

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

One at a Time

Lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus.

Luke 16: 20

How many times do you think the rich man walked past Lazarus every day ? Yet it's as if the man never really saw him; he was little more than part of the landscape. The rich man just accepted Lazarus' presence as a fact of life.

The rich man in Jesus' parable dies and ends up in torment in the netherworld. But it's not simply because he was rich. It's because he didn't care for this other human being who was, in a way, part of his daily life.

We all know that being a Christian mean caring for the less fortunate. There are so many needy people out there, that we can feel overwhelmed. And besides, most of us are not policy experts with the know-how needed to lift people out of poverty. Even if we gave away all of our possessions, it would hardly make a dent.

It's helpful, then, to remember that Jesus didn't have some grand strategy for solving the problem of poverty either. He just reached out to people, one by one. If the rich man in Jesus' parable had done the same thing by caring for the beggar at his door, his life might have ended up much differently.

That's where we can start too—by helping one person at a time, especially those whom we encounter as part of our daily lives. If every person did that, think about how many people would be reached !

Remember too that God wants you to help those people who may not be lacking in material goods but are still 'poor.' As Saint Teresa of Calcutta said: "There are many people in the world dying for a piece of bread, but there are many more dying for a little love." Your care and presence for these people are just as important.

At Mass today, ask the Lord to open your eyes to someone who may be at your 'door,' without you even realizing it. You can make a real difference.

Jesus, show me the 'Lazarus' in my life who needs my help.

--from: *The Word Among Us*
September 2019

(P. S. *The Bishop's Annual Appeal* also helps people on our behalf.)

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 29, 2019

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns for the
Intentions of Dale M. Briegel at the
Request of his Mom

SATURDAY, October 5

8:00AM – Cécile St-Pierre Bordeleau
req. by Steve & Rosemarie Babey

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 6

8:00AM – Kate Olivo
req. by her Family

11:30AM – Thomas Thiessen
req. by Gerry Thiessen

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 845.00 – Regular Collection – September 22, 2019

\$ 371.00 – Online Giving

\$ 186.00 – Energy Collection

\$1,431.00 – Regular Collection – September 23, 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.

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 Spinaplice at 973-293-7031.

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

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

Anyone can visit the Facebook page for The Parishes of St. Thomas the Apostle & St. James the Greater:

<https://www.facebook.com/StJamesThomas/>

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Bernie, Grace & Mike Reich at the
Request of Jim & Diane Campbell

MONDAY, September 30

9:00AM – William Pagano
req. by Jim & Sue Calvert

TUESDAY, October 1

9:00AM – Rosemarie Bastian
req. by her Family

WEDNESDAY, October 2

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

THURSDAY, October 3

No Mass

FRIDAY, October 4

9:00AM – Intentions of Dale M. Briegel
Birthday Celebration
req. by his Mom

SATURDAY, Vigil, October 5

4:30PM – Shirley June Reiley
req. by Emrick & Luann Seabold
-Mary Keane
req. by Harry & Mary Dunleavy

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 6

9:30AM – Rose Fazio
req. by Frances Demalderis
-Joseph Slisz
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,669.00 – Regular Collection – September 22, 2019

\$ 538.00 – Online Giving

\$2,945.00 – Regular Collection – September 23, 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.



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*



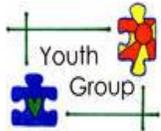
Registrations for 2019/2020 Catechetical Year

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.



Sacramental Sign-In Books

The children and teens who are preparing for the Sacraments of First Eucharist (**grades 1 & 2**) and Confirmation (**grades 7 – 10**) are asked to sign in at Mass each week. These Binders (**Red – Conf. Class / White –FE Class**) will be kept in the back of BOTH churches. Joyful participation in the weekly Celebration of the Eucharist as well as on Holydays of Obligation is a requirement for the reception of these sacraments. It is also expected of all faithful Catholics!!!



Catholic Teens

Catholic Teens is a Youth Group for teen parishioners from St. James, St. Thomas and Our Lady Queen of Peace. It is open to **7th through 12th graders** and will meet again

today, Sunday, September 29th from 6:00PM until 8:00PM at OLQP in Branchville. Two weeks ago, we had an awesome first meeting with Father Phil and many teens and also had a great discussion about the future plans of the group. Please come down to the Youth Group for an evening of faith, fun and friendship! 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.

Sacramental Preparation Parents Session

Our first Parent Session for all who have children preparing to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist next Spring (2nd grade) will take place on **Monday, September 30th at 7:00PM in the Msgr. James Gacquin Youth and Religious Education Center.** Our pastor, Father Wayne, along with our catechist, Marie Mendez, will be speaking to you regarding this very important year for your child. It is imperative that at least one parent be present at this meeting.



The Holy Rosary and S'mores

On Monday, October 7th, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, we will be praying the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary at the Grotto on the Great Lawn of St. Thomas then enjoying S'mores after. Please plan to join us to pray for your family and for world peace!



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer Shawl/Rosary Makers Ministry

Our ministry will meet again on Monday, October 7th. 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!

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal

"For I Was Hungry..."

While there are many ways to donate to the Annual Appeal, there is one option unique to people who are 70½ or over and have an IRA. If you are in this category, the IRS requires you to take a required minimum distribution from your IRA each year. As a result, this distribution is added to your taxable income and increases the amount of taxes owed to the government. However, instead of taking your required minimum distribution, you can instruct your IRA investment manager to donate this distribution to a charity such as the Bishop's Annual Appeal and this automatically omits this amount from your adjusted gross income. This tax benefit can be realized by all qualifying individuals, whether you take the standard deduction or itemize your deductions. This can be a significant benefit to you and a great way to support the work of the Bishop's Annual Appeal. For more information, call the Bishop's Annual Appeal office at 973-777-8818, ext. 218. *If you are considering making a charitable donation using your IRA required minimum distribution, please be sure to first discuss this with your financial or tax advisor to make sure it is right for you.*

From the C.L.O.W.

