

# 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**



## The Assumption of Mary— What Happened?

We celebrate this week a special feast day—and an understanding—that had been developing within the Church throughout the centuries. Saints and theologians and Scripture scholars had always pondered about what happened to the Blessed Mother at the end of her life on earth. Passages such as Genesis 3: 15 said that *“I will put enmity between you and the woman, between your offspring and hers.”* Revelations 12: 6 says: *“The woman herself fled into the desert where she had a place prepared by God, that she might be taken care of ...”* These and other passages had always piqued the interest of scholars, who looked for deeper meanings in these and similar texts.

After continual study throughout the centuries and consistent findings by many, Pope Pius XII in 1950 defined the doctrine that we celebrate today. In his apostolic teaching: *Munificentissimus Deus*, the pope made the only use of papal infallibility to date. He, in union with the bishops of the world, stated that: *“By the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, and by our own authority, we pronounce, declare, and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory.”*

In other words, when Mary closed her eyes on her last day on earth, she found herself transported, body and soul, into the eternal Kingdom of Heaven. This was God the Father’s and Jesus’ greatest gift to her—for all that she willingly did for them on earth. Because she was completely faithful to the Lord and His Will during her lifetime, she was rewarded with immediately enjoying the full benefits of bodily resurrection in heaven.

Where Mary has gone, we hope to follow. We will certainly experience a time of death—and a period when our bodies will be in the earth and will decompose, and return to dust—while our spirits (hopefully) begin to enjoy life in heaven. We too will find the fullness of resurrection as our bodies re-unite (in some better way) with our spirits at the Last Judgment. At that moment, as Scripture tells us, Jesus the Good Shepherd will gather up the faithful and present them to the Father (Matthew 25: 34.)

Let us call upon our Blessed Mother, to help us remain strong in faith as she was, so that we might look forward to meeting her in person, along with all the saints in the heavenly Kingdom.

God bless you,  
Father Wayne

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**August 12, 2018**

**St. James the Greater**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in  
Memory of Ray Sorg at the  
Request of Lorraine

**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
**WEDNESDAY, August 15**

8:00AM – Joan Spoolstra  
req. by her Family

**SATURDAY, August 18**

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

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**August 19**

8:00AM – Alvin Ulbrich  
req. by Danielle & Mike Ulbrich  
-Burton Meshnick  
req. by his Family

11:30AM – Muriel Kennel  
req. by her Family

**ST. JAMES THE GREATER**

**\$1,231.00 – Regular Collection – August 5, 2018 +**

**\$ 131.00 – Online Giving**

**\$1,046.00 – Regular Collection- August 6, 2017**

**\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

*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.**



**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 Spinapolicce at 973-293-7031.

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns for the  
Intentions of Lisa & Nick Dispoto at the  
Request of their Aunt Rosie

**MONDAY, August 13**

9:00AM – Millie Criscitiello  
req. by Ken & Mary Burkhardt

**TUESDAY, August 14**

9:00AM – Anthony Bello and Ted Rahoche  
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer

**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
**WEDNESDAY, August 15**

9:00AM – Barbara K. Kientzler  
req. by her son, Charles  
-Intentions of the Legion of Mary  
req. by the Legion of Mary  
7:00PM – Cordelia Cafone  
req. by her Family

**THURSDAY, August 16**

No Mass

**FRIDAY, August 17**

9:00AM – Carl & Ronnie Ferriere  
-Ollivette Kennedy  
-Intentions of Christine Lord

**SATURDAY, Vigil, August 18**

4:30PM – Bob Perry  
req. by the Falchetta Family

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**August 19**

9:30AM – Jack McCallum  
req. by Dawn Hall & Family

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE**

**\$1,706.00 – Regular Collection – August 5, 2018 +**

**\$ 743.00 – Online Giving**

**\$3,684.00 – Regular Collection – August 6, 2017**

**\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need**

*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, Loretta Bauman, James Brittain, Peg Coates, Mary Cunico, Frances Demalderis, Rozanne DeNardo, Derya Dimertas, Judy Dressie, Sofia Evelich, Rachel Gibbs, Gomez Family, Mary Guimes, Barbara Haggerty, Carmen Howell, Jennifer, Doug Kabbash, Betty Lacovara, Angela Lanzalotta, Jeff Librizzi, Jodi Lupo, Thomas Lynch, Betty Mastrelli, Sonny Mastrelli Sandy Matthews, Brian McKenna, John Meehan, Bill Myers, Kelly Nicole, Robert Organes, Jim Pantelmo, Danielle Parker, Tracey Perles, Flo Puccio, Dolores Record, Sal, Sarah Scheckner, Alex Sepiol, Infant John Antonio Seti, John Sikora, Pam Spencer, Baby Teddy, Michael Toth, Jen Vaughn, Tarra Wagner, Thomas Walsh and Joan White



### **Registrations for 2018/2019 Catechetical Year**

Re-registrations for children and teens for the upcoming catechetical year were **due back by July 31<sup>st</sup>**. **Please send your registrations back ASAP.**

Parents of children entering first grade (unless they have a sibling here and can be included on the mailed out registration form), 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.

### **Columbiettes**

Our Seminarian, Tom Costello, Jr., the son of Cindy and Tom Costello, is in preparation for the priesthood. The Columbiettes are sponsoring funding towards his education in this most holy endeavor. There are containers placed in both parishes. We appreciate any donations that are given. We thank all parishioners in advance and especially thank Father Wayne for his encouragement in this endeavor.

