

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.

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

November, Month of All Souls

There is nothing that equalizes us as much as death. We each get one, and none of us knows the day nor the hour. The circumstances of our birth determine much about our lives and our future possibilities. We who are born in this country, for example, are so fortunate compared to people born in poverty-stricken places throughout the world. Yet for each person born, no matter where or under what life-conditions, there is that moment when the things of this world will come to an end.

Death, for us as humans, is naturally experienced as sorrow and grief. When someone we love is taken from us in death, we know that deep, often wrenching, changes must be faced. That person, who has been so intimate a part of our lives, is there no more to be a companion and a support. All that was shared together can no longer be. We experience a profound sense of loss.

We sometimes contemplate our own future death. Perhaps it is in those moments that we most treasure the life that we do have. Yet we know and fear that some unknown day ahead will be our last. Again, a sense of sadness and even depression can come to us.

Perhaps right here is the beauty and the gift of our faith most appreciated. Our Lord Jesus has been through death and has shown us what lies on the other side: the fullness of life, a peace and happiness and joy to which there is no comparison on this earth. Jesus' three days in the tomb surely brought His disciples and probably even His Mother, to the brink of despair. And then, on Easter Sunday, His glorious Resurrection and His appearances to them brought them an unbounded, incomparable joy. The Lord wishes all believers to share in this kind of joy—a joy that “destroys death forever” as Isaiah prophesied in the 6th century B.C.

Our Lord's Resurrection, and our faith in Him, has changed the way we look at death. Yes, it still is the end of our life on this earth, but it is not a blank wall; it is not an end. Death, Jesus reveals, is instead a doorway, and it leads us to the greatest happiness imaginable. And perhaps the greatest happiness we will find is to discover our dear departed loved ones waiting for us, to share the eternal Banquet of Heaven with them.

And so, although we would naturally put off the moment of death, we need not dread it, because it becomes a promise of greater and more wonderful things ahead. “Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, what God has ready for those who love Him,” as one of our hymns puts it.

Let us thank the Lord for the precious gift of faith, the gift that helps us to look past the moment of death and to look forward to a union with Him and with our loved ones—which will last forever.

God bless you,
Father Wayne

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
November 4, 2018

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Ray Sorg at the
Request of Lorraine

SATURDAY, November 10

8:00AM – Robert A. Donahue

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 11

8:00AM – Victoria Vienckowski
req. by her granddaughter, Victoria Gorchach
-Deceased Veterans and those serving from
our parishes
req. by the Columbiettes

11:30AM – Barbara Gioielli
req. by her Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,210.00 – Regular Collection – October 28, 2018 +
\$ 221.00 – Online Giving
\$ 212.00 – World Missions
\$1,026.00 – Regular Collection- October 29, 2017
\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

Consider a gift to St. James Parish in your will.

For On-Line Giving: log onto our website:
saintjamesthomas.org Then go to On-Line Giving link.

The 8:00am St. James Coffee Hour takes place the first Sunday of the month except for July, August and September.



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.

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 Altar & Floral 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 Kathryn Walker at the
Request of her Children

MONDAY, November 5

9:00AM – Barbara K. Kientzler
req. by her son, Charles
-Edward Dinan
req. by his Family

TUESDAY, November 6

9:00AM – Rose Reed
req. by her Family

WEDNESDAY, November 7

9:00AM – Intentions of Paula Dellaquila
req. by her sister, Toni

THURSDAY, November 8

No Mass

FRIDAY, November 9

9:00AM – Joseph Reilly
req. by Peggy & Bob Reich

SATURDAY, Vigil, November 10

4:30PM – Edward & Eleanor Stukane
req. by the Wainwright Family

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 11

9:30AM – Zofia Babon
req. by John & Maria Babon
-Judith Dachisen
req. by her son, Andrew
-Deceased Veterans and those serving from
our parishes
req. by the Columbiettes

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,509.00 – Regular Collection – October 28, 2018 +
\$ 393.00 – Online Giving
\$ 454.00 – World Missions
\$2,260.00 – Regular Collection – October 29, 2017
\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

Consider a gift to St. Thomas Parish in your will.

