

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF

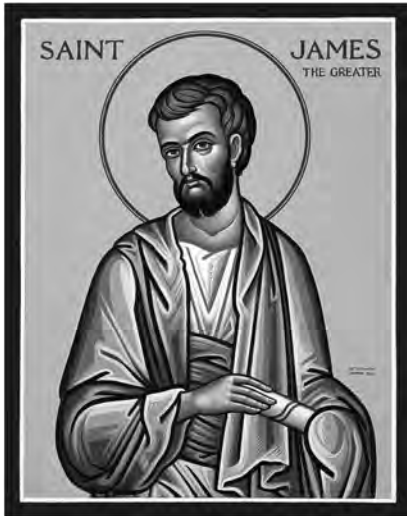
St. James the Greater

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

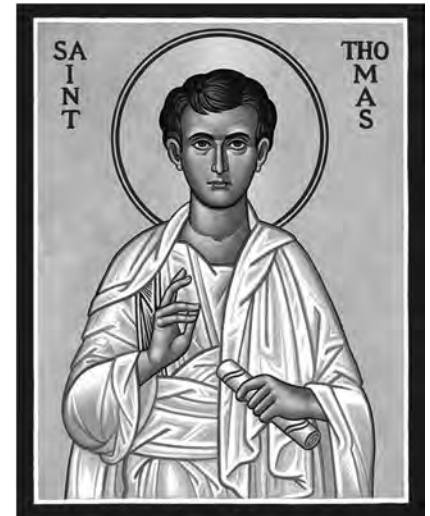
Website ----- saintjamesthomas.org

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)



***“Let us not hear again
the voice of the Lord.”***

-- Deuteronomy 18: 16

Addressing the Israelites as they are about to enter the Promised Land, Moses recalls what happened when God was about to give them the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. God announced His presence with lightening, thunder, a deafening shofar blast, and menacing dark smoke. (Exodus 20: 18—19) Terrified, the people backed away, saying *“Let us not again hear the voice of the Lord!”* (Deuteronomy 18: 16) They begged Moses to go himself to bring God’s Word back to them !

Knowing that he was not going to be with them much longer, Moses promises that God will send them someone to take his place, *“a prophet like me ... to whom you shall listen.”* (Deut. 18: 15) What a relief ! God promises that they will never again have to endure the trauma of hearing Him directly.

And so it was. In every generation, God raised up prophets for the people. Deborah, Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah; these and others heard God directly and proclaimed what they had heard.

But now, through Jesus, the living “Word” of God, everything has changed. By destroying sin and death, He has opened the pathway for us sinners to come before the all-holy God. Now, every single person can know God personally. Every single person can hear His voice—in Scripture, through the Church, and most importantly, in the depths of their hearts.

You don’t ever have to be afraid of coming into God’s presence ! In fact, He is already present in you ! Through His Spirit, He is urging you to call out to Him, *“Abba, Father !”* (Romans 8: 15). He is waiting to receive you with open arms, to wash you clean in His mercy, and to fill your heart with His joy and consolation.

Your heavenly Father has a message that He wants to speak to you today—a message meant only for you. So quiet your heart, calm your fears, and listen.

Here I am Lord. I long to hear Your voice today.

--from: *The Word Among Us*
Jan.—Feb. 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
January 28, 2024

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Peggy Gray at the
Request of her Family

SATURDAY, February 3

8:00AM – Richard & Peggy Gray
req. by their Family

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
February 4

8:00AM – Dorothy Sandberg
req. by Jane & Doug Sandberg
-40th Wedding Anniversary Intentions of
Gerard & Michelle Llanaeza
req. by the Llanaeza Family

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

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$ 675.00 – Regular Collection- January 21, 2024

