

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.

Welcome -We Are a Tithing Parish



What is the Fortnight for Freedom?

The "Fortnight for Freedom" is 14 days of prayer, education and action for religious freedom in the United States and around the world. It will take place from June 21 to July 4, 2016. The theme of this year's Fortnight is "Witnesses to Freedom." During this time, the Church's liturgical calendar celebrates a series of great martyrs who remained faithful in the face of persecution: St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher, St. John the Baptist, Sts. Peter and Paul, and the First Martyrs of the Church of Rome.

--from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

For several years now, the U. S. Catholic Bishops have been sponsoring this two-week call to prayer and vigilance. It is meant to remind all Catholics and Christians of the inalienable right we have to worship, and also to have our values compete in the town square. We cannot settle for simply praying in our churches. Our Christian heritage and moral fabric have much to contribute to shaping the culture around us. Secular forces attempt to shut up the Church within the walls of its buildings; we must insist of having a voice in public affairs.

Beginning on June 21, we will be offering this prayer at all Masses. Pray it yourself at home each day, so that you may be in union with the Catholic faithful throughout the nation.

Prayer for the Protection of Religious Liberty

O God our Creator, from your provident hand we have received our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. You have called us as your people and given us the right and the duty to worship you, the only true God, and your Son, Jesus Christ. Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society.

We ask you to bless us in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty. Give us the strength of mind and heart to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened; give us courage in making our voices heard on behalf of the rights of your Church and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith.

Grant, we pray, O heavenly Father, a clear and united voice to all your sons and daughters gathered in your Church in this decisive hour in the history of our nation, so that, with every trial withstood and every danger overcome— for the sake of our children, our grandchildren, and all who come after us— this great land will always be "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
June 26, 2016

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of John Cerra at the
Request of his Children

SATURDAY, July 2

8:00AM – Mavis Kaufman
req. by her Family

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 3

8:00AM – Joe Urban
req. by Carol Lombaerde

11:30AM – Arthur & Elsie Bastian
req. by their Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 952.00 – Regular Collection – June 19, 2016

**\$ 300.00 – South American & Latin American
Missions & Overseas Relief**

\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$1,189.00 – Regular Collection – June 21, 2015

Consider a gift to St. James Parish in your will.

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*

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Margaret Accordino, Mary Cunico, Derya Dimertas, Rachel Gibbs, Mary Guimes, Barbara Haggerty, Carmen Howell, Clara Kane, Jeff Librizzi, Betty Mastrelli, Sandy Matthews, Brian McKenna, Cathy Moyer, Danielle Parker, Marguerite Phillips, Flo Puccio, Baby Teddy, Jen Vaughn, Lorraine Verga, Tarra Wagner and Thomas Walsh

St. James Rosary & Altar Society If any ladies in the parish are interested in joining, please call Joan Henn at 973-293-3690 or Linda Spinapolicie at 973-293-7031.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Muriel Kennel at the
Request of her Family

MONDAY, June 27

9:00AM – Harry Lynch
req. by Gail Del Grosso

TUESDAY, June 28

9:00AM – William McNamara and William Lange
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer
-Intentions of the Legion of Mary
req. by the Legion of Mary

WEDNESDAY, June 29

9:00AM – Timothy Yarosz
req. by his Mother
-Holy Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY, June 30

No Mass

FRIDAY, July 1

9:00AM – Mildred Walker
req. by Pat Farrell & Alan Quick

SATURDAY, Vigil, July 2

4:30PM – Bill Decker
req. by Russ Spinks
-Jerry & Judy Wainwright
req. by the Wainwright Family

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 3

9:30AM – Edna Cosman
req. by Dave & Marion
-Intentions of John O'Connor
req. by Mary Flexer

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,939.00 – Regular Collection – June 19, 2016

**\$ 385.00 – South American & Latin American
Missions & Overseas Relief**

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$2,149.00 – Regular Collection – June 21, 2015

Consider a gift to St. Thomas Parish in your will.



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.



