

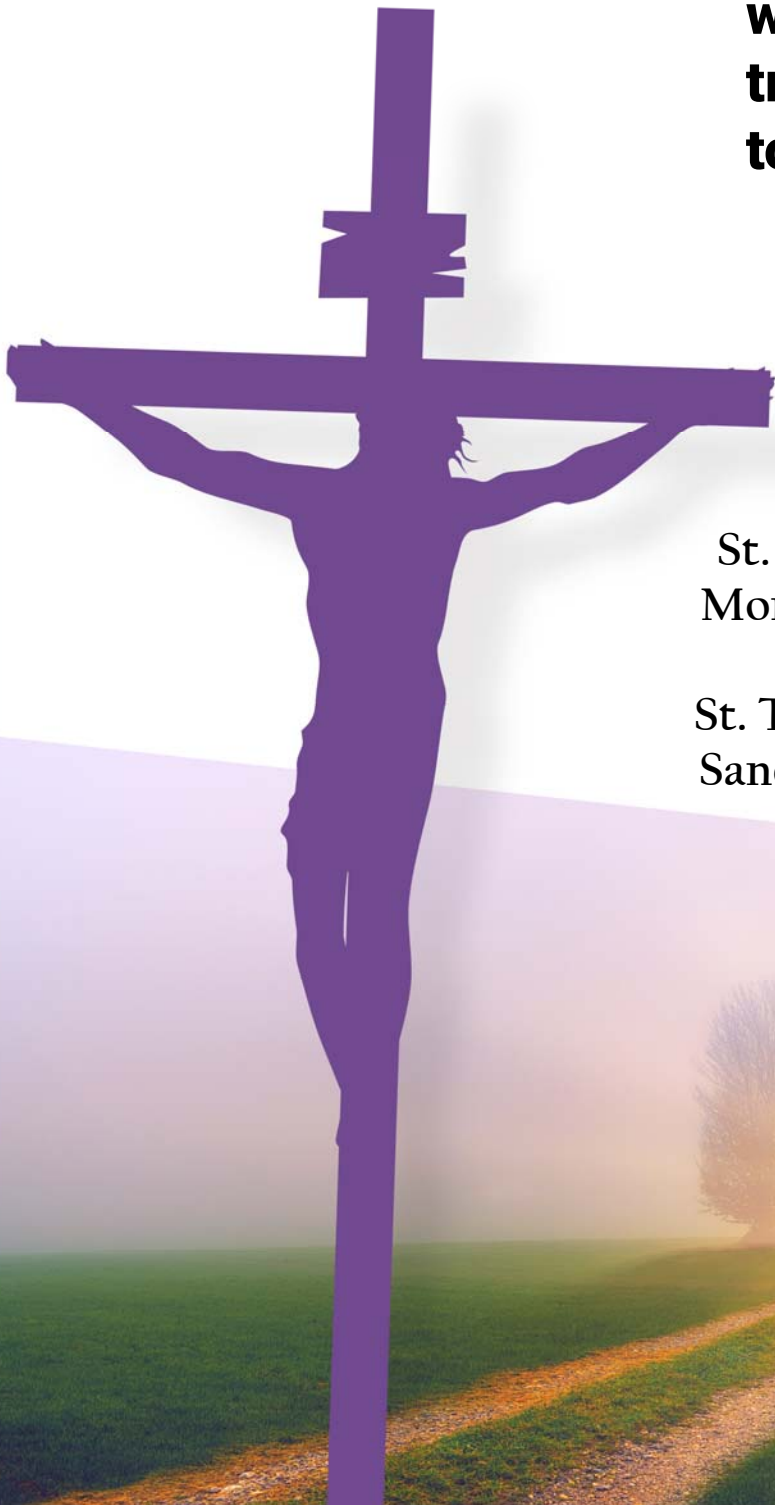
Fourth SUNDAY OF **LENT**

**But everyone
who lives by the
truth will come
to the light.**

JOHN 3:21

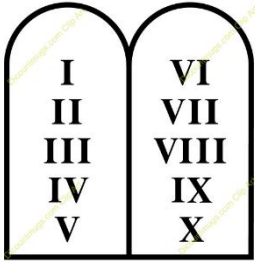
St. James the Greater
Montague, New Jersey