### **ADULT CONFIRMATION**

Our Parishes will again offer preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation of adults beginning in January, 2019. These preparation sessions are for adults {18 or over} who are Baptized Catholic and who have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, and, for whatever reason, have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Those who present themselves for the sacrament will have an initial interview and then begin sessions to last for 10 sessions and will be confirmed during the Easter Season.

Parishioners, please pass on the information to anyone who may not be fully initiated. Please call the Religious Education Office at 973-948-7004 for any questions you might have, leave a message, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Peace, Pat Hope, Co-Coordinator for Adult Confirmation

**The Columbiettes** are looking for new members. Please call Pat Lane if you are interested at 973-300-1954. We look forward to welcoming you.

**The Columbiettes** are collecting school supplies at both churches until August 31<sup>st</sup>.

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

- ❖ Are you un-baptized, but recognize a need for spiritually 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.

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

**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
August 12, 2018**

**“Elijah prayed for death, saying: This is enough, O Lord. Take my life, for I am no better than my fathers. He lay down and fell asleep under the broom tree, but then an angel touched him and ordered him to get up and eat...for the angel of the Lord came back a second time, touched him and ordered ‘Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you.’ He got up, ate and drank...he walked forty days and nights to the mountain of God, Horeb.”**

We return to Capernaum and find Jesus telling us ‘I AM the bread of life.’ It is in the Eucharist we find Jesus present to accompany us on our journey. Elijah was awakened twice and was ordered to brace himself for the journey. Jesus is the bread of life for us. We often overlook how great, how important, how necessary is this gift for our spiritual survival.

How many people in the world die each day of starvation? Too many, and we are called to assist them. How many people in the church take the gift of the Eucharist for granted? We speak of a priest shortage, while we should focus on the lack of appreciation for the gift of the Eucharist. Where in our world are people deprived of what is so essential, yet we sometimes take the priesthood, the mass and Eucharist for granted.

If Jesus is the bread of life, I need to go to Him with renewed fervor and gratitude. ‘Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you.’

## 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 12, 2018

#### 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mission Co-op Sunday

1:00 p.m. SJC C.P. R. Course at St. James  
(till 4 p.m.)

### Monday, Aug. 13

### Tuesday, Aug. 14

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

### Wednesday, Aug. 15

#### Feast of the Assumption of Mary

8:00 a.m. SJC Mass of the Assumption

9:00 a.m. STC Mass of the Assumption

7:00 p.m. STC Mass of the Assumption

### Thursday, Aug. 16

### Friday, Aug. 17

10:00a.m. STC Adoration of Bl. Sac. (till Noon)

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

### Saturday, Aug. 18

### Sunday, August 19, 2018

#### 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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#### Next Sunday's Readings: 20<sup>th</sup> Ord.

1st Reading: Proverbs 9: 1–6

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 34

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5: 15--20

Gospel: John 6: 51--58

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**FORMED.org** Free to you as a parishioner; our parish code is: **HCVWQC**. The password is: **formed**.

**Recommended by FORMED.org:**

*The Bible and the Virgin Mary*, by Scott Hahn

--Chap. 11—The Assumption

Discover the rich scriptural foundations for the Church's teachings on Mary's Assumption.

## Welcome Fr. Ponciano Macabalo, O.F.M.

Fr. Ponce is our visitor for the Mission Co-op Program sponsored by the Diocese of Paterson. Fr. Ponce comes from the Philippines. He was ordained in 1977 and has worked as a rural missionary, a director of seminarians, as mission director, and as assistant to the director of the Franciscan Order in the Philippines. He has also studied in Rome, and has continued as an assistant for the Mission Office of the Franciscans in Rome. He currently works with the General Secretariat of the Franciscan Order in Burlington, Wisconsin. He will speak to us of the state of the Church in the Philippines. Our mission collection will go towards the work of his order.

**This Wed., Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> marks the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** It celebrates the special honor given to our Blessed Mother, of not ever experiencing the corruption of death before entering into the glory of heaven. This was a unique reward given to her, in recognizing the holy life she lived for God.

For us it is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. **Masses on Wednesday will be: 8 a.m. at St. James; 9 a.m. at St. Thomas; and 7 p.m. at St. Thomas.** Make the time to celebrate this special day, and ask the Blessed Mother to share with you her spirit of unwavering faith in the Lord.

**St. James Summer Bar-B-Que.** Our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration continues with an outdoor Bar-Be-Que Picnic on the grounds of St. James. The date is **Saturday, Aug. 25<sup>th</sup>; from 12 Noon till 4 p.m.** Food will include pulled pork, chicken, ribs and brisket by **Bubba-Que's** Billy Rough. Also ice cream sundaes. Ladies are asked to bring their famous salads or dessert. B.Y.O.B. Live entertainment will be by **Three-Sixty** (Lou, Don & Nancy). There'll be games for the kids. Tickets: \$ 10 adults; \$ 5 Children 12 & under; under 5: free. Bring a lawn chair if you'd like. All are invited to join us for a nice, relaxing summer afternoon under the trees. Tickets available at St. James or at the Parish Office.

*"Only after the Last Judgment will Mary get any rest; from now until then, she is much too busy with her children."* --St. John Vianney