

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF

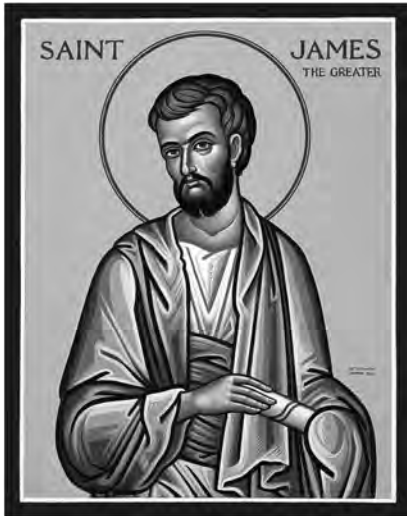
St. James the Greater

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

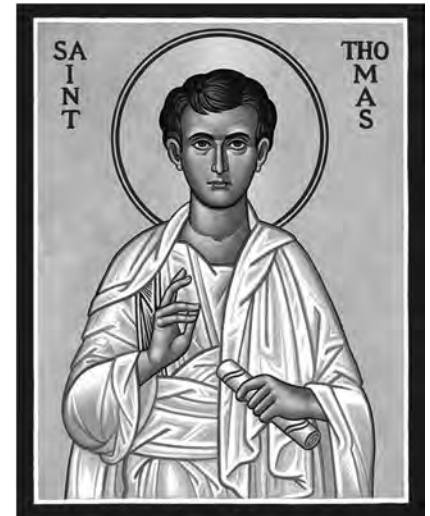
Website ----- saintjamesthomas.org

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. 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)

The Offertory at Mass: *What Did We Just Offer?*



Also known as the **“Presentation and Preparation of the Gifts,”** these moments in the Liturgy open the second part of the Mass. In the *Liturgy of the Word* we already have been given instruction for our minds in the Readings—and inspiration for the week (maybe) in the sermon. With the Presentation of the Gifts we move into the *Liturgy of the Eucharist*.

Most parishioners will recognize this part of the Mass when the basket comes around. This certainly is important, as it keeps the lights on and the bills paid. But so much more happens at this part of the Mass.

The “*gifts*” of bread and wine are brought forward. They are meant to be offered to God as representing the best that His creation has to offer. The prayer spoken over the bread says this:

“Blessed are You, God of all creation,
For through Your goodness we have received this bread we offer You:
Fruit of the earth and work of human hands.
It will become for us the Bread of Life.”

Along with these two elements---bread and wine—an even greater gift is offered to the Lord. At that moment in Mass we should also be offering ourselves. We are called, in a sense, to place our lives on the altar along with the bread and wine, so that the Lord may use us for His benefit. We are called to offer our lives, our time, our talents and our minds to the service of the Lord, to help Him bring His Kingdom to fullness. This is the most important gift we can give to the Lord during the Offertory of the Mass.

God will use the elements and transform them into the Body and Blood of His Son. At the Last Supper, Jesus took bread right from the table, and uttered the most profound words ever spoken: “*This is My Body, which will be given up for you.*” This same miracle happens each time the priest speaks these words at Mass.

God will likewise transform each of us who receive these gifts of His Body and Blood in faith. In Holy Communion, we receive no less than the apostles did at the Last Supper. We become “apostles of today.”

At the end of Mass we hear the words: “*Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.*” By offering ourselves to the Lord’s service, and in being renewed by His Body and Blood, we are equipped to do just that.

God bless you, Father Wayne

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
January 30, 2022

St. James the Greater

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

SATURDAY, February 5

8:00AM – Intentions of Mary Ann von Doehren
req. by Wayne & Lyse von Doehren

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
February 6

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

11:30AM – Leonie Flaskamp
req. by her Family

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,434.00 – Regular Collection - January 23, 2022

\$ 486.00 – Online Giving

\$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.

