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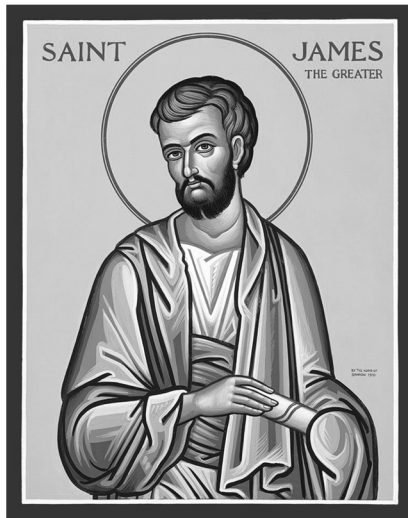
St. James the Greater

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

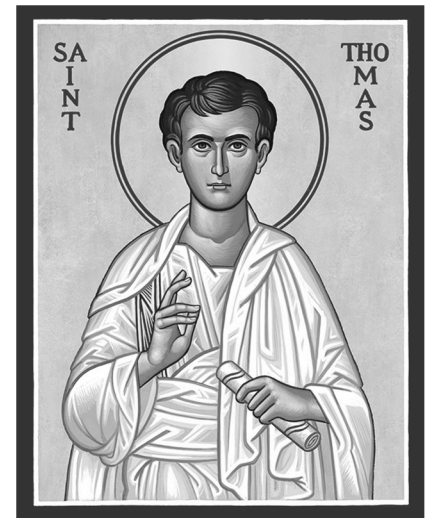
Website ----- saintjamesthomas.org

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*)



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Reverence and the Body of Christ

You've heard the song: *"He's got the whole world in His hands."* And it's true: God is the Creator and Sustainer of our entire universe and everything within it. To contemplate this, is to have just a hint of how great is the power of God.

Yet, in a sense, we go one step further. At each Mass, as we come forward to receive the Blessed Sacrament: placed in *our* hands (or on our tongue) is the Body of God Himself—Jesus Christ. It is an awesome thought, to think that we, mere human beings, are privileged to handle the Body of Christ. To truly realize this, makes us stop in wonder and awe.

And, at the same moment, we are also transported back in time. As we receive the Body and Blood of our Lord, we have nothing less than what the first apostles had. In fact, it is as if we are sitting around the Last Supper table with them, hearing Jesus speak those words which transform ordinary bread and wine into the sacred elements.

To realize that we are privileged to take part in this very mystery of our salvation should make us pause and reflect. It is the Spirit's gift of Reverence that compels us to do so. It should make us understand that, as we receive and consume the precious Body and Blood of the Lord, we have His very presence flowing within us. That makes us to be sacred, holy people, cherished and saved by His very sacrifice on the cross.

With the help of the Gift of Reverence, stop and consider your attitude the last time you came up the aisle in the Communion Procession. Did you truly acknowledge that we are so privileged to have Jesus dwelling within us? Were you conscious of His presence within you as you went through your day—and as you entered into the rest of the week? As the first apostles did, did you look for ways to advance Jesus' presence in the world by your own words and works done in faith? Did you realize that the host you held in your hand has the power to change the world—through you?

Jesus made this "new and eternal covenant" with the Father so that we could be confident of the Father's continuing love for us throughout life. May we take time to consciously prepare to receive the Lord each week at Mass. And may we consciously try to spread His love and influence by the way we live each day.

God bless you,
Father Wayne

THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST
June 11, 2023

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Arthur & Elsie Bastian at the
Request of their son, Andy

SATURDAY, June 17

8:00AM – Intentions of the Legion of Mary
req. by the Legion of Mary

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
June 18

8:00AM – John Klimkiewicz
req. by Jane & Doug Sandberg

11:30AM – Jose Cabrera
req. by his wife, Carmen

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$2,266.00 – Regular Collection – June 4, 2023
\$ 781.00 – Online Giving
\$1,818.00 – Regular Collection – June 5, 2022
\$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. 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.



