

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.

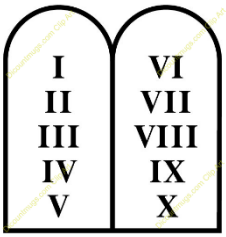
New parishioners are invited to fill out a registration form which can be found in the vestibule of the Church. Often when a Catholic is asked to be a Godparent for baptism or sponsor for Confirmation a letter from the pastor of their parish is requested. This can only be given to registered and active 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



Guidance for Our Times

Last week we heard Moses tell us: *“The command that I enjoin on you today ... is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts.”* He was speaking of the Ten Commandments, rules of life that humans could have come up with on their own. In fact, archeologists have found similar formulations of laws in excavations of the Hittite and Babylonian civilizations. The most famous is the Code of Hammurabi.

For these rules to be clarified and confirmed by God as the Ten Commandments, and given to Moses, confirms that they are true wisdom that is to be followed. To break any of these Commandments, doesn't result so much in God's punishment, but rather in sad and harmful consequences from the infractions themselves.

For your review and meditation are the Ten Commandments, given by God to Moses, on Mount Sinai around the year 1250 B.C.

The Ten Commandments

1. I am the Lord your God; you shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.
3. You shall keep holy the Lord's Day.
4. Honor your father and mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

All Catholics should have these Commandments committed to memory. And while you're working on that, also include Jesus' version:

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your being and with all your mind and with all your strength; and your neighbor as yourself.”

God bless you,
Father Wayne

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 17, 2016

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Dale R. Briegel at the
Request of his son, Dale

SATURDAY, July 23

8:00AM – Intentions of Marilyn Peterson
Birthday Celebration
req. by her Family

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 24

8:00AM – Joan Spoolstra

11:30AM – Mike Diefenbach

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,189.00 – Regular Collection – July 3, 2016
\$1,921.00 – Regular Collection – July 10, 2016
\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need
\$1,248.00 – Regular Collection – July 5, 2015
\$1,625.00 – Regular Collection – July 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, 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 Cathy Pullis at the
Request of her Family

MONDAY, July 18

9:00AM – Don Martin
req. by his Family

TUESDAY, July 19

9:00AM – Mildred Walker
req. by Pat & Pete Lane

WEDNESDAY, July 20

11:00AM – Steven Dutkus
req. by the Flexer Family

THURSDAY, July 21

No Mass

FRIDAY, July 22

9:00AM – Edmund Campbell
req. by his Children

SATURDAY, Vigil, July 23

4:30PM – Bob & Mildred Walker
req. by Russell Spinks

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 24

9:30AM – Ester MacKrell
req. by Gerry Mahon & Family

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,060.00 – Regular Collection – July 3, 2016
\$2,077.00 – Regular Collection – July 10, 2016
\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need
\$2,137.00 – Regular Collection – July 5, 2015
\$2,484.00 – Regular Collection – July 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.



Registrations for 2016/2017 Catechetical Year

Re-registrations for children in **Grades 2-8** for the upcoming catechetical year were mailed out. **All registrations were due back by July 15th to avoid the late fee.** Registrations and Re-registrations for the **Confirmation Preparation Program** for the upcoming catechetical year were also mailed out. Please return all registrations by **July 30th** 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.



Catholic Teens

Our Lady Queen of Peace, St. Thomas the Apostle and St. James the Greater are forming a new youth group for all teens in High School. Come join us on Sunday, July 17th, from 6:00-8:00pm for our first meeting in the pavilion at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish. There will be plenty of fun, games, music events and prayer. For more information please call Jenn at the office at 973-948-3185.



Vocation Vacation????

