

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

OCTOBER IS
RIGHT TO LIFE
MONTH



Many people look forward to the month of October. The weather is invigorating, the trees are displaying their beautiful colors before the leaves fall, many outdoor activities take place, as well as yard sales, 5-K runs, fall festivals. October is also one of the months dedicated to our Blessed Mother, and includes the Feast of the Holy Rosary (October 7th).

October has also been designated as “Right to Life” Month. It is an opportunity to re-dedicate ourselves to the understanding that God’s gift of human life is the most precious gift of all. Our Church, in fact, proclaims that human life is in God’s hands from conception until natural death. From this comes our teaching that all lives are precious and unrepeatable, and must be protected—and that all must be done to preserve and enhance human life in all its ages and stages.

Unfortunately this is not the understanding of many people outside the Church and is not the official position of our government. Abortion ‘rights’ are demanded by many, with the weakest and most defenseless of lives at their mercy –to keep or to destroy at their convenience.

Since the abominable Supreme Court decision of 1973, *Roe v. Wade*, an estimated 1.4 million lives have been aborted each year. That currently amounts to a shocking 58 Million tiny human beings who have never had a chance at life.

If we wonder why diseases such as cancer, M.S., Alzheimer’s etc. are not yet cured, I’m sure that God has tried to send us some ingenious scientists among those 58 Million who have never had the chance to discover the cures. If we wonder why we have to settle for the politicians we have today, I’m sure that God has tried to send us inspiring and capable statesmen and women among the 58 Million who have never been given the chance to serve.

During this month of October pray that all will see what we see: the hand of God in every life. Pray that all will reject the evil of abortion. Pray that the many facilities and agencies that help mothers with problem-pregnancies will have the people and the funds to carry on their God-inspired work.

God bless you,
Father Wayne

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 30, 2018

St. James the Greater

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

SATURDAY, October 6

8:00AM – Frank Morgiewicz
req. by Ann Dilger

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 7

8:00AM – Alvin Ulbrich
req. by Art & Maria Henn

11:30AM – Richard Casaletto
req. by Lyse & Wayne von Doehren

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,090.00 – Regular Collection – September 23, 2018 +
\$ 344.00 – Online Giving
\$ 986.00 – Regular Collection- September 24, 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 Bernie, Grace & Michael Reich at the
Request of Jim & Diane Campbell

MONDAY, October 1

9:00AM – Christopher Croucher
req. by his Family

TUESDAY, October 2

9:00AM – John & Marie von Doehren
req. by their son, Wayne

WEDNESDAY, October 3

9:00AM – Intentions of Dale M. Briegel
Birthday Celebration
req. by his Mom

THURSDAY, October 4

No Mass

FRIDAY, October 5

9:00AM – Grace Reich
req. by Peggy & Bob Reich

SATURDAY, Vigil, October 6

4:30PM – Walter & Genevieve Winkler
req. by Omar & Marie Mendez
-Intentions of James Abboud
req. by his parents, Omar & Marie

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 7

9:30AM – S. Joseph Mongiello
req. by the Sousa Family
-Intentions of the Legion of Mary
req. by the Legion of Mary

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,402.00 – Regular Collection – September 23, 2018 +
\$ 543.00 – Online Giving
\$2,523.00 – Regular Collection – September 24, 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.

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.

Sacramental Sign-In Book

Please Be Reminded about the **Sacramental Sign-In Book** for our children and teens who are preparing for the Sacraments of the First Eucharist (**grades 1 & 2**) and Confirmation (**grades 9 & 10**). These Binders (**White – FE Class/Red – Conf. Class**) will be kept in the back of BOTH churches and **must be signed each week**. Joyful participation in the weekly Celebration of the Eucharist as well as on Holydays of Obligation is a requirement for the reception of these sacraments. It is also expected of all faithful Catholics!!!

