

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF

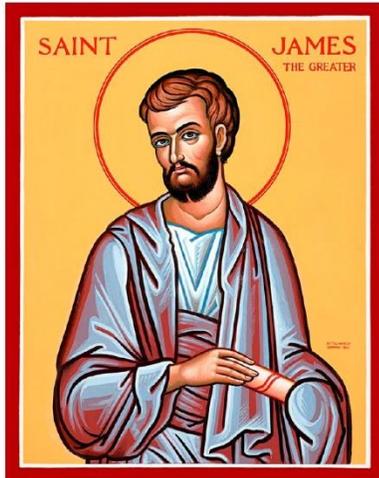
St. James the Greater

75 River Road
Montague, New Jersey

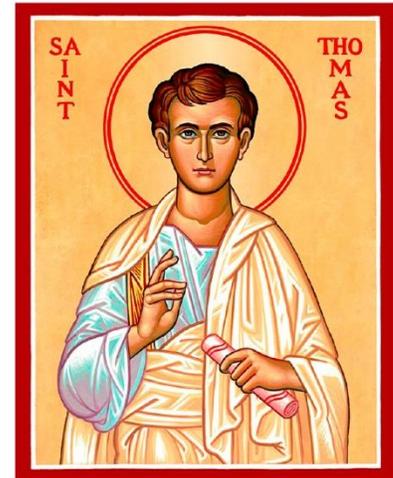


St. Thomas the Apostle

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

The Catholic Bishops of the U.S., in their guidance in our 2020 election, offer this insight about the crucial importance of a:

A Well-Formed Conscience

17. The Church equips its members to address political and social questions by helping them to develop a well-formed conscience. Catholics have a serious and lifelong obligation to form their consciences in accord with human reason and the teaching of the Church. Conscience is not something that allows us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere "feeling" about what we should or should not do. Rather, conscience is the voice of God resounding in the human heart, revealing the truth to us and calling us to do what is good while shunning what is evil. Conscience always requires serious attempts to make sound moral judgments based on the truths of our faith. As stated in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, "Conscience is a judgment of reason whereby the human person recognizes the moral quality of a concrete act that he is going to perform, is in the process of performing, or has already completed. In all he says and does, man is obliged to follow faithfully what he knows to be just and right" (no. 1778).

18. The formation of conscience includes several elements. First, there is a desire to embrace goodness and truth. For Catholics, this begins with a willingness and openness to seek the truth and what is right by studying Sacred Scripture and the teaching of the Church (as contained in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.) It is also important to examine the facts and background information about various choices. Finally, prayerful reflection is essential to discern the will of God. Catholics must also understand that if they fail to form their consciences in the light of the truths of the faith and the moral teachings of the Church they can make erroneous judgments.

To read their full statement: *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: The U.S. Bishops' Reflection on Catholic Teaching and Political Life*, reach their website,

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.org

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
October 25, 2020

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Josephine Yarosz at the
Request of her Family

SATURDAY, October 31

8:00AM – Hannah Babey
req. by Steve & Rose Babey

ALL SAINTS

November 1

8:00AM – Karen Majofsky and Michael Peer
req. by Suzanne Laggay

11:30AM – Peg O'Brien
req. by her Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 840.00 – Regular Collection – October 18, 2020

\$ 301.00 – Online Giving

\$1,034.00 – Regular Collection – October 20, 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. **Postponed until further notice.**

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 Spinapolic at 973-293-7031.



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, Mikey Heimall, Nicholas and Karissa Kealy, Joseph Mannion, Hunter Olenick, Christopher & Ana Sarao, Nicole Sarao, Peter Spinks and James Orr.



