

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



Come, Holy Spirit

On this glorious feast day today, we celebrate the moment that Jesus' Spirit—the Holy Spirit—was unleashed upon the earth. That's a good thing. This Holy Spirit would guide the apostles in building the Church that we are a part of today. From now on, the Spirit that guided and moved Jesus would be available to anyone who called upon this Spirit.

We receive the Holy Spirit in its fullness at the time of our Confirmation. As it is conferred, the Bishop offers this beautiful prayer:

All-Powerful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
By water and the Holy Spirit
You freed Your sons and daughters from sin
And gave them new life.
Send Your Holy Spirit upon them
To be their Helper and Guide.
Give them the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding,
The Spirit of Right Judgment and Courage,
The Spirit of Knowledge and Reverence.
Fill them with the Spirit of Wonder and Awe in Your presence.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

After this sacred prayer, the Bishop anoints each candidate with a special oil, the holy chrism, as a sign that they have been chosen by God to receive the Holy Spirit.

The Spirit brings with Him those Gifts expressed above. All who have been confirmed carry those gifts with them at all times. They are a spiritual toolbox which can help us in every situation or problem or decision. How often do you call upon them? Here is a reminder of all that we possess:

Wisdom: helps us to learn from our mistakes, to grow in self-confidence and to be open to God's Word

Understanding: aids us in seeing all things in the light of God's love and mercy

Right Judgment (Counsel): guides us to choose the best path and to make the best decisions

Courage (Fortitude): encourages us to be witnesses to the Lord in the midst of an unbelieving Society

Knowledge: keeps us open to the truth and impels us to continue searching for it

Reverence (Piety): helps us to express our love for the Lord and our need for His grace

Wonder and Awe (Fear of the Lord): keeps alive our joy in God's awesome, gentle presence in our lives, and instills a fear of offending One who loves us so much

With these Gifts, we have all that we need to serve the Lord capably, and to live our lives to the fullest. Let us rejoice in this Feast Day of the Pentecost—the climax of the Easter Season.

God bless you,
Father Wayne

PENTECOST SUNDAY
May 15, 2016

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns for the
Intentions of Baby Teddy at the
Request of the Cerra Family

SATURDAY, May 21

8:00AM – Janice Decker
req. by her Family

FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

May 22

8:00AM – Nora O'Grady
req. by Art & Maria Henn

11:30AM – Kate Olivo
req. by her Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,806.00 – Regular Collection – May 8, 2016
\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need
\$1,277.00 – Regular Collection – May 10, 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, Clara Kane, 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

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 for the
Intentions of Ann & Happy Dunn at the
Request of their Children

MONDAY, May 16

9:00AM – Barbara Kientzler
req. by her son, Charles

TUESDAY, May 17

9:00AM – Intentions of Russ Spinks
req. by Bill & Marge Erickson

WEDNESDAY, May 18

9:00AM – Margaret Sweeney-Healy
req. by her Granddaughter, Mary Flexer

THURSDAY, May 19

No Mass

FRIDAY, May 20

9:00AM – Brian Neely
req. by Skylands Medical Group

SATURDAY, Vigil, May 21

4:30PM – Walter & Theresa Hoffman
req. by the Wainwright Family
- Jason Traverse
req. by his son, Ian Traverse

FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

May 22

9:30AM – Robert L. Benson, Sr.
req. Maria (Bopp) Kummer
- In Thanksgiving for Catechists of
the Parishes

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,701.00 – Regular Collection – May 8, 2016
\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need
\$2,272.00 – Regular Collection – May 10, 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.



Catechist Acknowledgement

As we have recessed our parish religious education program for the summer, I know you join me in sincerely thanking the following faithful men and women of our parishes who unselfishly gave so much of themselves to the children and teens of our parishes over the past months: Rita Straka, Karen Steinert, Rita Wenning, Marie Mendez, Patrice Kealy, Chris Higgins, Donna Blevins, Tracy Edwards, Cathy McNanna, Mike Bussow, John Lucadamo and Tom and Cindy Costello. Special thanks also to our Pastor, Father Wayne and Deacon Wayne for all they do for us! Our catechetical and evangelization efforts are possible because of the selfless love and dedication of each and every one. Please continue to keep them in your prayer of thanksgiving to Christ, the Teacher. Also, please consider answering your own baptismal call through the Ministry of Catechesis. It is very rewarding – just ask any of us! Just call the Religious Education office if you may be feeling called by Our Lord to serve in this way.



Catechist Appreciation Mass & Breakfast

In Gratitude for your Faithful Service to the Ministry of Catechesis, all Catechists and their Families are invited to join us on Sunday, May 22nd 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.

