

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

Getting 'FORMED' in our Catholic Faith

I am happy to know that a number of people and families are checking out the FORMED library of materials about our faith. They are first-rate productions that are interesting, informative and inspiring. Here is a description of just a few of the treasures available:

Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained

Too often we try to live a faith we don't know or understand. Some of us stumble along with it, going through the motions. Others simply walk away. That's why the time is right for Symbolon: Knowing the Faith. Presented by the most trusted and compelling teachers and filmed around the world with stunning cinematography, Symbolon: Knowing the Faith explains the essentials of the Catholic Faith in a way that will inform our minds and inspire our hearts. Presented in 10 sessions that are ideal for parish catechism, family instruction and personal devotion.

Lectio Series: Peter by Tim Gray

The character of St. Peter is both inspiring and confounding to many of us. How could a stubborn and impulsive fisherman become the "rock" upon which Jesus would build His Church? Bringing together biblical accounts, historical evidence, Church teaching, classical art and personal insights, Dr. Gray gives a fresh perspective on Simon Peter that is immediately informative and relevant to our lives. After all, if Jesus could bring out the very best in someone like Peter, then there is hope for the rest of us.

Reborn: You, Your Child, and the Heart of Baptism

Reborn explores the deeply personal power of Baptism, bringing to light the spiritual reality for parents and godparents and, most importantly, the child being baptized. Rendered with a cinematic beauty that's become the hallmark of the Augustine Institute's film productions, Reborn presents the foundation of the Church's teaching on Baptism, with a step-by-step explanation of the rite itself, including its profound place in Scripture and Tradition.

From Nothing to Cosmos: God and Science

Fr. Robert Spitzer, S.J., PH.D., dispenses with the contemporary statement, "Science has proven God does not exist," and then goes on to show evidence of God's existence from science, philosophy, medicine, the transcendental and metaphysical proofs. Fr. Spitzer is at once, entertaining and overflowing with pertinent information.

Happiness: The Series

Happiness features interviews with well-known psychiatrists, celebrities, New Testament scholars, physicists, and priests that uncover the deeper answers to life's most profound questions. Eric Johnson and Jennifer Milani present the central ideas from the interviews, explaining difficult concepts and proposing engaging questions. Interviewees include Eduardo Verastegui, Gary Habermas, Leah Darrow, Dr. John Lennox, Dr. Jan Holden, Dr. Aaron Kheriaty, Fr. Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., Ph.D., and John Chavez.

Please let me know by Aug. 31 if these will be helpful to you in the next year. Log onto the FORMED library by following the directions on page 5.

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
August 14, 2016

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Arthur & Elsie Bastian at the
Request of their Family

SATURDAY, August 20

8:00AM – Laura Shea
req. by her Family

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 21

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

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

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,703.00 – Regular Collection – August 7, 2016

\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$ 940.00 – Regular Collection – August 9, 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 Spinapolice at 973-293-7031.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Jozef Sz wajkiewicz at the
Request of John & Maria Babon

MONDAY, August 15

9:00AM – Intentions of the Legion of Mary
req. by the Legion of Mary

TUESDAY, August 16

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

WEDNESDAY, August 17

9:00AM – Esther Mackrell
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer

THURSDAY, August 18

No Mass

FRIDAY, August 19

9:00AM – Barbara Gioielli
req. by her Family

SATURDAY, Vigil, August 20

4:30PM – Joseph & Elizabeth Hoffman
req. by the Wainwright Family

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 21

9:30AM – Jozef Sz wajkiewicz
req. by John & Maria Babon

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,848.00 – Regular Collection – August 7, 2016

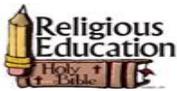
\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$1,834.00 – Regular Collection – August 9, 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** and **teens in the Confirmation Preparation Program** for the upcoming catechetical year **were due back by July 30th to avoid the late fee. Please return all registrations ASAP!!! Thank you.**

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.

Catechist Formation Series

The Diocesan Catechist Formation Series will take place on Tuesday, August 16th from 7:30-9:00pm at Morris Catholic High School in Denville. To register, go to www.insidethewalls.org. Please call Mary about carpooling!

Catechist Meeting

Our first Catechist Meeting will take place on Thursday, August 18th at either 11:00AM or 7:00PM in the Msgr. James Gacquin Youth & Religious Education Center. I continue to try to make it convenient for all, as it is extremely important that you attend. If for some reason you are not able to attend, please contact me at the Religious Education Office so we can make arrangements to meet. However, please try to make this first meeting a priority.



Catholic Teens

Our Lady Queen of Peace, St. Thomas the Apostle and St. James the Greater have formed a new youth group for all teens in High School. **Come join us today, August 14th, from 6:00-8:00pm** for our next 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.

Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord

Thank you to Hudson and Kai Owens, Ava Steinert and Mary and Maggie VanderPloog for their beautiful Meditation Hymn at Mass today. You truly glorified the Lord today with every beautiful word you sang! Also, thanks to their parents for their encouragement and support. Special thanks to Sarah Mannion for her time and talent on this first-time endeavor. We wish her well as she begins her senior year (already!!!) at college and will miss her. Hopefully, we will be able to offer this opportunity again to the children in the near future.