\$ 526.00 – Online Giving

\$ 201.00 – Diocesan Assessment

\$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 Spinapolice 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, Phyllis Coneys, John Conrad, Sr., Melissa Cunningham, Geraldine Dayko, Audrey DeMarco, Terri Eaton, Marge Erickson, Patricia Harrington, Tracy Harriott, Patricia Hassan, Erin Hockenberry, Steve Honik, Diane Hoos, Gene Hudson, T. J. Huffman, Charles Jensen, L. Lawson, Fred & Pat Leute, Gerard Llanaeza, Nancy Lodema, Rose & Rand Macafoss, Gerry Mahon, Sara Mahon, Teresa Mantani, Gen Miller, Richard Nowicki, Kim Osonitsch, Deacon Joe Roder, Ginny Sabia, Joan Sangiorgi, Brian Scarpone, Baby Elliott Scheib, Kathleen Sibbio, Tim Slavin, Cecelia Smith, Yvonne Summers, Pastor Mike Sweeney, Walter Winkler, Ricky Wunder

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns for the
Birthday Intentions of Lisa M. Dispoto at the
Request of her Aunt Rosie

MONDAY, January 29

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

TUESDAY, January 30

9:00AM – Mass of Thanksgiving to St. Jude, St. Rita,
Padre Pio for answering prayers
req. by Dan Meshnick

WEDNESDAY, January 31

9:00AM – Barbara Theobald
req. by Mary Flexer and Cathy McNanna
-Healing from major surgery for Francesca
req. by Margie Mullins

THURSDAY, February 1

No Mass

FRIDAY, February 2

9:00AM – Bill & Shirley Strong
req. by their Family

SATURDAY, Vigil, February 3

4:30PM – Ludwig & Eleanor Jensen
req. by Charles & Julia Jensen
-Mary Luteran
req. by Jean Matthews Wedemeir
-Intentions of Generous Benefactors

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 4

9:30AM – Peggy Gray
req. by the Columbiettes
-Healing Intentions of Gene Hudson
req. by Dawn-Anne Fugger
-Intentions of Generous Benefactors

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$2,416.00 – Regular Collection- January 21, 2024

\$ 932.00 – Online Giving

\$ 389.00 – Diocesan Assessment

\$ 625.00 – Additional Christmas

\$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, Bryce Brigham, Saige Bruzard, Brandon Heimall, Mikey Heimall, Nicholas and Karissa Kealy, Ryan Kowal, Colton Lawrence, Joseph Mannion, Luke McDermott, Hunter Olenick, Christopher & Ana Sarao, Nicole Sarao, Marissa Snook, Peter Spinks and James Orr



Religious Education Classes for January/February

Grades 1 – 4 – Tuesday, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, & 27 – 4:00pm until 5:30pm at REC

Grades 5 & 6 and Conf. I & II – Sunday, Feb. 4 & 18– 9:30am Mass at STC until 12:30pm at REC

Celebrate January – Making A Fresh Start

Many people make promises and resolutions to improve their lives or to make a fresh start. During this time of Eucharistic revival, we are called to renew our lives in Christ.

Jan. 28 ~ 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jan. 31 ~ St. John Bosco ~ As a boy, the fun-loving John Bosco would juggle and do magic tricks for the other children. After capturing their attention, he would then lead them in the rosary or share a bible story with them. Later in life, as a priest, he would minister tirelessly to children, especially troubled boys. He gathered them for prayer, play and learning. Today, members of his order, the Salesians, continue to serve young people all over the world.

St. John Bosco, Patron Saint of the Youth, pray for us!

Sacred Scripture

Renewal means making things new again – restating, restoring or refreshing. When we let God work in us, He is always helping us grow, making our hearts new again and giving us second chances when we need them. Here are some verses from Sacred Scripture about renewal.

“The Lord’s acts of mercy are not exhausted, His compassion is not spent; they are renewed each morning” (Lamentations 3:22-23).

God’s merciful love and forgiveness never run out. They are always being renewed. Are there some things for which we need to ask God’s forgiveness?

The Sacramental Sign-In Book for our children and teens who are preparing for the Sacraments of First Eucharist (**grades 1 & 2**) and Confirmation (**grades 7 & 8**) These Binders (**Red – Conf. Class/White – FE Class**) will be kept in the back of BOTH churches and **must be signed each week**. Joyful participation in the weekly Celebration of the Eucharist as well as on Holydays of Obligation is a requirement for the reception of these sacraments. It is also expected of all faithful Catholics!!!



