

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF

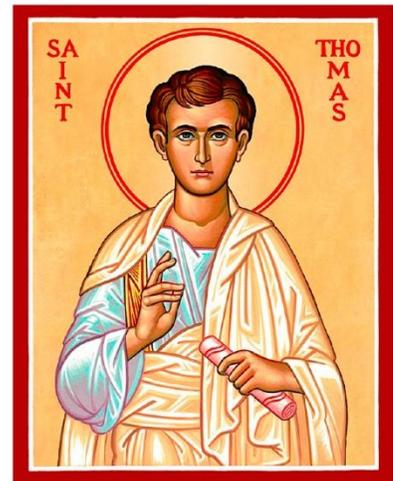
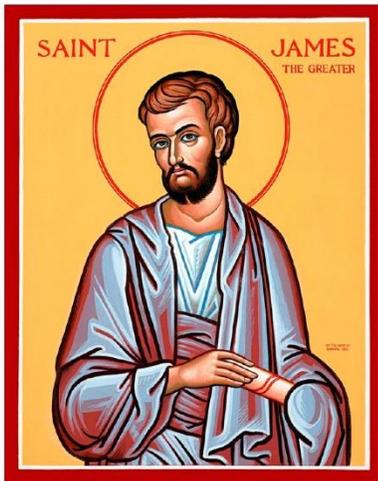
St. James the Greater

75 River Road
Montague, New Jersey



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 ----- stjamesthomas@aol.com
Website ----- saintjamesthomas.org
Rectory ----- 973-293-7582
Office Hours
Monday - Friday ----- 8:30 am - 2:30 pm

Welcome

Father Wayne Varga, *Pastor*
Mr. Wayne von Doehren, *Deacon*
Mrs. Mary Flexer, *CRE*
Mrs. Patricia Hope, *Pastoral Associate*
Mrs. Rosemarie Briegel, *Parish Secretary*

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.

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.

MASS SCHEDULES

St. James

Sunday: 8:00 am & 11:30 am
Saturday: 8:00 am

St. Thomas

Saturday: 4:30 pm (*Vigil*)
Sunday: 9:30 am
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday &
Friday: 9:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:20 pm or by appointment

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN (CCD)

Phone: 973-948-7004

Religious Education/Youth Office and classes are located at the Msgr. Gacquin Youth/Religious Education Center, 122 Layton-Hainesville Rd, Sandyston (*mail should be sent to parish office address listed above*)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

(September through April)

At St. Thomas the Apostle Church as part of the 9:30 am Mass.

Adoption Services

Adoption@CatholicCharities

The Schools of The Catholic Academy of Sussex County
973-729-6125 ext. 225

Rev. George A. Brown School
(Pre-K to Grade 4)

Pope John XXIII Middle School
(Grade 5 to 7)

Pope John XXIII High School
(Grade 8 to 12)

 [Facebook/StJamesThomas](https://www.facebook.com/StJamesThomas)



“What Can We Do ?”

Catholic Thoughts by Jeanne Hunt

“What can we do?” Over and over, people come to me with that question. We want to have a plan, a way to overcome the darkness in our world. Oh, how I wish I had the answer. But, as in all things spiritual, the answer abides within each of us from the mouth of God.

Independence Day looms ahead of us. We will wave the flag, watch the fireworks, sing the songs of a brave nation. Yet, there is a darkness among us. It is fear that all is not well in our beautiful country. What can we do?

Our leaders squabble over who has power. Personal greed supersedes the well-being of the poor and lost. Crime is not punished, it is excused with a blind eye to morality. Violence, lies and sins abound. It is no wonder we feel that hope is lost. We retreat to the sanctuaries, lifting our sorry hearts to God, asking God to restore “One nation under God.” It is in the quiet of this sacred place, where the din of the world’s misguided agenda cannot be heard, that another Voice speaks if we dare to listen.

What can we do? We can speak our moral mind without compromise. We have a treasure not made of gold. It is the truth of the Gospel. Since God knew us in our mother’s womb, this truth has been whispered to us. It is engraved on our hearts. Now is the time to speak bravely without regard for consequence. Speaking out for what is good, right and just means persecution and ridicule. Jesus warned us that discipleship is the way of the cross; we cannot shrink from the call to be His witness.

