

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.

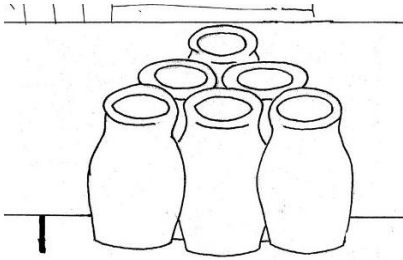
The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated during Mass providing that liturgical norms do not dictate otherwise. Please contact the office to schedule a Baptism and to make arrangements for preparations especially for first time parents. Baptisms may be scheduled at other times if extenuating conditions 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



Could You Repeat That ?

“Jesus ... revealed His glory, and His disciples began to believe in Him.”

John 2: 11

Jesus’ first miracle was impressive: He turned water into wine. Because it happened at a marriage celebration, you might consider this a special wedding gift for the happy couple. But it was also a miracle performed so that His disciples would see His glory and “believe in Him.” (John 2: 11).

John tells us that this was the first sign that Jesus performed. Then he goes on to recount six more signs, each of which is meant to deepen His disciples’ faith—and ours as well. Each sign tells us that when we place our faith in Him, He sets us on a path of renewal. He takes our plain everyday “water” and turns it into choice “wine.”

What do the other signs tell us ? That Jesus’ words have the power to heal us (John 4: 46—54; 5: 1—9). That He wants to feed us with His Living Bread and calm the storms and anxieties in our hearts (6: 1—21). That He wants to open our eyes to see Him as the Lord who loves us (9: 1—7; 35—39). And that He wants to raise us from our “tombs” of sin and doubt and unbelief (11: 1—44).

All of these passages point to God’s work of restoring and renewing what is lacking. They tell us that God wants to restore in us the joy of worship and to become for us the Source of all blessing.

When you hear this passage proclaimed at Mass, think about the ways in which you need to be renewed. Maybe Jesus wants to renew your zeal for Him, or your love for your spouse, or your desire to pray. Believe that God is always at work in you, bringing back to life what has been languishing. Just as He did at Cana, He wants to supply you with the choicest of wines. And in the process, He wants to show you His glory.

**Thank you, Jesus, for renewing me.
Lord, help me to see your glory
so that I can believe in You more deeply.**

--from: *The Word Among Us*
January 2019

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
January 20, 2019

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of James Cullinan at the
Request of Bill, Valerie, Kate & Emilia Ricciardi

SATURDAY, January 26

8:00AM – Helen Briegel
req. by her Family

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
January 27

8:00AM – Katharina Modest
req. by her daughter-in-law, Vicki Gorlach

11:30AM – Mary Cunico
req. by Pat Walsh

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,192.00 – Regular Collection – January 13, 2019

\$ 751.00 – Online Giving

\$1,019.00 – Regular Collection – January 14, 2018

\$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.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Helen Briegel at the
Request of her Family

MONDAY, January 21

9:00AM – Mary Cunico
req. by John & Maria Babon

TUESDAY, January 22

9:00AM – Henry Knaust
req. by Omar & Marie Mendez and James Abboud

WEDNESDAY, January 23

9:00AM – Carl Flexer
req. by Knights of Columbus

THURSDAY, January 24

No Mass

FRIDAY, January 25

9:00AM – Mary Cunico
req. by Knights of Columbus
-Carl & Louise Flexer

SATURDAY, Vigil, January 26

4:30PM – Rosemary Dunleavy
req. by her Family
-Intentions of the Confirmation Candidates

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 27

9:30AM – Ann Prolizo
req. by Chris & Diane Sarao

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,405.00 – Regular Collection - January 13, 2019

\$ 393.00 – Online Giving

\$2,675.00 – Regular Collection – January 14, 2018

\$ 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.

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.

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Margaret Accordino, Loretta Bauman, James Brittain, Agnes Ciesielski, Peg Coates, Frances Demalderis, Derya Dimertas, Judy Dressie, Sofia Evelich, Rachel Gibbs, Gomez Family, Mary Guimes, Barbara Haggerty, Mr. Harris, Carmen Howell, Jennifer, Bernadette Lang, Angela Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Beth Lucien, Jodi Lupo, Thomas Lynch, Gerry Mahon, Agnes Mantini, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli Sandy Matthews, John Meehan, Robert Morenski, Bill Myers, Kelly Nicole, Richard Nowicki, Robert Organes, William Pagano, Jim Pantelmo, Tracey Perles, Nicole Perry, Flo Puccio, Sal, Sarah Scheckner, Alex Sepiol, Infant John Antonio Seti, John Sikora, Baby Teddy, Michael Toth, Jen Vaughn, Richard Vergona, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh, Joan White and Fran Whitesell



Do You Believe in Miracles?

The Gospel today presents the first public miracle Jesus performed. He would go on to perform other miracles recorded in the New Testament, but surely not every one was written down.

Many things happen today that people might say are “a miracle”. Acts 2:22 calls them “mighty deeds” and “wonders”.

This week, talk about a miracle you think has happened-big or small.

Confirmation Class

As a way to introduce our candidates to some of the ministry opportunities that will be available to them after they are confirmed, our candidates will participate in the liturgical and hospitality ministries on the Saturday, January 26th 4:30PM Mass. We discussed this with them during class and they chose the roles that they would like to carry out for the Mass. All candidates are to be at St. Thomas Church at 4:00PM as to be prepared.

Grade 2 ~ Mass & Class

All children in the Grade 2 class will come together on Sunday, January 27th from the 9:30AM Mass until 11:30AM at St. Thomas Church. Parents are required to stay as the session may end sooner than scheduled.

