

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

The Integrity of Human Love

Why Marriage, Sex and Babies Belong Together

By David S. Crawford

(The following was taken from an article found in *Columbia*, the Knights of Columbus monthly magazine. The July 2018 issue celebrated the 50th anniversary of the papal encyclical, *Humanae Vitae*, issued by Pope Paul VI in 1968.)

Four Characteristics of Married Love

Section 9 of *Humane Vitae* speaks of four foundational characteristics of marriage:

1. **Married love is fully human and involves free will.** It is not the love of angels (who lack bodies), nor the instinct of animals (who lack spiritual souls). Rather, it unites husband and wife in both body and spirit. It is lived out in bodily form in the day-in and day-out lives they share together. This love is uniquely expressed in the bodily act of the marital embrace.
2. **Married love is total.** It is a unique kind of love that results in bodily and spiritual oneness and mutual belonging. Given to each other by God, husband and wife are called to share everything with the other and to put the other first. Most especially, the oneness to which husband and wife are called is made visible in the very flesh of their children.
3. The third characteristic—**faithfulness for life**—is implied by the previous two. If married love is spiritual, embodied and total, it cannot then be partial or limited. If husband and wife belong mutually each to the other, they cannot bestow themselves to another. Likewise, they cannot give themselves “only for a time.” Married love implies the gift of one’s whole life.
4. **Finally, married love is fruitful.** It is the very nature of married love to be directed toward children and the family. When we stop and think about it, the male body makes no sense if considered separately from the female body, and vice-versa. The complementarity of man and woman just as obviously rests on the possibility of having children together. Without this direction towards bearing and raising children, the love of husband and wife risks closing in on itself. Scripture therefore relates the creation of man and woman directly and immediately to the first commandment of the Bible: “*Be fruitful and multiply*” (Genesis 1: 28).

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 23, 2018

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Ray Sorg at the
Request of Lorraine

SATURDAY, September 29

8:00AM – Rosemarie Bastian
req. by her Family

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 30

8:00AM – Paul A. Szucs
req. by Art & Maria Henn

11:30AM – Kate Olivo
req. by her Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 393.00 – Regular Collection – September 16, 2018 +
\$ 106.00 – Online Giving
\$ 206.00 – Diocesan Assessment
\$ 671.00 – Regular Collection- September 17, 2017
\$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 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.

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 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.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Don Martin, Sr. at the
Request of his Family

MONDAY, September 24

9:00AM – Jimmy Reed
req. by his Mom & Dad

TUESDAY, September 25

9:00AM – Walter & Theresa Hoffman
req. by the Wainwright Family
-Jerry Demalderis
req. by his wife, Frances

WEDNESDAY, September 26

9:00AM – Intentions of Michael Toth
req. by his Mom

THURSDAY, September 27

No Mass

FRIDAY, September 28

9:00AM – Dom & Agnes Giordano
req. by their Family

SATURDAY, Vigil, September 29

4:30PM – Dolores Record
req. by the Cunico Family
-Catherine Fitzpatrick
req. by Mary Flexer

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 30

9:30AM – Gerry & Karen Ryan
req. by Terri Doyle & Family

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

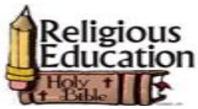
\$2,014.00 – Regular Collection – September 16, 2018 +
\$ 343.00 – Online Giving
\$ 450.00 – Diocesan Assessment
\$3,107.00 – Regular Collection – September 17, 2017
\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

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.

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Margaret Accordino, Loretta Bauman, James Brittain, Agnes Ciesielski, Peg Coates, Mary Cunico, Frances Demalderis, Rozanne DeNardo, Derya Dimertas, Judy Dressie, Sofia Evelich, Rachel Gibbs, Gomez Family, Mary Guimes, Barbara Haggerty, Carmen Howell, Jennifer, Doug Kabbash, Betty Lacovara, Bernadette Lang, Angela Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Jodi Lupo, Thomas Lynch, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli, Sandy Matthews, Brian McKenna, John Meehan, Bill Myers, Kelly Nicole, Richard Nowicki, Robert Organes, Jim Pantelmo, Danielle Parker, Tracey Perles, Nicole Perry, Flo Puccio, Sal, Sarah Scheckner, Alex Sepiol, Infant John Antonio Seti, John Sikora, Pam Spencer, Baby Teddy, Michael Toth, Jen Vaughn, Richard Vergona, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh and Joan White



Registrations for 2018/2019 Catechetical Year

We have joyfully begun our Religious Education Classes for the year last week!!! All late re-registrations must be brought to the Religious Education Center ASAP. No re-registrations will be taken the first week of classes (Sept. 15-19). Please call 973-948-7004 if you have any questions or concerns.

Parents of children entering first grade (unless they have a sibling here and can be included on the mailed out registration form), 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.

Parents' Night Out

All parents of children and teens in our parish Religious Education Program are reminded about this very important evening taking place **tomorrow, Monday, September 24th from 7:00PM until 8:30PM** at the Msgr. James Gacquin Youth and Religious Education Center.

Prayer Shawl/Rosary Makers Ministry

We began our ministry again. We meet at the Msgr. James Gacquin Youth and Religious Education Center on the first and third Mondays of the month from 11:00AM until 1:00PM and are always ready to welcome new members!

