

# 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**

# Meet an Ancestor in Faith

Barnabas is one of those early members of the Church whom we get to know in the Acts of the Apostles. He slips in and out of the pages of Acts—first as a new convert, eventually becoming a trusted companion of Saint Paul.

We first meet him as ‘Joseph,’ in chapter 4 of Acts, as he becomes baptized and converted. He is described as a Levite, i.e. of the Jewish priestly class, from the island of Cyprus, and evidently is quite wealthy. The first words about him say that as he joins the community of believers, he sells a farm that he owned and laid the proceeds at the feet of the disciples, to be used as they saw fit for the good of the community.

He goes on to be a pillar of the community, being re-named Barnabas, ‘Son of encouragement.’ The early Church began to meet persecution for its faith in Jesus. Barnabas was one to encourage the members to remain firm in their faith.

Barnabas has an instrumental role in the conversion and acceptance of Saint Paul. Paul, as you know, was the fiercest persecutor of the new faith. Paul was determined to stamp out this faith and to send every believer to prison. Then he had his famous conversion experience on the road to Damascus. After Paul is struck blind and led to the city by companions, it is Barnabas who recognizes the sincerity of Paul’s conversion. It is Barnabas who persuades the others to accept and trust that Paul is a reformed man. As Barnabas ‘shows Paul the ropes,’ he reconciles Paul to the Christian community. (chap. 9).

Later, when a delegation from the main community in Jerusalem was needed to contact the newer community in Antioch—it was Barnabas who was called upon to head the delegation (chap. 11).

As Paul grows in knowledge of the faith, it is Paul and Barnabas who discern a call to take the Good News to other places (chap. 13). This is the beginning of Paul and Barnabas’ careers as missionaries. Paul and Barnabas have many experiences together as they preach about Jesus as Savior. In some cities they are welcomed, in one city they are mistaken for gods themselves, in another city they are stoned (chap. 14). Yet they relentlessly continue their mission of preaching.

Paul and Barnabas eventually part company over an argument about the qualifications of another disciple-missionary. Barnabas and the new disciple, John Mark (his cousin) go in one direction; Paul and another disciple, Silas, go in another (chap. 15).

We don’t hear from Barnabas again. But we can assume that he continued to preach the name of Jesus, and brought many to the faith.

Barnabas, the Son of Encouragement, can encourage us today by the example of his firm and unshakeable faith. He can also encourage us—as can all the saints—from his place in heaven—by his intercession for all believers who continue to spread the Good News of Jesus.

God bless you,  
Father Wayne

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**June 2, 2019**

**St. James the Greater**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Carol Conroy at the  
Request of the Ricciardi Family

**SATURDAY, June 8**

8:00AM – Barbara Gioielli  
req. by her Family

**PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**June 9**

8:00AM – Harry Esposito  
req. by His Family  
-Intentions of Father Wayne and Parishioners in  
Thanksgiving for Prayers  
req. by Janice Cerra

11:30AM – Peg O'Brien  
req. by her Family

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$1,132.00 – Regular Collection – May 26, 2019**  
**\$ 261.00 – Online Giving**  
**\$ 191.00 – Peter's Pence**  
**\$1,429.00 – Regular Collection – May 27, 2018**  
**\$ 159.00 – Peter's Pence**  
**\$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.**

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. Thomas the Apostle**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Rosemarie Bastian at the  
Request of her Family

**MONDAY, June 3**

9:00AM – Intentions of Michael Toth  
req. by his Mom

**TUESDAY, June 4**

9:00AM – Intentions of Bill & Kitty Rafferty  
req. by James & Kathleen Gorman

**WEDNESDAY, June 5**

9:00AM – Intentions of Bridget Costello  
req. by James & Kathleen Gorman

**THURSDAY, June 6**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, June 7**

9:00AM – Lou & Helen Briegel  
req. by their Family

**SATURDAY, Vigil, June 8**

4:30PM – Earl Edwards  
req. by Jim & Diane Campbell  
- Intentions of the Members of the  
Knights of Columbus and the Columbiettes  
for Generosity Bestowed  
req. by Mary Flexer

**PENTECOST SUNDAY**

**June 9**

9:30AM – Pam & Larry McPhail  
req. by Marc & Susan Cunico  
-Intentions of Father Wayne and Parishioners in  
Thanksgiving for Prayers  
req. by Janice Cerra

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$1,521.00 – Regular Collection – May 26, 2019**  
**\$ 438.00 – Online Giving**  
**\$ 397.00 – Peter's Pence**  
**\$2,347.00 – Regular Collection – May 27, 2018**  
**\$ 385.00 – Peter's Pence**  
**\$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:**

Agnes Ciesielski, Jen Vaughn, Ricky Wunder and Jen Wycalek

**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.



### Parent Session for the Sacrament of Confirmation

A very important meeting will take place on **Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM** at St. Thomas the Apostle Church for all parents of students in our Religious Education Program entering grades 7 through 10 in September.



### Catholic Teens – A Night of Fishing

Catholic Teens is a Youth Group for teen parishioners from St. James, St. Thomas and Our Lady Queen of Peace. It is open to **7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders** and will meet again on **Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00PM until 8:00PM** at OLQP in Branchville. Please come down to the Youth Group for an evening of fishing, fun and friendship! Hamburgers, Hot dogs and S'mores will be served. **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.



