

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.

The Schools of The Catholic Academy of Sussex County
973-729-6125 X225
Rev. George A. Brown School (Pre-K to Gr. 4)
Pope John XXIII Middle School (Gr. 5 to 7)
Pope John XXIII High School (Gr. 8 to 12)

Welcome -We Are a Tithing Parish



Our Lady of Fatima

100th Anniversary of Mary's Appearances

This year commemorates the 100th Anniversary of the Blessed Mother's appearances at Fatima, Portugal. Six times during the year 1917, she appeared to three shepherd children, as they were tending their sheep in the countryside. On the 13th of each month, May—October (except in August, on the 19th) the Blessed Mother spoke to the children, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta, in the field known as Cova da Iria (the Cove of Irene). These appearances revealed to the children messages that they were to bring to the world. The revelations spoke about the need for continuing prayer, the reality and horrors of hell, the will of God for all to repent and be saved, the need to offer sacrifice, the trouble that Communism would cause the world, the importance of consecrating Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the need to pray the Rosary.

In the next weeks' Bulletins a summary will be given of the appearances of Our Lady of Fatima and their impact upon our Church and the world.

A Plenary Indulgence

In honor of this 100th Anniversary of the appearances of Mary at Fatima, Pope Francis has granted a Plenary Indulgence throughout this anniversary year, that is up until Nov. 26, 2017.

A plenary indulgence is the forgiveness of the temporal punishment due to sin. Indulged prayers or actions please the Lord and make up for past sins committed. Those sins not repented of on earth will require a purification in Purgatory.

To obtain this indulgence:

1. Make a pilgrimage to the Fatima Shrine in Portugal -- **or** – devoutly pray before a statue of Our Lady of Fatima in any church anywhere in the world on the 13th of each month (May – Oct.)
2. Pray to Our Father, recite the Creed and pray to Our Lady of Fatima.
3. One must also fulfill the ordinary conditions for a Plenary Indulgence: go to confession and Communion, be interiorly detached from sin, and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.

(The elderly or infirm can receive the indulgence by praying in front of any statue of Our Lady of Fatima and offering their prayers, sufferings, sacrifices, and spiritually uniting themselves with the jubilee celebrations on the 13th of each month.)

Fatima Prayer

Most Holy Virgin, who chose to come to Fatima
To reveal the treasures of graces hidden in the recitation of the Rosary,
Inspire our hearts with a sincere love and devotion
That meditating on the mysteries of our redemption therein,
We may obtain the conversion of sinners,
and our own requests made here
For the greater glory of God, for your honor
And for the good of souls. Amen.
Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, Pray for us.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 7, 2017

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Margaret Schreiber at the
Request of the Ricciardi & Soletro Families

SATURDAY, May 13

8:00AM – Walter & Norma Journey
req. by their Family

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 14

8:00AM – Ryan Bubigkett
req. by his Family

11:30AM – Eugene & Rosalie Mauro
req. by their Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 912.00 – Regular Collection – April 30, 2017 +

\$ 50.00 - Online Giving

\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$1,378.00 – Regular Collection – May 1, 2016

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, Rozanne DeNardo, Derya Dimertas, Judy Dressie, Rachel Gibbs, Mary Guimes, Barbara Haggerty, Carmen Howell, Jennifer, David Koehler, Angela Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Miriam Ligmari, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli Sandy Matthews, Brian McKenna, Bill Myers, Danielle Parker, Tracey Perles, Flo Puccio, Alex Sepiol, Pam Spencer, Baby Teddy, Jen Vaughn, Lorraine Verga, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh, Joan White, Teri Winkler and Robert Woodcock

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 Spinapolicce at 973-293-7031.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Ralph & Anna Gioielli at the
Request of their Children

MONDAY, May 8

9:00AM – Intentions of John Meehan
For Healing
req. by Luisa & Dan
- Intentions of Shawn Bailo
req. by Gary & Grace Decker

TUESDAY, May 9

9:00AM – William Walaska
req. by Frances Demalderis

WEDNESDAY, May 10

9:00AM – Bob & Evelyn Schweer
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer
- Leslie Wojcik
req. by her Aunt Josephine

THURSDAY, May 11

No Mass

FRIDAY, May 12

9:00AM – Intentions of Liam Donahue
- Timothy McCauley

SATURDAY, Vigil, May 13

4:30PM – Intentions of the Legion of Mary
req. by the Legion of Mary
- Walter & Theresa Hoffman
req. by the Wainwright Family

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 14

9:30AM – Cordelia Cafone
req. by her Family

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,751.00 – Regular Collection – April 30, 2017 +

\$ 398.00 - Online Giving

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$1,941.00 – Regular Collection – May 1, 2016

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.



