

# 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](mailto:stjamesthomas@aol.com)  
Website address: [saintjamesthomas.org](http://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](http://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](http://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**

# November, the Month of All Souls

There is nothing that equalizes us as much as death. We each get one, and none of us knows the day nor the hour. The circumstances of our birth determine much about our lives and our future possibilities. We, who are born in this country, for example, are so fortunate compared to people born into poverty-stricken places throughout the world. Yet for each person born, no matter where or under what life-conditions, there is that moment when the things of this world will come to an end.

Death, for us humans, is naturally experienced as sorrow and grief. When someone we love is taken from us in death, we know that deep, often wrenching, changes must be faced. That person, who has been so intimate a part of our lives, is there no more to be a companion and a support. All that was shared together, can no longer be. We experience a profound sense of loss.

We sometimes contemplate our own future death. Perhaps it is in those moments that we most treasure the life that we do have. Yet we know and fear that some unknown day ahead will be our last. Again, a sense of sadness and even depression can come to us.

Perhaps right here is the beauty and the treasure of our faith. Our Lord Jesus has been through death and has shown us what lies on the other side: the fullness of life; a peace and happiness and joy to which there is no comparison on this earth. Jesus' three days in the tomb surely brought His disciples and probably even His mother, to the brink of despair. And then, on Easter Sunday, His glorious Resurrection and His appearances to them brought them an unbounded, incomparable joy. The Lord wishes all believers to share in this kind of joy—a joy that “destroys death forever” as Isaiah prophesies in one of his most famous passages.

Our Lord's Resurrection, and our faith in Him, has changed the way we look at death. Yes, it is still the end of our life on this earth, but it is not a blank wall; it is not an end. Death, Jesus reveals, is a doorway, and it leads us to the greatest happiness imaginable. Perhaps the greatest happiness we will find is to discover our dear, departed loved ones waiting for us, to share the Eternal Banquet of Heaven with them.

And so, although we naturally would put off that moment of death, we need not dread it, because it becomes the promise of greater and more wonderful things ahead. “Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, what God has ready for those who love Him,” as one of our hymns puts it.

Let us thank the Lord for the precious gift of faith, the gift that helps us to look past the moment of death and to look forward to a union with Him and with our loved ones—which will last forever.

God bless you,  
Father Wayne

*All of your deceased loved ones will be remembered at all our Masses  
during this month of November.*

**THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**November 5, 2017**

**St. James the Greater**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Joseph Cox at the  
Request of Valerie & Bill Ricciardi

**SATURDAY, November 11**

8:00AM – Intentions of Donna Rivera

**THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**November 12**

8:00AM – Antoinette Crysler  
req. by Joan & Bill Henn

11:30AM – Jeanette Meloi  
req. by her husband, Charlie

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$ 876.00 – Regular Collection – October 29, 2017 +**

**\$ 150.00 - Online Giving**

**\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

**\$1,309.00 – Regular Collection – October 30, 2016**

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

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

Please remember in your prayers during the month of November, the deceased members of the Columbiettes: Cordelia Cafone, Gail Collis, Margaret Gibbons, Ginny Monk, Sophie Mugan, Regina Quinn and Grace Reich.



**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.

**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.



**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. Thomas the Apostle**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Kathryn Walker at the  
Request of her Children

**MONDAY, November 6**

9:00AM – Deceased Sweeney and Barr Families  
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer

**TUESDAY, November 7**

9:00AM – Mass for Blessed Legionaries  
req. by the Legion of Mary

**WEDNESDAY, November 8**

9:00AM – Raymond Ascolese  
req. by the Barr Family

**THURSDAY, November 9**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, November 10**

9:00AM – Barbara K. Kientzler  
req. by her son, Charles

**SATURDAY, Vigil, November 11**

4:30PM – Michael Reich  
req. by Gerry Mahon  
-Intentions of Theresa Lange  
req. by the Wainwright Family

**THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**November 12**

9:30AM – Grace Reich  
req. by Dorothy Eckweiler  
-Sofia Babon  
req. by John & Maria Babon

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$1,932.00 – Regular Collection – October 29, 2017 +**

**\$ 328.00 - Online Giving**

**\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

**\$1,842.00 – Regular Collection – October 30, 2016**

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

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**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, Sarah Scheckner, Alex Sepiol, Infant John Antonio Seti, Pam Spencer, Joan Strehl, Baby Teddy, Michael Toth, Jen Vaughn, Lorraine Verga, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh, Joan White and Robert Woodcock



### Remembering Our Loved Ones

During November, our thoughts and prayers turn toward family members and friends who have died. On November 1<sup>st</sup>, we honored all the saints in heaven. On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, we prayed for all the souls in purgatory. On November 11<sup>th</sup>, we will honor the men and women who have served our country, including those who have died in service.