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, Agnes Ciesielski, Phyllis Coneys, John Conrad, Sr., Melissa Cunningham, Geraldine Dayko, Audrey DeMarco, Terri Eaton, Gerry Gacquin, Peggy Gray, Patricia Harrington, Tracy Harriott Patricia Hassan, Erin Hockenberry, Diane Hoos, Charles Jensen, Jonathan Kim, Fred & Pat Leute, Teresa Mantani, Gen Miller, Richard Nowicki, Andy Puccio, Deacon Joe Roder, Ginny Sabia, Frances Sangiorgi, Joan Sangiorgi, Brian Scarpone, Kathleen Sibbio, Cecelia Smith, Pastor Mike Sweeney, Richard Vergona, Walter Winkler, 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: George Abboud, Saige Bruzard, Brandon Heimall, Mikey Heimall, Nicholas and Karissa Kealy, Ryan Kowal, Colton Lawrence, Joseph Mannion, Hunter Olenick, Christopher & Ana Sarao, Nicole Sarao, Marissa Snook, Peter Spinks and James Orr

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Ralph & Anna Gioielli at the
Request of their Grandchildren

MONDAY, June 12

9:00AM – Intentions of Dale M. Briegel
req. by his Mom

TUESDAY, June 13

9:00AM – Sandy Matthews
req. by her husband, Jim
-Intentions of the Andreuolo Family

WEDNESDAY, June 14

9:00AM – Peace & Goodwill for Our Nation

THURSDAY, June 15

No Mass

FRIDAY, June 16

9:00AM – Mary Ellen Slisz
req. by Mike & Patti Busso
-Intentions of the Nish Family
req. by their Family

SATURDAY, Vigil, June 17

4:30PM – Shirley Strong
req. by Fran Whitesell
-Intentions of the Legion of Mary
req. by the Legion of Mary

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
June 18

9:30AM – Mary Ellen Slisz
req. by Gerry Mahon & Family
-Intentions of Lisa Young
req. by Lucille Pagano

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,580.00 – Regular Collection – June 4, 2023
\$1,787.00 – Online Giving
\$3,507.00 – Regular Collection – June 5, 2022
\$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.



The Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary for both St. Thomas and St. James parishes meets on Tuesday mornings at St. Thomas the Apostle Church after the 9 AM daily Mass in the Father Lewis Center. The Legion of Mary is a world-wide organization of the lay apostolate in which Catholic men, women and youth sanctify themselves through prayer and apostolic work in union with Our Lady under the guidance of a priest.



Celebrate June

The Church is back to Ordinary Time – but it's anything but ordinary! During Ordinary Time, we learn about Jesus' life. Although Religious Education Classes are on a break over the summer months doesn't mean we stop learning about Jesus! Find ways to keep your faith alive each and every day!

June 11 – The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ ~

The Catholic Church is in the middle of a big celebration this year called the **National Eucharistic Revival**. This means Catholics are encouraged to spend more time thinking about Jesus in the Eucharist. Use the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ as a day to learn more about the Revival and how you can participate and get involved!

June 13 – St. Anthony of Padua ~ St. Anthony is known as a remarkable preacher and the patron saint of finding lost things! As one story goes, a thief stole a treasured book from St. Anthony, who prayed for it to be returned. Not only did the thief return the book, he also became a member of the religious community! That is why we ask St. Anthony to help us find things that are lost. As he was also known for his eloquent speaking, also pray to St. Anthony to help you find the right words in difficult situations.

June 16 – The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus ~ Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus began during the 12th century. It wasn't until 1673, when Sister Margaret Mary Alacoque began to receive visions of Jesus' Sacred Heart. These visions occurred over two years. Of the many things He told her, Jesus said He wanted the image of His heart to be made known so that people were reminded of His love and mercy. He also asked her to encourage people to receive Holy Communion frequently, and especially on the first Friday of each month. Over these summer months, make some time to attend Mass and Eucharistic Adoration on Friday to honor Jesus' requests.

June 17 – The Immaculate Heart of Mary ~ Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary means to recall the emotions of joy and sadness that Mary experienced in her own life. As the mother of Jesus, Mary experienced all of the same feelings that all mothers have for their children. Take some time today to pray the Hail Mary.

Listen Up – It's in the Bible

June 11 – Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven" (John 6:51).

When can you and your family make time to pray to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament? What would you like to say to Him?



Youth Group Gatherings

The Youth Group for 7th through 12th graders of Our Lady Queen of Peace, St. Thomas the Apostle and St. James the Greater parishes will be meeting on **Saturday, June 10th and 24th from 6:00 until 7:15pm** at OLQP in Branchville. Come and enjoy the companionship of new and old friends! Come for the food, fun and friendship! Come and find out about all the great activities and events they have planned for YOU! For more information, please call Mary Flexer at 862-268-1876.



