

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

Foiled Again !

“He is not the God of the dead but of the living.”

--Luke 20: 38

It's clear that the Sadducees were trying to trip up Jesus when they presented the hypothetical (and ridiculous) situation of a woman who was married to seven brothers over her lifetime. The Sadducees were an influential group who thought that their strict adherence to the first five books of the Bible (the Law of Moses) left no room for belief in the resurrection of the dead. They thought that presenting such a scenario to Jesus would stump Him—and give them reason to accuse Him of blasphemy.

But Jesus turned their question around and used it to *affirm* the promise of the resurrection. Those “*deemed worthy ... to the resurrection of the dead*” won't be married in heaven, He told them. They will be like the angels—immortal (Luke 20: 35–36). Quoting from the Law of Moses, He said that God would not call Himself “*the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob*” unless these patriarchs were also living, “*for to Him all are alive.*” (Luke 20: 38).

This is indeed Good News ! Even though we will all one day experience physical death, we will still be alive to God. How could we not be ? At our Baptism, the immortal and eternal God came to live in us. When we are striving to live our faith, not even death can separate us from God. Someday, when Jesus comes again, He will raise our bodies to new life as well.

The more we hold fast to these truths, the less we will fear death. Rather than looking at it as an ending, we will view it more as a passageway into a new and better life.

This doesn't mean that we won't feel some apprehension or anxiety about dying. After all, we really don't know what heaven will be like. But we can choose to trust in God's promises. We can believe that if we follow the Lord today, our tomorrow will be brighter than we can possibly imagine.

**Jesus, thank you for destroying death
so that I might live forever.**

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

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
November 10, 2019

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Richard W. Pullis at the
Request of his Family

SATURDAY, November 16

8:00AM – Susan Sheaffer
req. by her Family

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
November 17

8:00AM – Deceased Members of the Columbiettes
req. by the Columbiettes

11:30AM – Richard Gray
req. by his wife, Peggy
-Deceased Members of the Columbiettes
req. by the Columbiettes

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,727.00 – Regular Collection – November 3, 2019

\$ 396.00 – Online Giving

\$1,719.00 – Regular Collection – November 4, 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 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.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns for the
Intentions of Ann Benson at the
Request of her sister, Rosemarie

MONDAY, Veteran's Day, November 11

9:00AM – Veterans of our Parishes, Living & Deceased

TUESDAY, November 12

9:00AM – Intentions of Ann Benson
Birthday Celebration
req. by her daughters, Lisa & Laura

WEDNESDAY, November 13

9:00AM – Intentions of Katelin & Damien Jensen
req. by their Grandparents

THURSDAY, November 14

No Mass

FRIDAY, November 15

9:00AM – Clare Barcia
req. by her Family

SATURDAY, Vigil, November 16

4:30PM – Deceased Members of the Columbiettes
req. by the Columbiettes
-Catherine Pizzuto
req. by Harry & Mary Dunleavy

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
November 17

9:30AM – Edward Lodema
req. by his wife, Nancy
-Deceased Members of the Columbiettes
req. by the Columbiettes

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,191.00 – Regular Collection – November 3, 2019

\$ 813.00 – Online Giving

\$2,402.00 – Regular Collection – November 4, 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*

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

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



Kids Questions—Who Wrote the Bible?

The bible is God's word. In order for people to understand, humans translated God's message into a language we could read. Some of these people include Moses, Paul, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. God wants us to read Sacred Scripture (another word for the Bible) so we can learn about God and what he wants for us.

At Mass, we hear readings from the Bible during the Liturgy of the Word. There are usually two readings, the Gospel (another reading) and a prayer (responsorial) from the Book of Psalms.

Catholics also use Sacred Tradition to stay on the path God wants for us. Sacred Tradition is God's Word handed down from the Apostles to all the faithful, even to today, through the Church's teachings and the Sacraments.

Celebrating November Saints

Nov. 13 – St. Frances Xavier Cabrini was the first United States citizen canonized. She founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and spent her life caring for the poor and educating immigrants to the United States. In Mother Cabrini's honor, pray for immigrants around the world. St. Frances Cabrini, pray for us!



Catholic Zoomers

Our next gathering will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish **TODAY, Sunday, November 10th from 5:00PM until 8:00PM**. We will once again be making Father Phil's Dills (Pickles) to fulfill orders taken and to sell remaining jars. All of our Confirmation Candidates are encouraged to participate in this Catholic teen group as often as possible.