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns for the
Birthday Intentions of Sean Bastian at the
Request of his Family

MONDAY, January 31

9:00AM – Francis J. Montimurro
req. by his Family

TUESDAY, February 1

9:00AM – Gertrude & Carolyn Lewis
req. by Mary Flexer

WEDNESDAY, February 2

9:00AM – Cordelia Cafone
req. by her Family

THURSDAY, February 3

No Mass

FRIDAY, February 4

9:00AM – Intentions of Gerry & Michelle Llana
Wedding Anniversary Celebration
req. by the Llana Family

SATURDAY, Vigil, February 5

4:30PM – Margaret Dunleavy
req. by Harry & Mary Dunleavy

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 6

9:30AM – Andrew Dennis
req. by the Cunico Family

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 Spinapoli 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 the parish office.
Pray the Family Rosary

TO CHRIST THE DIVINE HEALER WE PRAY FOR:

T.J. Albert, Ellen Bilofsky, Agnes Ciesielski, Maria Colletti, Barbara Connolly, Joan Costa, Bill Fulton, Gerry Gacquin, Patricia Ann Grate, Jeff Guenkauf, Patricia Harrington, Erin Hockenberry, Anil Jain, Tony & Jodi Lupo, Teresa Mantani, Dolores Menzella, Joshua Murch, Richard Nowicki, Michael Paino, Deacon Joe Roder, Ginny Sabia, Chris Sarao, Brian Scarpone, Cecelia Smith, Shirley Strong, Jen Vaughn, John Veres, Jr., Richard Vergona, Casandra Westbrook and Ricky Wunder

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$ 1,180.00 – Regular Collection – January 23, 2022

\$ 1,063.00 – Online Giving

\$ 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.



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



February Classes

Grades 3, 4 & 6 – Tuesday, Feb. 1 and 15 at REC from 4:00PM until 5:30PM

Grades 1, 2 & 5 – Wednesday, Feb. 2 and 16 at REC from 4:00PM until 5:30PM

Grade 7 (Conf. I Prep) and Grade 8 (Conf. II Prep) – Sun., Feb. 13 and 27 from 9:30AM Mass until 12:30PM.

Celebrate February

~ Feb. 2 – The Presentation of the Lord ~ February begins with a special feast called Presentation of the Lord. On this day, we remember how Mary and Joseph brought Jesus, their first born son, to the Temple in Jerusalem. There they offered him to the service of God.

~ Feb. 3 ~ St. Blaise ~ St. Blaise is remembered for saving a young boy who was choking on a bone. On this day, we can get a special blessing of our throats, asking God to protect us through St. Blaise's intercession. *St. Blaise, pray for us!*

Retreat and Sacrament of Reconciliation

On Saturday, February 12th, our fifteen children of the Sacramental Preparation Class will be at St. Thomas Church for a morning of retreat with Salesian Sisters from the Sacred Heart Center. Following their retreat time, they will have a Prayer Service and then receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the very first time. Please keep these children in your prayers as they soon will come to receive the love, mercy and healing of Jesus in this very special way.

St. Thomas Coffee Hour

The next St. Thomas Coffee Hour is scheduled for **Sunday, February 13th** after the 9:30am Mass. This is an opportunity for families in both parishes to come together and enjoy each other in friendship and hospitality. It is also an opportunity to meet new parishioners as well as old friends. As always, members of both parishes are invited.

Please note that our friend and former parishioner, Frances Demalderis, will be visiting on this date.

There is a sign-up sheet in the gathering space for anyone who would like to volunteer to bring baked goods or breakfast foods to the coffee hour.

St. Thomas Pot Luck Dinner

The next Pot Luck Dinner is scheduled for **Saturday, February 19th** in the Father Lewis Center immediately following the 4:30 pm Mass. As always, members of both churches are welcome. Come join us. Pot Luck Dinners are free. Just bring your favorite dish to share. A sign-up sheet is in the gathering space or call the Parish Office.

Please contact Deirdre Burgos at 973-948-6092 or leave your number at the parish office if you would like to volunteer to help set up before and/or clean up after coffee hours or pot luck dinners.