Catechist Acknowledgement – I

know you join me in sincerely thanking the following faithful men and women of our parishes who unselfishly gave so much of themselves to the children and teens of our parishes over the past months: Rita Straka, Meagan Gibbons, Karen Steinert, Marie Mendez, Patrice Kealy, Josephine Yarosz, Chris Higgins, Jennifer Guida, Dawn Bruno, Cathy McNanna, Maggie Nicole, Mike Bussow, John Lucadamo and Dan and Lucy O’Keefe. Special thanks also to our Pastor, Father Wayne and Deacon Wayne for all they do for us! Our catechetical and evangelization efforts are possible because of the selfless love and dedication of each and every one. Please continue to keep them in your prayer of thanksgiving to Christ, the Teacher. Also, please consider answering your baptismal call through the Ministry of Catechesis. It is very rewarding – just ask any of us! Just call the Religious Education office if you may be feeling called by Our Lord to serve in this very significant way.

SAVE THE DATE: Catechist Mass of Thanksgiving/Family Breakfast will take place on Sunday, June 4th at the 9:30AM Mass at St. Thomas.



Catholic Teens

Our next gathering will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish **today Sunday, May 7th, from 6:00-8:00PM**. There will be plenty of fun, games, music and prayer. Come join us and see what’s going on!!!

Fatima’s 100th

On May 13, 1917, three shepherd children – Lucia Santos and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto – were tending their flock outside their Portuguese village. A beautiful lady appeared to them saying she was from heaven and asking them to return to that spot for the next six months. On October 13, her last appearance, 70,000 people gathered to witness the “miracle of the sun,” during which the sun appeared to zigzag across the sky and change colors.

The lady, who later revealed herself to be the Blessed Virgin Mary, asked the children to pray the Rosary daily to obtain peace and the end of World War I. She also gave them three secrets, which were later revealed by Sister Lucia. The first was a vision of hell. The second asked for the Consecration of Russia and the third was a vision of the death of a pope and other religious figures.

Jacinta and Francisco, who died shortly after the apparitions, were beatified in May 2000 by Pope John Paul II. Lucia lived her life as a nun, dying in 2005 at the age of 97.

In 2013, Pope Francis consecrated the entire world to the care of Our Lady of Fatima. Today, Fatima is one of the most visited pilgrimage sites in the world. On May 13, 2017, Our Holy Father, Pope Francis will visit Fatima to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first apparition. Pope Francis will canonize Blessed Francisco and Jacinta Marto at Mass, making them the youngest non-martyrs to ever be declared saints in the Catholic Church.

Catholic Heritage in Western Sussex County –

Although Our Lady Queen of Peace was believed to have opened in 1951, a Jan. article in the Sussex County Independent says the property on SR 31 [now 206] being used for a rectory and church, was being considered for expansion.

Yoga-lates

St. Thomas will be offering a fitness class with a mix of Yoga moves (for flexibility and calm mind) and Pilates (for strength and tone especially in your core muscles). The class is on **Tuesday nights from 6:15 to 7:15pm** for 8 weeks and started on **April 25th** right here at St. Thomas. **You may join us at any time.** The class will be easy to follow but a full body workout. Any questions, please call instructor Chris Dube at 973-948-2329. Bring a mat, hand held weights (1-8lbs.), water and a friend. Join for the session for only \$40.00 or pay per class for \$6.00. Twenty percent of the class money will be going to our St. Thomas Parish. So, please come and try it out!

Moms and Tots Play Group at St. Thomas

We are now meeting on Friday mornings from 10:00am to 11:30am in the Father Lewis Center. All babies and young children and their caregivers are welcome to join us for fun and fellowship! For details, please contact Mandi Sousa at 973-632-5536.