Our Lady of Fatima Pilgrim Statue

The beautiful statue of Our Lady of Fatima in the Sanctuary of St. Thomas is waiting to visit your home!

The purpose of the statue is a way the message of Fatima is spread throughout the world. It brings the graces of Fatima along with Our Lady’s message of hope, peace and salvation. Each week, a family or a parishioner will receive this image at the end of Mass. You will be provided with a safe way for it to travel to and from your home. You may keep her in your home for the week and then return her back to church the following week before the start of Mass. Included in the box will be rosaries, prayer cards, books and holy water to help you in your prayer time. These things must be returned when you bring the statue back.

We encourage all of our Religious Education families and all parishioners to take part in this beautiful and holy experience! There is a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Space at St. Thomas Church on the old altar near a picture of Our Lady of Fatima. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call Mary at 862-268-1876.



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 28, 2024

“A prophet like me will the Lord God raise up for you, from among your own kin, to him you shall listen... I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kin, and will put my words into their mouth, he shall tell them all that I command him. Whoever will not listen to my words which he speaks in my name, I myself will make him answer for it.”

The first pages of scripture tell us of a promised redeemer. The prophets, the spokespersons for God constantly reminded the people of their covenant with God. John the Baptist pointed out Jesus as the one. Jesus being present made a new covenant, and today that covenant is renewed in His church.

Promise, prophets, presence, preaching, the story of salvation for us all. Today we are called to listen to the voice of God found in the teaching and preaching of our church leaders, chosen ones, who are calling us to awaken and respond to the covenant God made with us. We hear the word proclaimed at mass, we open the bible at home to reflect upon it. We have so many resources on YouTube or Relevant Radio to continue to form and reform our lives. May this help us answer for His call.

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 28, 2024
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, Jan. 29

Tuesday, Jan. 30

1:00 p.m. STC Bible Study

4:00 p.m. REC Rel. Ed. Gr. 1 – 4

Wednesday, Jan. 31

Thursday, Feb. 1

Friday, Feb. 2

10:00a.m. STC Adoration of Blessed. Sacrament
--till 12 Noon

Saturday, Feb. 3

Sunday, February 4, 2024
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. STC Mass & Class Gr. 5—6
and Conf. I and II

* * * * *

Next Sunday's Readings: 5th Ord.

1st Reading: *Job 7: 1--4, 6--7*

Resp. Psalm: *Psalms 147*

2nd Reading: *1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23*

Gospel: *Mark 1: 29--39*

* * * * *

Soup on a Saturday Thanks. The soup makers for Soup on a Saturday (Chili by Maria & Art Henn, Manhattan Clam Chowder by Joan & Bill Henn, Pasta e Fagioli by Linda & Mike Spinapolice and Italian Wedding Soup by Valerie & Bill Ricciardi) would like to thank the parishioners who supported our latest fund raiser. The sale of 74 quarts of soup plus several donations enabled a net profit of \$705. Thank you!

And special thanks to **Bill Ricciardi** for organizing the project. These freezing winter days just got a little easier to deal with.

READY FOR LENT ?? Here is an early notice that **Lent is soon on the way.** This sacred season begins on **February 14 Ash Wednesday** and continues through Holy Week, till Thurs. March 28. The "Triduum" begins that evening, with Holy Thursday, then Good Friday and Holy Saturday. The Easter Vigil Mass (Sat. March 30), celebrates our Lord's Resurrection and the promise of our own. This continues to **Easter Sunday, March 31**, followed by seven weeks of the Easter Season.

Plan now to join with the entire Church throughout the world in this time of Lenten Retreat just ahead of us. Let it be a chance to become secure in the confidence of God's love.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held every **Friday, from 10 a.m. till 12 Noon at St. Thomas Church.** It is a chance to come before the Lord in reflection and silence. It allows you to experience inner peace, and enables God to speak to you from His very Presence on the altar. You can stay for 15 minutes or for two hours. A visit with the Lord can bring new hope and deeper trust into your life of faith. Give it a try. The Lord is waiting.

