

# 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](mailto:stjamesthomas@aol.com)  
Website address: [saintjamesthomas.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.postabortionhelp.org)  
**Adoption Services:**  
Adoption@CatholicCharities.

**Welcome -We Are a Tithing Parish**

# Desperate Widows

*When the Lord saw her, He was moved with pity for her  
And said to her: "Do not weep." (Luke 7: 13)*

Vulnerable, destitute, defenseless – the situation of a widow in ancient times could be heartbreaking. Without a husband to protect her and provide for her, a widow faced danger and poverty. This is why throughout the Hebrew Scriptures, God reminded His people to go out of their way and look after widows. A widow's great comfort, of course, was a son – if she had one. Filling the roles of provider and protector in place of his father, a son could guarantee safety and security. But what would happen if a widow's only son died ?

We meet two such widows in today's Readings. Staying in the house of a widow, Elijah begged God to bring life back to her son. And in the Gospel Reading, Jesus interrupted a funeral procession to bring a young man back to life and give him back to his widowed mother. The reaction after each miracle was enthusiastic and hopeful: surely God was with His people ! He had come to help the weakest and most vulnerable !

Whether or not we are widows, these readings tell us something important about God. Have you ever felt vulnerable or defenseless ? Have you ever felt powerless in the face of circumstances outside of your control ? God cares ! He who raised up the widow and the orphan cares for you, too ! He looks on you with compassion and says, "Do not weep." (Luke 7: 13).

God's heart is moved when He sees you in a difficult situation. In fact, when you can't rely on your own powers and abilities, He can draw you even closer to His side. So let God care for you today. Let Him come into the situations where you feel least in control: an illness, a job loss, the challenge of starting over after the loss of a spouse or child. Ask Your Father to walk with you, put His arm around you, and take care of you.

*"Lord, in my vulnerability, I ask You to come close to me  
And show me Your love. I trust in Your protection."*

---from "The Word Among Us"

**TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**June 5, 2016**

**St. James the Greater**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Rosemarie Bastian at the  
Request of her Family

**SATURDAY, June 11**

8:00AM – John Parr

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**June 12**

8:00AM – John Klimkiewicz  
req. by Art & Maria Henn

11:30AM – George M. Cole, Jr.  
req. by Harry & Diane Cole

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$1,086.00 – Regular Collection – May 29, 2016**

**\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

**\$1,003.00 – Regular Collection – May 31, 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, 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 Spinapolic at 973-293-7031.

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Bernie Reich at the  
Request of his wife, Grace

**MONDAY, June 6**

9:00AM – Mildred Walker  
req. by Bill & Marge Erickson

**TUESDAY, June 7**

9:00AM – Barbara Kientzler  
req. by her son, Charles

**WEDNESDAY, June 8**

9:00AM – Barbara Gioielli  
req. by her Family

**THURSDAY, June 9**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, June 10**

9:00AM – Bernie Reich  
req. by his wife, Grace

**SATURDAY, Vigil, June 11**

4:30PM – William & Mary Hoffman  
req. by the Wainwright Family

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**June 12**

9:30AM – Jim Mahon  
req. by his wife Gerry  
-Intentions of Bishop Serratelli  
req. by the Legion of Mary

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$1,791.00 – Regular Collection – May 29, 2016**

**\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

**\$2,215.00 – Regular Collection – May 31, 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.



### Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy

During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis calls us to experience the mercy of God through forgiveness and reconciliation.

This teaching is very important to remember as we offer and receive forgiveness and foster peace within our families. As the summer months begin, and we start to spend more time together as a family, let us try to keep this practice a priority!



**“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” ~ Jeremiah 29:11**

Congratulations to all who are graduating from Elementary School, Junior or Senior High School, College or Graduate School. May you know of the love, prayers and best wishes of many who are praying for you to continue to seek the help of God as you move forward to different schools or career opportunities. May you always call on the Holy Spirit for His gifts to help you make decisions which will always give glory, honor and praise to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

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



**Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
June 5, 2016**

**“O Lord, my God, let the life breath return to the body of this child.’ The Lord heard the prayer of Elijah, the life breath returned to the child’s body and he revived....The woman replied, ‘now indeed I know that you are a man of God. The word of the Lord comes truly from your mouth.’... ‘A great prophet has arisen in our midst’ and ‘God has visited his people.’”**

We use many expressions related to our breathing. We ‘run out of breath’, we experience ‘heavy breathing’ and sometimes when surprised ‘lose our breath. CPR is employed to restore a normal breathing process.

We read that Jesus breathed on the apostles, when He gave power to forgive sins. We recall a few weeks ago, the Spirit came upon the church at Pentecost. The first story of creation finds God offering His breath, the ‘ruah Yahweh’ when God gave Adam his living soul.

