

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

Surrender and Accept Jesus' Invitation to: *The Banquet*

Jim Browne, a famed Irish speaker, will be returning once again. He will speak about how to navigate the road of recovery from any obsessions, unwanted habits, and compulsions that may be keeping you from getting closer to Jesus. With his use of scripture based teachings, he invites you along his faith filled journey through the darkness and into the light of Divine Mercy, Jesus Christ. His deep faith, quick wit, and his insightful gifts will keep you wanting more. This retreat is designed for those who long for a deeper relationship with Jesus. Join us and be confident of God's healing mercy on your body, mind, and soul.

Tuesday, Sept. 24

Rosary: 8:00am

Holy Mass: 8:30am

Retreat: 9:45am-5:00pm

Wednesday, Sept. 25

Rosary: 8:00am

Holy Mass: 8:30am

Retreat: 9:45am-5:00pm

Cost of Retreat:

\$85.00 (per person)

Includes breakfast of coffee and pastry and Lunch both Tues. and Wed.

Space is limited, please pre-register early to secure your spot

Detailed program will be provided upon arrival

Location:

St. Paul's Abbey 289 US-206, Newton NJ, 07860

To register please contact:

Mary Anne Condit (cell) 973-219-3352 or (email) maryannecondit@gmail.com

Rosemarie Veliz (cell) 973-903-9456 or (email) rveliz187@gmail.com

Louise Crann (cell) 973-903-5029

**Overnight accommodations are available:
for \$50 per night at St. Paul's**

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 1, 2019

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Gene & Rosalie Mauro at the
Request of their Family

SATURDAY, September 7

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

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 8

8:00AM – Mike Spinapolice
req. by Linda & Michael Spinapolice

11:30AM – Barbara Gioielli
req. by her Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,074.00 – Regular Collection – August 25, 2019

\$ 351.00 – Online Giving

\$ 906.00 – Regular Collection – August 26, 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.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Jerry & Judy Wainwright at the
Request of the Wainwright Family

MONDAY, September 2

9:00AM – Patricia Vesper
req. by Joan, Barbara & John

TUESDAY, September 3

9:00AM – John Kerrigan
req. by the Gorman Family
-Intentions of Angela & Jim Gorman
Wedding Anniversary
req. by the Gorman Family

WEDNESDAY, September 4

9:00AM – Kelly Nicole and Intentions of her Family
req. by Tony & Alicia Batko

THURSDAY, September 5

No Mass

FRIDAY, September 6

9:00AM – Intentions of Ed & Rose Burke
Marriage Blessings
req. by the Gorman Family

SATURDAY, Vigil, September 7

4:30PM – Edward & Eleanor Stukane
req. by the Wainwright Family

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 8

9:30AM – Glen Lawrence
req. by the Yarosz Family

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,578.00 – Regular Collection – August 25, 2019

\$ 438.00 – Online Giving

\$2,075.00 – Regular Collection – August 26, 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.

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.

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.

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Agnes Ciesielski, Bill & Teresa Mantini, Shirley Strong, Jen Vaughn and Ricky Wunder



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*



Registrations for 2019/2020 Catechetical Year

Re-registrations for children and teens in **grades 1 through 10 were due back by July 31st 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.

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



CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2019

On Saturday, September 14th and Sunday, September 15th, the Church celebrates Catechetical Sunday. The 2019 theme is **"Stay With Us."** Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth and commissioned for their ministry. The parents will also be blessed for their **very essential role in forming their children in the Catholic faith.**

We ask your prayer and support for all of our Parents, Catechists and Aides. In particular, we welcome all of our First Graders and any new families that are joining us. It is our hope and prayer that as a part of our parish family, and through the sacraments, personal prayer, deeper knowledge of the Faith and our witness to the Gospel, we may all grow in love for the Lord and further the evangelizing mission of his Church.

In a special way, please keep in your prayer the following men and women of our parishes who have selflessly devoted themselves to the ministry of catechesis and share the faith of the Catholic Church with the adults, families, teens and children of our parishes for so many years: Rita Straka (13 yrs.), Marie Mendez (8 yrs.), Patrice Kealy (11 yrs.), Chris Higgins (4 yrs.), Stephanie Pierson (3 yrs.), Sharon Falchetta (3 yrs.), Mike Bussow (14 yrs.), John Lucadamo (14 yrs.), Dan and Lucy O'Keefe (4 yrs.), Alex Sousa (6 yrs.) and Patricia Hope (32 yrs.). That's a total of 112 YEARS!!! (And as I regularly attend Diocesan CRE/DRE meetings and gatherings, I can tell you that this is very unheard of in many places – **we are very blessed here with such love and commitment**). Thank you all for this beautiful gift to our parishes! Also, it is with tremendous gratitude that we thank Cathy McNanna for 22 years of service to our children and families! She will be "retiring" from weekly catechesis but we know we can still count on her when needed. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel and it is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

Why do we have a special day set aside to commission catechists? Catechesis is a distinct and special ministry in the Church. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church makes clear, "Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the Church's life . . . her inner growth and correspondence with God's plan depend essentially on catechesis" (no. 7). This ministry of teaching in the name of the Church has a profound dignity, which is why catechists are formally commissioned by the Church. It is only fitting that we set aside a day to highlight this ministry and invite the entire church community to think about our responsibility to share our faith with others.

