

# 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**



# Palm Sunday and the Week that Brought Us Salvation

If a liturgy could have mood swings--as people sometimes do--then the liturgy of Palm Sunday takes us from the highest of highs to the lowest of lows.

Our Mass started out on a note of triumph—Jesus entering the city of Jerusalem. It had all the trappings of a king’s entrance—coming through the front gate, crowds of people cheering excitedly, young men placing leafy palm branches before the procession, children joining in the rejoicing, and all the people hoping that this might be the Messiah who would free them from Roman occupation.

**Yet at this same Mass, as we move into the church, the whole atmosphere** changes. The Readings suddenly speak of a Suffering Servant, one who will be rejected by his people. Saint Paul then reminds us that *“He emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave ... becoming obedient to the point of ... death on a cross.”*

Then the Gospel gives us the Passion narrative. According to the Gospel writers, Jesus’ suffering and death all work out as they had been predicted by the Old Testament prophets. Today’s Palm Sunday liturgy sets the tone for all the crucial events we commemorate during Holy Week.

**Holy Thursday**, the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, commemorates Jesus instituting two life-giving sacraments: the Eucharist, by which He continues to work among us in the Sacred Bread and Wine; and the Priesthood, ordained to serve the Body and Blood of Christ to His people. In the Washing of the Feet ceremony, members of our parishes will help in recreating Jesus’ attitude of humble service, which all of His followers must share. In the time of Adoration after Mass, we will stand vigil with Jesus in the Garden.

On **Good Friday**, we see the depths of Jesus’ love for us—and for His Father—as He is ready to witness to the Father to the end—even as it means terrible suffering and agonizing death on the cross. We realize that this is the price Jesus paid to reunite us with the Father—and to make up for our sinfulness.

Then, as the darkness and stillness of the tomb leads us to think that all is lost, suddenly Jesus breaks forth at the **Easter Vigil** in the life of Resurrection. It is a life beyond death and past the grave—a life without end, in union with the Father.

On **Easter Sunday** we share the unbounded joy of Jesus’ Resurrection—knowing through faith that Resurrection is in our future too.

Let us put lesser things aside this week, and concentrate on all that has brought us our salvation.

God bless you,  
Father Wayne

# PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

April 14, 2019

## St. James the Greater

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

**GOOD FRIDAY, April 19** - 3:00PM – Service

### SATURDAY, April 20

8:00AM - No Mass

### EASTER SUNDAY

#### April 21

8:00AM – Anne & Harry Esposito

req. by their Family

-Josephine Yarosz

req. by her Family

-Deceased Pastors & Parishioners

-People of the Parish

-Birthday Intentions for Toni

req. by Victoria Gorlach

11:30AM – Deceased Pastors & Parishioners

-People of the Parish

### ST. JAMES THE GREATER

**\$1,854.00 – Regular Collection – April 7, 2019**

**\$ 226.00 – Online Giving**

**\$1,313.00 – Regular Collection – April 8, 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 Then go to On-Line Giving link.**

**PLEASE NOTE** that the **St. James Spring Clean-up** is scheduled for **Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>** at 8:30AM.

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 in  
Memory of Ryan Bubigkeit at the  
Request of Dawn Hall & Family

### MONDAY, April 15

9:00AM – Intentions of Louis & Laurie Briegel  
40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

req. by their Family

-Walter Stoklosa

req. by his daughter, Julia Jensen

### TUESDAY, April 16

9:00AM – Marian Miller

req. by Ray & Mary Flexer

-Ryan Bubigkeit

req. by his Family

### WEDNESDAY, April 17

9:00AM – Donald Martin, Sr.

req. by his Family

### THURSDAY, April 18

7:00PM – Pastors & Priests of the Parish  
Living & Deceased

### GOOD FRIDAY, April 19

No Mass

### SATURDAY, Vigil, April 20

7:45PM – Jimmy Reed

req. by his Mom & Dad

-People of the Parish

### EASTER SUNDAY

#### April 21

9:30AM – Mary Cunico

req. by Elaine Schuster

-Jimmy Reed

req. by his Mom & Dad

-Deceased Pastors & Parishioners

-People of the Parish

### ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

**\$2,429.00 – Regular Collection – April 7, 2019**

**\$ 788.00 – Online Giving**

**\$2,696.00 – Regular Collection – April 8, 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 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



### Last Classes

- ✓ Our last session for students in **Grades 6, 7 and 8 is today Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.**
- ✓ Our last sessions for students in **Grades 1 and 2 are Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.**
- ✓ Our last session for students in **Grades 3, 4 and 5 are Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Have a blessed and safe spring and summer!!! See you in Church!!!

