

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

July is 'Time to Take Time' Month

What a great time of year ! School is f-i-n-a-l-l-y over, plans for vacations are dancing around in our heads, and there's the hope of slowing down for a while Here is some good advice I came across. I plan to take it—when I can find the time. It is entitled:

Take Time

Take time to think: it is the source of power.

Take time to read: it is the foundation of wisdom.

Take time to play: it is the secret of staying young.

Take time to be quiet: it is the opportunity to seek God.

Take time to be aware: it is the opportunity to help others.

Take time to love and be loved: it is God's greatest gift.

Take time to laugh: it is the music of the soul.

Take time to be friendly: it is the road to happiness.

Take time to dream: it is what the future is made of.

Take time to pray: it is the greatest power on earth.

Author Unknown

May the Lord bless you and be with you this summer. May He give you the chance to relax and refresh. May you have the chance to review the past and plan improvements for the future. And may you take the time to see where the Lord is working in your life. In short, may the month of July be a kind of retreat for us all.

God bless you,
Father Wayne

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 3, 2016

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Jesse Beemer at the
Request of Claire Tobin & Family

SATURDAY, July 9

8:00AM – Emily Blickweidel
req. by her Family

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 10

8:00AM – Charlie Lombaerde
req. by his wife, Carol

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

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,275.00 – Regular Collection – June 26, 2016

\$ 172.00 – Seminarian Education

\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$1,293.00 – Regular Collection – June 28, 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 Spinapolicie at 973-293-7031.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Edna Cosman at the
Request of Dave & Marion

MONDAY, July 4

9:00AM – Kate Olivo
req. by her Family

TUESDAY, July 5

9:00AM – Harry Lynch
req. by Sharon Richmond

WEDNESDAY, July 6

11:00AM – Pastors, Priests and Parishioners of
St. Thomas – Living & Deceased

THURSDAY, July 7

No Mass

FRIDAY, July 8

9:00AM – Bill Lange
req. by Josephine

SATURDAY, Vigil, July 9

4:30PM – Bill Lange
req. by Fran Whitesell
-Mass of Thanksgiving
req. by Josephine
-James Matthews
req. by his parents, Jim & Sandy

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 10

9:30AM – Deceased Members of the
Campbell & Nolan Families
req. by the Campbell Family

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,066.00 – Regular Collection – June 26, 2016

\$ 355.00 – Seminarian Education

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$2,020.00 – Regular Collection – June 28, 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 15th 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.



Catholic Summer Camp

We recently enjoyed a great time during Catholic Camp Week, which was held with the children of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Branchville for the first time. God blessed us with beautiful weather and safety for all as we spent time growing in our faith through Scripture, music, skits, games and prayer. Thank you to all of the parents and grandparents who encouraged your kids to attend – we hope and pray that they had a great experience! Special thanks to Rita Wenning and Karen Steinert who worked tirelessly and directed the program, the many faith-filled catechists and aides who assisted including our Rita Straka, Marie Mendez and Chris Higgins, the awesome teens who performed all the skits and whose energy and spirit were fantastic all week including our Sean Kealy, Maggie Nicole, Bridget and Nora O'Keefe, Ella Orelanna, Lindsay Orr, Hudson Owens and Emilia and Julianna VanderPloog, all who provided snack and support including our Pete and Pat Lane, the staff of OLQP – Diana Rimschnick, Coordinator of Religious Education, Jen Durso, Office Manager and Margaret Moeckel, Music Minister for all of their involvement and especially to our pastor Fr. Wayne and Fr. Ed Rama and Fr. Brian Ditullio of OLQP for their presence each day through the daily Liturgy of the Word and praying of the Rosary, "Water Wednesday" (Fr. Wayne's favorite day!!!), the joyful closing Mass and the very entertaining clown show to end what was a wonderful week! Please know of a place in my prayer of thanksgiving at the Eucharist for each of you. Happy and Holy Summer!

From the R.C.I.A.

The Catholic Church continually welcomes new members. The **R**ite of **C**hristian **I**nitiation of **A**dults {R.C.I.A.} is the Church's process of welcoming new adult members.

The R.C.I.A. is the experience through which the Catholic community:

- ❖ Baptizes new adult members
- ❖ Assists present adult members who want to complete their initiation through the reception of the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist
- ❖ Receives those adults from another faith tradition who want to be members of the Catholic Church.