As we begin to take pleasure in the summer months, we hopefully will find time to relax and enjoy time with family and friends. This is part of what makes summertime fun and, believe it or not, still a time for spiritual growth. Continue to check the bulletin for parish events, especially as we continue to celebrate St. Thomas' 75th Anniversary! Our vocation – being called to holiness (when properly understood, is nothing short of healthiness and happiness in their truest sense) – should never be on vacation! Our path to holiness always leads to Jesus Christ through His sacraments. Please make the worship, praise and thanksgiving to God at the Holy Mass part of your weekly summer plans. While you are away visiting or on vacation, take the opportunity to attend Mass at the local parish (www.masstimes.org). It may even become your “second parish” if you travel to the same place each year! It is also a great chance for your children to see the beauty of other churches, but also realize that the Mass is the same everywhere! Remember – God is NEVER on vacation from us – doesn't He deserve the SAME?

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. Please contact Betsy Gardner to help or for any questions at 845-858-7892 in the evenings please.

From the R.C.I.A.

The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** process will begin again in September. The R.C.I.A. sessions are for adults for their faith sharing and instruction. The sessions are approximately one to one hour and fifteen minutes to be held after the 9:30am Mass on Sundays at St. Thomas the Apostle Church conference room, twice a month. Don't wait any longer to invite others to be Baptized Catholic! Don't wait any longer to become a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church! Don't wait any longer to have your questions answered! Call the Religious Education office at 973-948-7004, and your call will be returned.

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 – Catholic Elementary School – circa late 40's – early 50's. We had ink wells and nib pens to dip into the ink on each desk. We had composition books that (after much practice) were filled with our best Palmer method, ink perfect stories each week. I still have my 4th grade composition book!

St. Thomas History – Holy Name and Rosary Societies had formed at the parishes in the 1940's. In 1950, at the annual parade of the Sussex County Holy Name Federation held in Franklin, over 1,000 participated in the line of march.

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 17, 2016

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, July 18

Tuesday, July 19

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

Wednesday, July 20

Thursday, July 21

Friday, July 22

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

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

Saturday, June 23

1:00 p.m. SJC St. James Feast Day Picnic

Sunday, July 24, 2016

17th 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: 17th Ord

1st Reading: *Genesis 18: 20--32*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 138*

2nd Reading: *Colossians 2: 12--14*

Gospel: *Luke 11: 1--13*

Elementary School Principal Needed.

The Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese is seeking applicants for an elementary school principal at St. Pius X School, Montville. St. Pius X School is a co-educational institution, pre-school through eighth grade. Information about the position and application materials can be found at www.patdioschools.org/administrative-openings.

Closing date for applications is July 25th.

Tonight: All High School Young People are invited to join together with the youth of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Branchville, for some time together. There will be games, sports, talk, food and prayer, all under the Pavilion at O.L.Q.P. It **begins at 6 p.m. and continues till 8 p.m.** We hope to hold these get-togethers every other Sunday evening. It begins **tonight, Sun. July 17th.**

St. James Feast Day Parish Picnic takes place **this Saturday, July 23rd**, on parish grounds. There will be music, food, games for the kids and a 50/50 raffle. All under a picnic tent, just to ensure good weather ! All are invited to join us for an enjoyable afternoon. Tickets: \$ 10 adults; \$ 5 children under 12.

St. Thomas Bikers Gang. 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.

Your Continuing Education: Three great CD's from Lighthouse Catholic Media. Driving time or housework time is a great time to grow in your faith. Here are some CD titles available for \$ 3.00 in the gathering space:

1) Beyond Belief: With humor and clarity, Fr. Michael Schmitz speaks on some of the most difficult topics in the Church today to help us live out our faith. In this talk, he challenges us not to just settle for believing, but to allow Christ to profoundly change how we live. By giving ourselves fully to the Lord, we can change the course of the world.

2) Is God on Your iPod ? Is mainstream music bad for you ? Can hit songs remind you of the things of God ? Matt Smith discusses how we as Christians can judge between different types of music to determine whether or not they lead us closer to the Good, the True, and the Beautiful ... which is ultimately closer to God.

3) Down to Earth: Grounded in Faith. There are moments in life in which God grabs our attention and reminds us that He is in charge. Through humor and poignant biblical insights, Mark Hart here candidly reflects on a near-death experience in which the Lord put his Catholic faith to the test. Mark is one of the most sought-after speakers serving the Church today.