

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

Are You Dressed for the Occasion ?

“How is it that you came in here without a wedding garment ?”

Matthew 2: 12

According to Jesus’ parable, some who were invited to the wedding banquet said ‘no.’ They were too busy. And it seems that one man who did show up hadn’t come to honor the king’s son. He came without the proper wedding garment. He came to partake of the royal feast, but with a less-than-royal purpose.

In Scripture, the image of a wedding garment is used to represent the essential elements of our life in Christ. It is described as a garment of salvation, a garment of obedience, and a garment of purity.

Now, if we were to apply this parable to the Mass, the story might look like this: some ignored God’s invitation to worship. One man, however, came and ate the Bread of Life, but he had no intention of following Jesus. His heart wasn’t clothed in the right “garment.”

We face this question every Sunday: Have I come to the Eucharistic Feast with my heart properly dressed ? Or have I come without thinking about how eating the Bread of Life is meant to help me change my heart ? Coming properly dressed means being open to Jesus’ grace and blessing. Coming without our garment may not mean being thrown out as the man in the parable was. But it could mean losing touch with the power and love that is at the heart of the Eucharist.

Let us come to the Wedding Banquet today with a pliable heart. Let us tell the Lord that we need His Bread of Life. Let’s enjoy the food that Jesus offers us. Then let’s leave Mass determined to keep our hearts covered all day long in this wonderful garment of salvation, obedience and purity. Today and every Sunday, let’s remind ourselves that the Mass is a wonderful precursor to the great Wedding Banquet that will come when Jesus returns in glory. Let’s remember that if we keep our garment on now, we will be clothed in Christ and ready for Him at the end !

**Thank you, Jesus, for inviting me to Your Banquet.
Help me to follow You always.**

--from: *The Word Among Us*
October 2017

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
October 15, 2017**

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Emily Blickweidel at the
Request of her Family

SATURDAY, October 21

8:00AM – Gertrude & Chet Gay

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 22

8:00AM – Richard Gray
req. by Art & Maria Henn

11:30AM – Burt Meshnick
req. by the Flexer Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

**\$1,635.00 – Regular Collection – October 8, 2017 +
\$ 235.00 - Online Giving
\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need
\$1,005.00 – Regular Collection – October 9, 2016
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.**

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*

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 Spinapolic at 973-293-7031.

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Margaret Accordino, Mary Cunico, Frances Demalderis, Rozanne DeNardo, Derya Dimertias, Judy Dressie, Rachel Gibbs, Mary Guimes, Barbara Haggerty, Carmen Howell, Jennifer, David Koehler, Betty Lacovara, Angela Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Joseph Ligammari, Miriam Ligammari, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli Sandy Matthews, John Meehan, Brian McKenna, Bill Myers, Danielle Parker, Tracey Perles, Flo Puccio, Sarah Scheckner, Alex Sepiol, Infant John Antonio Seti, Pam Spencer, Joan Strehl, Baby Teddy, Michael Toth, Jen Vaughn, Lorraine Verga, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh, Joan White and Robert Woodcock

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Cordelia Cafone at the
Request of Alicia Batko

MONDAY, October 16

9:00AM – Intentions of Joseph Mesker
req. by the Gorman Family
-Intentions of Joan Strehl
For successful surgery & recovery
req. by Dan & Luisa

TUESDAY, October 17

9:00AM – William Lange
req. by the Wainwright Family

WEDNESDAY, October 18

9:00AM – Stephanie Guest-Pearson
req. by the Flexer Family

THURSDAY, October 19

No Mass

FRIDAY, October 20

9:00AM – Intentions of the Gorman Family

SATURDAY, Vigil, October 21

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

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 22

9:30AM – Deacon Joseph Malanga

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

**\$2,409.00 – Regular Collection – October 8, 2017 +
\$ 328.00 - Online Giving
\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need
\$1,977.00 – Regular Collection – October 9, 2016
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 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 2017/2018
Catechetical Year**

All late re-registrations must be brought to the Religious Education Office in order for your child(ren)/teens to begin their class. Please call to schedule an appointment.

