

# 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](mailto:stjamesthomas@aol.com)  
Website address: [saintjamesthomas.org](http://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](http://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](http://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**

# Those Darn Labels !

Have you ever purchased an item and then had to struggle long and hard to remove the price tag or UPC label ? With adhesive worthy of the space shuttle, these labels cling so tightly to the items that sometimes we just give up and leave them there.

Verbal labels are not that different. Without full knowledge and with no right to do so, we sometimes label others as good or bad, pretty or ugly, smart or slow, stylish or old-fashioned. Some labels have great baggage glued to them, and when people are so labeled, they are also burdened with the baggage that is attached. For example, to be labeled bad or immoral or sinful saddles another with a judgment that says: “That’s who you are and that’s how you’ll always be.” Such labels don’t allow for the possibility of grace or change or growth or transformation. Conversely, the labels we often affix to ourselves—good, upright, exemplary—are also something of a burden, in that we tend to identify with the label, but neglect to make the daily, deliberate effort that might make the label true. Aware of the human condition, Jesus encouraged His disciples to forego the desire to label themselves or others as wheat or weeds, as Jew or gentile, as servant or free, as woman or man. Instead, He called them to work faithfully to welcome the good seed of God’s Word so as to be ready to welcome the Kingdom’s harvest in God’s good time.

Today’s Gospel calls for patience and mutual forbearance among those who await the harvest. Jesus’ policy of allowing all to grow together until harvest time may upset those aching to be set apart from the rest and rewarded for a job well done and a life well lived. Nevertheless, the fact that both light and dark, good and evil, weeds and wheat are left to grow together might challenge us to a serious self-evaluation. God has given us time to pray, to stand before God and others, and to look at who we are. We may have a UPC label affixed to our foreheads identifying us as Christian, but the underlying truth of who we are may prove otherwise.

Therefore, without looking to those who stand to our right or to our left, let us look only at ourselves and at Jesus. Is our belonging to Him truly evident in our lives ? Is our commitment transparent enough so as to be easily detected in what we say and do ? Should there be any discrepancies, now is the time to admit them and to listen more attentively, and to heed the Word that Jesus longs to plant within us.

--from the periodical, *Celebration*

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
July 23, 2017**

**St. James the Greater**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Sandor & Rose Szabo at the  
Request of their Family

**SATURDAY, July 29**

8:00AM – Intentions of Jessica Maillet & Family

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
July 30**

8:00AM – Irma Pagano  
req. by her Family

11:30AM – Robert & Ann Lamb  
req. by Peggy & Richard Gray

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$1,229.00 – Regular Collection – July 9, 2017 +  
\$ 60.00 - Online Giving  
\$1,386.00 – Regular Collection – July 16, 2017 +  
\$ 160.00 – Online Giving  
\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

*Consider a gift to St. James Parish in your will.*  
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**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, Betty Lacovara, Angela Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Joseph Ligammari, Miriam Ligammari, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli Sandy Matthews, John Meehan, Brian McKenna, Bill Myers, Danielle Parker, Tracey Perles, Flo Puccio, Alex Sepiol, Infant John Antonio Seti, Pam Spencer, Baby Teddy, Michael Toth, 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 Frank & Jane Varga at the  
Request of their Family

**MONDAY, July 24**

9:00AM – Intentions of Bill Jaeger  
req. by Omar & Marie

**TUESDAY, July 25**

9:00AM – Pastors and People of the Parish of  
St. James – Living and Deceased  
-Intentions of Michael Toth, Jr.

**WEDNESDAY, July 26**

9:00AM – Grandparents of the Parish

**THURSDAY, July 27**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, July 28**

9:00AM – Bill Kelly  
req. by Ken & Mary Burkhardt

**SATURDAY, Vigil, July 29**

4:30PM – Deloris Spinks  
req. by her husband, Russ  
-Russell B. Spinks  
req. by his Dad

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
July 30**

9:30AM – Anita DeFilippis  
req. by Frances Demalderis

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$1,850.00 – Regular Collection – July 9, 2017 +  
\$ 378.00 - Online Giving  
\$2,344.00 – Regular Collection – July 16, 2017 +  
\$ 461.00 – Online Giving  
\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

*Consider a gift to St. Thomas Parish in your will.*  
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**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.



