

# 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.

**The Schools of The Catholic Academy of Sussex County**  
973-729-6125 X225  
Rev. George A. Brown School (Pre-K to Gr. 4)  
Pope John XXIII Middle School (Gr. 5 to 7)  
Pope John XXIII High School (Gr. 8 to 12)

**Welcome -We Are a Tithing Parish**

# Going to Church

## Pres. Theodore Roosevelt

*Teddy Roosevelt, 26<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, from 1901—1909, offered his reasons for going to church in the Ladies Home Journal one hundred years ago, in 1917.*

1. In the actual world a churchless community, a community where men have abandoned or scoffed at or ignored their religious needs, is a community on the rapid downgrade. It is perfectly true that occasional individuals or families may have nothing to do with church or religious practices and observances and yet maintain the highest standard of spirituality and of ethical obligation. But this does not affect the case in the world as it now is. ... Such disregard, if at all common, means the complete moral disintegration of the body politic.
2. Church work and church attendance mean the cultivation of the habit of feeling some responsibility for others and the sense of braced moral strength which prevents a relaxation of one's own moral fiber.
3. There are enough holidays for most of us which can quite properly be devoted to pure holiday-making. ... Sundays differ from other holidays—among other ways—in that fact that there are fifty-two of them every year. ... On Sunday, go to church.
4. Yes, I know all the excuses. I know that one can worship the Creator and dedicate oneself to good living in a grove of trees, or by a running brook, or in one's own house, just as well as in church. But I also know as a matter of cold fact that the average man does *not* thus worship or thus dedicate himself. If he stays away from church he does not spend his time in good works or in lofty meditation. He looks over the colored supplement of the newspaper.
5. He may not hear a good sermon at church. But unless he is very unfortunate he will hear a sermon by a good man who, with his good wife, is engaged all the week long in a series of wearing and humdrum and important tasks for making hard lives a little easier.
6. He will listen to and take part in reading some beautiful passages from the Bible. And if he is not familiar with the Bible, he has suffered a loss. ...
7. He will probably take part in singing some good hymns.
8. He will meet and nod to, or speak to, good, quiet neighbors. ... He will come away feeling a little more charitably towards all the world, even towards those excessively foolish young men who will regard church-going as a rather soft performance.
9. I advocate a man's joining in church works for the sake of showing his faith by his works.
10. The man who does not, in some way, active or not, connect himself with some active, working church misses many opportunities for helping his neighbors, and therefore, for helping himself.

--from: *The Book of Virtues*  
William J. Bennett

**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**October 1, 2017**

**St. James the Greater**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Charlie Lombaerde at the  
Request of his wife, Carol

**SATURDAY, October 7**

8:00AM – Harry Cox

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**October 8**

8:00AM – Burt Meshnick  
req. by Art & Maria Henn

11:30AM – Ann Cole  
req. by Her Uncle Harry & Aunt Diane

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$ 761.00 – Regular Collection–September 24, 2017 +**  
**\$ 225.00 - Online Giving**  
**\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need**  
**\$ 980.00 – Regular Collection – September 25, 2016**  
***Consider a gift to St. James Parish in your will.***  
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**For On-Line Giving: log onto our website:**  
**[saintjamesthomas.org](http://saintjamesthomas.org) Then go to On-Line Giving link.**

**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*

**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.

**TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:**

Margaret Accordino, Mary Cunico, Frances Demalderis, Rozanne DeNardo, Derya Dimertas, Judy Dressie, Rachel Gibbs, Mary Guimes, Barbara Haggerty, Carmen Howell, Jennifer, David Koehler, Betty Lacovara, Angela Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Joseph Ligammari, Miriam Ligammari, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli Sandy Matthews, John Meehan, Brian McKenna, Bill Myers, Danielle Parker, Tracey Perles, Flo Puccio, Sarah Scheckner, Alex Sepiol, Infant John Antonio Seti, Pam Spencer, Joan Strehl, Baby Teddy, Michael Toth, Jen Vaughn, Lorraine Verga, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh, Joan White and Robert Woodcock

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns for the  
Intentions of Dale M. Briegel at the  
Request of his Mom

**MONDAY, October 2**

9:00AM – Emily Blickweidel  
req. by her Family

**TUESDAY, October 3**

9:00AM – Muriel Kennel  
req. by her Family

**WEDNESDAY, October 4**

9:00AM – Raymond Ascolese and Donald Brinker  
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer

**THURSDAY, October 5**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, October 6**

9:00AM – Mavis Kaufman  
req. by her Family

**SATURDAY, Vigil, October 7**

4:30PM – Sam Lotorto  
req. by his wife, Helen

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**October 8**

9:30AM – Frank Maguire  
req. by Gerry Mahon & Family

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$2,195.00 – Regular Collection–September 24, 2017 +**  
**\$ 328.00 - Online Giving**  
**\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need**  
**\$2,198.00 – Regular Collection – September 25, 2016**  
***Consider a gift to St. Thomas Parish in your will.***  
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**For On-Line Giving: log onto our website:**  
**[saintjamesthomas.org](http://saintjamesthomas.org) Then go to On-Line Giving link.**



**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.



### Registrations for 2017/2018 Catechetical Year

All late re-registrations must be brought to the Religious Education Office this week in order for your child(ren)/teens to begin their class. Please call to schedule an appointment.

Parents of children entering first grade, new children to the parish or 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.



### Catholic Teens

Our next gathering will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish **today, Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, from 6:00-8:00PM**. There will be plenty of fun, games, music and prayer. Come join us and see what's going on!!! **Incoming Freshman are now welcome to join Catholic Teens!**

### Sacramental Preparation Parents Session

Our Parent Session for all who have children preparing to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist next Spring (2<sup>nd</sup> grade) will take place on **Monday, October 2 at 7:00PM in the Msgr. James Gacquin Youth and Religious Education Center**. Our pastor, Father Wayne, along with our catechists, Karen Steinert and Marie Mendez, will be speaking to you regarding this very important year for your child. It is imperative that at least one parent be present at this meeting.

### Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels ~ October 2<sup>nd</sup>

What does a guardian angel really do? The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "From its beginning until death, human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession." (No. 336). One source reports that St. Augustine explained of angels, "If we journey into another country, they follow us; go where we will by land or by sea, they are ever with us all day long and all night long and during every moment of our life."

Our guardian angels aren't assigned by God merely to protect us from physical harm – or even death. Sometimes angels do protect us in that way. But, these invisible protectors are primarily concerned with keeping us on a path that leads to God. Pray this prayer to your guardian angel every day.

#### **Guardian Angel Prayer:**

**Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.**



### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima

As we now have begun our new Catechetical year, we will also begin with our first Family Faith Formation Gathering. All Families (Grades 1-10) and Parishioners are asked to join us on **Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM at St. Thomas the Apostle Church** for the praying of the Rosary and Fatima Prayers as we commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sixth and Last Apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary to the three shepherd children at the Cova de Iria near Fatima, Portugal. Please bring a rosary. Light Refreshments will follow in the Father Lewis Center.

### Prayer Shawl/Rosary Makers Ministry

We recently began our ministry again. 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. Our next gathering is on Monday October 2<sup>nd</sup> and are always ready to welcome new members.

### 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal In Giving, We Receive

The services provided by our Catholic Charities agencies are too long to list in our bulletin-but here are just a few: emergency housing for people in extreme poverty, out-patient and residential substance abuse treatment, group homes for disabled adults, outreach to veterans who are homeless, family counseling, etc. Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal helps bring this important work to life. In fact, Catholic Charities receives the largest percentage of Appeal funding. Your help is needed to continue providing this urgent care. Please be as generous as you are able to the 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal. For your convenience, you can make an online gift or pledge at [www.2017appeal.org](http://www.2017appeal.org). Thank you!

### Save the date

The famous St. James Annual Spaghetti Dinner will be held on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Bring your own drink. Take-outs available. Adults \$12.00, Children under 12 \$6.00 and Children under 6 are Free. Tickets will be available after 8:00am and 11:30am Masses on October 1<sup>st</sup> and October 8<sup>th</sup> or by calling Mike Spinapolic at 973-293-7031 or by sending an email to [wjr218@optonline.net](mailto:wjr218@optonline.net). Sit down tickets are limited to 100.

### St. James Christmas Bazaar – December 2

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 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.

The Columbiettes will be sponsoring a bus trip and tour of the Knights of Columbus Museum and St. Mary's Church in New Haven, CT on Thursday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$30 per person. Bring a bag lunch, drink & snacks to eat. We will make a short stop going and coming. We will leave St. Thomas at 7:00am and return around 7:00pm. There is limited seating, so make your reservation ASAP by calling Grace Hagerman 973-948-4360, Pat Lane 973-948-5644 or the parish office.

