

# 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.

**Welcome -We Are a Tithing Parish**

# Pray for Vocations

Today, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, has traditionally been known as Good Shepherd Sunday. The Gospel on this particular Sunday always speaks of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In 1963, Pope Paul VI designated this day as the *World Day of Prayer for Vocations*. The world-wide Church today recognizes that all Christians have vocations; each of us has a unique calling to live out his or her Baptism throughout our lives.

To know and follow your particular vocation is to find the greatest fulfillment in life. That doesn't mean that there will be no problems. But the Lord promises to give us His grace if we co-operate with Him. Whether it be in Marriage, in the Single Life, in the Religious Life or in the Priesthood—the Lord counts on all of us to fulfill our roles to the best of our abilities. All lay vocations somehow add to God's creation—whether as teacher, doctor/nurse, bus driver, accountant, housewife, etc; each in some way serves the needs of the world. Each religious vocation keeps God in touch with His people and assures them of God's covenant (God's promise) to be with His people always.

Offer the prayer below for all the young people you know. Pray that they will find their true vocations. It will be the key to their happiness and success in life.

## A Prayer for Vocations

*Gracious God, with grateful hearts we welcome  
the presence of Jesus, our Good Shepherd.  
We accept the mission of Jesus  
to bring Good News to the world  
by our Baptismal commitment to Gospel living.*

*Bless us with discerning hearts.  
May we have the courage to give our lives  
in loving service through married life, the single life,  
the consecrated life, or the ordained life.*

*Inspire young men and women to respond generously  
and embrace the gift of a religious vocation.*

*We unite our prayers with the whole Church,  
with the communion of saints, with Jesus and the Holy Spirit  
in praise and thanksgiving, now and forever. Amen.*

**NCCV Prayer**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**April 17, 2016**

**St. James the Greater**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Robert & Ann Lamb at the  
Request of Peggy & Richard Gray

**SATURDAY, April 23**

8:00AM – Laura Shea  
req. by her Family  
-John Morgiewicz  
req. by his daughter, Ann Dilger

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**April 24**

8:00AM – Marion Rohner  
req. by Bill, Valerie, Kate & Emilia Ricciardi

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

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$1,301.00 – Regular Collection – April 10, 2016**

**\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

**\$1,913.00 – Regular Collection – April 12, 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, Rachel Gibbs, Barbara Haggerty, Carmen Howell, Kimberly & Baby Macie, Bill Lange, Jeff Librizzi, Betty Mastrelli, Sandy Matthews, Brian McKenna, Cathy Moyer, Danielle Parker, Marguerite Phillips, Flo Puccio, Baby Teddy, Jen Vaughn, Lorraine Verga, Tarra Wagner and Thomas Walsh

**Jesus Heals**

The Healing Service at St. James is postponed until the Spring of 2016. If you have any questions, please call Deacon Wayne at 973-293-3344.

**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.

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Leonie Flaskamp at the  
Request of Dawn Hall

**MONDAY, April 18**

9:00AM – Ann DeGennaro  
req. by Gerry Mahon

**TUESDAY, April 19**

9:00AM – Timothy Yarosz  
req. by his mother, Josephine

**WEDNESDAY, April 20**

9:00AM – Mavis Kaufman  
req. by her Family

**THURSDAY, April 21**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, April 22**

9:00AM – Jimmy Reed  
req. by his Mom & Dad

**SATURDAY, Vigil, April 23**

4:30PM – John Tidona  
req. by Mary Flexer  
- Robert Benson  
req. by Mary Flexer

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**April 24**

9:30AM – James Connolly  
req. by his wife, Barbara & Children  
- James Fischer  
req. Pat & Pete Lane

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$2,052.00 – Regular Collection – April 10, 2016**

**\$ 150.00 – Additional Easter**

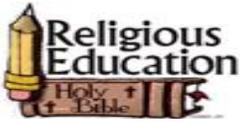
**\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

**\$3,815.00 – Regular Collection – April 12, 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.



### First Holy Eucharist Retreat

The children of our parish who are preparing for the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist will be on a morning of retreat on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:30AM until 12:00PM at Camp Auxilium in Newton led by the Salesian Sisters and Novices. Please keep these young parishioners in your prayer as they are soon to receive the Sacred Body and Precious Blood of Jesus for the very first time.

### 7 Ways To Find Easter Joy Each Day

1. Begin each day by thanking God for all the good things in your life.
2. Give God all of your fears and worries.
3. Do something nice for someone.
4. Let go of anger and resentments that drag down your spirit.
5. Show family members and friends how much you appreciate them.
6. Get rid of material possessions that are not essential to your daily life.
7. End each day by thanking God for all the good things in your life.

***"This is the culmination of the Gospel, it is the Good News par excellence: Jesus, who was crucified, is risen! ~ Pope Francis***



### Extraordinary Jubilee year of Mercy Pilgrimage

Information was sent to our Middle-school and High-school parishioners, their parents and our Catechists regarding a pilgrimage to the Diocesan Holy Door at Holy Rosary Church/Shrine of Saint John Paul II in Passaic on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be traveling to Passaic with Stocker Bus at a cost of \$10.00 per person. We will be leaving the Religious Education Center at 10:30AM, attending the 12:30PM Mass at Holy Rosary, having a quick packed lunch, then a tour of the church, shrine and Holy Door. We expect to depart by 3:00PM. **You must RSVP to Mary by phone at 973-948-7004 or by email at [maryflexer@yahoo.com](mailto:maryflexer@yahoo.com) by Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Parishioners are also very welcome to join us.**



### Mother's Day Plant Sale

St. James Church will be having a plant sale on Mother's Day, May 8<sup>th</sup>, after both Masses. Remember that "special lady" in your life on her "special" day. There will be 10" and 12" assorted hanging baskets while supplies last. Prices vary depending on the size and type of flower you choose.