### Registrations for 2017/2018 Catechetical Year

Re-registrations for children in Grades 2-8 for the upcoming catechetical year **were due back by July 15<sup>th</sup>** to avoid the late fee. **If you have not sent your re-registration back yet, please do so immediately.**

Parents of children entering first grade, 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.



### Catholic Teens

Our next gathering will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish **today, Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 Freshman are now welcome to join Catholic Teens.**

### On This Day We Celebrate

July 26<sup>th</sup> – Sts. Joachim and Anne – the Grandparents of Jesus. Pray for their intercession for your grandparents and remember to call your grandparents today too!!!

### From the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the joy-filled responsibility of the entire faith community. As a community of faith, we are called to encourage others to become fully initiated Catholics. Each of us, as followers of Jesus, is called to be both a hearer of the Word and a doer of the Word. Get involved in spreading the message of God's Word! Exercise your faith! Now is your opportunity. Be a motivator of another on their journey of faith. As a doer of the Word, you will become more aware of how God is present and active in your life each day.

Have those you motivate call the Religious Education office at 973-948-7004, and their call will be returned.

### History of Western Sussex Missions

Fr. Edward P. Liptak, of the Salesians, is the only young man we know of from St. James who was ordained. His parents, Stephen and Rose, served as presidents of that parish's Holy Name & Rosary Societies. He was Rector at Don Bosco Seminary College [now SCCC] in Newton, NJ before going to serve the missions in Africa.

Moms and Tots Playgroup will continue to meet most Fridays from 10:00am to 11:30am through the summer. If weather permits, we will be meeting at local parks also. Please check our Facebook page "Sandyston Tot Group" to find us each week.

### Please Join Us For A Fond Farewell

It is with a bittersweet heart that we have to say "farewell" to our parishioners Tom and Cindy Costello and their family.

Like many parishioners, the Costello's have truly given of themselves to our parish. Ben and Josh have served as Altar Servers since they were small boys and have served as Children's Liturgy of the Word Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers for several years also. They could always be counted on at Coffee Hours, Picnics, Snowstorms or wherever we needed them to lend a hand. Tom has served as a Eucharistic Minister and has been an active Knight of Columbus, including holding office for many years. Cindy has faithfully proclaimed the Word of God as a Lector and has been a very significant servant throughout the Diocese of Paterson bringing Pope Saint John Paul II's *Theology of the Body* teaching to many parishes. Both Tom and Cindy have facilitated the diocesan's *God's Plan for a Joy-filled Marriage* Pre-Cana instruction and served as Confirmation Catechists here for over 10 years, touching the hearts and minds of countless teens, while guiding them on their faith journey. Now the next part of their faith and life journey is taking them to Steubenville, Ohio.

As a parish family, we would like to wish them well and have a chance to say good-bye to them on **Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at the 9:30AM Mass and with a Coffee Hour** to follow. If you would like, feel free to bring something to share, but more than that, please stop in to thank them all for their many years of faithful service to our parish and to wish them a heartfelt farewell.

