

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 Plan for Our Salvation Revealed

We celebrate today the great feast of Our Lord's Resurrection from the grave ! It is the promise for us that we also shall rise ! This early Christian hymn was incorporated by Saint Paul into his Letter to the Philippians. It captures, perhaps better than any other passage, the spirit of this day.

*Though He was in the form of God,
Jesus did not deem equality with God
Something to be grasped at.
Rather, He emptied Himself
And took the form of a slave,
Being born in the likeness of men.*

*He was known to be of human estate,
And it was thus that He humbled Himself,
Obediently accepting even death,
Death on a cross !*

*Because of this,
God highly exalted Him
And bestowed upon Him the name
Above every other name.*

*So that at Jesus' name
Every knee must bend
In the heavens, on the earth,
And under the earth,
And every tongue proclaim
To the glory of God the Father:
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD !*

Philippians 2: 6 – 11

Our Parish Staff and I wish all our parishioners a wonderful Easter Day. We hope that you will be able to celebrate this day with family and friends.

God bless you at Easter and always,
Father Wayne

EASTER SUNDAY
April 21, 2019

St. James the Greater

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

SATURDAY, April 27

8:00AM – Pablo Casiano
req. by the Casiano Family

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

April 28

8:00AM – Edwin Matos
req. by Harry & Diane Cole

11:30AM – Doug Kabbash
req. by his Family
-Darlene Sciolaro and Mario Giaccotto
req. by the Kabbash Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 967.00 – Regular Collection – April 14, 2019

\$ 201.00 – Online Giving

\$ 771.00 – Regular Collection – April 15, 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.**

PLEASE NOTE that the **St. James Spring Clean-up** is scheduled for **Saturday, May 18th** 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 Spinapolicie at 973-293-7031.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Leonie Flaskamp at the
Request of Dawn Hall & Family

MONDAY, April 22

9:00AM – Carl & Louise Flexer
req. by Flo Oliver
-Barbara Leppert
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer

TUESDAY, April 23

9:00AM – Pablo Casiano
req. by Casiano Family

WEDNESDAY, April 24

9:00AM – Charles & Elsie Lorber
req. by their Family
-Intentions of Deacon Wayne & Lyse von Doehren
req. by Omar & Marie Mendez

THURSDAY, April 25

No Mass

FRIDAY, April 26

9:00AM – Genevieve Stoklosa
req. by her daughter, Julia Jensen

SATURDAY, Vigil, April 27

4:30PM – Jerry & Judy Wainwright
req. by the Wainwright Family

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

April 28

9:30AM – Owen Barr (10th anniversary)
req. by his Family
-Special Intention for the Newly Confirmed
and First Communicants

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,099.00 – Regular Collection – April 14, 2019

\$ 438.00 – Online Giving

\$1,957.00 – Regular Collection – April 15, 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, Bill Fulton, 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, Katie Onofry, Robert Organes, William Pagano, Jim Pantelmo, Tracey Perles, Nicole Perry, Flo Puccio, Sal, Sandberg, Dell SanValentin, 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

There are NO Religious Education Classes this week. Joyous Easter!

- ✓ Our last session for students in **Grades 1 and 2 is Tuesday, April 30th.**
- ✓ Our last session for students in **Grades 3, 4 and 5 is Wednesday, May 1st.**

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



Easter Sunday, April 21st ~ An Easter Egg Hunt for all children of the parishes will take place immediately following the 9:30am Mass **TODAY – 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 24th** at 6:00pm at OLQP. The **Sacrament of Confirmation** will take place on **Thursday, April 25th** at the 7:30pm Mass at Our Lady Queen of Peace in Branchville. Please keep these teens in your prayers.



First Holy Communion Rehearsal will take place on **Friday, April 26th** at 6:00PM at St. Thomas. The **Sacrament of First Holy Eucharist** will take place on **Saturday, April 27th** at an 11:00AM Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle Church. Please keep these children in your prayers.



Easter Sunday – ENCOUNTER THE RISEN CHRIST – We prayed, fasted and gave alms – and now we celebrate Easter joy! Our Lenten journey with Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl challenges us as we encounter our Risen Lord to bring the hope of the Resurrection to a world in need. **Please return your Rice Bowl to the box in the Gathering Space at each church or the Religious Education Center by May 1st.**

The Sacrament of Confirmation for the 2 adults in the program will be administered on Saturday, May 11 at the 4:30PM Mass. We ask that you remember in prayer Heather and Melissa during these last few weeks of their final preparation.