The Catholic Church knows it is especially important for us to remember those who have been dear to us. Here are some ideas for remembering your family and friends:

- ❖ Honor your deceased loved ones by looking at photos and talking about what they were like when they were with you.
- ❖ Visit their graves at the cemetery.
- ❖ Arrange to have a Mass to be offered at church for the repose of their souls.
- ❖ Make a donation to your parish or to some other charity in remembrance.
- ❖ Always pray for them and all souls in purgatory.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*



### Catholic Teens

Our next gathering will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish **today, Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00-8:00PM. All High School Teens** are invited to OLQP for an evening of fun and friendship! There will be plenty of fun, games, music and prayer. Come join us and see what's going on!!!

### Saint of the Month ~ St. Elizabeth of the Trinity (July 18, 1880 - November 9, 1906)

St. Elizabeth was the oldest child of a French military officer and his wife. When she visited the local Carmelite monastery at age 17, she knew she was being called to the contemplative life. She entered when she was 21 and died there at age 26 of Addison's Disease. In her short life, she wrote many spiritual works, including "Heaven in Faith", a retreat she prepared a few months before her death. She believed her purpose in life was to lead souls to a deeper union with Christ in the Trinity. She was canonized by Pope Francis in October, 2016. St. Elizabeth of the Trinity, pray for us!

### Catechist Meeting

A meeting will take place on **Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at either 11:00AM or 7:00PM** for your convenience. All catechists are encouraged to attend one of these sessions.

### Sacramental Preparation Parents and Children Session

Our Parent Session for all who have children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time will take place on **Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00AM at St. Thomas the Apostle Church**. Mrs. Eileen Morgan will be our presenter that morning. It is imperative that at least one parent for each child be present at this session.

### St. James Christmas Bazaar – December 2

We are **now accepting** donations of new and like new items for the "Second Time Around" tables. If you are a crafter, baker, volunteer or just editing some nice but unwanted pieces from your home, please call Linda Spinapolic 973-293-7031, Maria Henn 973-293-3243 or Joan Henn 973-293-3690. Let's make this fundraiser a great success!



**St. Thomas is still in need of someone to wash weekly the altar cloths used at Masses. If interested, see Father Wayne or Mary.**

**The St. James Spaghetti Dinner Committee** would like to thank everyone who supported our annual dinner. The food was delicious, and a good time was had by all. We sold 107 adult tickets and 3 child tickets. All food and materials were donated by committee members, so there were no expenses for the dinner. We turned over a profit of \$1,623.00 to Father Wayne.

We would like to specifically thank Bill & Valerie Riccardi, Bill & Joan Henn, Art & Maria Henn, Mike & Linda Spinapolic, Albert Helms, Mark Long, Jillian & Alyssa Olenick and Dory Hankins.

### Parents' Night Out

Our Mom & Tot Group is currently in the planning stages of organizing a *Parents' Night Out* for parents of young children. You will have the opportunity to get together at a local restaurant with other parents while childcare (including dinner) is provided at St. Thomas Church. It would take place on a Saturday after Mass (5:30pm-7:30pm). We are currently looking for volunteers to help with the childcare, especially those with the appropriate safety clearances. Please contact the parish office or Mandi Sousa at 973-632-5536 if you are interested. If you are a parent looking for more information or to sign up, please contact Mandi at the above number.

### 2017 Bishop's Annual Appeal

*In Giving, We Receive*

It is important that when you give to any charitable organization, you are confident that the funds are used wisely. Be assured that your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal supports four causes: our Catholic Charities agencies, seminarian education, our inner-city area elementary schools and our priests' retirement residence. In addition, 50% of all funds received over a parish's goal is returned to the parish directly for its own needs. Please know that Appeal funds are used for no other purpose and serve only those who live in Morris, Passaic and Sussex counties. Please make a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal today. For your convenience, you can make an online gift or pledge at [www.2017appeal.org](http://www.2017appeal.org). Thank you!