8th Grade Service Project

Our 8th Grade Religious Education Class is working on a service project for the children/teen patients at St. Joseph hospital in Paterson. They are collecting items to create gift baskets to help bring some joy to them during their illness. The list of items are on the board above the basket where the items may be placed. As always, we thank you for your support of the children there in our parish as well as those in St. Joseph's hospital too.



The Religious Education Inclement Weather Policy ~ is that the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather will be announced and posted on www.wsus1023.com. If it is not possible for you to check the internet, you can call the Religious Education Office at 973-948-7004 and listen to any cancellation message there.

“SOUP ON A SATURDAY”.....St. James the Greater will again be sponsoring a take-out soup fundraiser on Saturday, January 26th, 2019. Order a quart (or more) of Chili by Art & Maria Henn, Manhattan Clam Chowder by Bill & Joan Henn, Italian Wedding soup by Bill Ricciardi, Pasta e Fagioli by Mike & Linda Spinapolice, Split Pea with Ham by Janice Cerra, or Winter Harvest (Pumpkin base with apple) by Elaine Schuster. Price is \$7.00 per quart. Please get your orders in early as there will be limits on the Split Pea with Ham and Winter Harvest. **You must order in advance by TODAY, January 20th**. Pick up is on January 26th from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm at St. James the Greater. Fill out an order form found in the back of the church and place in the collection basket OR give to Bill Ricciardi, Art Henn or Mike Spinapolice. You may also e-mail your order to Bill Ricciardi at wj218@optonline.net.

Adult Confirmation

Presently, two young adult Catholics are choosing to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Both very much want to complete their Initiation, having been Baptized and received First Eucharist.

The Adult Confirmation Program presently meets two Sundays a month after the 9:30am Mass at St. Thomas Church. The topics to be discussed are as follows for January 13 and 27: The Apostles and Nicene Creeds, The Trinity, The Church and the Community of Saints.

For further information, please call the Office of Religious Education at 973-948-7004. Your call will be returned as soon as possible. All are welcome to join us!

In His Peace,

Pat Hope & Alex Sousa

Co-coordinators for the Adult Confirmation Program



A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS
HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 20, 2019

“There was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding...the mother of Jesus told him ‘they have no wine.’ His mother said to the servers, ‘Do whatever he tells you.’...and his disciples began to believe in him.”

It is easy to remember the first miracle as told by John. Like all weddings there was an invitation, and they were present. A near crisis caused Mary to intervene. She directed the difficult moment to be converted into a miracle, instructing the waiters what to do. Using what was at hand, water and jars enabled Jesus to transform the situation. The result was a newfound belief for those who accompanied Him to the wedding.

We too are invited to be with Jesus at the Eucharistic banquet. Jesus directs us ‘do this in memory of me’ and our own faith is strengthened and renewed by His presence. Mary knows the crises in our lives, of family, injustice, illness. Although the words spoken by Mary in the scriptures are the last we read, she too speaks to us ‘do whatever he tells you.’ Her presence and intervention or intercession in our behalf still has meaning ‘pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.’

St. Mary's Church

Court Madonna No. 114 will be having their Annual Tricky Tray **TODAY**, Sunday, January 20th. Doors open at noon and drawing begins at 2:00PM. Tickets are 25 for \$1.00. No admission fee. All proceeds to benefit Community Charities.

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, January 20, 2019

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00a.m. STC Columbiettes Mtg

Monday, Jan. 21

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

Tuesday, Jan. 22

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

9:00 a. m. STC Special Mass for the Right to Life

10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

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

Wednesday, Jan. 23

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

Thursday, Jan. 24

Friday, Jan. 25

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

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

Saturday, Jan. 26

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

Sunday, January 27, 2019

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

9:30 a.m. STC C.C.D. Grade 2

Next Sunday's Readings: 3rd Ord.

1st Reading: *Nehemiah 8: 2—4a, 5—6, 8--10*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 19*

2nd Reading: *1 Corinthians 12: 12—30*

Gospel: *Luke 1: 1—4; 4: 14--21*

With the Cold and Flu Season upon us we will refrain from offering the Precious Blood at Communion time. We will also hold off on the Sign of Peace until the flu season is past.

January 22nd marks the sad 46th anniversary of the Supreme Court's infamous *Roe v. Wade Decision* which declared the right to abortion to be legal in the United States. Based on faulty assumptions and inaccurate scientific evidence, the Court declared that there is no protection for the life of the unborn child. A woman's right to choose to keep or kill life in the womb became 'civil' law. This decision has resulted in an estimated **56 million** children being aborted instead of given the chance for life.

Catholics and many people of good will have never accepted this Supreme Court decision. Tens of thousands have protested last Friday, and have demonstrated that much of the country will never accept this horrific decision of the Court.

Be aware that some politicians, fearing the Court might eventually shift and change this ruling, have proposed that **states** should make the right to abortion to be a firm part of their state's Constitutions. New York State is among them.

May we be vigilant and fight against these further insidious attacks on the God-given right to life. Prayer is the first defense, but we must also contact our legislators when the occasions arise. May the Lord be with us in this fight for the unborn children to whom He wishes to give the gift of life.

Mass for Life. Join us for a special *Mass for Life* to be offered at St. Thomas on **Tuesday, Jan. 22nd at 9 a.m.** on the anniversary of the tragic *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision. Pray that the Holy Spirit's influence can reach our lawmakers and citizens, and bring us to cherish each human life that God creates

FORMED.org can help you stay informed on this and many other issues of our faith. Simply go to our parish website: saintjamesthomas.org. At the home page, scroll down to the FORMED banner to register.

Reommended by FORMED.org.:

Watch: *The Value of Life*

Listen: *There is Life in the Womb*

Listen: *Aborting America*

Listen: *Why I Left Planned Parenthood*

Pray for a greater respect for all human life.