St. Thomas the Apostle
Sandyston, New Jersey



The Basic Rules and Guidance for Christianity, Judaism and Islam

The Ten Commandments



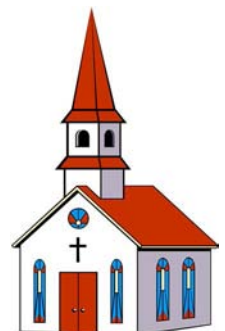
*The Ten Commandments (also called the Decalogue) were given to Moses, the great leader of the Hebrews, over **3,000 years ago** after the Hebrews were delivered from slavery in Egypt. While the Law of Moses (the Laws promoted by the Pharisees) is made up of over 600 rules, the Ten Commandments were a succinct list of rules from which the others were developed.*

1. I am the Lord your God; you shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.
3. You shall keep holy the Lord's Day.
4. Honor your father and mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

The Seven Precepts of the Church

The Precepts of the Church have been developing since the 4th century. They are meant to keep the faithful in the full and complete spirit of the Catholic Church. The latest Precept is # 7, added in the last century.

1. To assist at Mass on all Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
2. To fast and abstain on days appointed.
3. To go to Confession at least once a year.
4. To receive Holy Communion at least once a year, during the Easter Season.
5. To contribute to the support of the Church.
6. To observe the laws of the Church concerning marriage.
7. To take part in the Missionary work of the Church



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
March 10, 2024

St. James the Greater

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Mavis Kaufman at the
Request of her Family

St. Thomas the Apostle

The Sanctuary Lamp this week burns in
Memory of Barbara J. Connolly at the
Request of her Family

SATURDAY, March 16

8:00AM – Charles & Elsie Lorber
req. by their Family

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
March 17

8:00AM – Joseoh Durso
req. by Peter & Claire Riili

11:30AM – Dom & Kate Olivo
req. by their Family

MONDAY, March 11

9:00AM – Bob & Marian Miller
req. by Ray & Mary Flexer

TUESDAY, March 12

9:00AM – Holy Souls in Purgatory

WEDNESDAY, March 13

9:00AM – Emily Blickweidel
req. by her Family

THURSDAY, March 14

No Mass

FRIDAY, March 15

9:00AM – Muriel Kennel
req. by her Family

SATURDAY, Vigil, March 16

4:30PM – Jim & Peg O'Brien
req. by their Family

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 17

9:30AM – Andy Dachisen, III
req. by William & Kathleen Colantano

ST. JAMES THE GREATER

\$1,033.00 – Regular Collection- March 3, 2024

\$ 466.00 – Online Giving

\$1,912.00 – Regular Collection – March 5, 2023

\$2,477.00 – Weekly Budget Need

Consider a gift to St. James Parish in your will.

For On-Line Giving: log onto our website:

saintjamestomas.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, Phyllis Coneys, Melissa Cunningham, Oliver Curtis, Geraldine Dayko, Audrey DeMarco, Marge Erickson, Nicole Ferlo, Patricia Harrington, Tracy Harriott, Patricia Hassan, Erin Hockenberry, Steve Honik, Diane Hoos, Gene Hudson, T. J. Huffman, Barbara Ingarinara, Charles Jensen, L. Lawson, Fred & Pat Leute, Gerard Llanaez, Nancy Lodema, Rose & Rand Macafoss, Gerry Mahon, Sara Mahon, Teresa Mantani, Gen Miller, Kim Osonitsch, Andy Puccio, Deacon Joe Roder, Ginny Sabia, Joan Sangiorgi, Brian Scarpone, Baby Elliott Scheib, Martina Shewack, Kathleen Sibbio, Tim Slavin, Cecelia Smith, Yvonne Summers, Pastor Mike Sweeney, Walter Winkler, Ricky Wunder

Parish Mission Statement of St. James and St. Thomas Churches

We are welcoming parishes where people come together to celebrate the Eucharist, to worship, to learn and to grow in faith. Through our compassionate care and our actions, we demonstrate our beliefs, our fellowship and our commitment to be of service in Christ. We strive towards a generous tithing of our time, talents and treasure. With open arms we strive to care for one another—and for all. As a community in Christ, empowered by the sacramental life of the Church, we offer comfort and support to each one in need. We encourage each other to participate in the journey of faith, to live by Christ's example, and to build up the Kingdom of God.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

\$1,558.00 – Regular Collection- March 3, 2024

\$1,503.00 – Online Giving

\$3,724.00 – Regular Collection – March 5, 2023

\$4,410.00 – Weekly Budget Need

Consider a gift to St. Thomas Parish in your will.

