

# 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**

# *God's Mercy Always Triumphs*

**“I have sinned against the Lord.”**

2 Samuel 12: 13

Sometimes our decision making is bad, and sometimes it's just plain awful. In today's First Reading, David's was awful. He had committed adultery with Bathsheba. Then, when he found out that she was pregnant, he tried to convince Bathsheba's husband Uriah that he was the father. When that didn't work, he ordered Uriah to be moved to the front line of battle, where he was killed.

David's story offers us some crucial lessons. First, we should be alert. Temptation is all around, and it can be very easy to succumb to it. Second, it tells us how, once we have fallen, we can go to great lengths to cover up our sin. But that strategy often leads to more and more sin. As the poet Walter Scott wrote, *“Oh what a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive !”*

But God was merciful to David, and that is the third lesson. When the prophet Nathan confronted David, David acknowledged his sin and repented.

There is a modern day parallel. Dorothy Day was involved sexually with a number of men, had a child out of wedlock, and had an abortion after she became pregnant with another man. But when Dorothy turned to the Lord, God did more than forgive her. He inspired her to become a champion of the poor. (The great Saint Augustine is another parallel.

God was merciful to King David and to Dorothy Day, and He is merciful to us. He is merciful to everyone who comes to Him ! So whether your sin is large or small, don't be afraid to confess it. Let God's mercy wash over you and set you free.

Today's Responsorial Psalm traces David's experience of forgiveness. He “kept silent,” but it didn't help (Psalm 32: 3). “I groaned all day,” he confessed (32: 3). But then he encountered a merciful God and discovered that God is a “shelter” to all who turn to Him (32: 7). Pray this Psalm today, and let God fill you with His mercy and His love.

**“Lord, have mercy on me. Cleanse me that I may be pure of heart.”**

--from: *The Word Among Us*  
June, 2016

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**June 12, 2016**

**St. James the Greater**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Kate Olivo at the  
Request of her Family

**SATURDAY, June 18**

8:00AM – Intentions of Father Gregory Kelly  
req. by Barbara Quinn & Family

**TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**June 19**

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

11:30AM – Walter & Norma Journey

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$1,982.00 – Regular Collection – June 5, 2016**

**\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

**\$1,059.00 – Regular Collection – June 7, 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, 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 Spinapolic at 973-293-7031.

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Mildred & Bob Walker at the  
Request of Jim & Diane Campbell

**MONDAY, June 13**

9:00AM – Mildred Walker  
req. by Grace Reich  
-Intentions of Michael Yarosz  
Graduation Blessings  
req. by his Grandmother

**TUESDAY, June 14**

9:00AM – Intentions of John O'Connor  
req. by Mary Flexer

**WEDNESDAY, June 15**

9:00AM – Harry Lynch  
req. by his sister, Rosemary Grasso

**THURSDAY, June 16**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, June 17**

9:00AM – Mildred Walker  
req. by Fran Whitesell

**SATURDAY, Vigil, June 18**

4:30PM – Mildred Walker  
req. by Rita & Milan Straka  
-Intentions of Msgr. Robert Carroll  
Blessings on Retirement  
req. by the Legion of Mary

**TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**June 19**

9:30AM – Franklin Limosnero  
req. by Gerry Mahon & Family  
-Eugene & Mary Ellen St. John  
req. by the St. John Family

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$3,029.00 – Regular Collection – June 5, 2016**

**\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

**\$2,330.00 – Regular Collection – June 7, 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.



### Registrations for 2016/2017 Catechetical Year

Re-registrations for children in Grades 2-8 for the upcoming catechetical year were mailed out last week. Please return all registrations by July 15<sup>th</sup> to avoid the late fee.

Parents of children entering first grade, new children to the parish, 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.

Confirmation registrations will be mailed out shortly.



**"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." ~ Jeremiah 29:11**

Congratulations to all who are graduating from Elementary School, Junior or Senior High School, College or Graduate School. May you know of the love, prayers and best wishes of many who are praying for you to continue to seek the help of God as you move forward to different schools or career opportunities. May you always call on the Holy Spirit for His gifts to help you make decisions which will always give glory, honor and praise to Our Lord Jesus Christ.



### A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

#### Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 12, 2016

**"I anointed you king of Israel. I rescued you from the hand of Saul, I gave you the Lord's house...and if this were not enough, I could count up for you still more. Why have you spurned the Lord and done evil in his sight?...I have been crucified with Christ, yet I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me."**

We are accustomed to making lists. There is the list of things to do, shopping lists, priorities, Christmas lists, itineraries. They always seem to help us be organized, save energy, and accomplish good. There are also lists of what to avoid, as foods, flowers, medicines.

The book of Samuel finds Nathan speaking for the Lord. The list of anointing, rescuing, and the gift of his house. David should have been appreciative. The prophet then said I could go on and on but I won't, but want you to think about all the gifts and from whom they come.