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.



Grade 2 Church Tour ~ Our Second Grade class will meet at **St. Thomas Church today, October 15th** immediately following Mass for their Church Tour.



Catholic Teens

Our next gathering will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish **today, Sunday, October 15th, from 6:00-8:00PM**. There will be plenty of fun, games, music and prayer. Come join us and see what's going on!!!

Save the Date – Special Event- Pumpkin Carving, Painting and Campfire

Sunday, October 22nd from 6:00 – 8:00pm all **7th & 8th Graders along with High School Teens** are invited to OLQP for an evening of fun and friendship! For more information, please call Mary at 973-948-7004.



October ~ The Month of the Holy Rosary

In this month of the Holy Rosary, set aside time to pray the Rosary together as a family. This traditional, meditative prayer is a wonderful way to find calm before bedtime or to start your day. The Rosary is, at its heart, a biblical prayer, which is why Scripture verses are used for meditation with each mystery. (Taken from

Take Out ~ Family Faith On The Go. To download the prayers of the Holy Rosary, visit www.osv.com. For one free copy of their pamphlet "The Holy Rosary for Children" email takeout@osv.com.) **Thank you to all the families that came out last Friday night to celebrate the Anniversary of the Apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary and to pray the Rosary.**

St. James Christmas Bazaar – December 2

We will soon be accepting donations of new and like new items for the "Second Time Around" tables. Crafters, bakers and volunteers should also start making plans for their contributions now. If you are a crafter, baker, volunteer or just editing some nice but unwanted pieces from your home, please call Linda Spinapolic 973-293-7031, Maria Henn 973-293-3243 or Joan Henn 973-293-3690. Please mark your calendars and start planning for this exciting fundraiser now.

The Columbiettes will be sponsoring a bus trip and tour of the Knights of Columbus Museum and St. Mary's Church in New Haven, CT on Thursday, Nov. 9th. The cost is \$30 per person. Bring a bag lunch, drink & snacks to eat. We will make a short stop going and coming. We will leave St. Thomas at 7:00am and return around 7:00pm. There is limited seating, so make your reservation ASAP by calling Grace Hagerman 973-948-4360, Pat Lane 973-948-5644 or the parish office.

Hold the Date – St. Thomas Annual Bake & Craft Sale and Flea Market on Saturday, November 18th

At the present time, we are in need of CRAFTERS and VENDERS. If anyone knows of someone who would be interested in renting a table or is a crafter, please ask them to contact Deirdre at 973-948-6092. There will be a table containing donated crafts or new and slightly used items. If you have an item you love but no longer use or need and wish to donate, please contact Deirdre at the above number. Thank you.

St. Thomas Pot Luck Dinner

Please join us for the next Pot Luck Dinner after the 4:30pm Mass on **Saturday, October 21st** for an evening of friendship and comradery. A sign up sheet is in the gathering space.

Columbiettes will be sponsoring a new toy drive for Project Self-Sufficiency until Sunday, November 26th. There is a basket in the gathering space. Thank you.

Columbiettes

Tab tops from canned drinks are always welcomed.

Yoga-lates

St. Thomas is offering an Autumn 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 will be on **Tuesday nights from 6:15-7:15pm for 6 weeks starting on October 24th**. You may join us at any time. The class is easy to follow but a full body workout. Bring a mat, hand held weights (1-8lbs.), water and a friend. Join for the session for \$30.00 or pay \$6.00 per class. Twenty percent of the class money will be going to St. Thomas parish. So, please try it out and do something for yourself. Any questions, please call Chris Dube at 973-948-2329.

Parents' Night Out

Our Mom & Tot Group is currently in the planning stages of organizing a *Parents' Night Out* for parents of young children. You will have the opportunity to get together at a local restaurant with other parents while childcare (including dinner) is provided at St. Thomas Church. We are planning for a Saturday after Mass in October or November (5:30pm-7:30pm). We are currently looking for volunteers to help with the childcare, especially those with the appropriate safety clearances. Please contact the parish office or Mandi Sousa at 973-632-5536 if you are interested. If you are a parent looking for more information or to sign up, please contact Mandi at the above number.

