

# 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**

# Really Hearing the Scriptures



*“Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”*

Returning to His hometown of Nazareth, Jesus was invited to speak in the synagogue. His reputation as a wonder-worker and powerful preacher had preceded Him, and the people hung on His every word. This was not the first time that they had heard this passage—it was part of their regular cycle of Scripture readings. But this time was different. Jesus spoke with unmistakable authority, and their hearts were stirred.

What made the difference ? *The Spirit of Anointing* rested upon Jesus, just as it had filled the Prophet Isaiah who first spoke those words six hundred years before. The words came alive as Jesus declared: *“He has sent me to bring liberty to captives.”* You can just imagine some of the people seeing themselves in those words for the first time—and sensing that their own deliverance was at hand !

How can we have this same experience ? What will make the Scriptures leap off the page for us ? The Spirit of Anointing ! When you read the Bible, invite the Holy Spirit to help you. Ask Him to open your eyes to His truths in a deeper, more personal way. Read the passage carefully, and make sure you understand what it is saying. Use a commentary or a good study Bible, but don’t stop there. Prayerfully ponder what you have read. Let the words echo in your mind and heart. If a particular verse or even a word strikes you, stay with it and see what happens. Give it time, and don’t worry about the rest of the passage. Maybe the Lord wants to say something to you personally right then and there.

Finally, make sure you write down whatever you sense you receive as you ponder the Word of God. Keep a prayer journal so that you can review it every now and then to see how much the Lord is doing in your life. He wants to talk with you ! And He wants you to learn how to hear His voice !

**“Lord, open my eyes and ears  
to Your wonders in the Scriptures.”**

--from *The Word Among Us*

# THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 27, 2019

## St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of William Hubbard at the  
Request of Bill, Valerie, Kate & Emilia Ricciardi

### SATURDAY, February 2

8:00AM – Fatima Rodrigues  
req. by Patricia & Daniel Furlong

### FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### February 3

8:00AM – Harry Esposito  
req. by his Family  
-Dorothy Sandberg  
req. by Doug & Jane Sandberg

11:30AM – Thomas A. Quinn  
req. by Anthony & Alicia Batko  
-Mary Lou Romeo – Birthday Remembrance  
req. by Elaine Schuster

### ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 200.00 – Regular Collection – January 20, 2019

\$ 251.00 – Online Giving

\$1,847.00 – Regular Collection – January 21, 2018

\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

*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.

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 Spinapolic at 973-293-7031.

## St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns for the  
Intentions of Andrew Bastian at the  
Request of Rosemarie

### MONDAY, January 28

9:00AM – Intentions of Lisa M. Disposto  
Birthday Celebration  
req. by her Aunt Rosie

### TUESDAY, January 29

9:00AM – Henry Knaust  
req. by Walter & Teri Winkler and Family

### WEDNESDAY, January 30

9:00AM – Carl & Louise Flexer  
req. by Mark & Donna Lewandowski

### THURSDAY, January 31

No Mass

### FRIDAY, February 1

9:00AM – Mary Cunico  
req. by the Legion of Mary

### SATURDAY, Vigil, February 2

4:30PM – Edward Lodema, Jr.  
req. by the Lodema Family

### FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### February 3

9:30AM – Mary Cunico  
req. by Nora & Frank Fanelli  
-Mary & Joe Vergona  
req. by Gerry Mahon

### ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$ 893.00 – Regular Collection - January 20, 2019

\$ 493.00 – Online Giving

\$2,005.00 – Regular Collection – January 21, 2018

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

*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.

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

Margaret Accordino, Kathy Arnold, Loretta Bauman, James Brittain, Agnes Ciesielski, Peg Coates, Frances Demalderis, Derya Dimertas, Judy Dressie, Sofia Evelich, Rachel Gibbs, Gomez Family, Mary Guimes, Barbara Haggerty, Mr. Harris, Carmen Howell, Jennifer, Bernadette Lang, Angela Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Joe Lorenzo, Beth Lucien, Jodi Lupo, Thomas Lynch, Gerry Mahon, Agnes Mantini, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli Sandy Matthews, John Meehan, Robert Morenski, Bill Myers, Kelly Nicole, Richard Nowicki, Robert Organes, William Pagano, Jim Pantelmo, Tracey Perles, Nicole Perry, Flo Puccio, Sal, Katie Onofry Sandberg, Sarah Scheckner, Alex Sepiol, Infant John Antonio Seti, John Sikora, Baby Teddy, Michael Toth, Jen Vaughn, Richard Vergona, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh, Joan White and Fran Whitesell



## Finding Time To Pray

It truly seems like we are living in chaotic times, and rarely do we have a quiet moment for ourselves. We are busy from the moment our feet hit the floor in the morning to when we collapse into bed at night. But, as a whole, our busyness is keeping us from what truly matters – developing our relationship with God. It is our prayer life that most often gets pushed aside. But each of us, if we're intentional, can take time throughout our busy day to grow closer to God through prayer. Here are a few ideas:

**Are you a morning person?** YES – Grab your bible and, while the house is quiet, immerse yourself in sacred reading. Reflect on what you read and how you can apply it to your day. NO – After you hit the snooze button a few times, pray for your intentions while getting ready for the day.

