

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

God's Work Is Never Done

*“See, I am doing something new !
Do you not perceive it ?”*

--Isaiah 43: 19

For centuries it has been traditional for baptismal fonts to have eight sides. The first seven sides were meant to represent the seven days of creation. The eighth side, however, represented God's on-going, unending work of creation—both in the world, and in each of his people. So, when a child is baptized, he or she is baptized into that eighth day: another new person ready to inherit the Kingdom of God !

This reminds us that God is never finished creating. He is still making things new each day. He is also at work every day making everything that already exists to be “new.” (Revelation 21: 5).

Each day we can see God working at His creation in the world around us. Plants are pollinated and multiply; seeds mature into berries; volcanic lava creates new land formations. Every day the world shifts and changes a bit as God continues His active, creative work around us.

Now, just as God is still creating in the natural world, He is also still creating in the spiritual world. Every day He creates new openings for you to receive His love and to experience healing and grace in your relationships. Every day He opens new doors for you to share your faith. Although not as dramatic as volcanic lava, these too are manifestations of the “new creation” that God is forming in us and around us.

We're more than half-way through the Season of Lent. Now is a good time to look back for signs of His creative work. Where do you feel “new ?” Now look forward to the creation yet to come. Where do you see new seeds about to blossom forth ? Especially when it comes to matters of the spirit, God is infinitely creative. He knows where you need renewal—in your prayer life, in your habits, in your troubling relationships—and He is working to bring the needed changes about.

You may see yourself just as a work in progress, but God sees you, as well as everything He creates, and calls it “good.” (Genesis 1: 31). As Isaiah promised, God has a wonderful future in store for you, one that will bring you joy and amazement (Isaiah 65: 18). So welcome the ways that God is making you new right now, and have faith that He's not finished yet !

Father, help me to recognize Your on-going, creative work in me.

--from: *The Word Among Us*
Lent, 2019

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
April 7, 2019

St. James the Greater

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

SATURDAY, April 13

8:00AM – Charles & Elsie Lorber
req. by their Family

PALM SUNDAY

April 14

8:00AM – Virginia Madden
req. by Harry & Diane Cole
-Margaret & Joseph Devine
req. by the Rosanelli Family
-Victoria Vienckowski
req. by her granddaughter, Victoria Gorchach

11:30AM – Linda Stephens
req. by her Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 942.00 – Regular Collection – March 31, 2019

\$ 151.00 – Online Giving

\$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.

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

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 Peg O'Brien at the
Request of her Family

MONDAY, April 8

9:00AM – For the Intentions of those who prayed for
my recovery
req. by Fran

TUESDAY, April 9

9:00AM – Josephine Yarosz
req. by her Family

WEDNESDAY, April 10

9:00AM – Peg O'Brien
req. by her Family

THURSDAY, April 11

No Mass

FRIDAY, April 12

9:00AM – Pat Follette
req. by her Family

SATURDAY, Vigil, April 13

4:30PM – Betty Lacovara
req. by the Confirmation Class
-Intentions of Deacon Wayne & Lyse von Doehren
req. by Bill & Marge Erickson
-Intentions of Sandy Matthews
Birthday Celebration
req. by the Wedemeier Family

PALM SUNDAY

April 14

9:30AM – Barbara Kientzler
req. by her son, Charles
-Frank & Helen Morenski
req. by their daughter, Cecelia Smith

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,718.00 – Regular Collection – March 31, 2019

\$ 438.00 – Online Giving

\$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 Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Joe Lorenzo, Jodi Lupo, Thomas Lynch, Teresa Mantani, 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



Sacrament of Holy Eucharist Preparations

- ✓ The children of our parishes preparing for Holy Eucharist will be on a retreat on **Sunday, April 7th from 1:00pm until 3:30pm** at the Sacred Heart Center in Newton. Please keep these young members in your prayers.
- ✓ Our Parent Session for all who have children preparing to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Eucharist will take place on **Tuesday, April 9th at 7:00pm** at St. Thomas the Apostle Church. Our Pastor, Father Wayne will be our presenter for the evening. We are very hopeful that both parents of each child be present that evening.

