

# 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**

# ***Happy Father's Day !!***

Jesus, in His time, did something quite extraordinary. He taught His disciples to think of God as a “father.” God had always been regarded as the Most High, the Almighty, the Creator. But no one ever thought of Him in such a personal way. And yet how beautiful, how comfortable, how comforting an image it is to think of the All-Powerful as a father to us. It’s an insight into God that only Jesus the Son could have given us. It changes our whole understanding of God; it makes Him approachable, capable of affection, and personally committed to us.

Our human fathers reflect something of this to us. Though none can be perfect, their efforts at fatherhood make God the Father more understandable to us. We congratulate today all who accept the role of ‘father’—all fathers, grandfathers, step-fathers, foster-fathers, Godfathers, fathers-in-law and fathers-to-be. Your care and devotion to your families enables them to thrive.

We ask Saint Joseph, the foster-father of Jesus, to intercede for our Dads, and to be their model. Saint Joseph must have been a wonderful father. (Look how good Jesus turned out.) And Jesus surely reflected often upon Joseph’s good example, and even used it to teach us that God above loves us as a father. Jesus told us that, when we pray, we should pray: “Our Father ...”

Let us pray for all fathers today. May the Lord bless them for all that they do, and for all that they sacrifice for us, their families. Usually in silence and without asking anything in return—they show us something of the generosity of God the Father. May the Lord bless them as they continue their fatherly tasks. May they find reward for all their efforts—in the success and the devotion of their families.

## **Happy Father's Day to all our Dads !!**

God bless you,  
Father Wayne

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### **But Jesus said ...**

We read in Matthew 23: 9: “*Call no one on earth your father.*” Scripture scholars tell us that this must be understood in the context of the first century mindset, and the situation of the early Church at the time Matthew wrote his Gospel (c. 75 A.D.) At about this time the early Church was first becoming organized into preachers, administrators, teachers, table servers, etc.

Jesus warns His disciples not to call anyone “father,” or “rabbi,” or “master,” because He wants His disciples to see each other as equals. No one was to be considered as “superior” by giving them such a title of honor. No matter what their task within the community, they were to see each other as brothers and sisters, with One God above as their Father.

Today we do use the terms “father” and “rabbi” and “teacher”--mainly to recognize a **vocation**. Fathers are called by the Lord to guide and lead their children, to provide for them, to prepare them for life in the wider world. Not so much an honor as a challenge, fathers are also given God’s grace to perform their tasks well. May they also find blessings and rewards for their efforts—in the love of their families and in the honor that they are given.

**TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**June 19, 2016**

**St. James the Greater**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Richard W. Pullis at the  
Request of his daughters, Lisa & Laura

**SATURDAY, June 25**

8:00AM – Eva Mueller  
req. by Emmy Masset

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**June 26**

8:00AM – John Cerra  
req. by his wife, Janice

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

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$1,305.00 – Regular Collection – June 12, 2016**  
**\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need**  
**\$1,304.00 – Regular Collection – June 14, 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 Dale R. Briegel at the  
Request of his son, Dale

**MONDAY, June 20**

9:00AM – Harry Lynch  
req. by Maureen & Andrew Rosen

**TUESDAY, June 21**

9:00AM – Mildred Walker  
req. by Frances Demalderis

**WEDNESDAY, June 22**

9:00AM – Father Joseph Ryan and  
Deceased Sweeney & Barr Families  
req. by Mary Flexer

**THURSDAY, June 23**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, June 24**

9:00AM – Intentions of the Bailo Family  
req. by Grace & Gary Decker

**SATURDAY, Vigil, June 25**

4:30PM – Edward & Marie Hoffman  
req. by the Wainwright Family

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**June 26**

9:30AM – Bill Strong  
req. by his wife, Shirley & Family

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$2,648.00 – Regular Collection – June 12, 2016**  
**\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need**  
**\$2,461.00 – Regular Collection – June 14, 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.



