

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

Right to Life Month

Needed Now, More Than Ever

(Here is an E-mail, sent from the Respect Life Office of our Diocese. It helps explain why every Catholic must pray--and work--to end the evil of abortion in our nation.)

Dear Friends in Christ,

This year, October 6, 2019 is celebrated nationwide as Respect Life Sunday. The theme is carried out for the entire month of October --**“Christ Our Hope in Every Season of Life.”** We must always remember that we are a people of life. We believe that all life is sacred from birth to natural death.

Some Unforeseen Aberrations of Roe vs. Wade.

With the passage of *Roe vs. Wade* in 1973, abortion on demand became the law of the land. Since then, there have been 61 million abortions performed.

The status of this law today has been manipulated to perform abortions to:

1. Select the sex of the baby.
2. Eliminate babies with Downs Syndrome.
3. Sell body parts of the baby for profit.

4. Allow a law known as "The Infanticide Bill"--that a baby who survives an abortion will **not** receive any medical care but just put into a closet until the crying stops and he or she is dead. Adding insult to injury is the fact that the lawmakers who recently passed this law actually cheered when it was passed. Did condemning a baby to death warrant such a celebration? When did we become so callous?

It is interesting to note that these same people are against capital punishment. Recently a certain lawmaker wanted a law passed to protect kittens who were part of a research project be spared euthanasia, but this same person voted for "infanticide." Another lawmaker wants to make it illegal to declaw cats, but he is also for "infanticide." Logic cannot explain this distortion of thinking.

Some Biblical Quotes remind us that our life is a special gift from God, as the prophets tell us:

The Prophet Jeremiah 1:5-6 tells us: *"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you."*

The Prophet Isaiah 49:15-16 says: *"Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child in the womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you. See, upon the palm of my hands I have written your name."*

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI adds to our special worth when he says, *"We are not some casual meaningless product of evolution. Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary."*

We must continue to hope and pray that one day everyone will recognize the precious gift of life that God has given us and to treat it with respect and dignity.

God bless you all,

Mary Mazzarella, M.D.

(Dr. Mazzarella has been the Director of the Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Paterson since 2007. She is a graduate of the University of Rome Medical School, Rome Italy; she has practiced General Pediatrics for 25 years in Nutley, N.J.; she the medical consultant for two future saints: Bl. Miriam Demjanovich and a Brother Marinus O.S.B. from St. Paul's Abbey, Newton.)

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
October 13, 2019

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Kenneth R. Benson at the
Request of his Family

SATURDAY, October 19

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

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
October 20

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

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

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,616.00 – Regular Collection – October 6, 2019
\$ 251.00 – Online Giving
\$1,801.00 – Regular Collection – October 7, 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.

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



We ask your continued prayers for the following men and women of our parish who are serving our country in the Armed Forces: Brandon Heimall, Nicholas and Karissa Kealy, Joseph Mannion, Hunter Olenick, Christopher & Ana Sarao, Nicole Sarao, Peter Spinks and James Orr.

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 Kazimiera Szwajkiewicz at the
Request of John & Maria Babon

MONDAY, October 14

9:00AM – Intentions of Paula Dell Aquila and Mary Bradley
req. by Toni France

TUESDAY, October 15

9:00AM – Father Gerald Lewis
req. by Mary Flexer

WEDNESDAY, October 16

9:00AM – Kelly Nicole
req. by her Family

THURSDAY, October 17

No Mass

FRIDAY, October 18

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

SATURDAY, Vigil, October 19

4:30PM – Helen Salza and Gloria Shope
req. by the Flexer Family

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 20

9:30AM – Kelly Nicole
req. by the Catechists of St. Thomas & St. James

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,992.00 – Regular Collection – October 6, 2019
\$ 788.00 – Online Giving
\$2,241.00 – Regular Collection – October 7, 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*

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.



Prayer Can Be Just Talk

This month's Gospels focus a lot on prayer. Sometimes, we worry about what would be the best kind of prayer to say in certain situations. The next time you, or your family, wonder what prayer to say, just talk to God from your heart. He loves to listen to what you want Him to hear.

Traditionally, Catholic prayers fall into four types:

Adoration: Praising God, **Contrition:** Asking for God's forgiveness, **Petition:** Asking God for a favor and **Thanksgiving:** Showing God gratitude.