R.C.I.A. is an adult faith sharing process which begins every September. To have your questions answered, you are invited to call the Religious Education office at 973-948-7004 and leave your name and number for a return phone call.

St. James Annual Picnic will take place on Saturday, **July 23rd**. 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.

St. Thomas Feast Day Picnic 2016

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. Special thanks to Donna Lewandowski as well as Mark Lewandowski and Tom Nicole who did all the cooking. Thanks to Mary Flexer and the young men and women who assisted in setting up. Thank you to Deacon Wayne, Andres Vargas, Marie Mendez, Cathy and Joe McNanna and Mary Burkhardt for their clean-up efforts. Thank you to Dave Cosman and Omar Mendez for their wonderful music. Thank you Mr. VanderPloog for running the children's games and anyone else who helped that I may not have mentioned. Approximately 70 people attended, and a good time was had by all. The 50/50 raffle was pulled and Mr. Lucadamo from St. Thomas was the first prize winner receiving (40% of the proceeds) \$976 and Peggy Gray from St. James was the second prize winner receiving (10% of the proceeds) \$244. The proceeds for St. Thomas Church was \$1,220.

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 – Schools Stadium in Newark was the site of "The Living Rosary" one May in early 1950. Children representing each parish in the Archdiocese dressed all in white with capes of different colors as they moved through the rosary on the field. Mass and Benediction followed. The stadium was packed with Catholics as we all joined in together to praise God and the Blessed Mother.

St. Thomas History – Rev. Sylvius Mancini arrived in 1950 to succeed Rev. Warlikowski for whom St. James Church had dedicated its first stained glass window in their new church. Our Lady Queen of Peace Church of Branchville formed in 1950 replacing St. Bartholomew's – necessitating construction of the rectory in Montague.

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 75th 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 10th** from 9:00AM to 4:00PM. Indoor and outdoor spaces available. Please contact Betsy Gardner at 845-858-7892 or 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, July 3, 2016

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, July 4

Independence Day

9:00 a.m. STC Mass for Our Nation

Tuesday, July 5

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

Wednesday, July 6

Founding Day for St. Thomas Parish, 1941

11:00a.m. STC Founding Day Mass –at Grotto

--followed by brunch

(no 9 a.m. Mass today)

Thursday, July 7

Friday, July 8

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

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

Saturday, June 9

Sunday, July 10, 2016

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Future Events

Sat. July 23 St. James Parish Picnic

Sun. Aug. 28 9:30 a.m. St. T's 75th Anniv. Mass

--with Bishop Serratelli

--followed by Anniv Brunch at High Point
Country Club

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

Next Sunday's Readings: 15th Ord

1st Reading: *Deuteronomy 30: 10--14*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 69*

2nd Reading: *Colossians 1: 15--20*

Gospel: *Luke 10: 25--37*

Fourth of July 'Mass for Our Nation.'

Celebrate our nation's independence in the best possible way. Start the day off with Mass, offering prayers thanking the Lord for the blessings of freedom that we enjoy. Pray that we elect the best leaders to guide us to a future pleasing to the Lord. And call upon the Lord to bless us all with the wisdom and courage needed to ensure that our nation's principles of life, liberty and justice may always prevail. Join us for a special **Mass for Our Nation to be held at St. Thomas on Monday, at 9:00 a.m.**

St. Thomas Parish celebrated its first

Mass on July 6, 1941. To mark this sacred moment, we will be having a **special 75th Anniversary Mass on that same date, Wed. July 6th 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.

St. Thomas Bikers Gang is on the road again.

Join us on the **Tuesdays of summer, right after 9 a.m. Mass.** We'll be riding along the back roads as far as Peter's Valley or Walpack. We plan to be back around Noon each time. All men & women invited to join us.

Understanding Evil.

Consider darkness. We perceive it as real, but darkness is nothing in itself. It is the absence of light. Likewise, although we shiver with the cold, cold is really just the absence of heat. Evil is similar. There is nothing positive or original about evil. Evil is always either the absence of goodness, truth and beauty, or it is a distortion of goodness, truth and beauty. As a disease is the distortion or destruction of health and wholeness, so evil is a cancer on what is good. As a parasite feeds on its host, so evil gnaws away at what is good.

--from "Sharpening the Weapons of Spiritual Warfare" by Fr. Dwight Longenecker

--found in *Catholic Digest* magazine, May 2016

"Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed - else like a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die."

~ Dwight D. Eisenhower

34th President of the United States