Today the Word of God reveals two widows, now suffering the loss of their sons. The compassion of the prophet and the concern of Jesus, restores life to the lifeless bodies. Both are returned to their mothers. Did you ever wonder how they related their experience to their mothers, like the popular book of our time.

Jesus continues to restore life through the healing in the sacraments of reconciliation and the anointing of the sick. Both are viable signs of His mercy, offering health, strength and resistance to evil.

### 2016: St. Thomas 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year 1941-2016

**Anniversary items** are in and ready for sale. Travel mugs with the 75<sup>th</sup> 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’ 75<sup>th</sup> 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 75<sup>th</sup> year. Please pick up a blue sheet of paper in the gathering space.

**Senior “Vintage” Memories** – Attending Catholic elementary school in our parish was different in the 1950’s than attending one today. We didn’t have uniforms, and our parents didn’t pay tuition. The weekly and monthly collections from the parishioners covered all expenses.

**St. Thomas History** – Rev. John E. Hewetson inaugurated “St. James the Apostle Mission” at the beginning of 1943. The Chancellor noted procedures to erect Stations of the Cross by the Franciscan Fathers for Hainesville. Authorization to secure money for an eventual church in Montague was then given in Dec. By later establishing a residence in Montague, St. Thomas and St. James were to be made into a separate Mission.

### Vendors Wanted for Flea Market

St. James the Greater Church in Montague is having their Annual Flea Market on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00AM to 4:00PM. Indoor and outdoor spaces available. Please contact Betsy Gardner at 845-858-7892 or [Gardnerabstract@aol.com](mailto: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 5, 2016

#### 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. SJC Coffee Hour after Mass

11:30a.m. SJC Refreshments after Mass

### Monday, June 6

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

### Tuesday, June 7

6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

### Wednesday, June 8

### Thursday, June 9

9:30 a.m. REC Moms & Tots Play Group

### Friday, June 10

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

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

1:00 p.m. STC Montague Seniors Mtg.

### Saturday, June 11

### Sunday, June 12, 2016

#### 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

10:30a.m. STC Columbiettes Mtg.

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#### Next Sunday's Reading: 11<sup>th</sup> Ord

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 12: 7–10, 13

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 32

2nd Reading: Galatians 2: 16, 19--21

Gospel: Luke 7: 36–8: 3

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#### Baby Bottle Drive—Good Counsel

**Homes.** This drive continues. Your donations keep the five Good Counsel Homes running, on behalf of the Catholic Church. Baby bottles will be collected next Sunday, June 5.

#### St. Thomas Parish Picnic: Sun. June 26

More info to follow.

**Next Year's Parish Calendar** is in the planning stages as we speak. **All parish organizations and individuals needing to set up parish events for Fall 2016 through Summer 2017 are asked to take a 'calendar planning page' and to fill in their requested dates and premises.** Please return these pages by **June 15.** We will then hold a meeting at the end of June to iron out any conflicts. We will do our best to accommodate everyone. Once the official calendar is set—it will take precedence over any other future events.

**For young men, 15 – 25.** Our diocese has developed a unique retreat for young men, ages 15 – 25. It is an informal three-day experience during which you are asked to think about your future, and God's plans for you. It is the **Quo Vadis Retreat.** 'Where are you going?' is the theme, and also the translation in English. The Retreat will be held **June 29—July 1.** It will be held in our neighborhood: the **Sacred Heart Center in Newton.** It will include reflection time, sports, meals, Mass and discussion. You will meet young priests of our Diocese who will be running the Retreat. High school students and those of college age will have separate programs. And the cost is: Free!

Give yourself a chance to think ahead about your future, and enjoy the time with other young Catholic men of our Diocese. Call the Diocese of Paterson, 973-777-8818 x 711 for more info.

**Notice from the Diocese of Paterson:** "If any person may have been abused by a priest, they should immediately contact their local County Prosecutor's Office and the Diocese's Victim Assistance Coordinator: Peggy Zanello at 973-879-1489. You may also be in touch with either of the Diocesan Response Officers: Rev. Msgr. James T. Mahoney, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, 973-777-8818 Ext. 205 or Sister Joan Daniel Healy, S.C.C., Chancellor/Delegate for Religious, 973-777-8818 Ext. 248.

The entire text of the *Policy of the Diocese of Paterson in Response to Complaints of Sexual Abuse* is available on the diocesan Web site: [www.patersondiocese.org](http://www.patersondiocese.org)."

"If people really understood what the Mass was about: our churches would be packed every Sunday."  
--Bishop Serratelli