A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 7, 2017

“Beloved: If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps. When he was insulted, he returned no insult, when he suffered he did not threaten, instead he handed himself over to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that free from sin, we might live for righteousness”

Risen Lord, to unite themselves to Jesus and His cross. We move a few weeks from Easter and can forget that the cross of Christ is the measure of the world.

How do I react to adversity? Revenge, road rage, doing unto others before they do unto me... it is easy to avoid the admonition of Peter. To be sure I’m on the right path I look to the virtues found in the beatitudes - meekness, humility, desire for holiness, dependence upon God, and yes even the suffering I endure. Together with the virtues which Paul offered the Galatians, I become fully equipped to move forward.

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, May 7, 2017

4th Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 a.m. SJC Coffee Hour after Mass
9:30 a.m. STC C.L.O.W.
9:30 a.m. STC Crowning of Bl. Mary during Mass
9:30 a.m. SJC Coffee Hour after Mass
11:30 a.m. SJC Coffee Hour after Mass
6:00 p.m. Youth Group (at O.L.Q.P. till 8 p.m.)

Monday, May 8

Tuesday, May 9

- 6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

Wednesday, May 10

- 7:00 p.m. STC Adoration & Rosary with K of C
7:30 p.m. STC K of C Meeting

Thursday, May 11

Friday, May 12

- 9:00 a.m. STC Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
after Mass, till 12 Noon
10:00 a.m. STC Legion of Mary Mtg.
10:00 a.m. STC Moms & Tots Play Group
1:00 p.m. STC Montague Seniors' Mtg.

Saturday, May 13

100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima

Sunday, May 14, 2017

5th Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

Next Sunday's Readings: 5th Easter

1st Reading: Acts 6: 1–7

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 33

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2: 4--9

Gospel: John 14: 1--12

Get FORMED during the Easter Season:

www.Formed.org Parish Code: HCVWQC

For On-Line Giving: log onto our website:
saintjamesthomas.org Then go to the On-Line
Giving link.

New Catholic Television Programming.

Be inspired by a new Catholic television program for everyday living that will motivate you to achieve your hopes and dreams as you live a life of true power, impact, freedom and purpose. It provides practical ways of living life to the fullest and helping you make faith a part of your daily life.

Bruce Downs the Catholic Guy television program is seen by millions whose lives have been changed by his down-to-earth approach. Find it on: DIRECTV Ch. 371, or DISH Ch. 258, or AT&T U-VERSE Ch. 565, or VERIZON FIOS Ch 288. Programs seen every day: 8:30 a.m. (EST) or go to: [d BruceDownstheCatholicGuy.com](http://dBruceDownstheCatholicGuy.com)

ENDOW: A Women's Study Group.

'Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women' is a study group which brings women together to discover their God-given dignity, and to help them understand their role in transforming society. It promises lively discussion, a deepened faith and renewed friendships. This group is being facilitated by our own **Cindy Costello**, and takes place on **8 consecutive Wednesday evenings: Wed. April 26th—June 14 at O. L. Queen of Peace Church, Branchville. Time: 7 p.m.—8:30 p.m.** Discussions will center around St. Pope John Paul II's "*Letter to Women.*" It's not too late to join. For more info: <https://store.endowonline.org/cindycostello-p3554.aspx>.

Pilgrimage to Canada. Queen of Peace Church, Branchville invites us to join them on their Pilgrimage to Canada: Mon. June 26—Fri. June 30. They will stay at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Cape at Three Rivers, Canada for 4 nights. Pilgrimage includes a day trip to Montreal and St. Joseph's Oratory as well as a stop in Quebec City and the Basilica of St. Ann de Beaupre. Cost: \$575 per person (double occ.) or \$ 690 per person (single occ.) Breakfast & dinner meals included./ Brochures available. For more info, call Jenn at 973-948-3185. **A valid passport will be needed.**

Pope Francis at Easter: "*The ancient feast of Passover, the commemoration of the liberation of the Hebrew people from slavery, here finds fulfilment. By his resurrection, Jesus Christ has set us free from the slavery of sin and death, and has opened before us the way to eternal life.*"