From Children's Liturgy of the Word

The Sundays that are C.L.O.W. for the month of October are: 14, 21 & 28. All children K-6 are welcome to join us. Older children with younger brothers and sisters are also welcome. Those who bring the children to Mass are asked to explain how C.L.O.W. will take place and to especially reassure the children that they will be waiting for them after C.L.O.W. You are encouraged to experience C.L.O.W. with the children for their first time. Anyone with C.L.O.W. questions please feel free to contact Pat Hope or Mary Flexer at 973-948-7004. Also, we welcome all the Confirmed to minister at C.L.O.W. It is a wonderful experience of God's Word alive. Peace. Pat Hope

Prayer Shawl/Rosary Makers Ministry

We began our ministry and will meet again on Monday, October 1st. 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!

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.

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!

One of the benefits of giving to our Bishop's Annual Appeal is the knowledge that the funds support important needs in Morris, Passaic and Sussex Counties. This local connection means that you may be helping your next-door neighbor, your co-worker, the store owner you see each day as you shop in your community—perhaps even a family member. In this context, when you give to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, you truly say: *Here I Am, Lord—making a better life for my brothers and sisters in the area.* Please consider making a pledge today.

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!

St. James Christmas Bazaar – December 1

We will be accepting donations **after October 13th** 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 Spinapolicce at 973-293-7031, Maria Henn at 973-293-3243 or Joan Henn at 973-293-3690. Please mark your calendars and start planning for this exciting fundraiser now.

Right to Life

Coming soon: annual raffle for Right to Life.

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 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.

Monday, Oct. 1

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

Tuesday, Oct. 2

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

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

Wednesday, Oct. 3

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

Thursday, Oct. 4

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, Oct. 5

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

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

Saturday, Oct. 6

Sunday, October 7, 2018

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Next Sunday's Readings: 27th Ord.

1st Reading: Genesis 2: 18--24

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 128

2nd Reading: Hebrews 2: 9--11

Gospel: Mark 10: 2--16

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

Recommended by FORMED.org:

Listen: *Brother Francis*

If you think you know Saint Francis, you're in for a surprise In this exciting Augustine Institute audio drama, follow the fun-loving son and soldier of Assisi as he is transformed by the Gospel.

The Saints Go Marching In. These weeks are seeing the visit of two well-known saints. The relics of Padre Pio were available for veneration on Sept. 20th at St. Peter the Apostle Church in Parsippany. And even closer, the relics of **St. Anthony of Padua** will be visiting Queen of Peace Church in Branchville on **Sunday, Oct. 14th**. The hours are limited: only **8 a.m. till 1 p.m.** It is a chance to come close to one who is now very close to the Lord.

Right to Life Month Raffle. The R.T.L. Committee of New Jersey is again sponsoring a major raffle to raise funds to finance its activities promoting the respect for all human life--from conception to natural death. Theirs is the task to fight against the abortion mentality that is rampant in our nation. **Raffles will be sold at both churches on Oct. 6—7.** There will be **four major prizes** to win:

1st prize: 2019 Volvo SUV valued at \$41,200

2nd prize: \$1,000. ShopRite Gift Card

3rd prize: \$ 750. ShopRite Gift Card

4th prize: \$ 500. ShopRite Gift Card.

Raffle Tickets are \$ 10. Each. Please support this cause for life.

Port Jervis Area Life Chain. You are invited to witness to the sacredness of life by joining fellow Christians along East Main St., Port Jervis on **Sunday, Oct. 14. From 1 p.m. till 2:30 p.m.** members of the many Christian church of the area will be holding signs and standing in witness to God's gift of life. Join us for part of all of the time. Parking should be available at Gray-Parker funeral Home.

A Family Rosary Rally Procession, honoring the Blessed Mother and sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will take place on **Sun. Oct. 14th at Holy Face Monastery, 1697 State Route 3, in Clifton.** Rosary and prayers begin at **3:00 p.m.**, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. All are invited to attend this Rally in honor of our Blessed Mother.

Five Lessons to Learn from Padre Pio:

* You don't have to be "worthy," just willing.

* God will never allow anything that is not for our greater good.

* God will always give us more than we deserve.

* Serve the Lord with laughter.

* Pray, hope, and don't worry.

--from *Catholic Digest*, Sept. 2018