Spring Yoga at St. Thomas Church

Our new session has begun on **Wednesday** nights from 6:00PM to 7:00PM at St. Thomas Church with easy to follow **Yoga** for sound mind and body and some added **Pilates** for core and flexibility. Please bring your mat and water and light weights (optional). The cost is \$40 for 8 weeks or \$6 per class. 20% will go to our parish. **You may join us at any time.** If you have any questions, please call Chris at 862-266-8418. Hope to see you there! **Our last class is on June 14th.**

St. Thomas Feast Day Picnic

Our St. Thomas Feast Day Picnic will be held on **Sunday, July 2nd starting at 1:00pm.** All are welcome. There is no charge. If you plan on coming, please put your name on the sign up sheet in the gathering space **so we know how many to cook for.** Hamburgers, franks and chicken will be provided by the church as well as soda, water, coffee, tea and a large cake.

Volunteers are needed to pick tables up from the Religious Education Center and help with set up and clean up, etc. Please contact Deirdre Burgos at 973-948-6092 or leave your name and phone number with Rosemarie at the church. A small canopy or tent would be useful for shading the cooking area and/or other areas on the great lawn.

Please note that the 50/50 raffle will be drawn at the picnic. Your presence is not necessary.

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, June 11, 2023

Feast of the Body & Blood of Christ

9:30 a.m. STC Coffee Hour after Mass

Monday, June 12

Tuesday, June 13

9:45 a.m. STC Legion of Mary Mtg.

1:00 p.m. STC Bible Study

Wednesday, June 14

6:00 p.m. Yoga Exercise Class (till 7 p.m.)

Thursday, June 15

Friday, June 16

9:45 a.m. STC Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, June 17

4:30 p.m. STC Pot Luck Supper after Mass

Sunday, June 18, 2023

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Next Sunday's Readings: 11th Ord.

1st Reading: *Exodus 19: 2–6a*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 100*

2nd Reading: *Romans 5: 6–11*

Gospel: *Matthew 9: 36–10: 8*

* * * * *

Receiving the Blood of Christ. All Catholics are always invited to receive Holy Communion under both species—the Body and Blood of Christ. With Covid, though, and for extended precaution, the receiving of the *Blood* of Christ had been postponed. It seems now that the danger is over, and so **today, as we celebrate the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, all are welcome to receive from the chalice.** Of course, those with colds are asked to refrain. Receiving from the chalice is always optional, but it offers us the full experience of the Last Supper of Jesus.

Holy Hour for Life. Join us for these prayers for life on the one-year anniversary of the overturning of the misguided Roe v. Wade decision of 1973. This is the first step in turning back our nation to appreciating the sacredness of human life. Our Legion of Mary will be leading us in this Hour of Prayer for Life. It will be held on **Saturday, June 24th, from 3 p.m. till 4 p.m. at St. Thomas.** It will include Adoration, Benediction and Prayers for Life.

Mass and March for Life. If you can, please join earlier with our neighboring church, Queen of Peace Church, for a **Mass and March for Life through the streets of Branchville.** Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Then there will be a procession through Branchville, escorted by the State Police. The March will be 1 ½ miles in length. The rosary will be prayed, invoking the Blessed Mother's help, and the Blessed Sacrament will be carried in procession. Here is a chance to join in this local gathering to voice our belief in the sacredness of human life.

Parish Trip. Did you know we have a beautiful **Shrine to Our Lady of Fatima** right here in N.J.? We would like to organize a group of parishioners to attend the **June 13** celebration: Mass, Rosary, and Procession at the **Blue Army Shrine in Washington, N.J.** Those interested in attending would **meet at St. Thomas parking lot at 8:30 am this Tuesday, June 13.** From there we can carpool or follow one another to the Shrine, which is about 1 hour 15 min. drive. Events of the day can be found at <https://bluearmyshrine.com/calendar/>. For more details please contact Mandi Sousa at 973-632-5536.

A Workshop on Annulments. For those seeking a second chance at a marriage blessed by the Church, procedures are available through the Church to make it happen. View the Marriage Tribunal website on <https://rcdop.org/tribunal-1>.

A Workshop on Marriage Annulments will be held to present the procedures and answer all questions on: **Wednesday, June 14, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church, 4 Beaver Run Rd, Hamburg, N.J.** Presenter: Rev. Marc Mancini, JCL. If you are in such a situation or know someone who is, please attend or invite them to attend this informative evening.

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