

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



The Secret Ingredient of Sainthood or Steps to a Joyful Heart by Fr. John Catoir

The following is a synopsis of a retreat I gave to the deacons and their wives in the Diocese of Paterson. It is also a synopsis of the content found in my books and videos over the last 25 years.

Joy is the gift of the Holy Spirit, which is given freely to anyone who asks, but it needs to be developed through practice, the same way a musically gifted person must practice playing his or her instrument. To be joyful—you must will it every day.

St. Francis of Assisi said, “If you want to bring people closer to God, teach them how to be happy.” Here are the steps to a joyful heart:

Jesus explained His mission in these words: “*I have told you all these things* (namely to love, to forgive and to serve) *so that my joy may be in you, and your joy may be complete.*” (John 15: 11) Jesus first directs us to be loving and kind, knowing that joy always follows a loving heart.

Saint Pope John Paul II restated the same idea: “Christ came to bring joy: joy to children, joy to parents, joy to friends and families, joy to the sick and elderly. Jesus came to bring joy to all people; indeed joy is the keynote message of Christianity, and the recurring motif of the Bible. Go therefore and become messengers of joy.”

We are all called to be messengers of joy. The Supreme Law enables us to do that: Love God with your whole heart, and love your neighbor as you love yourself. In other words, ask God to help you to be a good and decent person, and then learn to be your own best friend.

Cling to God, think of others, and don't put yourself down. Those who lack the discipline necessary to reject needless fear will not be able to control their emotions. Choose joy over gloom. The thoughts you allow yourself to think, will in turn create the emotions you will have to live with day in and day out. Do not perpetuate sadness.

Joy is the by-product of loving service. Be kind to yourself. Trust God, and dismiss fear as a total waste of time. When you practice the art of being your own best friend, you will no longer indulge the foolish habit of being your own worst enemy.

Love leads to service. And service, in turn, leads to sacrifice. Sacrifice often leads to the cross. Love enables you to embrace the cross with courage, because it will free you from self-absorption.

Smile more and frown less. You can create a joyful heart, even in dark times, by simply choosing to be joyful.

If you are truly wise, you will choose Jesus Christ as your guide to eternal joy. After that: then choose mental health as an all-important goal in life.

St. Thomas Aquinas wrote: “If you want to be a saint, will it !” He understood that the center of the personality is in the will. The will has only one function: to say ‘yes’ or ‘no.’ Say ‘no’ to thoughts that make you sad and fearful; say ‘yes’ to thoughts that lift up your spirit.

To choose joy is to cleanse your mind of needless fear. Refer often to the words of Jesus: “*Fear is useless; what you need is trust.*”

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
October 27, 2019

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Orvil D. Jackson at the
Request of his Family

FRIDAY, All Saints, November 1

8:00AM – Cordelia Cafone
req. by her Family

SATURDAY, November 2

8:00AM – Charlie Lombaerde
req. by his wife, Carol

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
November 3

8:00AM – Anne Esposito
req. by her Family

11:30AM – Lou & Helen Briegel
req. by their Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 773.00 – Regular Collection – October 20, 2019

\$ 261.00 – Online Giving

\$ 873.00 – Regular Collection – October 21, 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 Dale R. Briegel at the
Request of his wife, Rosemarie

MONDAY, October 28

9:00AM – Kate Olivo
req. by her Family

TUESDAY, October 29

9:00AM – Dale R. Briegel
req. by his son, Dale

WEDNESDAY, October 30

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

THURSDAY, October 31

No Mass

FRIDAY, All Saints, November 1

9:00AM – Louise Flexer
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer
7:00PM – Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary
req. by the Legion of Mary

SATURDAY, Vigil, November 2

4:30PM – William Pagano
req. by Edmund & Nicolina Bush
-Frank Duff
req. by the Legion of Mary
-Intentions of Abigale Lodema
req. by Nancy Lodema

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
November 3

9:30AM – Rose Fazio
req. by Loretta & Ron Winde
-Intentions of Joanna Brzozowski
req. by John & Maria Babon

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,165.00 – Regular Collection – October 20, 2019

\$ 443.00 – Online Giving

\$2,085.00 – Regular Collection – October 21, 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.

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.

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.

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*

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



Celebrate October

Each year on October 31st, we celebrate Halloween. The word "Halloween" actually comes from the words "All Hallows (holy) Eve". The night we celebrate Halloween is the night before the Christian Feast of All Saints, November 1st, a special day of honoring God's holy saints.

Back in the Middle Ages in Europe, people came together for parties, meals and prayers on All Hallows Eve. They would come dressed up as their favorite saint. They might come dressed up as St. Peter, St. Joseph, St. Francis, St. Monica or the Blessed Mother, etc. Eventually, someone came up with idea of coming dressed as the devil instead of a saint. The devil would demand a treat, or he would play a trick. This began the "scary" part of Halloween. As years went by, people would come out dressed as ghosts, vampires and witches.

So, today, we have many, many costumes to dress up in on Halloween. Enjoy the evening, stay safe, but remember: it all started as a way of honoring the saints in heaven!

Trunk or Treat

All children are invited to "Trunk or Treat" at Our Lady Queen of Peace **TODAY, Sunday, October 27th from 6:00-8:00PM**. There will be decorated car trunks, crafts, games, snacks and a "Haunted Hall" put together by our Catholic Teens Youth Group. Prizes for every child dressed as Saint!!!