With the passing of Grace Reich, St. Thomas is in need of someone willing to wash altar cloths used at Masses weekly. Please let Father Wayne or Mary know, if interested. More hands will make light work.

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 15, 2017

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 9:30 a.m. REC Mass & Class Gr. 6, 7, 8
- 9:30 a.m. STC 2nd Grade & Parents: Church Tour
- 2:00 p.m. REC “Catholicism” series (till 3:30 p.m.)
- 11:00 a.m. STC Columbiettes Mtg.
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group (at O.L.Q.P. till 8 p.m.)

Monday, Oct. 16

- 11:00a.m. REC Prayer Shawl & Ros. Makers’ Mtg

Tuesday, Oct. 17

- 10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings
- 4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 1 & 2
- 7:00 p.m. REC Men’s Prayer Group

Wednesday, Oct. 18

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

Thursday, Oct. 19

Friday, Oct. 20

- 9:00 a.m. STC Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
after Mass, till 12 Noon
- 10:00a.m. STC Legion of Mary Mtg.
- 10:00a.m. STC Moms & Tots Play Group

Saturday, Oct. 21

- 4:30 p.m. STC Pot Luck Dinner (after Mass)

Sunday, October 22, 2017

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 2:00 p.m. REC “Catholicism” series (till 3:30 p.m.)
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group (at O.L.Q.P. till 8 p.m.)

Next Sunday’s Readings: 29th Ord.

1st Reading: *Isaiah 45: 1, 4–6*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 96*

2nd Reading: *1 Thessalonians 1: 1–5b*

Gospel: *Matthew 22: 15–21*

Get FORMED for the fall:

www.Formed.org Unlock spiritual treasures with our Parish Code: HCVWQC

Be a Witness to Life. We have been invited to be a part of the **first-ever Port Jervis Area ‘Life Chain.’** The date is **today, Sun. Oct. 15th, from 1 p.m. till 2:30 p.m.** There will be 90 minutes of prayer and witness to end abortion and the abortion mentality in our country. It will be held **along East Main Street**, from St. Mary’s Cem. to Sullivan Ave. You can join the Life Chain at any time during those 90 minutes. Designated parking areas will be available. **October is ‘Right to Life Month.’** Join with others of many faiths and make your stand for the sanctity of human life.

St. Patrick’s Church, Milford invites us to a program of Spiritual Music, *‘Living in Gratitude!’* **next Sun. Oct. 22nd** No tickets or admission fee, but donations will be accepted for Catholic Charities USA Hurricane Relief. 100% of your donations will go directly to disaster victims. Enjoy an afternoon of music by their Deanery Choir, and donate to a worthy cause. St. Pat’s is at 111 West High St., Milford, PA.

Silver & Gold Wedding Anniv. Mass.

Couples married in 1967 or 1992 are warmly invited to celebrate your 25th or 50th Wedding Anniversary with other couples of the Diocese of Paterson. Bishop Serratelli will be the main celebrant of a special **Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist**, corner Main Ave and Grand St., Paterson. The date is **Sunday, Nov. 5th at 4:00 p.m.**

To register, simply fill out the Reg. Form you’ll find at the back of Church and return to the Parish Office by Oct. 17th. And, Congratulations !!

Adult Ed. Our DVD series *“Catholicism”* continues on the Sundays of October. It is produced by Professor (now **Bishop**) **Robert Barron**. Contains stunning photography from around the world, and valuable insights into our faith. Presented at the **Religious Ed Center**, beginning at **2 p.m.** each Sunday. Questions and discussion follow until 3:30 p.m. Plan to attend these first five sessions. The last five will take place in the spring.

St. James Parish is celebrating our 75th

Anniversary next year ! One of our projects will be to assemble a **2018 Anniversary Calendar**. To accomplish this, we are requesting photographs—old and more recent—to help tell the story of our parish. We are asking all to search through their photo albums and lend to us any photos which will help to recall our history. All photos will be scanned and then returned promptly. Photos of yourself and your family would be perfect !