

# 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**

*During this week, as we honor the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we stop to contemplate her holiness. It was a holiness which drew God's attention, and moved Him to ask her to be the mother of His Son. How do we attain that kind of holiness? Is it even possible in our day? Do we dare work towards such complete holiness, and how would it change our lives?*

*Pope Benedict once offered these thoughts on holiness in a sermon given during his papacy:*

## Christ Lives in Me

What is holiness? What does it mean to be holy? Who is called to be holy?

We are often led to think that holiness is a great goal reserved for a few elect. Saint Paul instead speaks of God's great plan and says: "*God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him.*" (Ephesians 1: 4) And he was speaking about all of us.

At the center of the divine plan is Christ in whom God shows His Face, in accord with the favor of His Will.

Holiness, the fullness of Christian life, does not consist in carrying out extraordinary enterprises but in being united with Christ in living His mysteries, in making our own ... His example, His thoughts, His behavior. **The measure of holiness stems from the stature that Christ achieves in us**, in as much as with the power of the Holy Spirit, we model our whole life on His.

A holy life is not primarily the result of our efforts, of our actions, because it is God who sanctifies us; it is the Holy Spirit's action that enlivens us from within; it is the very life of the Risen Christ that is communicated to us and transforms us.

Holiness has its deepest root in the grace of Baptism, in being grafted onto the Paschal Mystery of Christ, by which His Spirit is communicated to us, His very life as the Risen One. "*We were buried therefore with Him by Baptism,*" St. Paul writes, "*into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead ... we too might walk in newness of life.*" (Romans 6: 4) Yet God always respects our freedom and asks that we accept this gift and live the requirements it entails and He asks that we let ourselves be transformed by the action of the Holy Spirit, conforming our will to the Will of God.

How can it happen that our manner of thinking and our actions become thinking and acting with Christ and of Christ? What is the soul of holiness?

The Second Vatican Council tells us that **Christian holiness is nothing other than charity lived to the full.** "*God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.* (1 John 4: 16).

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**August 11, 2019**

**St. James the Greater**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Susan Sheaffer at the  
Request of her Family

**THURSDAY, August 15**  
**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

8:00AM – Jeanette Meloi  
req. by Charlie

**SATURDAY, August 17**

8:00AM – Donald Martin, Sr.  
req. by his Family

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**August 18**

8:00AM – Fran Doss  
req. by Art & Maria Henn  
-Burt Meshick  
req. by his Family

11:30AM – Frank & Rose Reed  
req. by their Family

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$2,218.00 – Regular Collection – August 4, 2019**

**\$ 151.00 – Online Giving**

**\$1,362.00 – Regular Collection – August 5, 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.**

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 for the  
Intentions of Nick & Lisa Dispoto at the  
Request of their Family

**MONDAY, August 12**

9:00AM – People of the Parish

**TUESDAY, August 13**

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

**WEDNESDAY, August 14**

9:00AM – Emily Blickweidel  
req. by her Family

**THURSDAY, August 15**

**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

9:00AM – Intentions of the Legion of Mary  
req. by the Legion of Mary

7:00PM – Cordelia Cafone  
req. by her Family

**FRIDAY, August 16**

9:00AM – Intentions of Nick & Lisa Dispoto  
Wedding Anniversary  
req. by their Aunt Rosie

**SATURDAY, Vigil, August 17**

4:30PM – Carl & Louise Flexer  
req. by Peggy Gray

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**August 18**

9:30AM – Kris Blauvelt  
req. by Guy & Therese Girard

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$2,182.00 – Regular Collection – August 4, 2019**

**\$ 788.00 – Online Giving**

**\$2,449.00 – Regular Collection – August 5, 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:**

Lee Ann Ascolese, Agnes Ciesielski, Teresa Mantini, Kelly Nicole, Shirley Strong, Jen Vaughn and Ricky Wunder

**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.



### **Registrations for 2019/2020 Catechetical Year**

Re-registrations for children and teens in **grades 1 through 10 were due back by July 31<sup>st</sup> to avoid the late fee. Please return your registrations immediately.**

Parents of children entering first grade, new children to the parish, or children enrolled in Catholic school or home school who will be preparing to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Eucharist must call the Religious Education Office to register. To enroll your child(ren) in the parish program, you must be a registered and participating member of the parish.

**All re-registrations must be brought to the REC. No re-registrations will be taken the week of September 15<sup>th</sup> (first week of classes). All late re-registrations must be brought to the Religious Education Office after September 18<sup>th</sup>. Please call to schedule an appointment.**

### **Celebrate August – August 15**

#### **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)**

Today we celebrate the Fourth Glorious Mystery of the Rosary. The Church infallibly teaches that Mary, the Mother of Jesus, was assumed – or taken up – body and soul into heaven at the end of her life.

**Celebrate this beautiful event in the life of our Blessed Mother by attending Mass – as it is also a Holy Day of Obligation!**



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 **TODAY, Sunday, August 11<sup>th</sup> 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, prayer and Make Your Own Ice Cream Sundaes!!! **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.

### **ADULT CONFIRMATION**

Our Parishes will again offer preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation of adults beginning in January 2020. These preparation sessions are for adults {18 or over} who are Baptized Catholic and who have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, and for whatever reason have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Those who present themselves for the Sacrament will have an initial interview and then begin sessions to last for 10 sessions, and will be confirmed during the Easter Season. This Program is free of charge. The Program generally meets for sessions at the convenience of the Candidates. The session topics center on the Sacrament of Confirmation and Church teaching.