*Goodbyes are not forever. Goodbyes are not the end. They simply mean I'll miss you. Until we meet again. ~ Jiminy Cricket*

**The Columbiettes are collecting school supplies in July and August. A basket is in the gathering space.**

### St. Thomas Feast Day Picnic

A great big **THANK YOU** to all who helped set up, clean up or otherwise assisted in making our Feast Day Picnic a great success. Thank you to all those who attended and brought side dishes, as well as those who bought or sold our 50/50 tickets or helped in any way. Special thanks to Donna and Mark Lewandowski, Mike Kealy, Tom Nicole, Marc and Susan Cunico, Omar and Marie Mendez, Deacon Wayne, Mary and Ken Burkhardt, Jim and Diane Campbell, Ed and Eileen Campbell, Mary Flexer, Gerry Mahon, Father Wayne, Don Hall and Dale's Market. Thank you to Lou, Don and Nancy for their wonderful music. Approximately 75 people attended, and a good time was had by all. The 50/50 raffle was pulled with Elizabeth Marencik from St. James being the first prize winner receiving (40% of the proceeds) \$876 and Dawn Hall from St. Thomas being the second prize winner receiving (10% of the proceeds) \$219.00. The proceeds for St. Thomas Church was \$1,095.00. Our picnic next year is scheduled for **July 1, 2018** – hold the date!

## 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, July 23, 2017**

**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Monday, July 24**

**Tuesday, July 25**

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

**Wednesday, July 26**

**Thursday, July 27**

**Friday, July 28**

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, July 29**

5:30 p.m. STC Eucharistic Ministers Mtg.

**Sunday, July 30, 2017**

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time**

### Future Events

Sat. Aug. 5 St. James Parish Picnic. Begins 1 p.m.

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### Next Sunday's Readings: 17<sup>th</sup> Ord

1st Reading: *1 Kings 3: 5, 7--12*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 119*

2nd Reading: *Romans 8: 28--30*

Gospel: *Matthew 13: 44--52*

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### Get FORMED for the summer:

[www.Formed.org](http://www.Formed.org) Unlock spiritual treasures with  
our Parish Code: HCVWQC

**Suggestion:** "*Saint John Bosco: Mission to Love*"

Tells the story of this well-known and well-loved  
saint. Feast day: January 31

**Consider Weekday Mass.** Start your day in  
the best way possible. Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 9 a.m.  
at St. Thomas. Sat. 8 a.m. at St. James.

### Eucharistic Ministers Update Meeting.

All Euch. Ministers are asked to meet for a short  
time after Mass **this Sat. July 29 at 5:30 p.m. at  
St. Thomas.** We will have a review of the origins  
and importance of the **Eucharistic Ministry** as well  
as go over procedures and entertain suggestions.  
Ministers of both parishes are asked to attend. A  
similar meeting will be held **at St. James on Sun.  
Aug. 27 at 1 p.m.**

Thanks to our **Lectors** who attended last  
Saturday's Lectors Update Meeting. A similar  
meeting will take place at **St. James on Sun. Aug.  
20 at 1 p.m.** Lectors of both parishes are asked to  
attend.

**Marian Pilgrimage.** Every three years our  
Diocese gears up to make a pilgrimage to the  
*National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception* in  
Washington D.C. It continues a long tradition in  
the Church of making spiritual journeys to sacred  
shrines and places to seek graces from the Lord and  
to honor the saints.

Our up-coming pilgrimage will include a Mass  
with Bishop Serratelli, catechetical presentations,  
devotional time and a chance for Confession.

There are two options: 1) the one-day  
pilgrimage: \$ 49. and 2) the overnight option: Fri.  
to Sat. \$259. The date will be: **Sat. October 21.**

For more info, contact our Pilgrimage  
Coordinator, Chris Higgins at 201-738-9968.

**On Line Giving.** We thank you always for  
your donations in the collection basket each week-  
end. They very much help us to keep going and to  
meet our expenses.

For those who do their banking and pay bills  
through the computer, we are set up to accept on-  
line donations to the Sunday collection. Simply  
reach our website, **saintjamesthomas.org**. You  
will find the link to on-line giving. Follow it  
through and it will easily set you up for weekly or  
monthly contributions. Again, our thanks.

### Some quotes from a modern saint:

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

"It is not what we do, but how much love we put into it."

"If you can't feed a hundred people, then just feed one."

"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better  
and happier."

Mother Teresa (1910—1997)  
(declared a saint: Sept. 4, 2016)