

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

From the Internet:

The Transfiguration: What happened and why



About a week after Jesus plainly told His disciples that He would suffer, be killed, and then be raised to life again (Luke 9:22), He took Peter, James and John up a mountain to pray. While praying, His personal appearance was changed into a glorified form, and His clothing became dazzlingly white. Moses and Elijah appeared and talked with Jesus about His death that would soon take place. Peter, not knowing what he was saying and being very fearful, offered to put up three shelters for them. This is undoubtedly a reference to the booths that were used to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles, when the Israelites dwelt in tents for seven days (Lev. 23:34–42). Peter was expressing a wish to stay in that place and to keep the experience going. Then a cloud enveloped them, and a voice said, *“This is My Son, whom I have chosen, whom I love; listen to Him!”* The cloud lifted, Moses and Elijah had disappeared, and Jesus was alone with His disciples, who were still very much afraid. Jesus warned them not to tell anyone what they had seen until after His resurrection. So important was this event that three accounts are found in the Gospels: Matthew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-8, and Luke 9:28-36.

Undoubtedly, the purpose of the Transfiguration of Christ into at least a hint of His heavenly glory was so that the “inner circle” of His disciples could gain a greater understanding of who Jesus was. Jesus underwent this dramatic change in appearance in order that the disciples could behold Him in His true glory. The disciples, who had only known Him in His human body, now had a greater realization of the deity of Christ, though they could not fully comprehend it. But it gave them the reassurance they needed, after hearing the shocking news of His coming death.

Symbolically, the appearance of Moses represented the Law, and Elijah represented the Prophets. But God’s voice from heaven -- *“Listen to Him!”* -- clearly showed that the Law and the Prophets must give way to Jesus. The One who is the new and living Way is replacing the old--He is the fulfillment of the Law and the countless prophecies in the Old Testament. Also, in His glorified form, they saw a preview of His coming glorification and enthronement as King of kings and Lord of lords.

The disciples never forgot what happened that day on the mountain, and no doubt this was intended. John later wrote in his gospel: *“We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only”* (John 1:14). Peter also wrote of it: *“We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to Him from the heavens saying, ‘This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.’ We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with Him on the sacred mountain.”* (2 Peter 1:16-18). Those who witnessed the transfiguration bore witness to it to the other disciples and have continued to do so, to countless millions down through the centuries.

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
August 6, 2017

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Barbara Gioielli at the
Request of her Family

SATURDAY, August 12

8:00AM – Intentions of Father Alfred Vito

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 13

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

11:30AM – Richard Gray
req. by Janice Cerra

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,272.00 – Regular Collection – July 30, 2017 +

\$ 150.00 - Online Giving

\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$1,386.00 – Regular Collection – July 31, 2016

Consider a gift to St. James Parish in your will.

For On-Line Giving: log onto our website:

saintjamesthomas.org Then go to On-Line Giving link.



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.

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*

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 Jozef Szwajkiewicz at the
Request of John & Maria Babon

MONDAY, August 7

9:00AM – Richard Soisson and Arthur Sheldon
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer

TUESDAY, August 8

9:00AM – Brad Applegate
req. by the Barr Family

WEDNESDAY, August 9

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

THURSDAY, August 10

No Mass

FRIDAY, August 11

9:00AM – Terry Naletko
req. by his Family

SATURDAY, Vigil, August 12

4:30PM – Russell Snyder
req. by Don & Pat Swanson and Amy

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 13

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

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,930.00 – Regular Collection – July 30, 2017 +

\$ 378.00 - Online Giving

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

\$2,109.00 – Regular Collection – July 31, 2016

Consider a gift to St. Thomas Parish in your will.

For On-Line Giving: log onto our website:

saintjamesthomas.org Then go to On-Line Giving link.

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Margaret Accordino, Mary Cunico, Frances Demalderis, Rozanne DeNardo, Derya Dimertas, Judy Dressie, Rachel Gibbs, Mary Guimes, Barbara Haggerty, Carmen Howell, Jennifer, David Koehler, Betty Lacovara, Angela Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Joseph Ligammari, Miriam Ligammari, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli Sandy Matthews, John Meehan, Brian McKenna, Bill Myers, Danielle Parker, Tracey Perles, Flo Puccio, Alex Sepiol, Infant John Antonio Seti, Pam Spencer, Baby Teddy, Michael Toth, Jen Vaughn, Lorraine Verga, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh, Joan White and Robert Woodcock



Registrations for 2017/2018 Catechetical Year

Re-registrations for children in Grades 2-8 for the upcoming catechetical year **were due back by July 15th** to avoid the late fee. **If you have not sent your re-registration back yet, please do so immediately.**

Parents of children entering first grade, new children to the parish or 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 next gathering will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish **today, Sunday, August 6th from 6:00-8:00PM.** There will be plenty of fun, games, music and prayer. Come join us and see what's going on!!! **Incoming Freshman are now welcome to join Catholic Teens.**

Summer Saint of the Month – St. Dominic

St. Dominic was born into a noble Spanish family. When his mother was pregnant with him, she had a dream of a dog carrying a torch who “set the world on fire”, which is what St. Dominic did with his preaching against heresies. Her dream gave rise to the play on words for his followers, called Dominicans, since the Latin phrase *domini canis* means “dogs of the Lord”.