The Lord can address us in the same way. Who I am, what I have, and where I'm headed is all gift. I have life, the life of grace, all because of a generous God. My family, work, studies, joy and happiness. All are gifts. With the psalmist I ask myself, after compiling my list 'what return shall I make to the Lord for all he has done for me?' The gospel question today 'Which of them will love him more?'

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

**Anniversary items** are in and ready for sale. Travel mugs with the 75<sup>th</sup> 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' 75<sup>th</sup> 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 75<sup>th</sup> year. Please pick up a blue sheet of paper in the gathering space.

**Senior "Vintage" Memories** – Remember the "Hit Parade"? The song "Our Lady of Fatima" made the "Top Ten" list for a few weeks in the 50's. How wonderful that was!

**St. Thomas History** – In Dec. 1944, Rev. John E. Hewetson was reassigned by Bishop McLaughlin to St. Joseph's Parish – Lincoln Park, and Rev. Matthew Sharkey was appointed to succeed him as Administrator of the Mission in northern and western Sussex County. It was then noted that Our Lady of the Lake Chapel – Culver's Lake and St. Michael's Mission – Middleville would remain under St. Joseph's, Newton.

#### The Sacrament of Holy Orders

It is with great joy that we have the pleasure of announcing the ordination to the sacred priesthood of John O'Connor, son of Terrence and Janine O'Connor and a parishioner of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. John will be ordained a priest for the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest on July 7, 2016 by His Eminence Raymond Cardinal Burke in the Church of Saints Michael & Cajetan in Florence, Italy. His first Mass will be celebrated the next day at the Seminary of Grigiciano. The soon-to-be Reverend John O'Connor is the very first priestly vocation from our parish and his ordination comes exactly at the same time St. Thomas the Apostle celebrates its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!!! Please keep John in your prayers over the next few weeks, and we hope to soon welcome him back to his home parish to celebrate his first Mass here.

#### Vendors Wanted for Flea Market

St. James the Greater Church in Montague is having their Annual Flea Market on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00AM to 4:00PM. Indoor and outdoor spaces available. Please contact Betsy Gardner at 845-858-7892 or [Gardnerabstract@aol.com](mailto:Gardnerabstract@aol.com) for questions or to reserve a 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, June 12, 2016

#### 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

10:30a.m. STC Columbiettes Mtg.

### Monday, June 13

### Tuesday, June 14

### Wednesday, June 15

7:00 p.m. STC Adoration & Rosary with K of C

7:30 p.m. STC K of C. Monthly Mtg.

### Thursday, June 16

### Friday, June 17

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, June 18

### Sunday, June 19, 2016

#### 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Father's Day

#### Future Events

Sun. June 26 St. Thomas Parish Picnic:

Mon. June 27 7 p.m. STC New Calendar Mtg.

Wed. July 6 St. Thomas Founding Day Mass

--11 a.m. at Grotto (weather permitting)

--followed by light brunch in Fr. Lewis Center

Sat. July 23 St. James Parish Picnic

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#### Next Sunday's Reading: 12<sup>th</sup> Ord

1st Reading: *Zechariah 12:10–11; 13: 1*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 63*

2nd Reading: *Galatians 3: 26--29*

Gospel: *Luke 9:18--24*

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#### Seen on a church signboard somewhere:

“Aspire to inspire before you expire.”

## St. Thomas 75<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Parish Picnic.

Plan on joining us on **Sun. June 26<sup>th</sup>**, as we hold our Parish Picnic during our anniversary year. Picnic will be held on the Great Lawn and will include music, food, plus races and games for the kids. Fun for all. Bring a lawn chair if you'd like and spend the afternoon with parishioners and friends. Picnic is free and begins 2 p.m. and continues till ??? Bring your specialty side dish or salad, and enjoy a great summer afternoon.

## St. Thomas Parish celebrated its first Mass on July 6, 1941.

To mark this sacred moment, we will be having a special 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass on that same date, **Wed. July 6<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m.** It will be held, weather permitting, at the Blessed Mother Grotto at the Great Lawn. If you're able, join us for this special moment in our parish's life. A light brunch will be served afterwards in the Fr. Lewis Center.

**Collection for Seminarians.** We can rejoice that ten new men were ordained to the Priesthood in May. This helps to ensure the future of our Catholic faith in the Diocese of Paterson.

Bishop Serratelli has asked that all parishes take up a special collection for the “**Future Priests**” of the Diocese. It will help cover the costs of education of our seminarians. And so, on June 26th, a second collection will be taken up for this important cause. Please be generous in helping our Diocese to grow spiritually.

## Baby Bottle Drive—Good Counsel Homes.

This drive wraps up, with the thanks of Good Counsel Homes. Please bring in baby bottles as soon as possible.

**Next Year's Parish Calendar** is in the planning stages as we speak. This is a “last call” to place requests for dates and premises for the 2016—2017 year. **Please take a ‘calendar planning page’ and fill in your requests.** Please return these pages by **June 15.** We will then hold a meeting on **Mon. June 27<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m. at the Fr. Lewis Center at St. Thomas** to iron out any conflicts. We will do our best to accommodate everyone. Once the official calendar is set—it will take precedence over any other future events.