

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

November: Month of All Souls

The month of November is traditionally set aside by the Church as a time to remember our loved ones who have passed on. It follows the theme of the season, wherein trees have lost their leaves, plants from the garden are done, cold winds are beginning to blow and the “dead” of winter is about to set in. It all can be very gloomy, and the loss of our loved ones seems to fit right in.

However, our Church teaches us that beyond the grave is a whole new life: a life of happiness, joy and peace for those who have strived to allow the Lord to guide them throughout this life. We know it as the life of Resurrection, and Jesus has traveled this path already. He, and all the saints, are waiting for us to join them.

Here is an observation that might be entitled:

Death from the Other Side

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength. I stand and watch her until at length she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then someone at my side says: “There, she is gone.”

“Gone where?”

Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side and she is just as able to bear her load of living freight to her destined port.

Her diminished size is in me, not in her. And just at the moment when someone at my side says: “There, she is gone!” there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout: “Here she comes!”

And that is dying.

--Henry Van Dyke

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
November 13, 2016

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns for the
Intentions of Joan & Harvey McKean at the
Request of the Cerra Family

SATURDAY, November 19

8:00AM – Anne Grieves
req. by Eleanor Brady
-Joseph Gilligan

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING
November 20

8:00AM – Jeanette Meloi
req. by her husband, Charlie & Daughters

11:30AM – Eugene & Rosalie Mauro
req. by their Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,702.00 – Regular Collection – November 6, 2016

\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$2,040.00 – Regular Collection – November 8, 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, Danielle Parker, Marguerite Phillips, Flo Puccio, Alex Sepiol, Baby Teddy, Jen Vaughn, Lorraine Verga, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh, Joan White 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 Ralph & Anna Gioielli at the
Request of their Children

MONDAY, November 14

9:00AM – Intentions of Fran Whitesell
For Successful Surgery
req. by Josephine

TUESDAY, November 15

9:00AM – Barbara Kientzler
req. by her son, Charles
- Millie & Bob Walker
req. by Ken & Mary Burkhardt

WEDNESDAY, November 16

9:00AM – Gertrude & Carolyn Lewis and
Alma Furletti
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer

THURSDAY, November 17

No Mass

FRIDAY, November 18

9:00AM – Michael Sciora
req. by his daughter, Josephine
- Wanda Wojcik
req. by her sister, Josephine

SATURDAY, Vigil, November 19

4:30PM – Jerry & Judy Wainwright
req. by the Wainwright Family

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING
November 20

9:30AM – Robert Hagerman
req. by his mother, Grace & Family
- Intentions of the Gomez & Mantini Families

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,192.00 – Regular Collection – November 6, 2016

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$2,456.00 – Regular Collection – November 8, 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.



Keep the Door Open: Home is Where Mercy Starts
 On November 20, 2016, the *Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy* officially comes to a close, but that doesn't mean that we should abandon our commitment to mercy. Rather, we are called to continue to grow and strengthen our efforts to bring mercy to the world. We are called to Keep the Door Open!

Ways to Keep the Door Open to Mercy

Caring for Jesus in Disguise ~ We may not always recognize that Christ is in our presence. He will likely not trumpet his existence. He may come to you in the quietest of moments and in ways unexpected. As he says in the Gospel of Matthew, "Whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me" (25:40). Jesus may come to you as a lost child needing comfort or an elderly woman needing help reading labels at the store. He may come to you as a classmate or co-worker needing some encouragement. Mercy requires us to lift up our heads and pay attention to our neighbors and to strangers who may be in need around us.

(To be continued...taken from Family Faith On The Go)



Advent Family Faith Formation Sessions

- ❖ **Saturday, December 3rd** – Grades 1 through 5 and their parents are invited to begin the Advent season with prayer, crafts and activities from 10:00am until noon at the REC. **Please RSVP to Mary at 973-948-7004 by November 30th so we can be properly prepared.**
- ❖ **Sunday, December 4th** – Grades 6 through 10, their Parents and Confirmation Sponsors will come together from 9:30am Mass through 12:30pm at St. Thomas Church. Alicia Batko will present the 75th Anniversary Historical Presentation to us that she presented in August after the Anniversary Mass. **All Parishioners and friends who were not able to join us in August are welcome to join us for the presentation too.**



Children's Christmas Pageant

As has been a tradition here at St. Thomas and St. James for many, many years, we would like to once again present a Children's Christmas Pageant. This is only possible with the help of many Parents and Teens (Confirmation Service Hours). We would like to do this on Sunday, December 18th at 3:00PM at St. Thomas and have Cookies and Punch afterwards. There are many ways to help: Set-up/Clean-up, Directing (we already have a script!!!), Costumes (we have most...maybe could use some more angel costumes to be sewn from sheets), Refreshments, etc. This is a very EASY and FUN way for you to get involved!!! **If you are able to assist us, please call Mary at 973-948-7004 by November 30th so we can start to prepare for this beautiful "birthday gift" to Our Lord!!!**

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

St. Thomas History – Msgr. Gacquin would conduct services for inmates at the former Mountainview Correctional Facility in Stokes State Forest. While attempting to get the church's actual construction started, he ended up facing challenges. The project was set aside after he was diagnosed with cancer and passed away in 1996.