**Do you take your kids or grandkids to school?** YES – Split your commute in half and dedicate the first half to conversation with God or the Rosary. Take the second half to catch up on the news. NO – Park in the space farthest from the building. You'll get some exercise and have a few extra minutes to ask God to give you the strength and focus to sustain you throughout the day.

**(To be Continued....Take Out-Family Faith On The Go)**

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Service Project

Our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Religious Education Class is working on a service project for the children/teen patients at St. Joseph hospital in Paterson. They are collecting items to create gift baskets to help bring some joy to them during their illness. The list of items are on the board above the basket where the items may be placed. As always, we thank you for your support of the children there in our parish as well as those in St. Joseph's hospital too.



**The Religious Education Inclement Weather Policy** ~ is that the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather will be announced and posted on [www.wsus1023.com](http://www.wsus1023.com). If it is not possible for you to check the internet, you can call the Religious Education Office at 973-948-7004 and listen to any cancellation message there.

## St. Mary's Church

Court Madonna No. 114 will be having their Annual Tricky Tray **Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>**. Doors open at noon and drawing begins at 2:00PM. Tickets are 25 for \$1.00. No admission fee. All proceeds to benefit Community Charities.



## A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

**HIS WORD TODAY** by Rev. William J. Reilly

### **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 27, 2019**

**“Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as those who were eye witnesses from the beginning and ministers of the word have handed them down to us, I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received.”**

Our weekly reflections are entitled ‘His Word Today.’ Week after week we hear the gospel proclaimed, we spend time reading the daily meditations, and today we are reminded where this good news originates.

St. Luke addresses a Lover of God, as his name is translated and he writes to him and for us. He informs us with the what and why, what he intends to do and why. The church then jumps to chapter four introducing us to the mission of Jesus as He proclaimed it in His own town of Nazareth.

As He unrolls the prophet of Isaiah telling of liberty for captives, recovery from blindness, freeing the oppressed and announcing the good news, He says in our words ‘this is happening today.’ The mission of Jesus is the mission of the church today, calling all to carry out what Pope St. John Paul II says ‘is still far from completion.’ As Jesus was sent, so are we as Missionary Disciples.

## 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, January 27, 2019

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

9:30 a.m. STC C.C.D. Grade 2

### Monday, Jan. 28

### Tuesday, Jan. 29

10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

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

### Wednesday, Jan. 30

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

### Thursday, Jan. 31

### Friday, Feb. 1

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

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

### Saturday, Feb. 2

### Sunday, February 3, 2019

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

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

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### Next Sunday's Readings: 4<sup>th</sup> Ord.

1st Reading: *Jeremiah 1: 4--5, 17--19*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 71*

2nd Reading: *1 Corinthians 12: 31--13: 13*

Gospel: *Luke 4: 21--30*

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### Quotes on Catholic Education:

“Catholic schools prepare every student to meet the challenges of their future by developing their mind, yes, but also their body and their soul and spirit.”

*“The Catholic schools in our nation have been paramount in teaching the values that we as parents seek to instill in our children.”*

**This is Catholic Schools Week**, a time to celebrate the innumerable contributions and benefits of Catholic education to our young people, and to our culture. This year’s theme is: *“Learning, Serving, Leading and Succeeding,”* which sums up the tall order that Catholic Schools strive to offer their students. Check today’s Bulletin insert, which describes all that our local Catholic Academy of Sussex County is offering to the young people of our area.

**Pizza Night with the Bishop.** Bring your appetite to this special opportunity to meet our Bishop and to think about your future. All **young men of high school and college age** are invited to hear our Bishop speak and to ask him questions. No commitments will be made, except the commitment to enjoy pizza and fellowship with other young men of our neighboring parishes. It all takes place **at Pope John Regional High School, 28 Andover Rd., Sparta, on Tuesday, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>, from 7 p.m. till 9 p.m.**

**Young Ladies only.** An **Evening with the Sisters** is a chance to explore what life as a religious sister might be like. No commitments here either, just a chance to see life in the convent from the inside. The evening will be held at the **Academy of St. Elizabeth, 2 Convent Road, Convent Station N.J.** (near Madison in Morris County.) The date is **Friday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, from 6 p.m.—8:30 p.m.** Includes dinner. R.S.V.P. to Sr. Maryanne at 973-290-5325 or [mtracey@scnj.org](mailto:mtracey@scnj.org)

**FORMED.org** can help you stay informed on this and many other issues of our faith. Simply go to our parish website: [saintjamesthomas.org](http://saintjamesthomas.org). At the home page, scroll down to the FORMED banner to register.

### Recommended by FORMED.org.:

Watch: *Don Bosco*

Watch: *Saint John Bosco*

(Feast day: January 31)

**With the Cold and Flu Season upon us we will refrain from offering the Precious Blood at Communion time. We will also hold off on the Sign of Peace until the flu season is past.**