A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time January 30, 2022

“Love is patient, love is kind. Love is not jealous, it does not put on airs. It is not snobbish, love is never rude, it is not self seeking. It is not prone to anger, neither does it brood over injuries. Love does not rejoice over what is wrong, but rejoices in the truth. There is no limit to love's forbearance, to its trust, to its hope, its power to endure.”

How often Saint Paul provides a litany to reflect upon. How often couples select this Corinthian passage to be read at their wedding. It sounds wonderful and is really the goal of everyday living.

As Paul teaches, do I realize that he tells me only two things that love is, but the many things that it is not? The couple choosing this passage, and all of us, wish to root out whatever is not love and replace it with the many virtues he writes about elsewhere, as love, joy, patience, kindness, humility, self control.

Why not take one virtue each day this week, and make sure it is found in your life. John tells us 'God is love...

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, January 30, 2022

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. STC Mass & Class Conf. I & II

Monday, Jan. 31

Tuesday, Feb. 1

1:00 p.m. STC Bible Study

4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 3, 4 & 6

Wednesday, Feb. 2

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

4:00 p.m. REC Relig. Ed. Gr. 1, 2 & 5

Thursday, Feb. 3

Friday, Feb. 4

10:00a.m. STC Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022

Sunday, February 6, 2022

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

* * * * *

Next Sunday's Readings: 5th Ord.

1st Reading: *Isaiah 6: 1—2a, 3--8*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 138*

2nd Reading: *1 Corinthians 15: 1—11*

Gospel: *Luke 5: 1—11*

* * * * *

FORMED.org Simply go to our parish website:

saintjamesthomass.org. At the home page, scroll down to: “To access FORMED content” (on the right) to register (first time) or login (each time after). Many movies, tapes, etc.

Recommended by FORMED:

Watch: “*Mary of Nazareth*.”

This film is an epic motion picture of the life of Mary. It vividly captures the essence of Mary's profound faith and trust in God—amidst the great mysteries as the Mother of the Messiah. It also captures her humanity and compassion and underscores her special role in God's Plan for our salvation.

First Thurs. of Feb. The Sacred Heart Center in Newton (20 Swartswood Rd.) holds a monthly *Day of Recollection* each First Thursday, for the spiritual benefit of the Catholics of our area. It begins each time at 9 a.m. with coffee and ... At 9:30 begins the Day with opening prayer and talk. 10:45 is Eucharistic Adoration and an opportunity for Confession. 12 Noon is Mass; followed by lunch and departure. There is no need to pre-register; there is no fee. There is a ‘free will offering’ box for donations. Enjoy this special day with others of our area. For more info call 973-383-2620 or contact at shretreatcenter@gmail.com **This Thurs., Feb. 3rd.**

Year of the Eucharist. Bishop Sweeney has asked us to use this year 2022 as a chance to deepen our appreciation of God's Gift of His Son to us in the Eucharist. One way is to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament in adoration and prayer. Many have taken up the practice of a ‘Holy Hour’ before the Blessed Sacrament. Our St. Thomas Church is open for private prayer each week-day after morning Mass, till 2:30 p.m. The Blessed Sacrament is on the Altar for Adoration each Friday, from 10 a.m. till 12 Noon. Stop in to make a Holy Hour, or even a short visit. The Lord will bless you greatly.

Valentine's Day 50 / 50 Raffle. Because of the loss of several fund-raisers due to Covid, **St. James is sponsoring a 50 / 50 Raffle**, open to all. Half will go to the Church; the other half will be divided into three parts: 50%--30%--20%. **Three winning tickets will be picked.** Tickets are \$ 5.00 each. Drawing takes place just before Valentine's Day: **Sun. Feb. 13th.** Raffle tickets are available at both our churches.

Once a man was asked: “What did you gain by regularly praying to God?” The man replied: “Nothing. But let me tell you what I lost: anger, ego, greed, depression, insecurity, and the fear of death.” ... Sometimes the answer to our prayers is not gaining, but losing—which ultimately is the gain.

On-Line Giving is 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: **saintjamesthomass.org**, then scroll down to the green “On Line” link to learn more and sign on. With our thanks.

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