How are parents, the primary catechists of their children, recognized on Catechetical Sunday? Parents are truly the primary catechists of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. On Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of catechists in parishes and schools but we also commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation. This is why the right of blessing of catechists used on Catechetical Sunday includes a blessing of parents and guardians.

Celebrate September ~ Sept. 3 - St. Gregory the Great

Pope Gregory I was a monk who did not want to be pope, but he accepted God's will. He made several liturgical changes to better engage the faithful and focused on helping the poor in many ways. *Pope St. Gregory I, pray for us!*



Prayer Shawl Ministry Prayer Shawl/Rosary Makers Ministry

We will begin our ministry again on Monday, September 16th. We meet at the Msgr. James Gacquin Youth and Religious Center on the first and third Mondays of the month from 11:00AM until 1:00PM and are always ready to welcome new members!

Columbiettes

The Columbiettes are collecting school supplies for deprived students until Sunday, September 15th. There is 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.

From the R.C.I.A.: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Are you, or someone you know, interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church? Explore your interest through the R.C.I.A. ---- 'Come and See'. When Jesus was approached by those who wanted to become His disciples, Jesus invited them to "....come and see". Walk with us. Learn who we are, then make your decision to become Catholic, a disciple of Jesus. If you have thought about the R.C.I.A. before, and passed on the opportunity, now may be the time that the Holy Spirit has chosen for you. The R.C.I.A. is a time for you and your needs and concerns. It is a journey in faith and a time to slow down to enjoy the journey. 'Come and See' by calling the Religious Education office at 973-948-7004, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

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

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.

St. James Christmas Bazaar

It is never too early to start thinking about the **December 7, 2019** St. James **Christmas Bazaar!** We will be accepting donations after the **October 19, 2019** St. James **Spaghetti Dinner**. We will be looking for donations of time and talent from bakers, crafters, volunteers and those just editing some nice but unwanted items from their homes. Please mark your calendars and call Linda Spinaplice 973-293-7031, Joan Henn 973-293-3690 or Maria Henn 973-293-3243 for more information.

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, September 1, 2019

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, Sept. 2

Labor Day

9:00 a.m. STC Mass for Blessing of Human Labor

Tuesday, Sept. 3

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

10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

Wednesday, Sept. 4

Thursday, Sept. 5

Friday, Sept. 6

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

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

Saturday, Sept. 7

Sunday, September 8, 2019

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Next Sunday's Readings: 23rd Ord.

1st Reading: *Wisdom 9: 13–18b*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 90*

2nd Reading: *Philemon 9–10, 12--17*

Gospel: *Luke 14: 25--33*

Sanctuary of Mary: Re-opening Ceremony

All are invited to the **Re-opening and Dedication** of the Sanctuary in Branchville. (252 Wantage Ave.) **The Vocationist Fathers of Florham Park** have taken over the premises, and will be making available Mass, Confessions, counseling, Bible studies, Retreats and more. **Bishop Serratelli** will be present as this new phase of Fr. Livolsi's Sanctuary takes shape. After the Re-dedication and ground-breaking ceremony, a light reception will follow. The date is **Saturday, Sept. 7 at 12 Noon**. To attend, simply R.S.V.P. at 973-560-1155 or info@sanctuaryofmary.org

Labor Day is a good chance to reflect upon what we do for much of our lives. Our work actually shapes us and in large part describes us. It is also one of the ways in which we are made in the image and likeness of God. (Genesis chapters 1 and 2 describe God at work.)

Join us for a special **Mass for the Blessings of Human Labor**, tomorrow **Monday, Sept. 2nd at 9 a.m. at St. Thomas**.

A Labor Day Prayer.

God our Father, work is Your gift to us, a call to reach new heights by using our talents for the good of all. Bless the work we have begun, make good its defects, and enable us to complete it in a way that pleases You. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hospice Volunteers. The **Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice Network** is now seeking help in their hospice work, and are offering a six-class training course, free of charge. The dates are: Wed. Sept. 11, Fri. Sept. 13, Tues. Sept. 17, Fri. Sept. 20, Wed. Sept. 25, with Graduation on Fri. Sept. 27th **All classes are held 10 a.m. – 12 Noon at the Joseph T. Quinlan Bereavement Center, 5 Plains Rd. Augusta, N. J.** Course topics include:

- * Presentations from a hospice nurse, a social worker, a bereavement counselor and a chaplain.
 - * Ways to support others and ourselves when faced with terminal illness
 - *The social, emotional, spiritual and physical needs of the dying person and their family
- Upon completion, participants are Certified Hospice Volunteers.

For more info call: Sue Dougherty, 973-383-1117.

Paper Shredding Services. The **Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice, at 99 Sparta Ave, Newton**, is sponsoring this service. Confidential documents will be professionally shredded on-site for \$ 6.00 per grocery bag. You will also be supporting the work of the Hospice. In our area. Dates are: **Sat. Sept. 14th and Sat. Nov. 9th, from 9 a.m.—12 Noon**, rain or shine. For more info call 973-383-0115.

Sign on a classroom bulletin board:

Your work says much about you. Autograph your work with excellence.