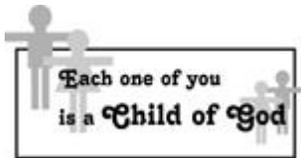
### **Registrations for 2016/2017 Catechetical Year**

Re-registrations for children in Grades 2-8 for the upcoming catechetical year were mailed. 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.

**St. James Annual Picnic** will take place on Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$7 for children under 12 years of age. Tickets are on sale after each Mass. Please contact Betsy Gardner to help or for any questions at 845-858-7892 in the evenings please.



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

**Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
June 19, 2016**

**“For all of you were baptized into Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free person, there is no male or female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendant, heirs according to the promise, ‘Who do the crowds say that I am?’”**

The church is a catholic or universal church. The membership is widespread. We are multicultural, with varying languages, customs, traditions and experiences, yet we are one.

St. Paul addressed this reality in his letter. If he could speak to a single community in this way during the early days of the church, how much more so today. What a blessing is found in our diversity as we learn from one another. How special it is to find others journeying with Christ toward our final destination.

An archbishop looked up at a mosaic in a church and after admiring its beauty, called our attention to the richness produced by the blending of each and every stone. Were a stone missing, the beauty would be marred. If one fell out of place, the entire image would be diminished.

I am asked like Christ asked: ‘who am I in the church?’ I too am like a beautiful gem, placed here by God, to make His kingdom more beautiful by what I say and do. I, linked with others, am part of the body of Christ, to bring His presence to others. May we see the beauty of the church of Christ in each individual and reflect that beauty by our words and action.

### **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** – Do you remember ration books? During World War II each family had these books – one per family member. They allowed you to buy sugar, flour or meat when they came to your local grocer. Each family had only so many to use at one time. No one was allowed to be a “hoarder”.

**St. Thomas History** – The Western Sussex Missions being supervised in 1945 were: St. Bartholomew – for Lafayette and bordering sections of Frankford; St. Matthew – for Walpack and southern Sandyston; St. Thomas – for northern Sandyston; “St. James the Great” – for Montague. However, from Easter through the end of September, St. Matthew was placed under the personal supervision of the Bishop.

#### **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 Grigicaliano. 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 19, 2016**

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

*Father's Day*

**Monday, June 20**

**Tuesday, June 21**

**Wednesday, June 22**

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

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

**Thursday, June 23**

**Friday, June 24**

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

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

**Saturday, June 25**

**Sunday, June 26, 2016**

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

2:00 p.m. STC St. Thomas 75<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Picnic  
--on church grounds

### **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

Sat. Sept. 10 St. James Indoor / Outdoor Flea  
Market

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### **Next Sunday's Reading: 13<sup>th</sup> Ord**

1st Reading: *1 Kings 19: 16b, 19--21*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 16*

2nd Reading: *Galatians 5: 1, 13--18*

Gospel: *Luke 9: 51--62*

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**Happy Father's Day** to all the Dads of our parishes ! We also greet all grandpas, godfathers and fathers-to-be. You are the strength of your family. With St. Joseph's intercession, we call upon the Lord to bless you and guide you in this most important task of raising your families.

### **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.

**We'll need help in setting up and cleaning up.** Please sign up on the list in the gathering space of church, or call the Parish Office at 973-948-2296. And thanks !

**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 on 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 ensure the future of our Catholic faith in the Diocese of Paterson.

Bishop Serratelli asks all parishes to take up a special collection next Sunday for the **Future Priests** of our Diocese. It will help cover the costs of education of our seminarians. This collection will take place next week-end. Please be generous in this most important cause.

**2017 Parish Calendar Meeting** will be held on **Mon. June 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Fr. Lewis Center at St. Thomas.** The new calendar will be finalized and any apparent conflicts will be resolved. It is an important meeting, and a rep from each organization of our parishes is asked to be there to aid in negotiations. Refreshments will be served.