### Catholic Summer Camp

On June 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> from 9am until noon at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Branchville, Catholic Summer Camp will once again be held for children entering grades K through 5 from the parishes of St. James the Greater, St. Thomas the Apostle and Our Lady Queen of Peace.

This program will include prayer, crafts, games, skits, music, water fun and a bounce house and is **FREE!!!** To register, go to [www.olqp.org](http://www.olqp.org) and go to the Religious Education page and click Catholic Summer Camp 2019.

**We are always looking for parents and teens to help make this a great week for the kids!!! Please call Mary at 973-948-7004 if you are able to assist us for all or any of it.**

### 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 which **started on May 9 and will end 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!

**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.

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS  
**HIS WORD TODAY** by Rev. William J. Reilly

### **Seventh Sunday of Easter June 2, 2019**

**“The witnesses laid down their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul. As they were stoning Stephen, he called out, ‘Lord Jesus receive my spirit. Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice, ‘Lord do not hold this sin against them,’ and when he said this he fell asleep.”**

On many occasions we are touched by an event. Someone does something heroic, or shows great kindness. We might not remember their name or the circumstance. The two individuals singled out by St. Luke, we remember one for his heroism and one for his eventual conversion.

The deacon Stephen suffered martyrdom. Saul, eventually met the Lord and became the great St. Paul. Like Jesus at Calvary, Stephen entrusted his life to the Lord and offered forgiveness for his murderers. The persecutor became the great preacher and apostle.

As we reflect upon the life of the early church, may we see that Christians are persecuted in countless places today. Martyrdom continues in Syria, Iraq. St. Oscar Romero in El Salvador, and the Oklahoma priest Blessed Stephen Rother, in our own time tell us the blood of Christians is still being shed. As members of the body of Christ, we pray for all who suffer as victims of religious oppression, and offer our own forgiveness to those who offend us.

Jesus promised the apostles and promises us: ‘stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.’

## 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, June 2, 2019

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

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

### Monday, June 3

11:00 a.m. REC Prayer Shawl & Ros. Makers Mtg.

### Tuesday, June 4

10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

### Wednesday, June 5

### Thursday, June 6

6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

### Friday, June 7

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

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

### Saturday, June 8

11:00a.m. STC Mass with Anointing of the Sick  
--Luncheon to follow

### Sunday, June 9, 2019

#### Feast of Pentecost

9:30 a.m. STC Coffee Hour after Mass

11:00a.m. STC Columbiettes Mtg.

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### Next Sunday's Readings: Pentecost

1st Reading: *Acts of Apostles 2: 1--11*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 104*

2nd Reading: *1 Corinthians 12: 3b--7, 12--13*

Gospel: *John 20: 19--23*

**Praying for the Pentecost.** The red insert (to be found in the back of church) contains the prayers of a novena leading up to the Feast of Pentecost Sunday. Pray these prayers **beginning Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup>** as a way of opening your heart to the power and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

**P.S.** Don't forget to **wear red** next week-end.

**Mass with the Anointing of the Sick.** A special Mass celebrating the Sacrament of the Sick will be offered **next Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 11 a.m. at St. Thomas.** All those with physical ailments or simply due to older age are welcome to receive the comfort of Jesus' healing in this Sacrament. After the Mass, a light luncheon will be served in the Fr. Lewis Center. Call the Parish Office so that plans can be made for the lunch: 973-948-2296. Handicap accessible.

**Next Year's Calendar** is ready to take shape. All who would like to request dates in the new year should pick up a "Calendar of Events" page; fill it out with the events you'd like to schedule; and **return to the Parish Office by Mon. June 17.** We would like to have a meeting to iron out any conflicts **on Mon. July 1 at 7 p.m. at the Fr. Lewis Center.**

**Delaware Valley Choral Society** announces its up-coming performance: **Karl Jenkins' The Peacemakers.** It takes place at the Delaware Valley High School Auditorium, route 209 Milford PA. **today, Sunday June 2, beginning at 4:00 p.m.** Tickets: Adults \$ 15. Students \$10. The Dingman Delaware Children's Choir will also perform.

### First Thursdays at Sacred Heart Center:

All are welcome to join in the monthly Retreat, with its theme: Holiness is for Everyone. The day begins at 9 a.m. with 'coffee and...', an opening prayer, a short talk, Eucharistic Adoration, a chance for Confession, Mass at 12 Noon and a light lunch. It all concludes around 1:30 p.m. Suggested offering: \$ 15. No need to register, just come. Next Retreat Day: **this Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.** 20 Old Swartswood Rd., Newton. For more info: 973-383-2620.

**Quo Vadis Days.** Young men ages 15--25 are invited to take part in a time of recreation, fellowship, prayer and discussion to help them explore the Lord's call in their life. The younger priests and seminarians of the Diocese are running this 3-day event. It all takes place Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at the Saint Mary's Abbey Retreat Center, 230 Mendham Rd., Morristown. For more info or to register call Fr. Edgar or Fr. David at 973-777-8818. Please note: this Retreat is FREE !