What can we do? We can be beacons of light in our small circle of the kingdom. God will not ask us to take the national podium and deliver an inspiring speech this 4th of July. What He asks is that we take the podium of example and be the change for which we desperately hope. We must do what we preach. We serve the poor where they are. In the words of Pope Francis, we “smell the sheep.” We act with love to everyone, especially those who disagree with our politics, religion and values. With the love of Christ in our hearts, hatred has no place in us. The Gospel is something we do, not something we just talk about.

What can we do? We come often to the well. Living water awaits those who come. When we sit with Christ and allow Him to teach us, our hearts begin to burn with His energy and passion. We are invited to be active Catholics, who come to the Eucharist often, very often, because we are hungry for His presence, not because we feel obliged. We find the well at Mass, alone in our prayer time, in our car praying for those we pass on the highway everywhere and anywhere. In Him, we live and move and find our being and gradually we put on the mind of Christ in every aspect of our lives.

“What can we do?” is the question we must keep in our hearts this Independence Day, so that we can keep asking and listening to the answer. This hopeless nation is not an easy fix. There has never been a struggle in the history of our nation as great as this. It is the oldest struggle in the world: Light against dark, goodness against evil, love against hate. We are the beacons of hope. May Christ’s words offer us encouragement: *“In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world”* (John 16:33).

Jeanne Hunt is a writer for *The Catholic Telegraph*,
the official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 5, 2020

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Jack Reilly at the
Request of Bill, Valerie, Kate & Emilia Ricciardi

SATURDAY, July 11

8:00AM – Muriel Kennel
req. by her Family

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 12

8:00AM – Peg O'Brien
req. by her Family

11:30AM – Robert & Ann Lamb
req. by Peggy

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,169.00 – Regular Collection – June 28, 2020
\$ 436.00 – Online Giving
\$ 35.00 – Latin American Mission & Overseas Relief
\$1,667.00 – Regular Collection – June 30, 2019
\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

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 8:00am St. James Coffee Hour takes place the first Sunday of the month except for July, August and September.

St. James Altar & Floral 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.

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

Agnes Ciesielski, Michael Eiring, Bill Fulton, Bill & Teresa Mantini, Joshua Murch, Richard Nowicki, Ginny Sabia, Shirley Strong, Jen Vaughn, Tarra Wagner, Casandra Westbrook and Ricky Wunder



We ask your continued prayers for the following men and women of our parish who are serving our country in the Armed Forces: Brandon Heimall, Nicholas and Karissa Kealy, Joseph Mannion, Hunter Olenick, Christopher & Ana Sarao, Nicole Sarao, Peter Spinks and James Orr.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Rosemarie Bastian at the
Request of her Family

MONDAY, July 6

9:00AM – Gary Gibbs and Patricia O'Donell Potts
req. by their classmate, Mary Flexer

TUESDAY, July 7

9:00AM – Ted Dunn
req. by his Family

WEDNESDAY, July 8

9:00AM – Josephine Yarosz
req. by her Family

THURSDAY, July 9

No Mass

FRIDAY, July 10

9:00AM – Barbara & Charles Kientzler
req. by their son, Charles

SATURDAY, Vigil, July 11

4:30PM – Frank Morgiewicz
req. by Linda Lee

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
July 12

9:30AM – Sandy Matthews
req. by Gerry Mahon & Family

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,992.00 – Regular Collection – June 28, 2020
\$1,100.00 – Online Giving
\$ 148.00 – Latin American Mission & Overseas Relief
\$1,852.00 – Regular Collection – June 30, 2019
\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

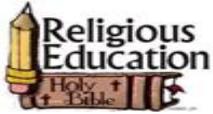
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Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima Statue/Legion of Mary

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*



Have a Slowed-down Catholic Summer

It's summer! No more virtual learning, homeschooling or whatever sort of schooling your kids have been working on these past few months. Try some of these suggestions to make your summer a little more Catholic:

- ❖ **Works of Mercy** – Have a discussion on the seven corporal works of mercy. Assign one way for your kids to practice one of the works. For example, have an older child commit to helping a younger sibling get drinks and snacks.

