

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.

Welcome -We Are a Tithing Parish

Jesus Changes His Plans

“... Jesus came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town.”

On one of His journeys, Jesus found Himself walking through the ancient town of Jericho, on the Jordan River, near the Dead Sea. Some archeologists claim that it is the oldest continuously occupied settlement in the world (going back to 9,000 B.C.)

When I visited the Holy Land in 2014, we saw the work being done by archeologists to unearth levels upon levels of settlements over the course of millennia. It was truly amazing to come in contact with such historic ruins.

According to our Gospel passage today, as Jesus was making His way through the town He suddenly stopped short. There, in the sycamore tree above Him, was this older man, Zacchaeus, in and amongst the branches. Zacchaeus was apparently severely challenged vertically, but didn't let his short stature stop him from his once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see who this Jesus was. And so he even forgot the dignity of his position as chief tax collector of the town, to climb the tree that was along Jesus' route.

Jesus likewise saw a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: to bring about healing and conversion. To actually enter the home of a despised tax collector would be shocking, but Jesus in His wisdom saw that the man wanted to change. And so Jesus changes His own plans, stays at the home of Zacchaeus overnight, and elicits from Zacchaeus a pledge to make right any wrongs he had done in the past.

Jesus' actions can instruct us. We too should be on the lookout for opportunities to perform good actions and spread the Word. For what more important thing can we do with our time? Opportunities reveal themselves only for the moment. To miss the present chance to do good is to miss that chance forever.

May we always be ready to change our plans, as Jesus did, in order to contribute to the greater good. May we all sharpen our focus and re-dedicate our efforts to use every opportunity that comes to us: to spread God's Word, and to bring a little closer to fulfillment—His Kingdom.

God bless you,
Father Wayne

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
October 30, 2016

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Eugene & Rosalie Mauro at the
Request of their Family

TUESDAY, ALL SAINTS

November 1

8:00AM – Robert & Ann Lamb
req. by Peggy & Richard Gray

SATURDAY, November 5

8:00AM – Dorothy Evans and Danielle Scibek

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 6

8:00AM – John & Marcjanna Klimkiewicz
req. by Jane & Doug Sandberg

11:30AM – Rosemarie Bastian
req. by her Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 1,344.00 – Regular Collection – October 23, 2016
\$ 193.00 – World Mission Sunday
\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need
\$ 971.00 – Regular Collection – October 25, 2015
\$ 290.00 – World Mission Sunday 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, Derya Dimertas, Rachel Gibbs, Mary Guimes, Barbara Haggerty, Carmen Howell, Clara Kane, Jeff Librizzi, Betty Mastrelli, Sandy Matthews, Brian McKenna, Danielle Parker, Marguerite Phillips, Flo Puccio, Alex Sepiol, Baby Teddy, Jen Vaughn, Lorraine Verga, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh, Joan White and Robert Woodcock

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 Spinapolicce at 973-293-7031.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Sophie Wolf at the
Request of Marion & Dave

MONDAY, October 31

9:00AM – Sophie Wolf
req. by Marion & Dave
- Catherine Higgins
req. by her daughter, Chris

TUESDAY, ALL SAINTS

November 1

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

7:00PM – Walter & Genevieve Stoklosa
req. by their daughter, Julia Jensen

WEDNESDAY, November 2

9:00AM – Deceased Parishioners
- Deceased Members of the Martin Family
req. by Grace Reich

THURSDAY, November 3

No Mass

FRIDAY, November 4

9:00AM – William V. Giovanniello

SATURDAY, Vigil, November 5

4:30PM – Marie & John Furtado
req. by their Children

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 6

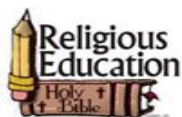
9:30AM – Cathy Moyer
req. by the Sepiol & Healy Families

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,828.00 – Regular Collection – October 23, 2016
\$ 444.00 – World Mission Sunday
\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need
\$1,881.00 – Regular Collection – October 25, 2015
\$ 409.00 – World Mission Sunday 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.



Celebrate Our Church Family

All Saints Day (Nov. 1) and All Souls Day (Nov. 2) are celebrated in the Church to help us focus on the Communion of Saints. The Church teaches that every member of the Body of Christ is eternally connected and cannot be separated by time or space, or even death. Our belief in the Communion of Saints means that we never have to truly say goodbye to our loved ones who have died, because they are still a part of the Church family. These two days are times of remembrance, celebration and prayer.

All Saints Day honors all of the great saints who have graced the earth from St. Peter to St. Teresa of Calcutta. All Souls Day is a special day where we celebrate every member of the Communion of Saints, including all those who are in our own families.



Catholic Teens

Our Lady Queen of Peace, St. Thomas the Apostle and St. James the Greater have formed a new youth group for all teens in High School. **Come join us and see what's going on!!!** Our next gathering will take place in the pavilion at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish **today, October 30th from 5:00 (set-up)-8:00pm for Trunk or Treat.** Children of our parishes are also invited to come to OLQP for Trunk or Treat event which will begin at 6:00PM.

Let's Celebrate All Saints Day

On Monday, October 31st from 3:30pm until 7:00pm, in the Father Lewis Center at St. Thomas Church, the St. Therese Scouts invite you to join them for an **All Hallows Eve Celebration of the Saints!** Please dress as your favorite or patron saint and bring a dish to share! There will be a costume contest, games, line dancing and much more! All are welcome!