For On-Line Giving: log onto our website:

saintjamestomas.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



THE LEGION OF MARY OF ST. THOMAS AND ST. JAMES PARISHES.

The Legion of Mary meets every Tuesday morning at 9:45 at St. Thomas the Apostle church after the 9 AM Daily Mass. We gather in the meeting room next to Father Wayne's office. Please consider coming as a guest to see what it is all about. More information may also be found on our website <https://saintjamestomas.org>



Religious Education Classes for March

Grades 1 – 4 – Tuesday, March 12 (Stations of the Cross at STC) and 19 and 26 – 4:00pm until 5:30pm at REC

Grades 5 & 6 and Conf. I & II – Sunday, March 17 and 24– 9:30am Mass at STC until 12:30pm at REC



The Sacrament of Reconciliation–Welcome Home to Healing

On Monday evenings from 7:00pm until 8:30pm, our church (and every church in the Diocese of Paterson) will be open for Confession. I am asking all parents and children (who have already received the Sacrament of Reconciliation) to please make this beautiful experience part of your Lenten journey! As Father Wayne is not available for this on Sunday class time, students in grades 5 through 8 are asked to attend on one of the Lenten Monday nights (check bulletin for which church). Students in grades 3 and 4 will go during their class time on March 5th, when Father Wayne will be with us. Let's make this the BEST Lent and Easter ever as we celebrate God's love, mercy, forgiveness and healing!

Celebrate March – Getting Ready

Catholics around the world spend 40 days before Easter focused on prayer, fasting, almsgiving (charity) and the reception of the sacraments. All of these things help us realize our need for Jesus. As we already approach the halfway point of Lent, how is your Lenten journey going so far???

Mar. 10 ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent ~ Pray...Fast...Give

Mar. 12 ~ St. Peter the Deacon

Mar. 15 ~ St. Louis de Marillac

All you holy men and women, pray for us. Blessed Lent to All.

Sacred Scripture

Preparation means getting ready. God prepares great things for us, and we also prepare for him, especially during special seasons of our faith, such as Advent and Lent. Here are some words from Sacred Scripture about preparation:

"If anyone cleanses himself of these things, he will be a vessel for lofty use, dedicated beneficial to the master of the house, ready for every good work." (2 Timothy 2:21)

When we make our hearts clean by asking forgiveness for wrong choices, God can use us to do good things. What are some things you need to ask God to forgive? Pray an "I'm sorry" prayer to God today!

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!!!

Yoga-lates

St. Thomas is offering a fitness class with a mix of Yoga moves (for flexibility and calm mind) and Pilates (for strength and tone especially in your core muscles). The class is on **Wednesday nights from 6:15 to 7:15pm** for 8 weeks and **started on February 28th** right here at St. Thomas. **You may join us at any time**. The class is easy to follow but a full body workout. Any questions, please call instructor Chris Dube at 862-266-8418. Bring a mat, hand held weights (1-8lbs.), water and a friend. Join for the 8 week session for only \$40.00 or pay per class for \$6.00. Twenty percent of the class money will be going to our St. Thomas Parish. So, please come and try it out!

The Chosen

By now, many of you have heard about *The Chosen* and several parishioners have inquired about wanting to view it. We will be viewing this in the **Father Lewis Center at St. Thomas Church every Tuesday afternoon at 1:00pm**.

The Chosen is a groundbreaking historical drama series. It is the first multi-season series about the life and ministry of Jesus of Nazareth. Season One has eight episodes with each being 45 minutes to an hour long. We will view one episode each week and plan on some time for discussion, if you like. Please come out and make *The Chosen* part of your Lenten journey. Invite your family and friends to come along too.



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.

Monthly Coffee Hour

We are looking for ways to get younger families involved in parish life as many of the people who have been doing so much for so long are getting older. It was suggested that we assign Monthly Coffee Hours (Second Sunday of the Month) to the Religious Education Classes. **Thank you to the Confirmation II Class and their parents who hosted this month! On April 14th, we are asking grades 1, 2 and 3** to host. We will need people to set up, serve, bake/and or provide food or juice and clean up. This is something easy that both parents and teens can do together! We are asking for two of you to take charge of this by making sure there will be enough help and food, although we are certain many parishioners will still bring food in too. Please contact Mary at 862-268-1876 if you are available to coordinate and/or participate. Thank you Confirmation families so much for leading the way for our other classes to follow in the months to come, as we hope this new tradition in our parish will enhance both our spiritual and community life and mission in Jesus Christ.

