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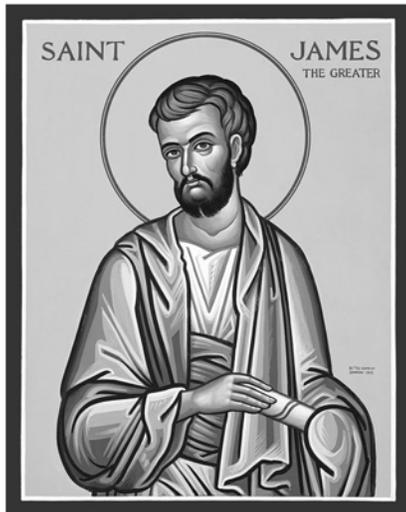
St. James the Greater

75 River Road
Montague, New Jersey



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

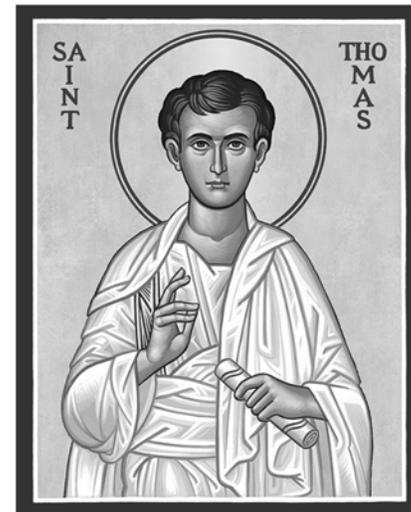
E-mail ----- stjamesthomas@aol.com

Website ----- saintjamesthomas.org

Rectory ----- 973-293-7582

Office Hours

Monday - Friday ----- 8:30 am - 2:30 pm



Welcome

Father Wayne Varga, *Pastor*
Mr. Wayne von Doehren, *Deacon*
Mrs. Mary Flexer, *CRE*
Mrs. Rosemarie Briegel, *Parish Secretary*

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.

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.

MASS SCHEDULES

St. James

Sunday: 8:00 am & 11:30 am

Saturday: 8:00 am

St. Thomas

Saturday: 4:30 pm (*Vigil*)

Sunday: 9:30 am

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday &

Friday: 9:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:20 pm or by appointment

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN (CCD)

Phone: 973-948-7004

Religious Education/Youth Office and classes are located at the Msgr. Gacquin Youth/Religious Education Center, 122 Layton-Hainesville Rd, Sandyston (*mail should be sent to parish office address listed above*)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

(September through April)

At St. Thomas the Apostle Church as part of the 9:30 am Mass.

Adoption Services

Adoption@CatholicCharities

The Schools of The Catholic Academy of Sussex County

973-729-6125 ext. 225

Rev. George A. Brown School
(Pre-K to Grade 4)

Pope John XXIII Middle School
(Grade 5 to 7)

Pope John XXIII High School
(Grade 8 to 12)

 Facebook/StJamesThomas



**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS (excerpts) FOR THE FIRST
WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY (25 July 2021)**

“I am with you always”

*Dear Grandfathers and Grandmothers,
Dear Elderly Friends,*

“I am with you always” (Mt 28:20): This is the promise the Lord made to his disciples before He ascended into heaven. They are the words that He repeats to you today, dear grandfathers and grandmothers, dear elderly friends. *“I am with you always”* are also the words that I, as Bishop of Rome and an elderly person like yourselves, would like to address to you on this **first World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly**. The whole Church is close to you—to us—and cares about you, loves you and does not want to leave you alone!

I am well aware that this Message comes to you at a difficult time: the pandemic swept down on us like an unexpected and furious storm; it has been a time of trial for everyone, but especially for us elderly persons. The Lord is aware of all that we have been through in this time. He is close to those who felt isolated and alone, feelings that became more acute during the pandemic.

Even at the darkest moments--as in these months of pandemic--the Lord sends *angels* to console our loneliness and to remind us: *“I am with you always”*.

At times those angels will have the face of our grandchildren, at others, the face of family members, lifelong friends or those we have come to know during these trying times, when we have learned how important hugs and visits are for each of us. How sad it makes me that in some places these are still not possible! ...

For grandparents and the elderly, **our vocation is to preserve our roots, to pass on the faith to the young, and to care for the little ones**. Never forget this, whether you still work or not, whether you are alone or have a family, whether you became a grandmother or grandfather at a young age or later, whether you are still independent or need assistance. **There is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel and handing down traditions to your grandchildren.**

At this crucial moment in history, you have a renewed vocation. I want to tell you that you are needed in order to help build, in fraternity and social friendship, the world of tomorrow: the world in which we, together with our children and grandchildren, will live, once the storm has subsided. All of us must take an active part in renewing and supporting our troubled societies. Among the pillars that support this new edifice, there are three that you, better than anyone else, can help to set up. Those three pillars are ***dreams, memory and prayer***.