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.

R.C.I.A. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

- ❖ Are you unbaptized, but recognize a need for spirituality in your life?
- ❖ Are you baptized Catholic or baptized in another faith tradition and never received any formal religious education?
- ❖ Are you married to a Catholic and go to Mass, but don't know how to become a Catholic?
- ❖ Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Church?

If you answered yes to any of the above questions, the R.C.I.A. is the place for you! R.C.I.A. is the process through which the Catholic Church welcomes [initiates] new members. R.C.I.A. guides present members who wish to complete their initiation through the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist. R.C.I.A. guides those who want to be received into the Catholic Church from another faith tradition. The Catholic Church is continually welcoming new members. R.C.I.A. --- an adult faith sharing process is ongoing and waiting to welcome you. Please call the Religious Education office at 973-948-7004 and your phone call will be returned just as soon as possible.

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

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 – Back in 1947 when I was around eleven years old, I remember my mother, brother and I being picked up by Father Spano in order to attend Mass at St. Matthew Church in Walpack. Sometimes, we were the only family attending Mass, except during the summer when the church was full. Afterwards, my mother would prepare a nice breakfast for Father Spano.

St. Thomas History – Rev. John Tully had been assigned as administrator at St. Matthew in Walpack in 1957 and remained such until 1967. As Fr. Byron did not return from his sabbatical, Father Tully was then designated as the pastor for St. James and also oversaw St. Thomas. In 1966, he opened Our Lady of Blue Mountain Church in Walpack.

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, August 14, 2016

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:00 p.m. Youth Group (at O.L.Q.P. till 8 p.m.)

Monday, Aug. 15

Feast of the Assumption of the Bl. Virgin Mary

(Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)

Tuesday, Aug. 16

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

7:30 p.m. Catechist Formation, Morris Catholic H.S.

Wednesday, Aug. 17

Thursday, Aug. 18

11 a.m. or 7 p.m. REC Catechists' Meeting

Friday, Aug. 19

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

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

Saturday, Aug. 20

11:00 a.m. STC Montague Seniors' Special Mtg.

"Back to School" Supply Collection by

Columbiettes at all Masses – through Aug. 28

Sunday, August 21, 2016

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Holy Land Religious Articles Sale: at all Masses

6:00 p.m. Youth Group (at O.L.Q.P. till 8 p.m.)

Next Sunday's Readings: 20th Ord.

1st Reading: *Isaiah 66: 18--21*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 117*

2nd Reading: *Hebrews 12: 5--7, 11--13*

Gospel: *Luke 13: 22--30*

Gifts from Bethlehem. The people offering olivewood art and articles from the Holy Land will be with us next week-end: Aug. 20—21.

Feast of the Assumption. Being on Monday, the Catholic Bishops have declared that this year's Feast is **not** a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will still be celebrated at St. Thomas at 9 a.m.

Welcome Fr. Jesús Mata ! Fr. Jesús is a member of the **Divine Word Missionaries**, who are located in at least 78 countries throughout the world. Their mission is to assist in both the physical and spiritual needs of the people with whom they work and live. Over 6,000 missionaries work to provide drinkable water, food and shelter to those in need. They also spread God's presence by building chapels, building hospitals, educating the poor and bringing Christ's message of love in many concrete ways.

Fr. Jesús will tell us of his experiences and ask us to help in their work. Please be generous in the second collection to support their work for the Lord.

****St. Thomas 75th Anniversary Mass with Bishop Serratelli and Brunch in two weeks !**

Our anniversary will be celebrated **Sun. Aug. 28. Mass at 9:30 a.m.** Brunch at **High Point Golf Club Banquet and Event Center, 342 Shore Drive, Montague.** Join us as we celebrate and remember the years that have brought us to this day. Continuous photo show and historical background will be part of the day. Full buffet brunch will be served, with cash bar available. Tickets are on sale after each Mass or through the Parish Office. Tickets: Adults: \$ 22.00; Children 5 – 11: \$ 14.00; children under 5: free. Join us for this main event of our 75th Year !

Study the Bible on your Computer or other devices.

Now everyone can pursue higher religious studies in the comfort of their own home, on their own schedule. We have been given the chance to receive **FREE during the month of August**, hundreds of titles of e-books, audio C.D.'s, movies and study programs. I ask you to check out the **FORMED** library of resources. To access, simply do this:

1. Type in: FORMED.org in your web browser, such as Google, Bing, Chrome or Firefox
2. Click on: FORMED
3. Click on: "Login" in the upper right hand corner of the screen
4. Enter the following information into the pop-up screen and click submit:

Email/username: demo@formed.org

Password: Assumption (Case sensitive)

5. Once it loads, you will see programs, movies, audio, and books. Choose one and begin.

Awaiting your response by Aug. 31st.