

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

Jesus' Way

“What happened, that You will reveal yourself to us and not to the world ?”

-- John 14: 22

Why did Jesus spend so much time focusing on His closest disciples ? Wouldn't it have been more efficient for Him to reveal Himself to “the world” in a big way ? He could have summoned political and religious leaders to witness His resurrection in a blaze of cosmic glory that would leave no room for doubt. Was He possibly missing His chance to reach the whole world in one grand spectacle ?

There's no doubt that Jesus loves every single person and wants everyone to come to know Him. But just as it was when He walked the earth, He has chosen to reveal Himself on a small, personal scale. No grand, once-and-for-all gesture will accomplish what He wants to do; only many daily small ones will make Him known.

Think about it. When God came to us as a helpless baby, He showed that He wanted to be one of us and one *with* us. Rather than overpowering humanity as a mighty, cosmic Lord, He quietly connected Himself to a family and spent years building relationships with Mary and Joseph and His fellow Nazarenes.

Then when He called His disciples, He did the same thing. He forged a relationship with them—a relationship that taught them to love as He loved, a relationship that turned them into living examples of His mercy.

Jesus is still using the same strategy today. He is revealing Himself “to the world” through relationships—our relationships with the people around us. Every time we reach out to someone, *He* is reaching out through us. Every time we offer someone words of encouragement or understanding, *He* is speaking through us. It's in our simple, everyday acts of love that Jesus can shine through the brightest.

Now, we know that we aren't perfect. We know that we don't always act as Jesus would have us act. But Jesus has taken care of even this wrinkle in His plan. He has chosen to reveal Himself in an especially powerful way every time we forgive each other and make amends.

So yes, Jesus is revealing Himself to the world—through you !

**Jesus, reveal Yourself more fully to me
so that other people can come to see You more clearly.**

--from: *The Word Among Us*
Easter, 2017

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 28, 2017**

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Terry Naletko at the
Request of his Family

SATURDAY, June 3

8:00AM – Sandor & Rose Szabo
req. by their Family

PENTECOST SUNDAY

June 4

8:00AM – Mavis Kaufman
req. by her Family

11:30AM – Dom & Agnes Giordano
req. by their Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 815.00 – Regular Collection – May 21, 2017 +

\$ 150.00 - Online Giving

\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$1,306.00 – Regular Collection – May 22, 2016

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*

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Margaret Accordino, Mary Cunico, Frances Demalderis, Rozanne DeNardo, Derya Dimertas, Judy Dressie, Rachel Gibbs, Mary Guimes, Barbara Haggerty, Carmen Howell, Jennifer, David Koehler, Angela Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Miriam Liggmari, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli, Sandy Matthews, John Meehan, Brian McKenna, Bill Myers, Danielle Parker, Tracey Perles, Flo Puccio, Alex Sepiol, Pam Spencer, Baby Teddy, Jen Vaughn, Lorraine Verga, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh, Joan White, Teri Winkler and Robert Woodcock

St. Thomas the Apostle

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

MONDAY, May 29

9:00AM – Leonie Flaskamp
req. by her Family

TUESDAY, May 30

9:00AM – Millie & Bob Walker
req. by their daughter, Mary
- Al Dellicker
req. by Ken & Mary Burkhardt

WEDNESDAY, May 31

9:00AM – Intentions of the Legion of Mary
req. by the Legion of Mary
-Intentions of Maria Rinaldi
req. by Aunt Di & Uncle Jim

THURSDAY, June 1

No Mass

FRIDAY, June 2

9:00AM – Intentions of Katelyn Donahue

SATURDAY, Vigil, June 3

4:30PM – Edward & Eleanor Stukane
req. by the Wainwright Family

PENTECOST SUNDAY

May 28

9:30AM – Intentions of the Catechists and Aides
- Joan Spoolstra

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,017.00 – Regular Collection – May 21, 2017 +

\$ 378.00 - Online Giving

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$1,752.00 – Regular Collection – May 22, 2016

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.

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 Spinapolic at 973-293-7031.



5 Ways to Welcome Spring (and none of them include staring at a screen)

After a long winter, the months of May and June herald a new season of growth, light and life. Spring is the perfect time to set down our screens, take a break from our Netflix account and force our families out into the sunshine and warmer weather. There is so much to be learned about ourselves, one another and our faith as we explore the wonders of God's creation!

Every Shower and Dew, Bless the Lord; Praise and Exult Him Above All Forever ~ Daniel 3:64

Get Dirty: Go outside after it rains with a pail and shovel and dig in the dirt. Notice the earthworms and other creeping things that surface after the rain. While worms seem small and insignificant, they help keep the soil rich and aerated so plants, trees and flowers can grow.

Talk About It: What is the purpose of spring rain? Every part of the earth has an important part to play in creation. We can see God's handiwork in the smallest bug to the tallest tree and the miraculous gift of growth and new life.

(To be continued...Taken from Time Out-Family On The Go)

Catechist and Aide Mass and Appreciation Breakfast

All Catechists, Aides and their Families are invited to join us on Pentecost Sunday, June 4th at 9:30AM at St. Thomas the Apostle Church for Mass being offered for your intentions followed by a Breakfast in your honor in the Father Lewis Center. If you have not already done so, please RSVP to Mary at 973-948-7004, so we can be properly prepared.