Corporal Works of Mercy:

Feed the hungry.

Give drink to the thirsty.

Clothe the naked.

Shelter the homeless.

Visit the sick.

Visit the imprisoned.

Bury the dead.

- ❖ **Write Letters** – Put a personal spin on communication with a letter or a care package to a family member or friend who you haven't seen in a while.
- ❖ **Work your Way through a Prayer Book** - Say a new prayer every night. Add your favorites to your nightly routine.

(From Take Out – Family Faith On the Go)

The Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist

As we have been back to Mass for a few weeks now, we are starting to plan our celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for our 28 teens and the Sacrament of First Holy Eucharist with our 10 children. More information will soon be mailed out to parents. Please keep our parish teens and children in your prayers as they soon may be able to receive the Grace of God through these sacraments.

Congratulations Graduates

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” ~ Jeremiah 29:11

Congratulations and many blessings to all who are graduating from Elementary School, Junior and Senior High School, College or Graduate School. May you know of the prayers and best wishes of many who are praying for you to continue to seek the help of God as you move forward to different schools or career opportunities. May you always call on the Holy Spirit for His gifts to help make decisions which will always give glory, honor and praise to Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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, July 5, 2020
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, July 6

Tuesday, July 7

Wednesday, July 8

Thursday, July 9

Friday, July 10

Saturday, July 11

Sunday, July 12, 2020
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Next Sunday's Readings: 14th Ord.

1st Reading: *Isaiah 55: 10--11*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 65*

2nd Reading: *Romans 8: 18--23*

Gospel: *Matthew 13: 1--23*

The Fortnight for Freedom has again been sponsored by the American Bishops, although many circumstances have placed it in the background this year. Still this important two-week period is meant to keep us vigilant about our freedoms as citizens of this country. This week-end, as we celebrate the liberties won during the American Revolution, we have the chance to reflect upon those freedoms, and to re-dedicate ourselves to preserving them. Among them--and basic to us--is our Freedom of Religion. The **Wall of Separation between Church and State** was never meant to suppress religion. It is meant to suppress the State from imposing any state-sponsored religion upon the citizenry. It is up to us to be vigilant and keep our freedom of religion strong. During these days let us thank God for our freedoms, and also pray for guidance for our nation.

Welcome to our new Bishop of Paterson, Bishop Kevin J. Sweeney. Bishop Sweeney was ordained and installed as 8th Bishop of the Diocese of Paterson last Wed. July 1.

Bishop Sweeney, 50, was born and raised in Queens, N.Y. He has one sister, one brother, and excelled in baseball in high school, at one time considering a professional career. He was ordained a priest in 1997 for the Diocese of Brooklyn. He has been assigned to several parishes and has served as vocations director for the Diocese. He is fluent in Spanish. He has expressed that the rural parts of Sussex County will be a new experience for him.

Thank You, Bishop Arthur Serratelli for your service to our Diocese for the last 16 years. Bishop Serratelli came to us in 2004 from the Newark Archdiocese. Previously he had been a seminary professor at Darlington Seminary and at Seton Hall. He is a member of several national and international commissions, including the International Committee on English in the Liturgy. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Catholic Relief Services. In retirement Bishop Serratelli will continue on these committees, and will probably devote much time to writing and teaching. We wish him a happy and fulfilling retirement.

How to view the Mass at home. For those still not comfortable with taking part in Mass at church, we are still **live-streaming the 9:30 a.m. Mass each Sunday morning.**

Our website homepage (saintjamesthomas.org) or the facebook page or you tube can lead you to the live-streaming of the Mass from St. Thomas. Our thanks to parishioners Gina and Ricardo for doing this task for us. Contact them at: 973-222-3774 or at contact@beardedroosterproductions.com for info on videography.

On Line Giving gives you one less thing to think about. Simply reach our parish website, saintjamesthomas.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.

"The price of freedom is eternal vigilance."

--Thomas Jefferson

"Liberty, once lost, is lost forever."

--John Adams