Bible Study is a chance to delve more deeply into individual books of the Bible, and to learn their background and to ponder more deeply the meaning of the passages. **We meet every Tuesday at 1 p.m. and continue till about 2:15 each time in the Fr. Lewis Center at St. Thomas.** Refreshments are served as we work to digest the deeper meaning of God's Word.

FORMED.org Simply go to our parish website: saintjamestomas.org. At the home page, scroll down to the FORMED banner to register (first time) or login (each time after).

Recommended by FORMED:

Watch: *Making a Spiritual Plan for Lent*

How to make the most of the forty days of Lent, with Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein

Superbowl Mania Tickets are on sale right after each Mass or from the Parish Office. They are \$ 5.00 each, and give you multiple chances to win on each ticket. But this offer is limited. Superbowl Sunday is in two weeks.

SCOTTY'S AUTOMOTIVE
Your Dealership Alternative
Complete Foreign & Domestic
Repair & Maintenance
973-293-8665
406 Rt. 206 • MONTAGUE, NJ 07827
www.scottysautomotiveservices.com

**Support Our
ADVERTISERS**
They Support
Our Parish

DAVID WALLACE LAW OFFICES

412 ROUTE 206, P.O. Box 1848
MONTAGUE, NEW JERSEY 07827
(973) 293-8383
Fax: (973) 954-5513
General Practice of law in NY and NJ; commercial,
personal injury and insurance litigation, real estate, wills and estates



16 MAIN ST PO BOX 301
BRANCHVILLE, NJ 07826
973-948-3030
WOODFUNERALHOME.NET
RACHAEL E. ZEBERL, MANAGER
N.J. LIC. NO. 5127
ROBERT E. MCCrackEN, PRESIDENT
N.J. LIC. NO. 3640

Every Detail Remembered | Dignity®

TIRE KING
"Where Anybody Can Afford to RE-TIRE"
NOW DOING WHEEL ALIGNMENT
FAST - FRIENDLY SERVICE
Brakes • Shocks • Struts • Exhaust
973-875-5950 11 Lower Unionville Rd., Sussex

READY.GOV
Don't be afraid...Be Ready

**ROOFING • SIDING
SKYLIGHTS • GUTTERS**

"Providing the Highest Quality Workmanship for 2 Generations"



J-I RENOVATIONS

Family Owned & Operated
NJ Lic. #13VH11896900

**\$1,000 OFF
ANY NEW ROOF**

**15% OFF
ANY REPAIRS**

862-462-0183 • www.jirenovation.us



**ONLY YOU
CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES**

If the lights are flashing,
no passing.

It's Not a Suggestion, It's the Law.



**SKYLANDS
LEGAL LLC**

Joshua
Donovick
Esq.



Elder Law, Wills,
Trusts & Estates
Social Security Disability

973.970.9583 SPARTA
joshua@skylandslegal.com

skylandslegal.com

Our Family Serving Yours Since 1924.
**GRAY - PARKER
FUNERAL HOME INC.**
www.grayparkerfuneralhome.com
845-856-5191 • Shaun P. Parker
100 East Main St. Port Jervis
E. Arthur Gray Memorials

**Stroyan
Funeral Home
Inc.**

KEVIN T. STROYAN - Supervisor
405 West Harford Street • Milford, PA 18337
570-296-6811
Home of Tri-State Memorial Company



**GOD BLESS
AMERICA**



Produce • Meat • Dairy
Baked Goods • Prepared Food
Home Decor & Local Products

973.250.0222

187 Rt. 206 South • Sandyston

Follow Us!



**Experiencing
these conditions?**

- ✓ Neck, Shoulder, Arm or Hand Pain
- ✓ Low Back Pain
- ✓ Sciatica
- ✓ Bulging or Herniated Discs
- ✓ Plantar Fasciitis

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE CONSULTATION



973-948-7595
12 Lawrence Rd, Ste 201
Newton, NJ 07860
WWW.CUNICOHEALTHANDWELLNESS.COM

ADVERTISE
YOUR BUSINESS IN THIS SPACE

Join the thousands of professionals and businesses
in our network and begin growing sales, driving
new client visits and building client retention
and name recognition.

800-883-4343