Catholic Zoomers

Our next gathering will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish **TODAY - Sunday, October 27th from 3:00PM until 8:00PM**. There will be "Trunk or Treating" for children from 6:00-8:00PM. Our youth group teens are asked to bring Halloween items from home to create a Haunted Hall for the older kids!!! Supper will be served. Also, the commitment form for the trip to NYC must be turned in that day. All of our Confirmation Candidates are encouraged to participate in this Catholic teen group as often as possible.



Information was sent home with your children about **Sundaes with the Saints on Friday, November 1st at the 7:00PM Mass at STC**. We are asking all children in grades 1-6 to attend Mass dressed as a Saint. Participation forms must be returned to class this week! Immediately following Mass, we will give our parishioners a chance to meet some of the well known and maybe not so well known Saints of the Catholic Church and then enjoy a delicious Ice Cream Sundae. This beautiful feast day is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. (Confirmation Candidates are encouraged to help out too for service hours).

Sacramental Preparation Parents Session ~ Reconciliation

Our 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, November 11, 2019 at 7:00PM in the Msgr. James Gacquin Youth and Religious Education Center**. Sr. Theresa Kelly from the Sacred Heart Center, will be speaking to you regarding this very important sacrament for your child. It is imperative that at least one parent be present at this meeting.

Adult Continuing Formation:

All adult parishioners are invited and encouraged to meet at St. Thomas after the 9:30 AM Mass on November 3rd in the Father Lewis Center for discussion on The Creed. This is an informal gathering and an opportunity to further explore our Catholicism. Participation is at your comfort level. Discussion will be led by Alex Sousa and all are welcome.

In His Peace, Pat Hope

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal "For I Was Hungry..."

The Bishop's Annual Appeal helps support the significant cost associated with the education of our seminarians for the priesthood in our Diocese – such as years of room, board, tuition and other related expenses. Your gift today helps prepare our seminarians for the future. For your convenience, you can make an online gift or pledge at www.2019appeal.org. May God bless you for your support!

November Wall of Remembrance

If anyone wishes to add a photo, please submit to the parish office as soon as possible.

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.

St. James Christmas Bazaar

It is never too early to start thinking about the **December 7, 2019 St. James Christmas Bazaar!** We are now accepting donations. We are 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 Spinapolicie 973-293-7031, Joan Henn 973-293-3690 or Maria Henn 973-293-3243 for more information.

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!

The St. James Spaghetti Dinner Committee would like to thank everyone who supported our annual dinner. The food was delicious, and a good time was had by all. We sold 121 adult tickets and 1 child ticket. All food and materials were donated by committee members, so there were no expenses for the dinner. We turned over a profit of \$2,000.00 to Father Wayne.

We would like to specifically thank Bill & Valerie Ricciardi, Bill & Joan Henn, Mike & Linda Spinapolicie, Art & Maria Henn, Brianne Olenick, Albert Helms, Harry Cole, Dan Meshnick and Dory Hankins. Special thanks to Paul Hartmann, Rena Esposito and Franklin Davidson of Price Chopper.
Bill Ricciardi

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 27, 2019

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

After All Masses: *Christians of the Holy Land*

-- Olive wood statues, crosses, objects

3:00 p.m. STC 'Jesus Heals' Healing Service

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

“Trick or Trunk or Treat”

Monday, Oct. 28

Tuesday, Oct. 29

10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

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

Wednesday, Oct. 30

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

6:00 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

Thursday, Oct. 31

All Hallows Eve

Friday, Nov. 1

Feast of All Saints

8:00 a.m. SJC Mass of All Saints

9:00 a.m. STC Mass of All Saints

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

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

7:00 p.m. STC Mass of All Saints, then: **All Saints**

Social: “Sundaes with the Saints” All Welcome

Saturday, Nov. 2

All Souls' Day

8:00 a.m. SJC Mass of All Souls

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

Sunday, November 3, 2019

31st 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

10:30a.m. STC R.C.I.A. Topic: The Creed
(all welcome)

“Jesus Heals” Healing Service. All are invited to experience the healing powers of Jesus, for their mind, body and spirit. Healing Service will be held **today, Sunday at St. Thomas, 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), and Counseling (a healing of the mind) will be available. Join us and receive the healings and blessings that Jesus wishes to offer you.

Olive Wood crosses, rosaries, statues and other objects are on display **today** in the Fr. Lewis Center and the Church Hall of St. James, courtesy of the **Christian of the Holy Land**. They are with us this week-end, displaying these items for sale, to help their fellow Christians back home. Please take the time to browse through the tables, and consider making purchases—and get some of your Christmas shopping done early.

Feast of All Saints. One of the happiest occasions on our Church calendar has to be **All Saints Day**. The whole Church celebrates those members who have already achieved the highest goal of this life: Heaven and Sainthood. These countless numbers of people have lived lives pleasing to God while on this earth. Now they have the everlasting reward of His presence and protection for all eternity. Among them, we pray, are our loved ones who have passed on. And we hope to share their joy this day—with the hope of joining them eventually in God's Kingdom. With all of this, **the Church declares this Friday, November 1st to be a Holy Day of Obligation.** Masses for this day will be celebrated at these times: **8:00 a.m. at St. James**

9:00 a.m. at St. Thomas

7:00 p.m. at St. Thomas followed by:

Sundaes with the Saints. All are welcome.

Mass of All Souls follows on **Sat. Nov. 2nd**. It is not a holy day of obligation, but begins a month of remembering our deceased loved ones, and of pondering our own death—when the Lord calls us. The **Mass of All Souls will be held at St. James Church at 8:00 a.m.** Join us as we pray for our loved ones--with the Christian hope of seeing them again.