Registrations for 2016/2017 Catechetical Year

Re-registrations for children in Grades 2-8 for the upcoming catechetical year were mailed. Please return all registrations by July 15th to avoid the late fee.

Parents of children entering first grade, new children to the parish, 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.

Confirmation registrations will be mailed out shortly.

From the R.C.I.A.

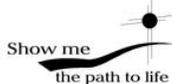
The Catholic Church continually welcomes new members. The **R**ite of **C**hristian **I**nitiation of **A**dults {R.C.I.A.} is the Church's process of welcoming new adult members.

The R.C.I.A. is the experience through which the Catholic community:

- ❖ Baptizes new adult members
- ❖ Assists present adult members who want to complete their initiation through the reception of the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist
- ❖ Receives those adults from another faith tradition who want to be members of the Catholic Church.

R.C.I.A. is an adult faith sharing process which begins every September. To have your questions answered, you are invited to call the Religious Education office at 973-948-7004 and leave your name and number for a return phone call.

St. James Annual Picnic will take place on Saturday, **July 23rd**. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$7 for children under 12 years of age. Tickets are on sale after each Mass. Please contact Betsy Gardner to help or for any questions at 845-858-7892 in the evenings please.



A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time June 26, 2016

"As they were proceeding on their journey someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.'...And to another he said, 'Follow me.'...And someone said 'I will follow you Lord, but...' 'To him he said, 'No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God.'"

How often we hear the expression of a 'Wake up call.' Sometimes it is reflected in a health emergency, a financial crisis or family need. We are shaken from our routine and respond to an important need.

During the summer months our pace often slows, a more relaxed way of living takes over – vacation, diversion, rest. The scriptures today can call for a change. As Jesus turns and begins His journey to Jerusalem, well intentioned persons commit themselves to accompany Him. They do so with reservation. The little word 'but' gets in the way. The sense of urgency of a disciple is weakened, as the challenge of discipleship is sounded. Pope Francis has designated all of us as 'missionary disciples.'

My journey today is based upon my encounter and relationship with Jesus. His call continues, the urgency of building the kingdom is real and repeated today. I ask myself, 'what does it mean to make the promise to 'follow' Him?

2016: St. Thomas 75th Anniversary Year 1941-2016

Anniversary items are in and ready for sale. Travel mugs with the 75th anniversary logo are now available for \$5 each. Also available are anniversary logo magnets for \$4 each. Items are for purchase before and after the 4:30pm and 9:30am Masses. Grace Reich also has the items available. Be the first to celebrate the occasion of St. Thomas' 75th Anniversary!!

Good Deed Journaling. All parishioners are invited to make note of the good deeds they perform during the course of the day. There are little notebooks on the table in the Gathering Space. Please take one and use it as a personal diary to record the good deeds you perform for the Lord each day. You may surprise yourself. These notebooks are for your personal use only, and can be a wonderful offering to the Lord of your time well spent for His honor and glory.

Calling all "Vintage People"

Perhaps you have great memories of the Catholic Church and the America of our youth. We ask if you would like to share a memory or two with all of our parishioners as we celebrate our 75th year. Please pick up a blue sheet of paper in the gathering space.

Senior "Vintage" Memories – On the 4th of July each year at our park, the boys decorated their bikes and the girls their doll carriages with red, white and blue crepe paper and paraded around the track. Candy and peanuts were then showered upon the children from the viewing stand and pony rides were free!

St. Thomas History – Father Sharkey was here briefly. Rev. Francis B. Warlikowski succeeded as Administrator and resided at St. Bartholomew's where the first floor parlor with a bay window was a Chapel. In Nov. 1945, the newly constituted Parish "pleno jure" of St. James the Great was added. He was then appointed Pastor and made a director of the Catholic Youth Organization for Sussex County.