Catholic Men's Prayer Group starting on **November 15th** at 7:00PM at the Religious Education Center. We will use as a spring board for discussion and prayer a one half hour video "Crossing the Goal" [Leading Men to the Cross]. Call Deacon Wayne at 973-293-3344 for more details.

The Knights of Columbus will host a Pasta Dinner to be held on **November 26th** from 6:00 – 8:00PM in the Father Lewis Center. The dinner will include pasta, meatballs, salad & bread. Desserts will be provided by the Columbiettes. Tickets are: Adults \$10, Children under 12 \$5 and Entire (immediate) Family \$25. Tickets will be available after Masses at St. Thomas and through the church office.

The Columbiettes are sponsoring a **toy drive** for disadvantaged children through Project Self-Sufficiency. The toys should be new and unwrapped. There is a large box in the gathering space for your convenience. The toy drive will finish on November 30th.

2016 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Be Rich in Good Works

It is important that, when you give to any charitable organization, you are confident that the funds are used wisely. Be assured that your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal supports four causes: our Catholic Charities agencies seminarian education, our inner-city area elementary schools and our priests' retirement residence. In addition, 50% of all funds received over a parish's goal are returned to the parish directly for their own pastoral needs. Please know that Appeal funds are used for no other purpose and serve only those who live in Morris, Passaic and Sussex Counties. Please make a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal today.

St. James Christmas Bazaar – December 3

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 Spinapolice 973-293-7031, Maria Henn 973-293-3243 or Joan Henn 973-293-3690. Please mark your calendars and start planning for this exciting fundraiser now.

2016: St. Thomas 75th Anniversary Year 1941-2016

St. Thomas History – December 9, 1987 – St. Thomas Mission, territorially largest in the diocese, was elevated to full parish status by Bishop Frank J. Rodimer during the Diocesan Jubilee Year. Obtaining land donated by Mr. & Mrs. Reginald Clark & their daughter, Lydia, Father Gacquin initiated plans and fundraising to build a new church. In 1988, a sign was erected at the 206 location.

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

On **Saturday, November 19th,** St. Thomas will be hosting its Annual Bake & Craft Sale and Flea Market. At the present time, we are in need of CRAFTERS and VENDERS. If anyone knows of someone who would be interested in renting a table or if any of your friends know of people who are crafters, please ask them to contact Deirdre Burgos at 973-948-6092. There will be a St. Thomas table containing donated crafts or new or slightly used items. If you have an item you love but no longer use or need and wish to donate it, please contact me at the above number. Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to set up on November 17 & 18 for the Bake Sale, Craft Sale & Flea Market scheduled for Nov. 19. Help also needed on the day of the event as well as November 20 to take down. A sign up sheet is in the gathering space or call Deirdre Burgos at 973-948-6092. Bakers and those who wish to bring baked goods are also needed. A sign up sheet is also in the gathering 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, October 30, 2016

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

6:00 p.m. Youth Group (at O.L.Q.P. till 8 p.m.)

Monday, Oct. 31

All Saints Day

Tuesday, Nov. 1

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

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

10:00a.m. STC Reflections on Readings

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

6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

7:00 p.m. STC Mass of All Saints

Wednesday, Nov. 2

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

Thursday, Nov. 3

9:30 a.m. STC Moms & Tots Playgroup

Friday, Nov. 4

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, Nov. 5

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

Sunday, November 6, 2016

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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

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

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

11:30a.m. SJC Coffee Hour after Mass

6:00 p.m. Youth Group (at O.L.Q.P. till 8 p.m.)

Future Events

Sat. Nov. 19 St. Thomas Bake & Craft Sale

Mon. Nov. 21 Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service

Next Sunday's Readings: 32nd Ord.

1st Reading: 2 Maccabees 7: 1—2, 9--14

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 17

2nd Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2: 16—3: 5

Gospel: Luke 20: 27--38

Feast of All Saints. One of the happiest occasions on our Church calendar has to be **All Saints Day.** It is the day that the whole Church celebrates those members who have already achieved the highest goals of this life: Heaven and Sainthood. These countless numbers of people have lived lives pleasing to God while on this earth. Now they have the everlasting reward of His presence and protection for all eternity. Among them surely are our loved ones who have passed on. And we share their joy this day—and the hope of joining them eventually in God's Kingdom. With all of this, **the Church declares this Tuesday, November 1st to be a Holy Day of Obligation.** Masses for this day 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

"The Genius of Being Women." Come join the women of our area to learn how St. Pope John Paul II affirmed the dignity of women and reminded them that God needs their unique "feminine genius." Shifting focus from *what we do* to *who we are in Christ*, women find their true identity. God has called them to share their vibrant gifts in the New Evangelization, the New Springtime of the Church precisely for "*such a time as this.*"

The Speaker is our own **Cindy Costello**, a graduate of the *Theology of the Body Institute's Certification Program.* She is coordinator of the Marriage Ministry of the Diocese of Paterson. This talk will be given at **Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Branchville, Wed. Nov. 9th, 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.** The cost will be a free will offering at the door. Ladies, don't miss this opportunity to be reminded of your importance in God's Plan.

75th Anniv. Photo Directory. Our Directory is available for sale after each Mass or through the Parish Office. Cost is \$ 10.

Saint Mother Teresa, speaking at the National Prayer Breakfast, Washington D.C. in 1994:

"I feel that the greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion, because it is a war against the child, a direct killing of the innocent child, murder by the mother herself. And if we accept that a mother can kill even her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another?"