa & Laura

**MONDAY, October 24**

9:00AM – Richard W. Pullis  
req. by his wife, Ann

**TUESDAY, October 25**

9:00AM – Gary Dulowski  
req. by Ken & Mary Burkhardt

**WEDNESDAY, October 26**

9:00AM – Holy Souls in Purgatory

**THURSDAY, October 27**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, October 28**

9:00AM – Cordelia Cafone

**SATURDAY, Vigil, October 29**

4:30PM – Anna & Neil Griffin  
req. by the Wainwright Family

**THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**October 30**

9:30AM – Roman Szlosowski  
req. by his daughter, Alicia

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$2,023.00 – Regular Collection – October 16, 2016**

**\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

**\$2,344.00 – Regular Collection – October 18, 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.



### Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy Pilgrimage

All students in Grades 6 through 10 will visit our Diocesan Holy Door at Holy Rosary Church/Shrine of Saint John Paul II in Passaic on **today, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**. We will be traveling to Passaic with Stocker Bus at a cost of \$10.00 per person. **We will be leaving St. Thomas the Apostle Church at 12:30PM**, attending the 2:30PM Mass at Holy Rosary, then a tour of the church, shrine and Holy Door. We expect to depart Passaic by 5:00PM. **Students must turn in their Permission Slip and Fee before departing.** Any questions, please call Mary at 862-268-1876.

### On This Day We Celebrate...October 28: St. Jude

Believe that even impossible prayers can be answered!



### 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, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00-8:00pm for Pumpkin Carving.** There will be plenty of fun, games, music events and prayer. **Next week: October 30<sup>th</sup> – Trunk or Treat.**

### Let's Celebrate All Saints Day

**On Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 3:30pm until 7:00pm**, in the Father Lewis Center at St. Thomas Church, the St. Therese Scouts invite you to join them for an **All Hallows Eve Celebration of the Saints!** Please dress as your favorite or patron saint and bring a dish to share! There will be a costume contest, games, line dancing and much more! All are welcome!

The St. James Spaghetti Dinner Committee would like to thank everyone who supported our annual dinner. The food was delicious and a good time was had by all. We sold 91 adult tickets and 4 child tickets. All food and materials were donated by committee members, so there were no expenses for the dinner. We turned over a profit of \$1,415.00 to Father Wayne.

We would like to specifically thank Bill, Valerie & Emilia Ricciardi, Mike & Linda Spinapolice, Art & Maria Henn, Dory Hankins and Jillian Olenick. An extra special thank you to Albert and Kathryn Helms for their work and expertise. We would also like to thank Price Chopper who gave us a discount on the meat for the meatballs.

**The Columbiettes** are sponsoring a toy drive for disadvantaged children through Project Self-Sufficiency. The toys should be new and unwrapped. There is a large box in the gathering space for your convenience. The toy drive will finish on November 30<sup>th</sup>.

### 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 is on Tuesday nights from 6:15-7:15pm for 8 weeks and started on October 11<sup>th</sup>. 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.

### St. James Christmas Bazaar – December 3

**We are now 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 – Father Ted Michota passed away in 1977. Rev. James Gacquin returned as Pastor honoring Fr. Ted's wish that he succeed him. Father Gacquin initiated catechist training, formed a Parish Council and helped to initiate Ecumenical services with Minisink Reformed and Delaware Valley Methodist.**

### Hold the Date – St. Thomas Annual Bake & Craft Sale

**On Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**, St. Thomas will be hosting its Annual Bake & Craft Sale and Flea Market. At the present time, we are in need of CRAFTERS and VENDERS. If anyone knows of someone who would be interested in renting a table or if any of your friends know of people who are crafters, please ask them to contact Deirdre Burgos at 973-948-6092. There will be a St. Thomas table containing donated crafts or new or slightly used items. If you have an item you love but no longer use or need and wish to donate it, please contact me at the above number. Thank you.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** to set up on November 17 & 18 for the Bake Sale, Craft Sale & Flea Market scheduled for Nov. 19. Help also needed on the day of the event as well as November 20 to take down. A sign up sheet is in the gathering space or call Deirdre Burgos at 973-948-6092. Bakers and those who wish to bring baked goods are also needed. A sign up sheet is also in the gathering space.

## 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, October 23, 2016

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

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

9:30 a.m. STC Pilgrimage to Door of Mercy  
(after Mass) (Gr. 6—10)

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

### Monday, Oct. 24

### Tuesday, Oct. 25

10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

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

6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

### Wednesday, Oct. 26

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

### Thursday, Oct. 27

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

### Friday, Oct. 28

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

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

### Saturday, Oct. 29

### Sunday, October 30, 2016

#### 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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

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

### Future Events

Sat. Nov. 19 St. Thomas Bake & Craft Sale

Mon. Nov. 21 Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service

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### Next Sunday's Readings: 31<sup>st</sup> Ord.

1st Reading: *Wisdom 11: 22—12: 2*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 145*

2nd Reading: *2 Thessalonians 1: 11—2: 2*

Gospel: *Luke 19: 1--10*

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

**The Genius of Being Women.** Come join the women of our area to learn how St. Pope John Paul II affirmed the dignity of women and reminded them that God needs their unique “feminine genius.” Shifting focus from *what we do* to *who we are in Christ*, women find their true identity. God has called them to share their vibrant gifts in the New Evangelization, the New Springtime of the Church precisely for “*such a time as this.*”

The Speaker is our own **Cindy Costello**, a graduate of the *Theology of the Body Institute's Certification Program*. She is coordinator of the Marriage Ministry of the Diocese of Paterson. This talk will be given at **Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Branchville, Wed. Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.** The cost will be a free will offering at the door. Ladies, don't miss this opportunity to be reminded of your importance in God's Plan.

### Silver & Gold Wedding Anniversary Mass

Couples, were you married in 1966 or 1991 ? You are warmly invited to celebrate your 25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary with other couples of the Diocese of Paterson. Bishop Serratelli will be the main celebrant of a special Anniversary Mass at St. Peter the Apostle Church, corner Route 46 and Baldwin Rd., Parsippany. The date is Sunday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

To register, simply fill out the Reg. Form you'll find at the back of Church and return to the Parish Office by Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>. And, Congratulations !!

**The Bishop's Annual Appeal** is underway. Thanks to all who have responded: either by mail, or to last week's “in pew” appeal. **Our Parish Goals are:** **St. Thomas: \$ 8,500**  
**St. James \$ 7,700**

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

### In the words of Saint Augustine (354—430):

*“Beautiful is God, the Word with God ... He is beautiful in heaven, beautiful on earth, beautiful in the womb, beautiful in His parents' arms, beautiful in His miracles, beautiful in His sufferings, beautiful in inviting to life, beautiful in not worrying about death, beautiful in giving up His life and beautiful in taking it up again”*

--Commentary on the Psalm 45: 3