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saintjamesthomas.org Then go to On-Line Giving link.

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Margaret Accordino, Loretta Bauman, Angela Brittain, James Brittain, Agnes Ciesielski, Peg Coates, Mary Cunico, Frances Demalderis, Rozanne DeNardo, Derya Dimertas, Judy Dressie, Sofia Evelich, Rachel Gibbs, Gomez Family, Mary Guimes, Barbara Haggerty, Mr. Harris, Carmen Howell, Jennifer, Doug Kabbash, Bernadette Lang, Angela Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Beth Lucien, Jodi Lupo, Thomas Lynch, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli Sandy Matthews, Brian McKenna, John Meehan, Robert Morenski, Bill Myers, Kelly Nicole, Richard Nowicki, Robert Organes, Jim Pantelmo, Danielle Parker, Tracey Perles, Nicole Perry, Flo Puccio, Sal, Sarah Scheckner, Alex Sepiol, Infant John Antonio Seti, John Sikora, Pam Spencer, Baby Teddy, Michael Toth, Jen Vaughn, Richard Vergona, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh and Joan White



Who Can Be A Saint?

You aren't going to believe this, but saints were regular people, just like you! Saints lived amazing lives of goodness, but no two saints followed the same path to holiness. Sometimes they fell away from God but came back. Sometimes they gave their lives for God. Saints are recognized by the Church as role models, people we can look to for guidance in how we live our lives. If we try to live holy lives and dedicate our lives to God, we too can become saints!



Sundaes with the Saints

All children up to Grade 5 are invited to join us **TODAY, Sunday, November 4th at 2:00PM** at St. Thomas the Apostle. Just wear a costume of a loved saint (there are some no-sew ideas on catholicicing.com), bring an index card with 3 facts about the saint for everyone to guess who you are and enjoy a Make-Your- Own Ice Cream Sundae. (Middle-school students and High-school teens are encouraged to help out too). We can't wait to see our Church filled with Holy Saints!!!



Altar Server Training

We are in need of Altar Servers for our Masses. Therefore, Deacon Wayne will have a training session for all children and teens from 3rd grade up on **Saturday, November 10th at 3:30PM at St. Thomas Church.**

Parents, we are also in need of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Lectors too! Please contact Deacon Wayne or Mary Flexer if you would like to serve the Lord in this very special way at Mass.

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 your core muscles). The class is on **Tuesday nights from 6:15 to 7:15pm** for 8 weeks and started on **October 16th** right here at St. Thomas. **You may join us at any time.** The class is easy to follow but a full body workout. Any questions, please call instructor Chris Dube at 973-948-2329. Bring a mat, hand held weights (1-8lbs.), water and a friend. Join for the session for only \$45.00 or pay per class for \$6.00. Twenty percent of the class money will be going to our St. Thomas Parish. So, please come and try it out!

“SOUP MAKERS WANTED”...The St. James the Greater “Soup on a Saturday” Committee is soliciting soup makers for the next event on Saturday, January 26, 2019. If you are willing to make and donate from 5 – 20 quarts of soup, please contact Bill Ricciardi @845-341-3686 by text or call. Containers will be supplied. We would love to have some different soups to supplement the past favorites.

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

On **Saturday, November 17th**, St. Thomas will be hosting its Annual Bake and Craft Sale and Flea Market. At the present time, we are in need of **CRAFTERS** and **VENDERS**. If you know of someone who would be interested in renting a table or if any of your friends are crafters, please ask them to contact Deirdre Burgos at 973-948-6092. There will be a St. Thomas table containing donated crafts of new or slightly used items. If you have any items you love but no longer use or need and wish to donate, please contact me at the above number. Thank you.

St. James Christmas Bazaar – December 1

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 Spinapolicce at 973-293-7031, Maria Henn at 973-293-3243 or Joan Henn at 973-293-3690. Please mark your calendars and start planning for this exciting fundraiser now.

Columbiettes

Our Seminarian, Tom Costello, Jr., the son of Cindy and Tom Costello, is in preparation for the priesthood. The Columbiettes are sponsoring funding towards his education in this most holy endeavor. There are containers placed in both parishes. We appreciate any donations that are given. We thank all parishioners in advance and especially thank Father Wayne for his encouragement in this endeavor.