The prophet Joel once promised: *“Your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men will have visions”* (3:1). The future of the world depends on this covenant between young and old. Who, if not the young, can take the dreams of the elderly and make them come true? Yet for this to happen, it is necessary that we continue to dream. Our dreams of justice, of peace, of solidarity can make it possible for our young people to have new visions; in this way, together, we can build the future. ... You need to show that it is possible to emerge renewed from the experience of hardship. I am sure that you have had more than one such experience: in your life you have faced any number of troubles and yet were able to pull through. Use those experiences to teach the young how to pull through now.

Dreams are intertwined with *memory*. I think of the painful memory of war, and its importance for helping the young to learn the value of peace. Keeping memory alive is a true mission for every elderly person: keeping memory alive and sharing it with others. Without memory, we will never be able to build; without a foundation, we can never build a house. And the foundation of life is memory.

Finally, *prayer*. Pope Benedict once said: “The prayer of the elderly can protect the world, helping it perhaps more effectively than the frenetic activity of many others.” Your prayer is a very precious resource: a deep breath that the Church and the world urgently need.

Dear grandmother, dear grandfather, dear elderly friends, may each of us learn to repeat to all, and especially to the young, the words of consolation we have heard spoken by the Lord: *“I am with you always!”* Keep moving forward! May the Lord grant you His blessing.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 25, 2021

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns for the
Intentions of Parishioners of St. James

SATURDAY, July 31

8:00AM – Ralph Gioielli
req. by his Grandchildren

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 1

8:00AM – Rev. Msgr. Eugene M. Boland

11:30AM – Joan Spoolstra
req. by her Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 673.00 – Regular Collection – July 18, 2021

\$ 269.00 – Online Giving

\$ 63.00 – Catholic Communications

\$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.

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.



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 the parish office.
Pray the Family Rosary



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, Mikey Heimall, Nicholas and Karissa Kealy, Ryan Kowal, Joseph Mannion, Hunter Olenick, Christopher & Ana Sarao, Nicole Sarao, Marissa Snook, Peter Spinks and James Orr.

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

John Adamsky, T.J. Albert, Ellen Bilofsky, Agnes Ciesielski, Maria Colletti, Barbara Connolly, Joan Costa, Bill Fulton, Gerry Gacquin, Patricia Harrington, Erin Hockenberry, Anil Jain, Tony & Jodi Lupo, Teresa Mantani, Dolores Menzella, Joshua Murch, Richard Nowicki, Michael Paino, Deacon Joe Roder, Ginny Sabia, Brian Scarpone, Shirley Strong, Jen Vaughn, John Veres, Jr., Tarra Wagner, Casandra Westbrook and Ricky Wunder

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns for the
Intentions of Parishioners of St. James

MONDAY, July 26

9:00AM – Alan Stuart
req. by the Heimall Family
-Intentions of the Grandparents and the
Elderly of the Parishes

TUESDAY, July 27

9:00AM – Special Intention
req. by Dawn-Anne Fugger
-Andy Marczi
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer

WEDNESDAY, July 28

9:00AM – Daniel Barr and Margaret Mannhaupt
req. by their Goddaughter, Mary Flexer
-Healing Intentions of
Angela Eirring and Ryleigh
req. by Frances Demalderis

THURSDAY, July 29

No Mass

FRIDAY, July 30

9:00AM – Intentions of Matthew Dunn
Birthday Celebration
req. by his Family

SATURDAY, Vigil, July 31

4:30PM – Paddy Dunleavy
req. by Mary & Harry Dunleavy

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 1

9:30AM – August K. Eberhardt
req. by his Family

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,969.00 – Regular Collection – July 18, 2021

\$1,226.00 – Online Giving

\$ 282.00 – Catholic Communications

\$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.**



Registrations for 2021/2022 Catechetical Year

Re-registrations for children and teens for the upcoming catechetical year were sent out by mail with registrations to be returned by August 15th.

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, First Holy Eucharist or Confirmation 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.



A Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly

Almighty God. Thank you for my grandparents and all those other loved elderly in my life. I love spending time with them. They always make me feel special and are always excited to see me. Please bless them with good health and strength. Protect them from harm and keep them happy and safe until I see them again. When I miss them, help me to remember all the fun times we have when we are together. Help me to always be grateful for them and to always pray for them. I ask these prayers in Jesus' name. Amen.



Catholic Zoomers Are Back!!!

The Catholic Zoomers Youth Group for 7th through 12th graders of Our Lady Queen of Peace, St. Thomas the Apostle and St. James the Greater Parishes is resuming again **TODAY**, Sunday, July 25th from 6-8pm at OLQP in Branchville with a BBQ and Campfire. Come down and meet the new Youth Minister, Ms. Monica Condit, and enjoy the friendship and fun!!! For more information, please call Mary Flexer at 862-268-1876.



