

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

Following the Blind Man

“He began to cry out: Jesus, have pity on me.”

Mark 10: 47

In today’s Gospel, the blind Bartimaeus makes it perfectly clear: when we really want something, we will push through the obstacles in order to get it.

Bartimaeus pushed through the opposition of the crowd that tried to keep him from Jesus. He wanted to be healed, and nothing would stop him. In a similar way, the ‘crowds’ of the world seem to want to keep us from Jesus and from receiving His healing touch. They are telling us to be content with how things are. “Jesus can’t help,” “Jesus can’t change things” they tell us, “so just accept the status quo instead.”

The problem is, what the world can offer leaves us restless, unfulfilled, still searching, always looking for the next best thing to make us happy. All too often, our desire for God’s peace and love become fleeting moments that get shouted down by the influence of the crowd and the world.

Each day, in certain ways, we face opposition similar to what Bartimaeus faced. He was wrapped in a ‘cloak’ of comfort (Mark 10: 50). The crowd told him to stay put and be content with his blindness. “Jesus cannot help you; you’re not worth His time.” But Bartimaeus was desperate. He refused to listen to the crowd. And as a result, Jesus heard him, and Bartimaeus gladly threw off his cloak and ran to where Jesus could wrap him in divine love.

Follow Bartimaeus’ example ! The crowds of the world want all of your time, but you don’t have to give it to them. Today and every day, you can throw aside the ‘cloak’ of comfort and spring up to meet Jesus (Mark 10:50). Let Him wrap you in a cloak of grace and healing.

Remember this as well: while the crowds of the world want to keep you from Jesus, there are also crowds of disciples who want to follow Him. They can help you grow in your faith. Find people who pray together. Find a Bible study. Join people who serve the poor. Surround yourself with people who share your desire for Jesus. Join them as you follow Jesus “on the way” (Mark 10: 52).

“Open my eyes, Lord, to the true disciples around me.”

--from: *The Word Among Us*
October 2018

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
October 28, 2018

St. James the Greater

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

THURSDAY, ALL SAINTS

November 1

8:00 AM – Navratil Antalné and Frederick Simon

SATURDAY, November 3

8:00AM – Jerry Dilger
req. by Linda Lee

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 4

8:00AM – Charles & Elsie Lorber
req. by their Family

11:30AM – Donald Martin, Sr.
req. by his Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 522.00 – Regular Collection – October 21, 2018 +
\$ 351.00 – Online Giving
\$1,190.00 – Regular Collection- October 22, 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 8:00am St. James Coffee Hour takes place the first Sunday of the month except for July, August and September.



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 Spinapolic at 973-293-7031.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Dale R. Briegel at the
Request of his wife, Rosemarie

MONDAY, October 29

9:00AM – Michael Abboud
req. by his Family

TUESDAY, October 30

9:00AM – Emil Ogrinz
req. by the Heimall Family

WEDNESDAY, October 31

9:00AM – Intentions of Omar Mendez
req. by his wife, Marie

THURSDAY, ALL SAINTS

November 1

9:00AM – Intentions of Michael Toth
req. by his Mom
-Muriel Kennel
req. by her Family
7:00PM – Emily Blickweidel
req. by her Family

FRIDAY, November 2

9:00AM – Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary
req. by the Legion of Mary
-Edel Quinn
req. by the Legion of Mary

SATURDAY, Vigil, November 3

4:30PM – William Castro
req. by his Family

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 4

9:30AM – Arthur & Elsie Bastian
req. by their son, Andy

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,592.00 – Regular Collection – October 21, 2018 +
\$ 493.00 – Online Giving
\$1,824.00 – Regular Collection – October 22, 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, Angela Brittain, 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, Mr. Harris, Carmen Howell, Jennifer, Doug Kabbash, Bernadette Lang, Angela Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Jodi Lupo, Thomas Lynch, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli Sandy Matthews, Brian McKenna, John Meehan, Robert Morenski, 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



Happy All Hallow's Eve

Halloween can be tons of fun for our children, so as we get ready to celebrate Halloween, let's be reminded how this all came about. The roots of Halloween – or All Hallow's Eve – are to pray for the dead. We pray especially for them on All Soul's Day. We all need the prayers and support of the faithful, and there may be souls that have no one to pray for them anymore. We also remember all those who have gone to Heaven with Jesus – the Saint's – and remember them on a very special holy day, All Saint's Day. So remember to pray, have fun and be safe! Blessed All Hallow's Eve.

(Please be reminded that there are NO Religious Education Classes on Tuesday and Wednesday, but please read below for an exciting event in place of class).



Sundaes with the Saints

All children up to Grade 5 are invited to join us on **Sunday, November 4th at 2:00PM** at St. Thomas the Apostle. Just wear a costume of a loved saint (there are some no-sew ideas on catholicicing.com), bring an index card with 3 facts about the saint for everyone to guess who you are and enjoy a Make-Your-Own Ice Cream Sundae. (Middle-school students and High-school teens are encouraged to help out too). We can't wait to see our Church filled with Holy Saints!!!



Catholic Teens

Our next gathering will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish **TODAY, Sunday, October 28th from 6:00-8:00PM**. There will be **"Trunk or Treating"** for children and the high school teens will help out with games and activities!!! Come and meet our new Youth Minister, Ben Yates. . Bring a friend, new teens are always welcome. Come join us and see what's going on – you won't be disappointed!!! **A special thank you to Lentini Farms in Newton, who generously donated 40 pumpkins to our previous Catholic Teens event.**

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 started 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!

