

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

Jesus Heals

Jesus heals by His love and forgiveness. Jesus has shown us the way to His gift of inner joy and peace. The healing power of God is spelled out throughout the Bible. Listed below are some Bible verses that give us instances of healing. We can experience the healing presence of our Savior Jesus Christ in our healing service at St. Thomas on March 10th at 3:00PM. You are invited to be a part of the healing service, as we ask for healing for ourselves in mind, body and spirit. We can also ask our Savior to heal those who are close to us, like relatives and friends who cannot be present, but are in our mind and heart. May the healing power of God bring you closer to His all-encompassing love for each one of us. Jesus wants to make you one with Him.

***** Old Testament Bible verses about Healing *****

Psalms 91:10-11-----No evil shall befall you, nor shall affliction come near you, for to His angels He has given command about you, that they guard you in all your ways,

Psalm 107:20-----He sent forth His word to heal them and to snatch them from destruction.

***** New Testament Bible verses about Healing *****

Matthew 8: 2-3-----Suddenly a leper came forward and did Him homage, saying to Him, "Sir, if you will to do so, you can cure me." Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him and said, "I do will it, be cured." Immediately the man's leprosy disappeared.

Mark 11:24-----I give you my word, if you are ready to believe that you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer, it shall be done for you.

Matthew 4:23and He cured the people of every disease and illness.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
March 10, 2019

St. James the Greater

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

SATURDAY, March 16

8:00AM – Josephine Yarosz
req. by her Family

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

March 17

8:00AM – Phil Lange
req. by Rosemary & Paul Brislin

11:30AM – Charles & Elsie Lorber
req. by their Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,916.00 – Regular Collection – March 3, 2019

\$ 151.00 – Online Giving

\$1,992.00 – Regular Collection – March 4, 2018

\$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 Barbara Gioielli at the
Request of her Family

MONDAY, March 11

9:00AM – Barbara Kientzler
req. by her son, Charles

TUESDAY, March 12

9:00AM – Deceased Members of the Iovino Family
req. by Luisa & Dan Mantini

WEDNESDAY, March 13

9:00AM – Barbara Leppert
req. by Omar & Marie Mendez

THURSDAY, March 14

No Mass

FRIDAY, March 15

9:00AM – John Meehan
req. by Luisa & Dan Mantini

SATURDAY, Vigil, March 16

4:30PM – Peggy & Tommy Hamilton
req. by the Gorman Family

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

March 17

9:30AM – Jozef Szwajkiewicz
req. by John & Maria Babon
-Barbara Leppert
req. by Dawn Hall & Family

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,308.00 – Regular Collection – March 3, 2019

\$ 718.00 – Online Giving

\$1,822.00 – Regular Collection – March 4, 2018

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

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

For On-Line Giving: log onto our website:

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 Lantalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Joe Lorenzo, Jodi Lupo, Thomas Lynch, Agnes Mantini, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli, Sandy Matthews, 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, Shirley Strong, Baby Teddy, Michael Toth, Jen Vaughn, Richard Vergona, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh, Joan White and Fran Whitesell



Fasting vs. Abstinence

Also of biblical origins are the Lenten customs of fasting and abstinence. Although often used interchangeably, fasting refers to the amount of food consumed, while abstinence describes the type of food denied, such as meat on Fridays.

Please take every opportunity to celebrate the many events that this beautiful season has to offer. You will find all the information in the bulletin, on the Rel. Ed. Calendar and on the **new Facebook page – The Parishes of St. Thomas the Apostle & St. James the Greater** – which also has wonderful articles and information for Catholics of all ages! Blessed Lent.



Catholic Teens – which NOW includes 7th through 12th graders – will meet TODAY, Sunday, March 10th from 6:00PM until 8:00PM at OLQP in Branchville. Please come down to the Youth Group for an evening of fun and friendship! We will be celebrating St. Patrick’s Day!!! For more information, please call Mary Flexer at 862-268-1876.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS will take place on **Friday, March 15th for students in Grades 6, 7 & 8 from 5:00-6:30PM with a Pasta & Fish Dinner** generously provided by our Knights of Columbus.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS will take place on **Tuesday, March 19th for students in Grades 1 & 2 from 4:00-5:15PM (the regular class time) at St. Thomas Church with a Soup/Macaroni & Cheese Dinner** generously provided by our Columbiettes. Parents are always welcome to join us 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. 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.

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 **Thursday nights from 6:15 to 7:15pm** for 6 weeks and started on **March 7th** 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 \$30.00 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!

PLEASE NOTE that the **St. James Spring Clean-up** is scheduled for **Saturday, May 18th** at 8:30AM, and, if necessary, again on Saturday, May 25th.