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 Dale R. Briegel at the
Request of his wife, Rosemarie

MONDAY, October 26

9:00AM – Intentions of Michael Toth
req. by his Mom, Toni

TUESDAY, October 27

9:00AM – Steve DeAngelis and Kyle McDevitt
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer

WEDNESDAY, October 28

9:00AM – Intentions of Mary & Jeff Nish and Family
req. by their Family, Anthony & Trini Andreiuolo

THURSDAY, October 29

No Mass

FRIDAY, October 30

9:00AM – Delores Hodges
req. by Ann Dilger

SATURDAY, Vigil, October 31

4:30PM – Sandy Matthews
req. by Edmund & Nicolina Bush

ALL SAINTS

November 1

9:30AM – Louise Flexer
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer
-Kazimiera & Jozef Szwajkiewicz
req. by John & Maria Babon

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,996.00 – Regular Collection – October 18, 2020

\$1,059.00 – Online Giving

\$ 200.00 – Diocesan Assessment (additional)

\$2,608.00 – Regular Collection – October 20, 2019

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

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:

Vincent Chirico, Agnes Ciesielski, Mary Diaz, Michael Eiring, Bill Fulton, Gerry Gacquin, Abigail Hirsch, Erin Hockenberry, Bill & Teresa Mantini, Joshua Murch, Richard Nowicki, Andy Puccio, Ginny Sabia, Shirley Strong, Jen Vaughn, Tarra Wagner, Casandra Westbrook and Ricky Wunder



November Classes

Our on-site classes for next month are as follows:

Grades 7 & 8 (Confirmation Prep)-Sun., Nov. 1, 15 & 29 – 9:30AM Mass – 12:30PM.

Grades 2 & 5 – Tues., Nov. 3 & 17 – 4:00PM – 5:30PM

Grades 4 & 6 – Wed., Nov. 4 & 18 – 4:00PM – 5:30PM

Grades 1 & 3 – Thurs., Nov 5 & 19 – 4:00PM – 5:30PM.

***For children in Grades 1 through 6 – every other week the next lesson will be taught at home.**

Parents of 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 (Now Grade 8) must call the Religious Education Office at 973-948-7004 to register. To enroll your child(ren) in the parish program, you must be a registered and participating member of the parish.

For all those who are not already registered, please return your registration ASAP so your children may begin to attend.



Praying the Rosary Together

In this month of the Holy Rosary, set aside time to pray the Rosary together as a family. This traditional, meditative prayer is a wonderful way to find calm before bedtime or to start your day. The Rosary is, at its heart, a biblical prayer, which is why Scripture verses are used for meditation with each mystery. Your children and teens have received a rosary and pamphlet inside their folder on the "Take Home" side to assist you in this holy and spiritual endeavor!

The Mysteries of the Rosary are usually prayed on these days of the week:

- ❖ *The Joyful Mysteries* – Mondays and Saturdays. As we pray these mysteries, we think about the happy times in Mary's life.
- ❖ *The Luminous Mysteries* – Thursdays. As we pray these mysteries, we think about the public ministry of Jesus.
- ❖ *The Sorrowful Mysteries* – Tuesdays and Fridays. As we pray these mysteries, we think about the very difficult times in Jesus' life.
- ❖ *The Glorious Mysteries* – Wednesdays and Sundays. As we pray these mysteries, we think about the wonderful times in Jesus' life and in Mary's life after the Crucifixion.

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Celebrate October

October 28 – National First Responders Day ~ This day is dedicated to people who are first to help during a local or national disaster. The role of first responders has expanded this year as battling the Covid-19 pandemic has changed the way we live. Pray for all those who have helped and continue to help during this crisis.



Catholic Zoomers

7th Grade through High School Teens are welcome to attend our next two get togethers at Our Lady Queen of Peace:

Today, Sunday, October 25th from 6pm- 8pm. It's Movie Night...featuring BREAKTHROUGH.

Saturday, October 31st from noon until 2pm – Setting up the Haunted House and then again/or from 6pm-8pm – Helping out with Trunk or Treat.

Please come down to the Youth Group for an evening of fun and friendship! Social distancing will be observed and masks are required! For more information, please call Mary Flexer at 862-268-1876.