Catholic Summer Camp

As our enrollment for Vacation Bible School has lessened over the past two years, as has also been the case at Our Lady Queen of Peace, we have decided to try something new and combine our talents and join together! We are encouraging all children entering grades Kindergarten through Fifth Grade to join us for a week of learning our faith through music, prayers, games, skits, arts and crafts, friendship and fun at **Catholic Summer Camp**. This will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish on Route 206 in Branchville from Monday, June 20th through Friday, June 24th from 9:00AM until 12:00PM. Registration is free and was handed out to students last week in their classes. **Please return your form by June 3rd, so we can be properly prepared.** If you have any questions or concerns, please call Mary at 973-948-7004. We look forward to a wonderful week with old friends while making new friends too!!!

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 12th. 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.

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

Anniversary items are in and ready for sale. Travel mugs with the 75th anniversary logo are now available for \$5 each. Also available are anniversary logo magnets for \$4 each. Items are for purchase before and after the 4:30pm and 9:30am Masses. Grace Reich also has the items available. Be the first to celebrate the occasion of St. Thomas 75th Anniversary!!

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 75th year. Please pick up a blue sheet of paper in the gathering space.

Senior “Vintage” Memories – I remember when the spoken word in Mass was Latin, and we observed Mass looking at the back of the priest. How much better it is to participate in all the rituals in our own language and facing the altar and the clergy. We are partaking in what is truly happening before our eyes, minds and hearts. It makes a big difference to me.
Vivian Edwards

St. Thomas History – Until the ‘60’s, priests wore cassocks regularly. Nuns wore full-length traditional habits – each religious order’s dress was unique. Women and girls wore skirts or dresses to church and covered their heads with a hat, scarf or chapel veil. Sometimes, a folded handkerchief fastened with a bobby pin would be substituted. Men were to remove hats or caps on entering a church.

CONCERT: On **Sunday, May 22nd**, St. Mary’s Church in Port Jervis, NY will be hosting a special choral concert featuring their own Junior and Adult Choirs and Choirs from around the area. The concert will start at 3PM. A free will offering will be taken in place of admission to allow all our families to attend. Bring a friend!

The next St. Thomas Pot Luck Dinner is scheduled for **Saturday, May 28th** after the 4:30pm Mass.

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 15, 2016

Pentecost Sunday

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

10:30 a.m. STC Columbiettes Mtg.

Monday, May 16

8:00 a.m. SJC Clean-up Day at St. James

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

Tuesday, May 17

6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

Wednesday, May 18

Thursday, May 19

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

Friday, May 20

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

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

Saturday, May 21

Sunday, May 22, 2016

Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

10:30a.m. STC Catechists' Breakfast

Next Sunday's Reading: *Most Holy Trinity*

1st Reading: *Proverbs 8: 22--31*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 8*

2nd Reading: *Romans 5: 1--5*

Gospel: *John 16: 12--15*

Vivere Christus Award.

Congratulations to **Mary Flexer** and **Deacon Wayne** who will be receiving the *Vivere Christus Award* from Bishop Serratelli this afternoon at St. Philip's Church in Clifton. "Vivere Christus" ("to live is Christ") certainly describes both of them, as they have devoted their lives to the service of the Church in so many ways. We congratulate them and thank them both for all that they do for our parishes!

Pentecost Sunday: Time to get fired up.

It is fitting that flames are shaped like tongues—because the Good News is meant to spread like wildfire! In the sacrament of Confirmation when you receive the Holy Spirit, as the disciples did at Pentecost, you're empowered, emboldened, impassioned, set ablaze with the fervor to do God's work. The Holy Spirit now dwells in you but, like a house on fire, can't be contained. Take it out in the open, the way the disciples did, to preach the teachings of Christ to the whole world.

--from *Prepare the Word*, May 2016

Trips & Travel with St. Thomas. We are arranging a variety of trips in celebration of our parish's 75th Anniversary. Our one-day trips include *Samson at Sight & Sound Millennium Theatre* (Sat. May 28) and *Hershey Park* (Fri. Jun. 24). We are also gauging interest in a 3-day weekend trip to *Washington D.C.* You may have seen the brochures in the vestibule for our *Irish Pilgrimage* trip available in September. This very special trip, as with all the others, is open to everyone. Feel free to extend the invitation to others outside our parishes. If you are interested in any one of the above, please contact Christy Mahon at 862-354-8448 or visit this website: cmahon@cruiseone.com for details.

Announcing: Our Parishes' Website.

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

saintjamestomas.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.

Make this a time for peace.

That clanging sound you just heard is the gate of the Easter season swinging shut behind us. We're now back in Ordinary Time, which can be a little disorienting. If Advent is about waiting, Lent about repenting, and Easter about rejoicing, then what is the rest of the church year about? Ordinary Time is the "green" season, and green means life in nature and in liturgy. We dedicate 34 weeks of the year to the wide-open possibilities of living and growing in grace, a time of hope and holiness. Today, cultivate peace where you are.

--from *Prepare the Word*, May 2016