FROM THE DIOCESE

“We have just learned of allegations of sexual abuse of minors committed by Rev. John E. Hewetson. Father Hewetson had been assigned to Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish (known as Western Sussex Mission) from 1942-1944. If any person may have been abused by any priest, they should immediately contact their local County Prosecutor’s Office and also Monsignor James T. Mahoney, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, Diocese of Paterson. He may be reached at 973-777-8818, Ext. 205.”

Visit the Facebook page for The Parishes of St. Thomas the Apostle & St. James the Greater:
<https://www.facebook.com/JamesThomas/>

St. Thomas Pot Luck Dinner

On Saturday evening, **March 16th** there will be a pot luck dinner in the Father Lewis Center immediately following the 4:30PM Mass. As always, members of both parishes are welcome. This is an opportunity for families in both parishes to come together and enjoy friendships and hospitality. It is also a way to meet new members and families in our parish and spend some time with old friends. Sign-up sheets are in the gathering space of the St. Thomas Church or call the parish office. Pot luck dinners are free, just bring a dish.

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, March 10, 2019

1st Sunday of Lent

- 9:30 a.m. REC Mass & Class Gr. 6, 7, 8
- 9:30 a.m. STC Coffee Hour after Mass
- 3:00 p.m. STC Healing Service
- 6:00 p.m. Teen Group at O.L.Q.P., Branchville

Monday, Mar. 11

- 7:00 p.m. STC Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday, Mar. 12

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

Wednesday, Mar. 13

- 4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 3, 4 & 5
- 7:00 p.m. STC Adoration & Rosary with K of C
- 7:30 p.m. STC K of C Monthly Mtg.

Thursday, Mar. 14

- 6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

Friday, Mar. 15

- 10:00a.m. STC Adoration of Bl. Sac. (till Noon)
- 10:00a.m. STC Legion of Mary Mtg.
- 5:00 p.m. STC Stations with Gr. 6, 7 & 8
- 7:00 p.m. Minisink Reformed Church
Ecumenical Lenten Service
- 6:00 p.m. SJC Soup Supper
- 7:00 p.m. SJC Stations of the Cross

Saturday, Mar. 16

- 4:30 p.m. STC Pot Luck Dinner after Mass

Sunday, March 17, 2019

2nd Sunday of Lent

Good Counsel Homes Baby Bottle Drive

Next Sunday's Readings: 2nd Lent

- 1st Reading: *Genesis 15: 5–12, 17--18*
- Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 27*
- 2nd Reading: *Philippians 3: 17–4: 1*
- Gospel: *Luke 9: 28b--36*

“Jesus Heals” Healing Service Today. All are invited to experience the healing powers of Jesus, for their mind, body and spirit. A Healing Service will be held at **St. Thomas today, Sun. March 10, beginning at 3 p.m.**

There will be an explanation of Jesus’ healing powers today, along with Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Then will follow a Sprinkling and Renewing of our Baptismal blessings; then prayers for individual healing. Confession (a healing of the spirit) will be available. Come to receive the healings and blessings that Jesus wishes to offer you.

“Welcome Home” Mondays. Confessions available at **each church of the Paterson Diocese, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.** Our schedule:

| | | | |
|---------|------------|---------|-----------|
| Mar. 11 | St. Thomas | Mar. 18 | St. James |
| Mar. 25 | St. Thomas | Apr. 1 | St. James |
| Apr. 8 | St. Thomas | Apr. 15 | St. James |

Lent with Our Neighbors. An Ecumenical Prayer Service, **each Friday of Lent, at 7 p.m.**

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
| Mar. 15 | Minisink Ref. | Mar. 22 | Delaware Valley |
| Mar. 29 | St. Thomas | Apr. 5 | Minisink Ref. |
| Apr. 12 | Delaware Valley | | |

Good News from the Diocese. Both of our parishes received rebates from our donations to the *Partners In Faith Capital Drive*.

This is the fund-raising drive that has been conducted by the Diocese for the last five years. All were asked to make pledges to help with various needs: the restoration of the Cathedral in Paterson, capital help for the aging buildings of Catholic Charities, assistance with the retired priests at Nazareth Village, etc. 25 % of all funds received from each parish would be returned for their own needs. Just last week, two checks came in the mail. **St. James received \$547.50 and St. Thomas received \$2,437.50.**

Thank you to all who have taken part in this Campaign. It is helping us, as well as the Diocese.

God in his providence offers us each year the season of Lent as a “sacramental sign of our conversion.” Lent summons us, and enables us, to come back to the Lord wholeheartedly and in every aspect of our life. –Pope Francis,
from Lenten Message, 2018