The Sacrament of Holy Orders

It is with great joy that we have the pleasure of announcing the ordination to the sacred priesthood of John O'Connor, son of Terrence and Janine O'Connor and a parishioner of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. John will be ordained a priest for the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest on July 7, 2016 by His Eminence Raymond Cardinal Burke in the Church of Saints Michael & Cajetan in Florence, Italy. His first Mass will be celebrated the next day at the Seminary of Grigiciano. The soon-to-be Reverend John O'Connor is the very first priestly vocation from our parish and his ordination comes exactly at the same time St. Thomas the Apostle celebrates its 75th Anniversary!!! Please keep John in your prayers over the next few weeks, and we hope to soon welcome him back to his home parish to celebrate his first Mass here.

Vendors Wanted for Flea Market

St. James the Greater Church in Montague is having their Annual Flea Market on Saturday, September 10th from 9:00AM to 4:00PM. Indoor and outdoor spaces available. Please contact Betsy Gardner at 845-858-7892 or Gardnerabstract@aol.com for questions or to reserve a space.

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, June 26, 2016

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2:00 p.m. STC St. Thomas 75th Anniv. Picnic
--on church grounds

Monday, June 27

7:00 p.m. STC New Calendar Mtg.

Tuesday, June 28

10:00a.m. STC St. Thomas Bikers Gang sets out

Wednesday, June 29

Thursday, June 30

Friday, July 1

9:00 a.m. STC Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
after Mass, till 12 Noon

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

Saturday, June 2

Sunday, July 3, 2016

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Future Events

Mon. June 27 7 p.m. STC New Calendar Mtg.

Wed. July 6 St. Thomas Founding Day Mass

--11 a.m. at Grotto (weather permitting)

--followed by light brunch in Fr. Lewis Center

Sat. July 23 St. James Parish Picnic

Sun. Aug. 28 9:30 a.m. St. T's 75th Anniv. Mass

--with Bishop Serratelli

--followed by Anniv. Brunch at High Point
Country Club

Sat. Sept. 10 St. James Indoor / Outdoor Flea
Market

Next Sunday's Reading: 14th Ord

1st Reading: *Isaiah 66: 10--14*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 66*

2nd Reading: *Galatians 6: 14--18*

Gospel: *Luke 10: 1--12, 17--20*

St. Thomas Parish Picnic Today !

Plan on joining us **this afternoon**, as we hold our Parish Picnic during our anniversary year. Picnic will be held on the Great Lawn and will include music, food, plus races and games for the kids. Fun for all. Bring a lawn chair if you'd like and spend the afternoon with parishioners and friends. Picnic is free and begins 2 p.m. and continues till ??? Bring your specialty side dish or salad, and enjoy a great summer afternoon.

St. Thomas Parish celebrated its first Mass on July 6, 1941. To mark this sacred moment, we will be having a **special 75th Anniversary Mass on that same date, Wed. July 6th at 11 a.m.** It will be held, weather permitting, at the Blessed Mother Grotto on the Great Lawn. If you're able, join us for this special moment in our parish's life. A light brunch will be served afterwards in the Fr. Lewis Center.

2017 Parish Calendar Meeting will be held on **Mon. June 27th at 7 p.m. at the Fr. Lewis Center at St. Thomas.** The new calendar will be finalized and any apparent conflicts will be resolved. It is an important meeting, and a rep from each organization of our parishes is asked to be there to aid in negotiations. Refreshments will be served.

St. Thomas Bikers Gang is on the road again. Join us on the Tuesdays of summer, right after 9 a.m. Mass. We'll be riding along the back roads as far as Peter's Valley or Walpack. We plan to be back around Noon each time. All men & women invited to join us.

Congratulations to parishioner Keaton Douglas who was interviewed recently by the Catholic radio station in our area, AM1430, "Relevant Radio." Keaton is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Biblical Studies at Seton Hall University. She is also a spiritual counselor at Straight & Narrow, the drug and alcohol rehab center, operated by the Diocese of Paterson. She was asked to give her thoughts on 'Forgiveness and Healing, in the wake of the Orlando shootings' and spoke beautifully about mercy needed in our world and in our personal lives. Also practical suggestions on how to offer mercy to others. You can hear her interview on the Internet by going to: <http://relevantradio.streamguys.us/MA%20Archive/MAN YC06-15-2016.mp3>