We encourage any adult who has been Baptized Catholic and received their First Eucharist and wishes to be a fully initiated Catholic to join us in preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Preparation consists of an initial interview and 10 sessions on topics of Catholicism. We generally meet for the sessions at the convenience of those involved. The program is free of charge and begins in December with the initial interview and in January the 10 topic sessions begin.

Should you have any questions or need further information on the Adult Confirmation Program, please call Patricia Hope at 862-266-6624 or email patriciahope56@hotmail.com.

In His Peace,

Pat Hope and Alex Sousa Co-Coordinator for the Adult Confirmation Program.

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.

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 information or to register please call Patrice Kealy at 973-534-1722.

To <https://www.creativememories.com/user/Patricekealy> to pre-order supplies.

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 **starting on May 9 and ending on June 13** 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 862-266-8418. Bring a mat, hand held weights (1-8lbs.), water and a friend. Join for the 6 week session for only \$30.00 or pay per class for \$6.00 each. Twenty percent of the class money will be going to our St. Thomas Parish. So, please come and try it out!

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 21, 2019

Easter Sunday

9:30 a.m. STC Easter Egg Hunt, after Mass
--on church grounds

Monday, Apr. 22

Tuesday, Apr. 23

10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

Wednesday, Apr. 24

6:00 p.m. Confirmation Rehearsal at O.L.Q.P.

Thursday, Apr. 25

7:30 p.m. Sacrament of Confirmation
--at O.L.Q.P., Branchville

Friday, Apr. 26

10:00a.m. STC Legion of Mary Mtg.
6:00 p.m. STC First Holy Eucharist rehearsal

Saturday, Apr. 27

11:00a.m. STC First Holy Eucharist

Sunday, April 28, 2019

Divine Mercy Sunday

9:30 a.m. STC Crowning of Bl. Virgin Mary
--during Mass

Next Sunday's Readings: Divine Mercy Sunday

1st Reading: *Acts of Apostles 5: 12--16*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 118*

2nd Reading: *Revelation 1: 11a, 12-13, 17-19*

Gospel: *John 20: 19--31*

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
For more info 973-948-3185.

Happy Easter ! Along with our Parish Staff, I wish you a very joyous Feast of Our Lord's Resurrection. It is also the promise of our own.

Remember that, for us as Christians, Easter is not just a day—it is a whole season. In some ways, our entire life is a preparation for the fullness of life in the Lord's Kingdom. We hope that you will be able to enjoy this day with family and friends.

Our Thanks to all who had a part in making the services of Holy Week and Easter so meaningful: our choir and musicians, those who served at the Liturgies, and who decorated and helped clean the churches in preparation for the services. Thanks also to the Knights and our Religious Ed students for the Seder Supper, to our disciples for Holy Thursday, and to our Confirmation youth for presenting the Living Stations.

Confirmation. Please keep in prayer this week our Confirmation young people. They will be receiving the Holy Spirit fully into their lives by their reception of this Sacrament. It will take place **this Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Branchville.**

First Holy Communion. Remember also our First Communion children. They will be receiving Jesus for the very first time **this Saturday, at St. Thomas, at 11 a.m.** Pray that this day is the beginning of a life-long relationship with Our Lord.

Divine Mercy Sunday. The 2nd Sunday of Easter in recent times has become observed as Divine Mercy Sunday. First introduced by Sr. Faustina in Poland in the 1930's, this devotion has grown throughout the world. Enthusiastically supported by St. Pope John Paul II, it has been elevated to a major observance within the Church. Join us next Sunday, at St. Thomas, beginning at 1:30 p.m. with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The Divine Mercy Prayers and Benediction will be offered at 3 p.m. Confession will be available during this time.

"Dear brothers and sisters, Happy Easter! Jesus is risen from the dead! This message resounds in the Church the world over, along with the singing of the Alleluia: Jesus is Lord."

--Pope Francis, from Urbi et Orbi Message, (To the City and to the World), Easter, 2018