Children's Liturgy Of the Word

We celebrate C.L.O.W. for the month of September on the Sundays of: 23 and 30. We ask that the children listen actively for the Celebrant's invitation to come forward to be blessed as quickly as possible so that the Mass may continue reverently and smoothly. All adult parishioners are welcome to experience the Word with the children. Should you have any questions, please call the Religious Education Office at 973-948-7004 and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Columbiettes

Our Seminarian, Tom Costello, Jr., the son of Cindy and Tom Costello, is in preparation for the priesthood. The Columbiettes are sponsoring funding towards his education in this most holy endeavor. There are containers placed in both parishes. We appreciate any donations that are given. We thank all parishioners in advance and especially thank Father Wayne for his encouragement in this endeavor.

The Columbiettes are again sponsoring the **Cancer Ribbon Wall**. We ask that anyone who wishes to remember a cancer patient, whether living or deceased, share the name and type of cancer with the parish office by the end of September. The wall will be up for the month of October.

Right to Life

Coming soon: annual raffle for Right to Life.

The St. James Annual Spaghetti Dinner will be held on **Saturday, October 13th at 6:00PM**. Bring your own drink. Take outs are available. Adults: \$12.00, Children under 12: \$6.00 and Children under 6: Free. Tickets will be available after 8:00AM and 11:30AM Masses on September 23rd, September 30th and October 7th or by calling or texting Bill Ricciardi at 845-341-3686 or by emailing to wjr218@optonline.net. Sit-down tickets will be limited to 100.

2018 Bishop's Annual Appeal Here I Am, Lord!

While there are many ways to give to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, there is a particularly beneficial opportunity if you are 70 ½ or over and have an IRA. If you are in this category, the IRS requires you to take a required minimum distribution from your IRA each year. As a result, this distribution is added to your taxable income and increases the amount of taxes owed to the government. However, instead of taking your required minimum distribution, you can instruct your IRA investment manager to donate this distribution to a charity such as the Bishop's Annual Appeal and this automatically omits this amount from your adjusted gross income. This tax benefit can be realized by all qualifying individuals, whether you take the standard deduction or itemize your deductions. This can be a significant benefit to you and a great way to support the work of the Bishop's Annual Appeal. *If you are considering making a charitable donation using your IRA required minimum distribution, please be sure to first discuss this with your financial or tax advisor to make sure it is right for you.*

Men's Prayer Group

All men of our parishes are invited to come together for a special hour of prayer and reflection. Our **Men's Prayer Group** meets monthly, on the **third Tuesday, from 7:00pm till 8:30pm at the Religious Education Center**. It is a time to get away from the regular distractions and cares of life, and to reflect upon where the Lord is in our lives. This special time can help to deepen our commitment to the Lord and to our families and responsibilities. Try it once. And see if you don't leave—more at peace and assured of God's love for you.

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 **Tuesday nights from 6:15 to 7:15pm** for 8 weeks and starts on **October 16th** 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 973-948-2329. Bring a mat, hand held weights (1-8lbs.), water and a friend. Join for the session for only \$45.00 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!

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, September 23, 2018

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. STC Children's Lit. of Word—CLOW

Monday, Sept. 24

7:00 p.m. REC Parents' Night Out

Tuesday, Sept. 25

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

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

Wednesday, Sept. 26

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

Thursday, Sept. 27

Friday, Sept. 28

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

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

Saturday, Sept. 29

Sunday, September 30, 2018

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. REC Mass & Class Gr. 6, 7, 8

9:30 a.m. STC C.L.O.W.

Next Sunday's Readings: 26th Ord.

1st Reading: Numbers 11: 25--29

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 19*

2nd Reading: *James 5: 1--6*

Gospel: *Mark 9: 38--43, 45, 47--48*

FORMED.org Free to you as a parishioner; our parish code is: **HCVWQC**. Password is: **formed**.

Recommended by FORMED.org:

Watch: *Y Disciple: Just for Parents*

A great resource for parents to have meaningful conversations with their teenager about faith, moral decision making, and the important things in life.

Parents' Night Out. We will be holding a special evening for parents tomorrow, **Mon. Sept. 24, at the Religious Ed Center.** It begins at 7 p.m. and continues till 8:30 p.m. It will be an informal evening, with wine & cheese refreshments, a short prayer service, followed by a short presentation of issues in parenting. It is meant to be a chance for parents to compare notes and discuss matters important to them. Theirs is the most important task in the world: that of raising the next generation. We want to offer them a chance to discuss issues of mutual concern, and to share tips about raising their precious children in today's world. Please call the Parish Office (948-2296) or the R E C Office 948-7004 to let us know that you'll be there.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is a perfect way of honoring our Lord, who came to the earth 2000 years ago, and who remains among us in this Sacrament. It is a chance to become quiet in God's presence and open your heart and mind to His love. During this time He can speak to you most clearly. Important decisions can be made; serious problems can be thought out—under His guidance. Adoration is held at St. Thomas Church every Friday, from 10 a.m. till 12 Noon. Use this precious time to make a visit, or even a Holy Hour. It could be the best hour of your week.

Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice. Have you ever thought about becoming a hospice volunteer? The K.A.Q. Hospice is offering classes for volunteers to learn how to be of support and help to families in terminal situations. Topics will cover the social, emotional, spiritual and physical needs of the dying person and their families. Classes will be from 10 a.m. till 12 Noon on these dates: **Sept. 26, 28, Oct. 2, 5, at the Bereavement Center, 5 Plains Rd., Augusta, N. J.** Classes are free of charge. Trained volunteers are of immense help to the dying and their families. For more info call Sue at 973-383-0115.

The Weekend of Oct. 13—14 will be filled with many area events, including:
Men's Cornerstone Retreat at Our Lady of the Lake Church, Sparta,
Relics of St. Anthony of Padua at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Branchville
Port Jervis Area Life Chain along East Main St., Port Jervis.
More info on each of these events next week.