Sacrament of Confirmation Preparations

- ✓ Our 7 Confirmation Candidates will be participating in their final interview with Father Wayne on **Saturday, April 13th immediately following the 4:30pm Mass**. Please keep these teens in your prayers.

Last Classes

Our last sessions for students in **Grades 6 through 8 are Sunday, April 7th and 14th**. Have a blessed and safe spring and summer!!! See you in Church!!!



Catholic Teens is a Youth Group for teen parishioners from St. James, St. Thomas and Our Lady Queen of Peace. It is open to **7th through 12th graders** and will meet **today, Sunday, April 7th from 6:00pm until 8:00pm** at OLQP in Branchville. Please come down to the Youth Group for an evening of fun and friendship! There will be plenty of food, games, music and prayer. **Come join us and see what's going on – you won't be disappointed!!!** For more information, please call Mary Flexer at 862-268-1876.

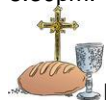


Living Stations of the Cross Rehearsal

Rehearsal for all 7th through 10th grade parishioners will take place on **Sunday, April 14th from 1:00 – 2:30pm at St. Thomas Church**. Those coming from their final class are encouraged to pack their lunch (if necessary) to eat before we begin.



Wednesday, April 17th ~ 6th and 7th Grade students will participate in the **Seder Supper**, which is hosted by the Knights of Columbus. The students are asked to arrive at the Father Lewis Center by 5:00pm and the evening should end by 8:30pm.



Holy Thursday, April 18th ~ The Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at St. Thomas Church at 7:00pm. **All First Eucharist and Confirmation II Candidates** are encouraged to participate in the **Foot Washing Ritual**. This is a very special way to celebrate your sacrament year. The sign-up sheets are in the back of the churches or call the Parish Office at 973-948-2296.



Catholic Relief Service Rice Bowl – ENCOUNTER LENT

Join our faith community and more than 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States in a life changing Lenten journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl. You can pick up a Rice Bowl from the Gathering Area at either Church. During the 40 days of Lent we will encounter the needs of the world.

5th Week of Lent – ENCOUNTER ONA – We encounter Ona in Gaza, where, despite lack of economic opportunity, people pursue their dreams by building businesses to better their lives. How do your daily choices impact others throughout the world? How can your choices support the dignity of workers?

ST. THOMAS COFFEE HOUR

The next St. Thomas Coffee Hour is scheduled for **Sunday, April 14** after the 9:30 AM Mass. All are welcome to join us and enjoy the company of fellow parishioners.

HOLD THE DATE

On Friday evening, May 3rd, St. Thomas will be hosting our Annual Tricky Tray. If you are interested in assisting our committee in any way, please call Deirdre Burgos at 973-948-6092. All volunteers are welcome. Help make this fundraiser a success by donating a tray. All trays should be left in the Conference Room at St. Thomas as soon as possible to allow time for displaying them properly (no later than Saturday, April 27). Thank you for your cooperation.

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

Altar Linen Ministry - *Urgent need*

St. Thomas is in need of help with maintaining the linens used at every Mass. Volunteer(s) pick up, wash, iron & return the altar linens. They are washed, weekly or so, in your own home. If more than one person volunteers, a rotating schedule can be set.



40 Days For Life Campaign

(Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish)

Mondays during Lent – March 11 - April 15 – 9:15 - 10:15am

Come & Join us for an hour of prayer each Monday at 9:15am in the Season of Lent at **Planned Parenthood at 8 Moran Street, Newton, New Jersey** to pray The Rosary.