"SOUP MAKERS WANTED'...The St. James the Greater "Soup on a Saturday" Committee is soliciting soup makers for the next event on Saturday, January 26, 2019. If you are willing to make and donate from 5 – 20 quarts of soup, please contact Bill Ricciardi @845-341-3686 by text or call. Containers will be supplied. We would love to have some different soups to supplement the past favorites.

Wall of Remembrance

If you wish to include a photo of a deceased relative or parishioner, please drop off a photo with their name on the back to the parish office. It will be scanned and returned to you.

Hold the Date – St. Thomas Annual Bake & Craft Sale

On **Saturday, November 17th**, St. Thomas will be hosting its Annual Bake and Craft Sale and Flea Market. At the present time, we are in need of **CRAFTERS** and **VENDERS**. If you know of someone who would be interested in renting a table or if any of your friends are crafters, please ask them to contact Deirdre Burgos at 973-948-6092. There will be a St. Thomas table containing donated crafts of new or slightly used items. If you have any items you love but no longer use or need and wish to donate, please contact me at the above number. Thank you.

St. James Christmas Bazaar – December 1

We are now 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 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.

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 holding their annual Project Self-Sufficiency Toy Drive starting today and ending the first week of December. All toys need to be new and unwrapped. There is a basket in the Gathering Space for your consideration. Thank you for your generosity.



A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 28, 2018

"Bartimaeus, a blind man, son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging. On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me.'...Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him.'...He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus. Jesus said to him in reply, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man replied to him 'Master, I want to see.' Jesus told him, 'Go your way, your faith has saved you.' Immediately he received his sight and followed Him on the way."

The parable of the Good Samaritan told on the road from Jerusalem to Jericho. It was a story of compassion. Today we have the meeting of Bartimaeus, the blind beggar, that took place on that road. He heard it was Jesus, and called out to Him in his need. The dialogue was simple and clear. What he needed and Jesus' response.

How many other Bartimaeus' are there in our own time? People, described by Pope Francis as marginalized sitting on the side. They too want to hear of Jesus, cry out to Him in their pain, and seek the compassion, help and mercy of Jesus. It might seem easy, to cross to the other side of the street, to speed up, or ignore the cry. Is that the Christian response?

In the mail each day, on the television, there are continued requests for the kindness and mercy of Jesus. The requests for donations grow and the hurts of others tug at our hearts and purse strings. We cannot respond to all requests, but we can as Jesus did. The faith of Bartimaeus restored his sight and he followed Jesus on the way. The hand of Jesus reaching out and responding to one more request can make a big change in the life of someone else.

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 28, 2018

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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

6:00 p.m. Teen Group at O.L.Q.P. (Trunk or Treat)

Monday, Oct. 29

7:30 p.m. STC Choir Practice

Tuesday, Oct. 30

10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

Wednesday, Oct. 31

Thursday, Nov. 1

Feast of All Saints

8:00 a.m. SJC Mass of All Saints

9:00 a.m. STC Mass of All Saints

8:00 a.m. STC Mass of All Saints

Friday, Nov. 2

All Souls' Day

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

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

Saturday, Nov. 3

4:30 p.m. STC Mass & Conf. Prep. Gr. 9 & 10

Sunday, November 4, 2018

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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

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

2:00 p.m. STC F F F: *Sundaes with the Saints*

Next Sunday's Readings: 31st Ord.

1st Reading: *Deuteronomy 6: 2 – 6*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 18*

2nd Reading: *Hebrews 7: 23--28*

Gospel: *Mark 12: 28b--34*

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

All Saints Day is the joyful celebration in which we take part **this Thursday, Nov. 1st**. We rejoice in all those men and women throughout the centuries who have lived lives pleasing to the Lord, and who now enjoy His direct presence in heaven. They serve as encouragement to us--that we can make it, too. All Saints Day is a **holy day of obligation**, and Masses will be celebrated at these times:

8:00 a.m. at St. James; 9:00 a.m. at St. Thomas

7:00 p.m. at St. Thomas

November: the Month of All Souls. As the leaves fall off the trees, and we head into the "dead" of winter, we naturally turn our thoughts to our own certain, future death. And we think about those who have gone before us. Our faith tells us to have hope that we will see our loved ones again. During this month, we are asked to pray especially for the dead, and to offer Masses and sacrifices for them. Envelopes are available for you to list the names of your beloved deceased. Return them and they will be placed on the altar and remembered at each Mass during the Month of All Souls.

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service. We will get together with our Christian neighbors of the Minisink Reformed Church and the Delaware Valley United Methodist Church to offer prayers of thanksgiving for the Lord's countless blessings. The Service will be held at **St. Thomas Church, on Monday, Nov. 19th, beginning at 7:00 p.m.** All will be asked to bring an item or two of canned or boxed goods for the offering which will be taken up. Afterwards, we will be hosting a **coffee hour** in the Fr. Lewis Center. Ladies are asked to bring their favorite baked goods for the social time.

St. Paul's Inside the Walls is the evangelization center for the Paterson Diocese. It offers many programs, including the on-going "**Catholicism from Scratch.**" The next session is Sat. Nov. 3rd, and the topic will be "*Saints in the Making*" growing in holiness. December's topic will be "*The Handmaid's Tale: Mary*", Sat. Dec. 8th. Sessions begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at 12 Noon. For more info call: 973-377-1004. St. Paul's Inside the Walls, 205 Madison Ave. Madison, N. J. 07940.

"Wherever God has put you, that is your vocation."

--Saint Mother Teresa