### Hold the Date – St. Thomas Annual Bake & Craft Sale and Flea Market on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>

At the present time, we are in need of CRAFTERS and VENDERS. If anyone knows of someone who would be interested in renting a table or is a crafter, please ask them to contact Deirdre at 973-948-6092. There will be a table containing donated crafts or new and slightly used items. If you have an item you love but no longer use or need and wish to donate, please contact Deirdre at the above number. Thank you.

**Columbiettes** are sponsoring a new toy drive for Project Self-Sufficiency until Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. There is a basket in the gathering space. Thank you.

### Yoga-lates

St. Thomas is having a fitness class with a mix of Yoga moves (flexibility & calm mind) and Pilates (strength & tone especially in your core muscles). The class is on **Tuesday nights from 6:15-7:15pm for 6 weeks. We started on October 24<sup>th</sup>**. You may join us at any time. It is easy to follow but a full body workout. Bring a mat, hand held weights (1-8lbs.), water and a friend. Join for the session for \$30.00 or pay \$6.00 per class. Twenty percent of the class money will be going to St. Thomas parish. So, please try it out and do something for yourself. Any questions, please call Chris Dube at 973-948-2329.

## 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, November 5, 2017

#### 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 p.m. SJC Coffee Hour (after Mass)  
9:30 a.m. REC Mass & Class Gr. 6, 7, 8  
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, Nov. 6

- 11:00 a.m. REC Prayer Shawl & Ros. Makers' Mtg.

### Tuesday, Nov. 7

- 10:00 a.m. STC Reflections on Readings  
4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 1 & 2  
6:15 p.m. STC Yoga-lates

### Wednesday, Nov. 8

- 4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 3, 4 & 5  
7:00 p.m. STC Adoration & Rosary with K of C  
7:30 p.m. STC Knights of Columbus Mtg.

### Thursday, Nov. 9

### Friday, Nov. 10

- 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, Nov. 11

#### Veterans Day

### Sunday, November 12, 2017

#### 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 9:30 a.m. REC Mass & Class Gr. 6, 7, 8  
6:00 p.m. Youth Group (at O.L.Q.P. till 8 p.m.)  
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### Next Sunday's Readings: 32<sup>nd</sup> Ord.

1st Reading: *Wisdom 6: 12--16*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalm 63*

2nd Reading: *1 Thessalonians 4: 13--18*

Gospel: *Matthew 25: 1--13*

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**Have your deceased loved ones** remembered at every Mass in November. Simply add their names to an All Souls' envelope and place on the altar.

## The Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass

will be celebrated by Bishop Serratelli on **Saturday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>**. The site is our **newly renovated St. John Cathedral**, 381 Grand St., Paterson. Mass begins at **10:00 a.m.** Here is a chance to join with people from all over our Diocese, and to unite our prayers for a conversion of our nation to one that respects and cherishes all human life.

## Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service.

This time of year gives us the chance to join with our neighbors at the Minisink Reformed Church and the Delaware Valley United Methodist Church. We will be celebrating the Lord's goodness and generosity to us at our annual Thanksgiving Service. It will be held at the **Methodist Church on Monday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:30 p.m.** There will be refreshments served afterwards. Plan to join with our Christian friends in praising the Lord and sharing fellowship.

**On-Line Giving.** This modern way of dealing with finances is growing. And it is easy to arrange. It is an option we hope you will consider.

For those who do their banking and pay bills through the computer, we are set up to accept on-line donations to the Sunday collection. Simply reach our website, [saintjamestomas.org](http://saintjamestomas.org). You will find the **link to on-line giving**. Follow it through and it will easily set you up for weekly or monthly contributions. With our thanks.

## St. James Parish: 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year !

We are still accepting photographs, old and new, of parishioners and events of the last 75 years. They will tell the story of our parish in a unique **2018 Anniversary Calendar**. All photos will be scanned and then returned promptly. Photos of yourself and your family would be perfect !

## Get FORMED for the fall:

[www.FORMED.org](http://www.FORMED.org) Unlock spiritual treasures with our Parish Code: HCVWQC

### Recommended at FORMED:

*"Contemporary Sainthood."* In this incredible double feature audio CD, Mark Hart illuminates what it means seek sanctity in the 21st century. First he discusses unleashing the power of the Holy Spirit and becoming who we are meant to be: saints. Second, he talks about the dangers of putting human expectations on our supreme God. These two talks will be sure to jump start your spiritual life and shed some light on what it means to be a contemporary saint.