From the R.C.I.A.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults process:

The R.C.I.A. sessions are for adults and are for faith sharing and instruction. The sessions are approximately sixty to ninety minutes to be held at the convenience of all participants. There is no cost for the R.C.I.A. Don't wait any longer to invite others to be Baptized Catholic! Don't wait any longer to become a fully initiated member (Sacraments of: Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) of the Catholic Church! Don't wait any longer to have your questions answered! Call the Religious Education Office at 973-948-7004 and your call will be returned as soon as possible.



**A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS
HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 25, 2020**

"Thus says the Lord. 'You shall not molest or oppress an alien, for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt. You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry. My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword, then your own wives will be widows and your children orphans... the second is like it: you shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

A clear, strong teaching in the second book of the bible. The words were perhaps directed at abuses taking place, and God spoke to correct them. We fast forward to our time of millions of refugees seeking more than survival. Years ago we labeled them as 'displace persons.' Today we see tragedies at sea, drowning at river crossings, separation of families, creation of cages, changes in time honored asylum laws. As with the victims of the coronavirus, they are not statistics, they are persons.

From Exodus until today, God's people have served the widow, orphan and immigrant. Read the scriptures, it's right there. Watch the news. Restore our rich heritage. Change begins with my attitude, matched with the need and hope of the alien. Jesus reminds us: 'love your neighbor as yourself.'

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, October 25

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, Oct. 26

Tuesday, Oct. 27

Wednesday, Oct. 28

Thursday, Oct. 29

Friday, Oct. 30

Saturday, Oct. 31

All Hallows Eve

Sunday, November 1

Feast of All Saints

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Next Sunday's Readings: *All Saints*

1st Reading: *Revelation 7: 2–4, 9–14*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 24*

2nd Reading: *1 John 3: 1–3*

Gospel: *Matthew 5: 1–12a*

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FORMED.org: an excellent way to grow in our faith.

It can help you learn more about: the lives of the saints, doctrines, history, current issues of our faith. **Free to you as a parishioner**, and available through all devices.

Simply go to our parish website: saintjamesthomas.org.

At the home page, scroll down to the FORMED banner to register or login.

Suggestions from FORMED:

November 1: Feast of All Saints

Listen: [Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Heaven](#)

Listen: [What's so Great about Being Catholic?](#)

Listen: [Pray Like a Saint](#)

Learn: [Symbolon: Knowing the Faith, Session 9: Mary and the Saints](#)

Italian Dinner Extravaganza. Our Knights of Columbus are cooking up a first event for one lucky family of our parish. They are holding a **raffle** where the winner invites the whole family to a specially cooked and served 4-course Italian Dinner in our Father Lewis Center. Meal includes salad, sausage & meatballs, spaghetti, wine & soda, dessert, coffee & tea. **The date is Sunday, November 15, from 2 p.m. till 5 p.m. in the Fr. Lewis Center. Raffle tickets are \$ 5.00** and are sold after Masses or from the Parish Office. (The more tickets you take, the more chances to win.) **Winner gets to invite up to 20 family members for the dinner.** Let's bring back Sunday Family Dinner.

Pope John to Host Virtual Open House. On Thursday, Oct. 29 at 7:30 p.m. Ranked # 1 Best Catholic Co-Ed High School in New Jersey for 2021 by *Niche.com*, come and find out why our students are so happy to be back in school. Prospective families must RSVP at www.popejohn.org/visit. For more info please call Anne Kaiser, Director of Admissions, at 973-729-6126.

Diocesan Ministries Appeal. This Appeal is the major source of funding for all the agencies of Catholic Charities of our Diocese, as well as covering the costs of seminarian education, and assisting the finances of Nazareth Village, the retirement home of priests of the Paterson Diocese. The goals we must reach are: **St. Thomas: \$ 6,480. and St. James: \$3,506.** Please help our Diocese in its work of spreading the love of Jesus.

On-Line Giving is becoming an important way to support Catholic parishes. And your support is crucial as the C-virus continues to plague us. Once your O.L.G. account is set up, you can even forget about it—and it will still operate. Simply reach our website: saintjamesthomas.org, then scroll down to the green "On Line" link and learn more. With our thanks.

Something to ponder this week:

"Life is time-consuming; eternity is not."

--Anonymous