Catholic Teens

Our next gathering will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish **next Sunday, June 4th from 6:00-8:00PM**. There will be plenty of fun, games, music and prayer. Come join us and see what's going on!!! **Incoming 9th graders in September are now welcome to join Catholic Teens.**

Catholic Summer Camp

"Birthday Blast" Catholic Summer Camp will take place from Monday, July 17th through Friday, July 21st from 9:00AM until 12:00PM at Our Lady Queen of Peace in Branchville. It is open for children entering Grades K – 5. You may begin to register by going to www.olqpbbranchville.org. Go to the Religious Education tab on top and then select Catholic Summer Camp. We are hopeful that many of our children will take this wonderful opportunity to continue to grow in their faith through prayers, songs, crafts and activities. **We also welcome parents and teens of our parishes to come assist us that week – whatever time you have to offer, we are happy to receive! Please call Mary at 973-948-7004 if interested.**

Apparition Hill is coming to the Milford Theatre in Milford, PA on Sunday, June 25th at 2PM. Award winning director, Sean Bloomfield, (*The Triumph, If Only We Had Listened*) and his team created this powerful cinematic experience that was among the 2017 Oscar contenders. Discover how an unlikely group of pilgrims travel to Medjugorje to investigate the truth behind the greatest spiritual mystery of our time and what they actually found. Travel with them as they seek a sign of hope in a world that can seem hopeless. **(Note:** Pope Francis recently sent a Vatican Envoy, Archbishop Hoser, to Medjugorje to oversee the pastoral care of this place of miracles. He told the people of Medjugorje, "I would like to encourage and fortify all of you on behalf of the Pope, as his emissary.") Tickets are \$10. Available online: www.apparitionhill.org. Or call Mary Anne Condit 973-219-3352 or Patrice Kealy 973-534-1722.

The next 8:00am St. James Coffee Hour is June 4th. There will be no 8:00am coffee hours in July, August or September. We will resume on October 1st.

Catholic Heritage in Western Sussex County –

Near Culver Lake was Camp Columbus which was started by the Columbus Cadet Corps of NJ in the early 1920's. It later became a permanent camp for boys run by the Knights of Columbus of NJ. Bishop Emeritus Frank Rodimer was assigned there when first obtained.

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 **April 25th** 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 \$40.00 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!

Moms and Tots Play Group at St. Thomas

We are now meeting on Friday mornings from 10:00am to 11:30am in the Father Lewis Center. All babies and young children and their caregivers are welcome to join us for fun and fellowship! For details, please contact Mandi Sousa at 973-632-5536.

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, May 28, 2017

7th Sunday of Easter

Monday, May 29

Memorial Day

9:00 a.m. STC Memorial Day Mass

Tuesday, May 30

10:00a.m. STC Reflection on Readings

6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

Wednesday, May 31

Thursday, June 1

Friday, June 2

9:00 a.m. STC Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
after Mass, till 12 Noon

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

10:00a.m. STC Moms & Tots Play Group

Saturday, June 3

Sunday, June 4, 2017

Feast of Pentecost

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

9:30 a.m. STC Catechists' Breakfast

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

Next Sunday's Readings: 7th Easter

1st Reading: Acts 2: 1--11

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 104

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 3b--7; 12--13

Gospel: John 20: 19--23

Get FORMED during the Easter Season:

www.Formed.org Parish Code: HCVWQC

Seeing Red. Next week-end celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. **Wear something Red** to church and be a reminder of the Spirit's presence among us. (It's also a good test to see if anyone ever reads this Bulletin.)

Memorial Day honors all who have served in our armed forces, and who have protected our nation throughout its history. This day is meant to remind us of their great sacrifices, so that we might enjoy our freedoms and our way of life. It is a time to pray for those who have died in our nation's wars, and to pray for the safety of all who presently serve; and to re-dedicate ourselves to seeking peace.

A special **Memorial Day Mass** will be celebrated at St. Thomas at 9:00 a.m. You are invited to observe Memorial Day in this most proper way: by praying for God's direction of our nation and its people.

Our Parish Calendar. It's time to make plans for the next year (July '17—July '18). We are asking all heads of organizations, and those requesting space for events in the next year to **submit their requests by Sunday, June 11.** All requests will be condensed into one provisional listing, and a **meeting will be held on Mon. June 19** at St. Thomas to iron out any apparent conflicts. 'Calendar planning pages' can be found at both churches.

Teen Dance. All teens are invited to a **Swing Dance** being hosted by our area parishes. It will celebrate the end (almost) of the school year. The date is **Fri., June 16.** It will be held at the **Queen of Peace outdoor pavilion**, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The **cost is: FREE.** Refreshments will be served. Trained instructors will teach you "swing dancing."

Young Adults. A group for **young Catholics in their 20's and 30's** is forming. The "*Disciples of the Sacred Heart*" will begin meeting on **Fri. June 2nd** and will continue **each first Friday** thereafter. It will be a chance to connect with other Catholic young adults of our area parishes. Meetings will be held at Queen of Peace Church in Branchville, from 8 p.m. till 10 p.m. It will begin each time with praise and adoration, then continue with social time in the outdoor pavilion (weather permitting.) Local singer and songwriter Dan Ferrari will provide music. Join us for this time of fellowship, socializing and prayer.

Quo Vadis Days of Discernment. A few days of recreation and reflection are being planned for all young men of our Diocese. The dates are Tues. June 27—Thurs. June 29. More info to follow.