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 9:30AM Mass on November 17th in the conference room for discussion on the Season of Advent. This is an informal gathering and an opportunity to further explore Catholicism. Participation is at your comfort level. Discussion will be led by Pat Hope and all are welcome. In His Peace, Pat Hope

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!

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

With the help of funding from the Bishop's Annual Appeal, Nazareth Village, our diocesan priests' retirement residence, has been a home over the years for a number of our priests. These priests reside there while also serving parishes by celebrating Mass. The Appeal also helps in providing financial support for the extraordinary healthcare needs of our priests. Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal is a concrete way to recognize the wonderful pastoral work of those priests who have dedicated many years of faithful service to our Church. Please make a gift to the Annual Appeal today as a way of showing thanks. For your convenience, you can make an online gift or pledge at www.2019appeal.org.

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

November Wall of Remembrance

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

The Columbiettes are sponsoring a campaign for parishioners to offer one million Hail Mary's for the salvation of souls. If you wish to be a part of this, please write down how many Hail Mary's you have said on the sheets of paper provided. Your name is optional. You may also email your tally to hailmarysforsos@gmail.com. Thank you.



A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 10, 2019

"May the Lord Jesus Christ himself and God his Father who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word. Finally, brothers and sisters, pray for us, so that the word of the Lord may speed forward and be glorified, as it did among you, and that we may be delivered from perverse and wicked people, for not all have faith."

'Encouragement' is the key word in the teaching of St. Paul. Our pilgrimage, our journey has been undertaken, not alone, but with others who walk with us. As one might slip or fall, we are there to help them regain their footing. As others succeed we rejoice in their good fortune. That is what Christians do. We support and strengthen each other.

Paul asks for prayer, the foundation stone we all can use to build the body of Christ. Even when we see shortcomings or failure in our church, it is Christ who loves us, offering hope. I can listen to Paul and be the source of encouragement, or criticize and do nothing to resolve the many issues which confront us. Criticism can correct, but also can destroy.

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, November 10, 2019

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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

Monday, Nov. 11

Veteran's Day

7:00 p.m. REC Parents Mtg. 1st Reconciliation

Tuesday, Nov. 12

10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

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

7:00 p.m. STC Adoration & Rosary with K of C

7:30 p.m. STC K of C Monthly Mtg.

Wednesday, Nov. 13

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

6:00 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

Thursday, Nov. 14

Friday, Nov. 15

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

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

Saturday, Nov. 16

8:30 a.m. SJC Clean Up Day at St. James

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

Sunday, November 17, 2019

33rd 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. Topic: Season of Advent
(all welcome)

11:00a.m. STC Columbiettes Mtg.

Next Sunday's Readings: 33rd Ord.

1st Reading: *Malachi 3: 19—20a*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 98*

2nd Reading: *2 Thessalonians 3: 7--12*

Gospel: *Luke 21: 5--19*

"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ."

--St. Jerome, 347—420 A.D.

Pie Tasting Event. Our Knights of Columbus are hosting this irresistible, first-time event on **Sunday, Nov. 24th beginning at 11:00 a.m.** There will be a "Homemade Pie Contest." We are asking all bakers to enter your homemade pie specialties—two of the same pie: one for tasting, and one that can be purchased. Just in time for Thanksgiving! Pie entry forms are available after Mass, or by calling the Parish Office. Tickets for tasting will be \$ 5.00. Plan to join us for this scrumptious experience!

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service. Plan to join with our fellow Christians for our Annual Thanksgiving Service. This year the **Minisink Reformed Church** is our host. **The date is Monday, Nov. 25. Service begins at 7:00 p.m.** Pastor Joanne of the Delaware Valley United Methodist Church will deliver the message. You are asked to bring a donation of canned goods for the food pantries of our churches. Refreshments will follow the Service. Join with our Christian neighbors in thanking the Lord for His countless blessings.

Right to Life March. This annual march in Washington D.C. to protest the many assaults on life, especially pre-born life, will take place on **Friday, Jan. 24, 2020.** Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Branchville will be running **two buses:** 1) will leave the day before and will be an overnight trip enabling all to attend the Youth Rally for Life and the Special Mass for Life, with numerous Cardinals, Bishops and Priests; 2) will be the traditional one-day trip, leaving early on the morning of the 24th, to Washington for the March for Life. For more info call O. L. Q. P. parish office at 973-948-3185 ext. 1

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.

FORMED.org can help you learn more about our faith: lives of the saints, doctrines, history, current issues of our faith. Free to you as a parishioner. Simply go to our parish website: **saintjamestomas.org**. At the home page, scroll down to the FORMED banner to register. Recommended by FORMED: Listen: "*St. Frances Cabrini*" (Feastday: November 13)