**DANCE NIGHT:** On Saturday, **April 23<sup>rd</sup>** at **6:00PM** in the Father Lewis Center, the Columbiettes will be having a dance with great music provided by "KOZ THE DJ". Tickets are \$10.00 each and can be purchased at either church after Masses or through Rosemarie, the parish secretary. Join us for a night of fun. Hotdogs, Sauerkraut, rolls, dessert, coffee and tea will be served. BYOB. Checks made payable to Msgr. James F. Gacquin Auxiliary #12974.

### HOLD THE DATE

**The St. Thomas Tricky Tray** will take place on **Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**. More information will follow.

**The next St. Thomas Pot Luck Dinner** will be on **April 30<sup>th</sup>** after the 4:30pm Mass. All are welcome.

### 2016: St. Thomas 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year 1941-2016

**Good Deed Journaling.** All parishioners are invited to make note of the good deeds they perform during the course of the day. There are little notebooks on the table in the Gathering Space. Please take one and use it as a personal diary to record the good deeds you perform for the Lord each day. You may surprise yourself. These notebooks are for your personal use only, and can be a wonderful offering to the Lord of your time well spent for His honor and glory.

### Calling all "Vintage People"

Perhaps you have great memories of the Catholic Church and the America of our youth. We ask if you would like to share a memory or two with all of our parishioners as we celebrate our 75<sup>th</sup> year.

### Senior "Vintage" Memories

I remember when girls and women had to wear head coverings. Sometimes, we would forget our hats when stopping by church to make a visit and had to use a tissue and bobby pin to cover our heads.

**St. Thomas History** – St. Matthew remained a Mission, and its first Mass was under a tent. St. Thomas modified the Hainesville School House and had dedicated colored glass windows in our earliest building.



### Golf Outing???

It has been suggested to the Anniversary Planning Committee that perhaps it would be nice to plan a Golf Outing. This would most likely take place late summer or early fall. If anyone is interested in participating in this event, please call Mary at 973-948-7004 or by email at [maryflexer@yahoo.com](mailto:maryflexer@yahoo.com). The number of participants will help us to decide on the golf course. Also, if you are interested in assisting with this event, just let us know!

### Yoga-lates

St. Thomas is offering a **Spring** 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 6:15-7:15pm for 8 weeks and **started April 12<sup>th</sup>. You may join us at any time.** The class is easy to follow but a full body workout. Bring a mat, hand held weights (1-8lbs.), water and a friend. Join for the session for only \$40.00 or pay \$6.00 per class. Twenty percent of the class money will be going to St. Thomas parish. So, please try it out and do something for yourself. Any questions, please call Chris Dube at 973-948-2329.

## 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, April 17, 2016

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

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

10:30a.m. SJC Columbiettes Mtg

### Monday, Apr. 18

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

### Tuesday, Apr. 19

10:00a.m. STC Reflection on Readings

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

6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

### Wednesday, Apr. 20

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

### Thursday, Apr. 21

9:30 a.m. REC Moms & Tots Play Group

### Friday, Apr. 22

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

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

### Saturday, Apr. 23

9:30 a.m. First Eucharist Retreat for Gr. 2  
--at Camp Auxilium, Newton

7:00 p.m. STC Spring Dance,  
--hosted by Columbiettes

### Sunday, April 24, 2016

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

#### Future Events

Sat. Ap. 23 STC Spring Dance

Fri. May 6 STC Annual Tricky Tray

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### Next Sunday's Reading: 5<sup>th</sup> Sun. of Easter

1st Reading: *Acts of Apostles 14: 21 -- 27*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 145*

2nd Reading: *Revelation 21: 1 -- 5*

Gospel: *John 13: 31 – 33, 34 -- 35*

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*“Aspire to inspire before you expire.”*

--seen on a church signboard

**For young men, 15 – 25.** Our diocese has developed a unique retreat for young men, ages 15 – 25. It is an informal three-day experience during which you are asked to think about your future, and God's plans for you. It is the **Quo Vadis Retreat**. ‘Where are you going?’ is the theme, and also the translation in English. The Retreat will be held June 29—July 1. It will be held in our neighborhood: the **Sacred Heart Center in Newton**. It will include reflection time, sports, meals, Mass and discussion. You will meet young priests of our Diocese who will be running the Retreat. High school students and those of college age will have separate programs. And, the cost is: Free !

Give yourself a chance to think ahead about your future, and enjoy the time with other young Catholic men of our Diocese. Call the Diocese of Paterson, 973-777-8818 x 711 for more info.

**Photo Directory Back on Track.** Thanks to resourceful parishioners, we have found a way to bring our **75<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Photo Directory** back to life. At this time we would like to know if there are other parishioners or families that would like their photos in the album. Please call the Parish Office (973-948-2296) or speak to Fr. Wayne to be included. We can arrange a local photographer to come in and take professional photos.

### Announcing: Our Parishes' Website.

Launched and operational just recently, we proudly announce our Website:

**[saintjamesthomas.org](http://saintjamesthomas.org)**

It is powered by E-Catholic, and is linked (we think) with the other churches and agencies of the Diocese of Paterson. We hope to have all events and news available continually.

**Your Family History.** Here is a chance to learn more about your family background, and how to dig further into the past. The **Sparta Family History Center** at the Church of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) invites us to an Open House on **Sat. April 23, 2 p.m. till 4 p.m.** to hear speakers and meet experts in genealogical research. The Mormons have extensive means to access records from throughout the world. Their service is free, and no solicitations will be made. The Center (and the church) are located at 95 Pinkneyville Rd., Sparta.