National Scrapbooking Day is Saturday, April 27th

Preserve your most cherished photos and memories of events and loved ones. Scrapbooking helps one to appreciate those blessed moments. Employ skills of expert instructors and get creative suggestions on assembling photo albums. Special tools will be available. Sessions will be one-half day (either 10am-4pm or 4pm-10pm for \$25.) Or spend the full day (10am-10pm for \$40.) Sessions will be held at the Religious Education Center. Digital or traditional scrappers welcome. Bring a lunch/dinner.

For this event, space is limited, so pre-registration by April 10 is recommended. And to thank you for doing so, you will receive a scrapbooking gift valued at \$12. For information or to register call Patrice Kealy 973-534-1722. Go to <https://www.creativememories.com/user/Patricekealy> to pre-order supplies.

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, April 7, 2019

5th Sunday of Lent

- 8:00 a.m. SJC Coffee Hour after Mass
9:30 a.m. REC Mass & Class Gr. 6, 7, 8
11:00a.m. STC Columbiettes Mtg.
1:00 p.m. Sacred Heart Center, Newton
--1st Eucharist Retreat (till 3:30 p.m.)
3:00 p.m. STC Healing Service
6:00 p.m. Youth Group Mtg. at O.L.Q.P., B-ville

Monday, Apr. 8

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

Tuesday, Apr. 9

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

Wednesday, Apr. 10

- 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, Apr. 11

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

Friday, Apr. 12

- 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.
7:00 p.m. Delaware Valley U. M. Church
-- Ecumenical Lenten Service
6:00 p.m. SJC Soup Supper
7:00 p.m. SJC Stations of the Cross

Saturday, Apr. 13

- 4:30 p.m. STC Mass & Conf. Prep. Gr. 9 & 10

Sunday, March 14, 2019

Palm Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. REC Mass & Class Gr. 6, 7, 8
9:30 a.m. STC Coffee Hour after Mass
1:00 p.m. STC Rehearsal—Living Stations

Next Sunday's Readings: Palm Sunday

- 1st Reading: *Isaiah 50: 4--7*
Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 22*
2nd Reading: *Philippians 2: 6--11*
Gospel: *Luke 22: 14--23: 56*

"Welcome Home" Mondays. Last

Confessions still available at **each church of the Paterson Diocese, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

Our schedule:

Apr . 8 St. Thomas Apr. 15 St. James

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

Apr. 12 Delaware Valley United Methodist Ch.

Stations of the Cross. Each Friday, also at 7:00 p.m. the Stations of the Cross will be prayed at **St. James Church.** Beforehand, at 6 p.m. there will be a Soup Supper served.

Seder Supper. Our Knights of Columbus will sponsor a Seder Supper on **Wed. April 17th at 5:30 p.m. in the Fr. Lewis Center.** Tickets are \$ 15. Join us for this enjoyable and delicious celebration.

Holy Week and Easter: Mass Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 13--14:

Regular Schedule of Masses

Mon. April 15: Last Confessions

--at St. James 7 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

Wed. April 17: Seder Supper, 5:30 p.m. at St. Th.

Holy Thursday, April 18:

Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:00 p.m. at St. Thomas

Good Friday, April 19:

Service of the Lord's Passion 3:00 p.m. St. James

Living Stations with Conf. Class, 7:30 p.m. St. Th.

Holy Saturday, April 20:

Blessing of Food Baskets, 12 Noon at St. Th.

Easter Vigil 7:45 p.m. at St. Thomas

Easter Sunday, April 21: Regular Mass schedule:

8 a.m. St. James; 9:30 a.m. St. Thomas;

11:30 a.m. St. James

Pilgrimage to Canada. Queen of Peace Church is hosting this trip to **Three Rivers, Canada.** Dates: **Mon. June 10—Fri. June 14.** They will be staying at the **Shrine of Our Lady of the Cape** for 4 nights. Pilgrimage includes a day-trip to Montreal and St. Joseph's Oratory, and a stop to Quebec City and the Basilica of St. Ann de Beaupre. Cost: \$ 590. double occ.// \$ 775. single occ. Breakfast, dinner included Register by April 10. For more info 973-948-3185.