Parishioners please pass this information on to your family, friends and neighbors.

Please call the Religious Education Center at 973-948-7004 for any questions you might have, leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

May the Peace of Our Lord Be With You,  
Patricia Hope and Alex Sousa,

Co-Coordinator for the Adult Confirmation Program

### **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

C.L.O.W. is set to resume again in September. While we still have many weeks of Spring and Summer to enjoy, I would respectfully ask that during that time all parishioners prayerfully consider ministering at C.L.O.W. Training is given at the volunteer's convenience. Support is provided during C.L.O.W. We welcome all Confirmed teens to serve as Lector and/or as Hospitality Minister. You will be prepared to serve in these positions. Preparation would be at your convenience. Please call the Religious Education Office at 973-948-7004 for further information and your call will be returned just as soon as possible.

Adult parishioners are welcome to serve as Lector, Hospitality Minister and/or as Lay Leader. You also will be prepared to serve in any of the above mentioned positions at your convenience. Please call the Religious Education Office at 973-948-7004 for further information.

During C.L.O.W., Ministers prepare so that the children will have a positive experience, that the children may come to know and love the Liturgy of the Word, and that they come to understand the Rites and Symbols. Our prayers that the children will grow closer to Jesus with this opportunity of Children's Liturgy.

Prayerfully consider serving the children of the Parishes.

All are welcome and needed!

In His Peace, Patricia Hope,

Coordinator for Children's Liturgy of the Word.

### **From the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the joy-filled responsibility of the entire faith community. As a community of faith, we are called to encourage others to become fully initiated Catholics. Each of us, as followers of Jesus, are called to be both a hearer of the Word and a doer of the Word. Get involved in spreading the message of God's Word! Exercise your faith! Now is your opportunity. Be a motivator of another on their journey of faith. As a doer of the Word, you will become more aware of how God is present and active in your life each day.

Have those you motivate call the Religious Education office at 973-948-7004, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

### **Columbiettes**

The Columbiettes will be collecting school supplies for deprived students starting on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be a basket in the Gathering Space for donations from parishioners. Suggested supplies are notebooks, pens, pencils, rulers, backpacks, folders, crayons, etc. They will be distributed to students in need throughout our state through Catholic churches and shelters.

### **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.

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

## 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, August 11, 2019**

**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

6:00p.m. Youth Group Mtg. at O.L.Q.P. (till 8pm)

**Monday, Aug. 12**

**Tuesday, Aug. 13**

10:00a.m. STC St. Thomas Bikers' Gang

10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

**Wednesday, Aug.14**

**Thursday, Aug. 15**

**Feast of the Assumption of Mary**

8:00 a.m. Mass at St. James

9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas

7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Thomas

**Friday, Aug. 16**

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

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

**Saturday, Aug. 17**

**Sunday, August 18, 2019**

**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

All Masses: Columbiettes School Supply Collection

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**Next Sunday's Readings: 20<sup>th</sup> Ord.**

1st Reading: *Jeremiah 38: 4--6, 8--10*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 40*

2nd Reading: *Hebrews 12: 1--4*

Gospel: *Luke 12: 49--53*

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### **An Early Reflection on the Assumption:**

*"It was fitting...that the most holy-body of Mary, God-bearing body, receptacle of God, divinized, incorruptible, illuminated by divine grace and full glory...should be entrusted to the earth for just a little while, and raised up to heaven in glory, with her soul pleasing to God."*

--Theoteknos of Livias, *Homily on the Assumption*  
c. 650 A.D.

**Welcome Fr. Robert Kimbalala, of the Diocese of Kayanga, Tanzania.** Fr. Robert is representing his diocese in the **Missionary Co-operative Plan** which our diocese sponsors each August. He is speaking at all the Masses, and the second collection today is taken up for the support of his diocese.

The Diocese of Kayanga was created by Pope Benedict in 2008. It is located in the extreme north-western corner of Tanzania, in East Africa. Electricity and running water are for the most part unknown. There are no paved roads, and many of them are impassable during the rainy season. The Gospel was introduced to this about 100 years ago, and the Church has taken root. About 66 % of the population is Catholic.

With this great growth of the faith goes the need for priests to minister to the faithful. This new diocese has been blessed with many young people who seek to train for the Priesthood. A great challenge comes from a lack of funds to meet the needs of proper training. A great fundraising project is being undertaken to raise money to support seminarians, who will be the near-future leaders and evangelizers of the Church of Africa. Our donations will help to strengthen the Church, and bring the Good News of the Kingdom to much more of the population of East Africa.

**The Feast of the Assumption** celebrates the sacred occasion when our Blessed Mother closed her eyes for the last time on this earth, only to open them in the next world. According to our faith, Mary did not experience death as corruption of the body, but rather was escorted—body and soul—into the Kingdom of Heaven. There she was crowned as Queen of Heaven and Earth. Her title as Mother of God comes from the fact that she brought forth into the world Jesus, the Son and equal of God the Father. We honor her with this **Holy Day of Obligation on Thursday**. Masses will be: **8 a.m. at St. James; 9 a.m. at St. Thomas and 7 p.m. at St. Thomas.** May the blessed Mother's intercession bring us also into God's direct presence in heaven.

**FORMED.org** A wealth of movies, audio C.D.'s, Study Programs available to you free as a parishioner. Simply go to our parish website [saintjamestomas.org](http://saintjamestomas.org). At home page, scroll down to FORMED banner to register.