The Columbiettes are holding their annual Project Self-Sufficiency Toy Drive which ends the first week of December. All toys need to be new and unwrapped. There is a basket in the Gathering Space for your consideration. Thank you for your generosity.

Wall of Remembrance

If you wish to include a photo of a deceased relative or parishioner, please drop off a photo with their name on the back to the parish office. It will be scanned and returned to you.

2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal **Here I Am, Lord!**

When you give to a charitable organization, it is important to be confident that the funds are used wisely. Please know that your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal supports the following causes: our Catholic Charities agencies, seminarian education, our urban elementary schools and our priests' retirement residence and priests' extraordinary healthcare needs. In addition, 50% of all funds received over a parish's goal is returned to the parish directly for its own needs. Appeal funds are used for no other purpose and serve only those who live in Morris, Passaic and Sussex counties. You can make a pledge with confidence when you give to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. For your convenience, you can make an online gift or pledge at www.2018appeal.org. Thank you!

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 4, 2018

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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

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

2:00 p.m. STC F F F: *Sundaes with the Saints*

Monday, Nov. 5

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

7:30 p.m. STC Choir Practice

Tuesday, Nov. 6

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, Nov. 7

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

Thursday, Nov. 8

Friday, Nov. 9

10:00a.m. STC Adoration of Bl. Sac. (till Noon)

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

1:00 p.m. STC Montague Seniors Mtg.

Saturday, Nov. 10

Sunday, November 11, 2018

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. STC Coffee Hour after Mass

Next Sunday's Readings: 32nd Ord.

1st Reading: *1 Kings 17: 10 – 16*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 146*

2nd Reading: *Hebrews 9: 24--28*

Gospel: *Mark 12: 38 --44*

FORMED.org Free to you as a parishioner; our parish code is: **HCVWQC**. Password is: **formed**.

Now even easier: log onto our parish website saintjamesthomas.org and scroll down to the **Formed** banner, and register.

November: the Month of All Souls. As the leaves fall off the trees, and we head into the “dead” of winter, we naturally turn our thoughts to our own certain, future death. And we think about those who have gone before us. Our faith tells us to have hope that we will see our loved ones again. During this month, we are asked to pray especially for the dead, and to offer Masses and sacrifices for them. Envelopes are available for you to list the names of your beloved deceased. Return them and they will be placed on the altar and remembered at each Mass during the Month of All Souls.

From the Past. The first Catholic Mass in the Township of Montague was celebrated on a Monday morning, All Souls Day in 1942. The Mass was held at the Staudt's home (at the S-curve on River Road) and was offered by Rev. John E. Hewetson. (Info thanks to Alicia Batko.)

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service. We will get together with our Christian neighbors of the Minisink Reformed Church and the Delaware Valley United Methodist Church to offer prayers of thanksgiving for the Lord's countless blessings. The Service will be held at **St. Thomas Church, on Monday, Nov. 19th, beginning at 7:00 p.m.** All will be asked to bring an item or two of canned or boxed goods for the offering which will be taken up. Afterwards, we will be hosting a **coffee hour** in the Fr. Lewis Center. **Ladies are asked to bring their favorite baked goods for the social time.**

St. James Clean-Up. Good exercise and fresh air is your reward if you can help us with our annual Fall St. James Clean-up of the premises. We hope to rake up branches and leaves, trim bushes, sweep up, etc. The date is **Sat., Nov. 17; 8:30 a.m.** or whenever you get there. **Also Sat. Nov. 24, if necessary.** Please bring rakes, trimmers, etc.

The Delaware Valley Choral Society will be offering an Advent/Christmas Concert at St. Thomas. Entitled “*A Family Christmas*” it will be held on **Sat. December 1st at 1:00 p.m.** Featured performances by the Handbell Choir of Milford United Methodist Church and the Dingman-Delaware Children's Choir. Tickets: \$ 15. adults and \$ 10. students and can be obtained by calling 845-856-5696, or at the door.