Vocation Vacation ????

As we joyfully take pleasure in the summer, we hopefully will find time to relax and enjoy time with family and friends. This is part of what makes summertime fun and believe it or not, still a time for spiritual growth. Our vocation – being called to holiness (when properly understood, is nothing short of healthiness and happiness in their truest sense) – should never be on vacation! Our path to holiness always leads to Jesus Christ through His sacraments. Please make the worship, praise and thanksgiving to God at the Holy Mass part of your weekly summer plans. While you are away visiting or on vacation, take the opportunity to attend Mass at the local parish. It may even become your “second parish” if you travel to the same place each year! It is also a great chance for your children to see the beauty of other churches, but also realize that the Mass is the same everywhere! Remember – God is NEVER on vacation from us – doesn't He deserve the SAME from us?

GOD IS NEAR



TO ALL WHO CALL

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 25, 2021

“I... urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness and patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace.”

As we look around, building construction is booming. One gets torn down and another replaces it. May we use Paul's virtues as the building blocks for reconstructing our own spiritual lives. All of us, through baptism have received a special call. We, in the words of Pope Francis, have had our own personal encounter with Him.

The virtues of humility provide the foundation to get started, as the Lord is number one in our lives and we depend totally upon Him. Gentleness assures others of a welcome into our circle of faith. Patience, He tells us, is a fruit of the Spirit dwelling in us, and with the other fruits provide the direction we need. It is not always easy to forgive, but why hold on to something which we don't need. A wise spiritual person taught me, 'not forgive and forget', but remember without bitterness. If unity is absent, work to put it there resulting in peace for yourself, and for others.

This can be the blueprint for building our spiritual lives and growing with the Lord.

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, July 25, 2021
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Grandparents' Day

Monday, July 26
Feast of Saints Anne & Joachim

Tuesday, July 27
10:00a.m. STC Bikers' Gang
1:00 p.m. STC Bible Study

Wednesday, July 28

Thursday, July 29
10:00a.m. STC Mom & Tots Group

Friday, July 30

Saturday, July 31

Sunday, August 1, 2021
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

* * * * *

Next Sunday's Readings: 18th Ord.

1st Reading: *Exodus 16: 2–4, 12--15*
Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 78*
2nd Reading: *Ephesians 4: 17, 20--24*
Gospel: *John 6: 24--35*

* * * * *

FORMED.org Simply go to our parish website:
saintjamesthomas.org. At the home page, scroll down to the FORMED banner to register (first time) or login (each time after).

Suggestions from FORMED:

Listen: "[How to Keep Your Kids Catholic](#)"

In a heartfelt and truly practical presentation, former Baptist minister Ken Hensley reveals effective strategies to help keep our kids within the fold of the Catholic Church. Drawing upon personal experience and centuries of Catholic spiritual wisdom, his insights set us on the road to effective and successful parenting.

Congratulations to All Grandparents.

Pope Francis has recently announced this new celebration within the Church. It is meant to honor and recognize the crucial role of grandparents in the lives of their grandchildren. The date will always be the last Sunday of July, the Sunday closest to the Feast of Saints Anne and Joachim, the grandparents of Jesus.

Grandparents are often the ones to keep the link of faith alive within their families. We pray today that you will be effective in handing down our precious Catholic faith to your grandchildren.

The Blessed Sacrament.

Another sign of returning to church devotions is our re-instituting of **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**. It is a chance to spend some quiet time with the Lord in Church. **Fridays, at St. Thomas, after the morning Mass** (approx.. 9:45 a.m. till 12 Noon.) If you can come at a specific time, then please consider signing up for a half-hour on our Friday morning schedule, to ensure that someone is with the Blessed Sacrament at all times.

Bikers Gang.

Join us each **Tuesday morning, at 10 a.m.** at the front door of St. Thomas, as we take off for a bike ride through the local countryside. We usually return around 12 Noon. Trips are about 12 – 15 miles. All men and women are welcome to join us. No sign-up or registration. Just come !

Bible Study.

Get to know the **Gospel of Mark** better as we gather to study this earliest Gospel more closely each week. We gather at **1 p.m. each Tuesday afternoon in the Father Lewis Center at St. Thomas**. Lesson and discussion continue till 2 p.m. Refreshments are always served. Try it out and contribute your insights into St. Mark's Gospel.

Moms & Tots

get together at **St. Thomas Church, Thursdays, 10 a.m. till 12 Noon**. It's a chance for Moms to talk to other adults, and for kids to interact and share. All Moms and Tots are welcome, even if not from St. James or St. Thomas Parishes. Please call or text message Rachel Mayer at 862-268-5193 if you would like to join us ! We have a **text message chain** to confirm which Thursdays we are meeting. We hope to see you and your little ones there !

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