### Hold the Date – St. Thomas Annual Bake & Craft Sale and Flea Market on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>

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 is a crafter, please ask them to contact Deirdre at 973-948-6092. There will be a table containing donated crafts or new and slightly used items. If you have an item you love but no longer use or need and wish to donate, please contact Deirdre at the above number. Thank you.

The Columbiettes are sponsoring a Cancer Ribbon Wall. We are asking for names to be remembered. Please call or leave names at the office.

### Yoga-lates

St. Thomas is offering an Autumn 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 will be on **Tuesday nights from 6:15-7:15pm for 6 weeks starting on October 24<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 \$30.00 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.

## 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 1, 2017

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

- 8:00 a.m. SJC Coffee Hour after Mass  
9:30 a.m. REC Mass & Class Gr. 6, 7, 8  
2:00 p.m. REC “Catholicism” series (till 3:30 p.m.)  
6:00 p.m. Youth Group (at O.L.Q.P. till 8 p.m.)

### Monday, Oct. 2

- 11:00a.m. REC Prayer Shawl & Ros. Makers’ Mtg.  
7:00 p.m. REC Parents’ Sacramental Prep. Mtg.

### Tuesday, Oct. 3

- 10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings  
4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 1 & 2

### Wednesday, Oct. 4

#### Feast of Saint Francis

- 4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 3, 4 & 5  
5:15 p.m. REC Blessing of Animals

### Thursday, Oct. 5

### Friday, Oct. 6

- 9:00 a.m. STC Adoration of Blessed Sacrament  
after Mass, till 12 Noon  
10:00a.m. STC Legion of Mary Mtg.  
10:00a.m. STC Moms & Tots Play Group

### Saturday, Oct. 7

### Sunday, October 8, 2017

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

- 2:00 p.m. REC “Catholicism” series (till 3:30 p.m.)  
6:00 p.m. Youth Group (at O.L.Q.P. till 8 p.m.)

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### Next Sunday’s Readings: 27<sup>th</sup> Ord.

1st Reading: *Isaiah 5: 1--7*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 80*

2nd Reading: *Philippians 4: 6--9*

Gospel: *Matthew 21: 33--43*

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### Hurricane Harvey & Irma & Earthquake Help.

A basket remains at the back of both our churches. You are invited to make a donation towards the relief of the victims of all the recent disasters. We will make sure that your donations get to an authorized Catholic organization for use where most needed.

**Paws for a Blessing.** Bring your pet to the Relig. Ed. Center this **Wednesday, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>** for the **Saint Francis Feast Day Blessing of Animals.** All pets will be blessed after the C.C.D. class, at 5:15 p.m. It’s their annual reunion and get-together! Don’t let them miss it!

**Free Workshop on Autism.** Understanding why a challenging behavior is occurring is crucial to developing ways to address it. Learn a 7-step plan involving proactive steps that can be taken to teach more appropriate behaviors and significantly improve quality of life. Fri., Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>. Time: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Place: Family Partners of Morris & Sussex, 67 Spring St., Newton. For more information call: 973-940-3194 x 19 or visit [www.familypartnersms.org](http://www.familypartnersms.org)

**St. James Parish is celebrating our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** next year! One of our projects will be to assemble a **2018 Anniversary Calendar.** To accomplish this, we are requesting photographs—old and more recent—to help tell the story of our parish. We are asking all to search through their photo albums and lend to us any photos which will help to recall our history. All photos will be scanned and then returned promptly. Photos of yourself and your family would be great!

**The Liturgy Needs You!** “Liturgy” (from the Greek) means “*the work of the people.*” It is our worship of the Lord as a community. Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Choir, Musicians and Altar Servers take an active lead in offering our worship to the Lord. Consider helping us in one of these ways at St. Thomas and St. James. Speak to an active minister or to the parish staff about coming on board.

**Adult Ed.** A fascinating educational series is planned for the fall. It will be based around **Bishop Robert Barron’s** acclaimed series: ***Catholicism: a Study of Our Faith.*** With stunning photography from around the world, and insights which give deeper understandings of our religion, Bishop Barron teaches about our Catholic faith in unforgettable ways. The series will be presented at the **Religious Ed Center**, opposite the Sandyston Town Hall. It will be held on the **five Sundays of October, beginning at 2 p.m.** till 3:30 p.m. each time. Questions and discussion will follow the CD presentation. Plan to attend these first five sessions. The last five will take place in the spring.