One of the legends of St. Dominic claims that the Blessed Mother personally handed him the rosary from heaven; hence, Dominicans receive credit for spreading the devotion around the world. Many well-known saints, including Albert the Great, Martin de Porres, Rose of Lima and Thomas Aquinas have belonged to his order. An orange tree in the headquarters of the Dominicans at Santa Sabina in Rome is said to have been planted by St. Dominic himself in memory of the oranges that grow in his native Spain.

A fun fact: St. Dominic had red hair! We celebrate his feast day on August 6th. In his memory; Pray the Rosary, Donate a bag of dog food to a local animal shelter, Serve oranges for dessert and pray for the redheads in your life! St. Dominic...pray for us.

History of Western Sussex Missions

In the summer of 1965, St. James and St. Thomas held a Bazaar. In May, 1966, children from St. Matthew, St. Thomas and St. James received First Holy Communion at the St. James 10:30AM Sunday Mass. Afterwards, the Rosary Society served breakfast.

Moms and Tots Playgroup will continue to meet most Fridays from 10:00am to 11:30am through the summer. If weather permits, we will be meeting at local parks also. Please check our Facebook page “Sandyston Tot Group” to find us each week.

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

- ❖ Are you un-baptized, 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 those who want to be Baptized into the Catholic Church and receive First Eucharist and Confirmation. R.C.I.A. guides those from another faith tradition into Full Communion with the Catholic Church. 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.

The Columbiettes are collecting school supplies in July and August. A basket is in the gathering space.



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

The Transfiguration of the Lord

August 6, 2017

"Beloved: We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty... We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven while we were with him on the holy mountain."

Jesus selected the three apostles, allowing them to catch a glimpse of His divinity. The scene – a mountain, where God met Moses, where Jesus gave the beatitudes in His sermon, provides the backdrop for this special revelation.

The voice, echoing the words spoken at the Jordan at His baptism, reveals the special relationship of Jesus with the Father. Peter is witness to it all.

'This is my Son, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' May the words spoken on this occasion be a mantra for us, reflecting God's care and love for us. We are His beloved and He is pleased as we strive to live our Christian lives. And like the three, may we open our eyes and see no one but Jesus.

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 6, 2017

Transfiguration of the Lord

9:30 a.m. STC Coffee Hour

Monday, Aug. 7

Tuesday, Aug. 8

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

Wednesday, Aug. 9

Thursday, Aug. 10

Friday, Aug. 11

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

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

10:00a.m. STC Moms & Tots Play Group

1:00 p.m. STC Montague Seniors Mtg.

Saturday, Aug. 12

Sunday, August 13, 2017

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Next Sunday's Readings: 19th Ord.

1st Reading: *1 Kings 19: 9a, 11–13a*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 85*

2nd Reading: *Romans 9: 1--5*

Gospel: *Matthew 14: 22–33*

Consider Weekday Mass. Start your day in the best way possible. Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 9 a.m. at St. Thomas. Sat. 8 a.m. at St. James.

The Original Red Cross Imagine the sorrow that the mother of Saint Camillus de Lellis felt when she dreamt that her son would wear a red cross. It was the sign of a death sentence in 16th-century Italy. Her dream came true, but not in the way she feared. After a colorful life, Camillus felt called to serve the sick, founding the Order of Clerks Regular, Ministers of the Infirm, better known as the Camillians. With cassocks marked with a large red cross, they helped wounded soldiers on the battlefield, saving countless lives and transforming the red cross into a sign of charity and service for sick people everywhere.

Marian Pilgrimage. Every three years our Diocese gears up to make a pilgrimage to the *National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception* in Washington D.C. It continues a long tradition in the Church of making spiritual journeys to sacred shrines and places to seek graces from the Lord and to honor the saints.

Our up-coming pilgrimage will include a Mass with Bishop Serratelli, catechetical presentations, devotional time and a chance for Confession.

There are two options: 1) the one-day pilgrimage: \$ 49. and 2) the overnight option: Fri. to Sat. \$259. The date will be: **Sat. October 21.**

For more info, contact our Pilgrimage Coordinator, Chris Higgins at 201-738-9968.

Become a Hospice Volunteer. The **Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice Center** is offering classes to assist volunteers in helping those in the last stages of this life. The training is free. Topics to be covered include explaining the social, emotional, spiritual and physical needs of the dying person and their family; also covered will be strategies for helping others (and ourselves) when faced with a terminal illness. Classes will take place at their new location:

5 Plains Road, Augusta. Dates and times: Tuesdays and Fridays: Sept. 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, from 10 a.m. till 12 noon each time. For more info call Sue Dougherty at 973-383-0115.

Get FORMED for the summer:

www.Formed.org Unlock spiritual treasures with our Parish Code: HCVWQC

Suggestion: *Catholicism: A Journey to the Heart of Faith*, by Bishop Robert Barron

Journey around the world and deepen your faith. For the first time, in breathtaking, high-definition cinematography, the beauty, goodness and truth of the Catholic Faith are illustrated in a rich, multimedia experience. Journey with acclaimed author, speaker and theologian, Bishop Robert Barron to more than 50 locations throughout 15 countries. Be illuminated by the spiritual and artistic treasures of this global culture of our Catholic faith that claims more than one billion of the earth's people.

From the sacred lands of Israel to the beating heart of Uganda, from the glorious shrines of Italy, France and Spain, to the streets of Mexico, Kolkata and New York City, the fullness of Catholicism is revealed. Journey deep into the faith as you watch each episode. Ten episodes. Ten hours.