Children's Liturgy of the Word has resumed. All children grade 6 and lower are welcome to participate in C.L.O.W. Older children with younger siblings are also welcome at the 9:30AM Mass at St. Thomas. Dates for C.L.O.W. can be found on the website and in the bulletin.

Confirmed adults are welcome to participate as lay presider, lector and hospitality minister. Please call the Religious Education Office at 973-948-7004 for further information. Thank you in advance!

In His Peace, Pat Hope – Coordinator for C.L.O.W.

From the R.C.I.A.

Thus far, no one has registered for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Therefore, we will offer on certain Sundays after the 9:30AM Mass at St. Thomas topics for adult education. These are the topics that are also on the R.C.I.A. calendar. The dates and room can be found in the bulletin and on the website. Should you need further info, please feel free to call the Religious Education Office at 973-948-7004.

We look forward to being with our fellow parishioners for these informal topic talks.

Peace, Pat Hope and Alex Sousa – Co-Coordinators

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 Spinapolicce 973-293-7031, Joan Henn 973-293-3690 or Maria Henn 973-293-3243 for more information.

THE FAMOUS ST. JAMES ANNUAL SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL

DINNER will be held on **Saturday, October 19th** at 6:00pm. Bring your own drink. Take-outs available. Adults: \$12.00, Children under 12:\$6.00, Children under 6: Free. Tickets will be available after 8:00am and 11:30am Masses on September 22 & 29, October 6 & 13, by calling Mike Spinapolicce at 973-293-7031 or by emailing wjr218@optonline.net. Sit-down tickets will be limited to 100.

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 **Wednesday nights from 6:15 to 7:15pm** for 8 weeks **starting on October 9** 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 8 week session for only \$40.00 or pay per class for \$6.00. 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, September 29, 2019

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 9:30 a.m. STC C.L.O.W.
- 9:30 a.m. STC Mass & Faith Sharing--Conf. I
- 10:30a.m. STC R.C.I.A.
- 3:00 p.m. STC Healing Service
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group at O.L.Q.P., Branchville

Monday, Sept. 30

- 7:00 p.m. REC Parents Sacrament Prep Mtg.

Tuesday, Oct. 1

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

Wednesday, Oct. 2

- 4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 3, 4 & 5

Thursday, Oct. 3

Friday, Oct. 4

- 10:00a.m. STC Adoration of Bl. Sac. (till Noon)
- 10:00a.m. STC Legion of Mary Mtg.

Saturday, Oct. 5

- 4:30 p.m. STC Mass & Faith Sharing --Conf. II

Sunday, October 6, 2019

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 a.m. SJC Coffee Hour (after Mass)
- 9:30 a.m. STC C.L.O.W.
- 9:30 a.m. STC Mass & Faith Sharing--Conf. I
- 9:30 a.m. STC Coffee Hour (after Mass)
- 10:30a.m. STC R.C.I.A.: Liturgical Year, Rosary

Next Sunday's Readings: 27th Ord.

- 1st Reading: *Habakkuk 1: 2–3; 2: 2--4*
- Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 95*
- 2nd Reading: *2 Timothy 1: 6--8*
- Gospel: *Luke 17: 5–10*

Port Jervis Area Life Chain. Sunday, October 13, from 1:00 till 2:30 p.m. along East Main St. Witness to the sanctity of human life.

“Jesus Heals” Healing Service. All are invited to experience the healing powers of Jesus, for their mind, body and spirit. A Healing Service will be held **this afternoon at St. Thomas, beginning at 3 p.m.**

There will be an explanation of Jesus’ healing powers today, along with Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. This will be followed by a Sprinkling and Renewing of our Baptismal promises; then prayers for individual healing. Reconciliation (a healing of the spirit) will be available. Join us and receive the healings and blessings that Jesus wishes to offer you.

Silver & Gold Anniversaries.

Congratulations to our married couples who are celebrating **their 25th or 50th wedding anniversaries** this year ! You are an inspiration to all of us.

Bishop Serratelli would like to honor you at a special **Mass for Silver and Gold Couples on Sunday, Nov. 3rd at 3:30 p.m.** The Mass takes place at the newly renovated St. John’s Cathedral in Paterson.

We invite you to attend this Mass by filling out the **application** you will find in Church, and then submitting it to our parish office, where Rosemarie will submit your info on-line. You will then receive an invitation from the Diocese. The **deadline to register is: Oct. 15.** Guests are invited to attend with the jubilarians. We hope that you will join with the other married couples in this joyous occasion within our Diocese.

2019 Public Square Rosary Crusade. Our nation is in great need of public prayer, repentance and conversion. You are invited to join this Rosary Crusade on **Saturday, October 12 at either of two locations:**

Port Jervis, N.Y.: A **Rosary Procession** begins at 11:30 a.m. from the St. Mary’s parking lot, down Ball St. and up Sussex St. to Orange Square. **Rosary Rally begins at 12 Noon.**

Milford, PA.: The **Public Square Rosary Crusade** begins at **12 Noon** at the **Milford Courthouse**, 410 Broad St. Contact Marie Biel at 570-686-4637 for more info.

Here are two simultaneous opportunities to express our faith. Both ask God to save America through the power of the Rosary.