The Knights of Columbus will host a Pasta Dinner to be held on **November 26th** from 6:00 – 8:00PM in the Father Lewis Center. The dinner will include pasta, meatballs, salad & bread. Desserts will be provided by the Columbiettes. Tickets are: Adults \$10, Children under 12 \$5 and Entire (immediate) Family \$25. Tickets will be available after Masses at St. Thomas and through the church office.

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 30th.

2016 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Be Rich in Good Works

This past May, after years of study, ten men were ordained to the priesthood for our Diocese. As they prepared for their vocation, they were supported by family and friends. When you make a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, they are also supported by you since Appeal funds are used to help meet the cost of priestly formation and education. Please support our seminarians by making a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal today. For your convenience, you can make an online gift at www.2016appeal.org.

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 Spinapolic 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.

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

On **Saturday, November 19th**, St. Thomas will be hosting its Annual Bake & Craft Sale and Flea Market. At the present time, we are in need of CRAFTERS and VENDORS. 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.

United Nations Pilgrim Virgin Statue with Relics Visit

On Sunday, November 20th, Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Branchville will receive the United Nations Pilgrim Virgin Statue and a small, gold reliquary containing a piece of the holm-oak tree on which Our Blessed Mother appeared in Fatima and relics of Jacinta and Francesco. A Fatima talk, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Benediction, hymns, prayers led by the Legion of Mary and meditative time have been scheduled between 12:00pm and 2:30pm. Please consult the parish website for the schedule of events at www.olqpbranchville.org.

Catholic Men's Prayer Group starting on **November 15th** at 7:00PM at the Religious Education Center. We will use as a spring board for discussion and prayer a one half hour video "Crossing the Goal" [Leading Men to the Cross]. Call Deacon Wayne at 973-293-3344 for more details.

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, November 13, 2016

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:30 a.m. REC Columbiettes Mtg.

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

Monday, Nov. 14

Tuesday, Nov. 15

9:00 a.m. STC Veneration of Travelling Image
of Our Lady of Guadalupe (till Noon).

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

6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

Wednesday, Nov. 16

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

Thursday, Nov. 17

Friday, Nov. 18

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

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

Saturday, Nov. 19

10:00a.m. STC Bake & Craft Fair & Flea Market

4:30 p.m. STC Mass & Class--Confirmation

Sunday, November 20, 2016

Feast of Christ the King

9:30 a.m. STC 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

Sat. Nov. 26 STC K of C Pasta Dinner

Sat. Dec. 3 STC Delaware Valley Concert

Next Sunday's Readings: *Christ the King*

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 5: 1–3

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 122

2nd Reading: Colossians 1: 12--20

Gospel: Luke 23: 35--43

Our Lady of Guadalupe. We will be welcoming the *Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe* at St. Thomas Church **this Tuesday, Nov. 15th**, from 9 a.m. till 12 Noon. This image is an exact color and size replica of the original miraculous image which Our Lady left on the tilma (cloak) of St. Juan Diego in 1531. After the 'Miracle of the Roses' a chapel was built on the spot, and faith in the Christian God became firmly established.

This replica has travelled throughout the U. S. and throughout the world. We are privileged to have it in our church for this short time. Please make an effort to come out and venerate this sacramental of the Church. May the honor given to Our Lady, Patroness of the Americas, help give us the guidance which our nation needs at this crucial time.

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service. Join this time of prayer and praise to the Lord as we join our Christian neighbors in a Thanksgiving Service. Along with the Delaware Valley Methodist Church, this year we will be holding the service at the **Minisink Reformed Church on River Road, Montague.** Service begins next Monday, Nov. 21 at 7 p.m. You are asked to bring **an item or two of canned or boxed goods** for the food collection which will be taken up during the Service.

Delaware Valley Choral Concert. St. Thomas Church will be the site of the Christmas Concert presented by the Delaware Valley Choral Society. They promise a selection of traditional, classical and sing-along Christmas music, to help us get into the spirit of Advent and Christmas. The date is **Sat. Dec. 3rd.** Concert begins at **1:30 p.m.** Tickets are \$15 and are on sale after Mass or through the Parish Office.

To grow in faith: Visit: FORMED.org; Parish Code: HCVWQC; Password: formed