Catholic Zoomers

Catholic Zoomers 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, October 13th from 6:00PM until 8:00PM** at OLQP in Branchville where we will be planning a Trunk or Treat Event with a Haunted House! They will also be having their first fundraiser – "Fr. Phil's Dill's" (pickles which they made at the last gathering) for sale after the Masses that weekend for \$10.00 a quart.

All of our Confirmation Candidates are encouraged to please come down to the Youth Group for an evening of faith, food, fun and friendship! For more information, please call Mary Flexer at 862-268-1876.



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!!!



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer Shawl/Rosary Makers Ministry

We will gather again this month on Monday, October 21st. 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!

The Columbiettes are presenting the annual Cancer Ribbon Wall which is on display in the gathering space. Please stop by the parish office if you wish to purchase a ribbon in your loved one's honor. A Cancer Research Jar is available for donations.

The Columbiettes are sponsoring a Yankee Candle Fundraiser. All orders must be in by **October 20th** with payment to the **Columbiettes**. There is a table in the gathering space with the ordering folders. Please take one if you would like to order. They make beautiful gifts.

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 Spinapolice 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 Spinapolice 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 6:00 to 7:00pm** for 8 weeks and **started 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, October 13, 2019

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:00 p.m. Youth Group at O.L.Q.P.

Monday, Oct. 14

Tuesday, Oct. 15

10:00 a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 1 & 2

Wednesday, Oct. 16

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

6:00 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

Thursday, Oct. 17

Friday, Oct. 18

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

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

Saturday, Oct. 19

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

4:30 p.m. STC Pot Luck Supper after Mass

6:00 p.m. SJC St. J. Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner

Sunday, October 20, 2019

29th 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 Church Tour Gr. 2 & Parents

10:30a.m. STC R.C.I.A. Topic: Saints, Souls,
Angels (all welcome)

11:00a.m. STC Columbiettes Mtg.

Next Sunday's Readings: 29th Ord.

1st Reading: *Exodus 17: 8--13*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 121*

2nd Reading: *2 Timothy 3: 14--4: 2*

Gospel: *Luke 18: 1--8*

"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ."

--St. Jerome, 347--420 A.D.

Port Jervis Area Life Chain. Today, **October 13, from 1:00 till 2:30 p.m. along East Main St.** Parking available in lots. Signs will be furnished. Witness to the sanctity of human life.

Women's Bible Study at O.L.Q.P. Queen of Peace Church is inviting all ladies to join them in their Bible Study course: *"Unleashed: How to Receive Everything the Holy Spirit Wants to Give You."* It is a 12-week series based on the book by Sonia Corbitt. Learn how the Spirit speaks through both the positive and painful circumstances of our lives, our relationships, and His Word. **Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.; October thru Dec. 17.** No cost, except purchase of the book. Each session includes a 30 min. DVD presentation by Sonia Corbitt, then discussion, prayer and fellowship. For more info call Maria Albanese, 973-570-7984.

Diocesan Women's Conference. This annual event will be held at St. Paul's Inside the Walls, 205 Madison Ave, Madison. Entitled *"Feminine, Faithful, Fearless,"* the date is Sat. Dec. 7th. For more info: call 973-377-1004.

Medjugorje is a place of great mercy and miracles in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where **the Blessed Mother is said to be appearing daily to six visionaries since June of 1981.** Over 50 million people have visited this holy site In May of this year Pope Francis officially authorized pilgrimages to Medjugorje

A pilgrimage is being planned from our area, for late Sept. or early Oct. 2020. Lodging will be in a modern retreat facility near the home of Ivan Dragicevic, one of the visionaries.

The exact dates for the trip will be provided only to the travelers this October, five days before they are announced to the general public. This offers a much better chance to secure our places on this trip, which typically sells out extremely fast.

Contact Patrice Kealy at 973-534-1722 as soon as possible for more info. and questions. You will be placed on the list of pilgrims to be notified when the exact dates are firmed up.

On-Line Giving. gives you one less thing to fret about. Simply reach our parish website, **saintjamestomas.org**. You will find the link to on-line giving. Follow it through and it will easily set you up for weekly or monthly contributions. With our thanks.