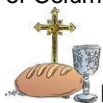


### Living Stations of the Cross Rehearsal

Rehearsal for all **7<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> grade parishioners** will take place on **Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> ~ 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> 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. Their dinner will be generously provided by our Knights of Columbus.



**Holy Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> ~** 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.



**Good Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> ~** Our Jr. High Students and Confirmation Candidates will present the **Living Stations of the Cross** at 7:30pm at St. Thomas. All teens must arrive by 4:30pm for set-up and rehearsal. Dinner will be generously provided by our Columbiettes.



**Easter Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> ~** An Easter Egg Hunt for all children of the parishes will take place immediately following the 9:30am Mass on Easter Sunday on the Great Lawn at St. Thomas. We will provide the "Easter Bags" or you can bring your own baskets.



**Confirmation Rehearsal** will take place on **Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at OLQP.** The **Sacrament of Confirmation** will take place on **Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at the 7:30pm Mass at Our Lady Queen of Peace in Branchville.** Please keep these teens in your prayers.



### 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.

**Palm Sunday – ENCOUNTER OUR NEIGHBORS –** We encounter Jesus this week in Jerusalem, a community he knew well. We prayerfully enter our own communities too, encountering those who are hungry and thirsty, and those who need our help. How does our Lenten journey motivate us to serve those we meet in our daily lives?

### HOLD THE DATE

On Friday evening, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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 27<sup>th</sup>

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 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

### ***Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019***

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

### ***Monday of Holy Week, Apr. 15***

11:00 a.m. REC Prayer Shawl & Ros. Makers Mtg.  
7:00 p.m. SJC Sacrament of Reconciliation

### ***Tuesday of Holy Week, Apr. 16***

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

### ***Wednesday of Holy Week, Apr. 17***

4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 3, 4 & 5  
5:30 p.m. STC Seder Supper

### ***Holy Thursday, Apr. 18***

7:00 p.m. STC Mass of the Lord's Supper  
--Adoration of Blessed Sacrament till Midnight

### ***Good Friday, Apr. 19***

3:00 p.m. SJC Service of the Lord's Passion  
7:30 p.m. STC Living Stations of the Cross  
--Presented by Confirmation Class  
6:00 p.m. SJC Soup Supper  
7:00 p.m. SJC Stations of the Cross

### ***Holy Saturday, Apr. 20***

12 Noon STC Blessing of Food Baskets  
7:45 p.m. STC Easter Vigil Service

### ***Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019***

8:00 a.m. SJC Easter Mass  
9:30 a.m. STC Easter Mass  
11:30a.m. SJC Easter Mass

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### **Next Sunday's Readings: *Easter Sunday***

1st Reading: *Acts of Apostles 10: 34a, 37--43*  
Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 118*  
2nd Reading: *Colossians 3: 1--4*  
Gospel: *John 20: 1--9*

**With this Palm Sunday Mass** we enter into the **most holy week** of our Catholic Church Year. During this week we will recall Jesus' works which have brought us our salvation. We will experience the exhilaration of the cries of 'Halleluiah' as He enters the city of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. We will be with Him in all the confrontations with the Pharisees and Scribes during the next few days. We will be seated at the Last Supper as He consecrates the bread and wine into His very Body and Blood. We will be shaken by the cries of 'crucify Him,' shouted by the crowds who turned against Him. We will grieve along with an inconsolable Mary as she stands below His cross.

We will be lost and confused in those dark hours after the crucifixion—disillusioned at how this could happen; wondering where is God. And then we will experience the heights of boundless joy as He appears—risen and alive—to His apostles and faithful friends.

All are asked to put aside lesser concerns this week and to spend time mediating on these events which have brought us salvation. The last chapters of each of the Gospels would be excellent sources for contemplation. Let the events of Holy Week and Easter remind you of the Lord's immeasurable love for you.

**"Welcome Home" Mondays.** Last chance for Confessions: **Mon. Apr. 15 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.** at St. James

**Seder Supper Wednesday.** Our Knights of Columbus will sponsor a Seder Supper on **Wed. April 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the Fr. Lewis Center.** Tickets are \$ 15. Join us for this enjoyable and delicious celebration, and recognize the origins of our Catholic Mass. Full meal included.

**Living Stations on Friday.** On Good Friday, there will be a Living Stations of the Cross, presented by our Confirmation candidates, **at St. Thomas, beginning at 7:30 p.m.**

**P.S.** Pray for these young people, who will be receiving the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.