The St. Patrick/St. Joseph Pot Luck Dinner is scheduled for **this coming Saturday, March 16th** after the 4:30 Mass. Join us! All are welcome.



Our youth, teens and families will once again be encouraged to participate in the diocesan **Operation Rice Bowl Lenten Program**. Through Operation Rice Bowl, they will learn about the challenges facing the lives of their brothers and sisters around the world, as well as in their own diocese. Your children were asked to bring their Rice Bowls home, keep them in a place where they can see them and contribute to the program, learning the values of sacrifice and generosity to those in need. **Rice Bowls must now be returned Holy Week to Religious Education Classes or at Mass. Thank you for your spirit of love and generosity.**

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, March 10, 2024

4th Sunday of Lent

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

Monday, Mar. 11

7:00 p.m. SJC Confessions (till 8:30 p.m.)

Tuesday, Mar. 12

1:00 p.m. STC Bible Study: "The Chosen"

4:00 p.m. REC Rel. Ed. Gr. 1 – 4

Wednesday, Mar. 13

Thursday, Mar. 14

Friday, Mar. 15

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

--till 12 Noon

3:00 p.m. SJC Stations of the Cross

7:00 p.m. Lenten Ecumenical Service at:

Delaware Valley U.M.C. Refreshments follow.

Saturday, Mar. 16

11:00a.m. SJC Mass with Anointing of the Sick

--Luncheon to follow

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

Sunday, March 17, 2024

5th Sunday of Lent

Happy St. Patrick's Day !

9:30 a.m. STC Mass & Class Gr. 5—6

and Conf. I and II

* * * * *

Confessions during Lent will again be available in every Catholic Church of the Paterson Diocese, **each Monday of Lent, from 7 p.m. till 8:30 p.m.** Reconciliation is at the heart of the Lenten Season. Plan now to prepare well for Easter. At our parishes, the schedule will be:

Mar. 11 St. James Mar. 18 St. Thomas

Mar. 25 St. James

Stations of the Cross at St. James will be prayed **every Friday afternoon in Lent at 3 p.m.** Make the Stations a part of your Lenten offerings to the Lord.

A Mass with the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated **at St. James Church on Saturday, March 16th.** Guest homilist will be Fr. Raymond Pavlick, former Veterans Affairs chaplain for Baltimore and Castle Point, and serving in the Archdiocese for Military Services.

The Sacrament is available to anyone, simply due to older age, or with chronic conditions, or approaching surgery. **The Mass will begin at 11:00 a.m. A light luncheon will be served in the Church Hall afterwards.** Please **fill out the Form**, so we can know how to plan the luncheon. Members of both parishes are encouraged to attend.

Ecumenical Services during Lent. Once again we will be gathering with our Christian neighbors to share our prayers and prayer styles on the **Fridays of Lent, beginning at 7 p.m. each time.** We will be joining Pastor Jo-Anne and the Del. Valley United Methodist Church, and Pastor Mike and the Minisink Reformed Church on these nights at locations:

Fri. Mar. 15 at Delaware Valley Methodist

Fri. Mar. 22 at Minisink Reformed

Let us join together as believers in Jesus and ask the Lord for the guidance and help our nation needs.

Hallow is the #1 Catholic app which offers podcasts, prayers & devotions, meditative Scripture readings, music, a kid's section and much more. Thanks to a donor, a subscription remains available to members of both our parishes. For \$ 1.00 you can have access until Pentecost. Details about the "Holy Day Package" available to you are found on our Parish Website, saintjamesthomas.org under "Faith Formation" at "Pray Lent with Hallow."

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

Suggestions from FORMED:

Listen: "*Seven Deadly Sins; Seven Lively Virtues*"

Confirmation ! Bishop Serratelli will be with us as 16 of our young people receive the Holy Spirit fully into their lives. The date is **Mon. April 8th at 7 p.m.** Pray for our young people, that they will allow the Holy Spirit to guide them to be their best and fullest selves.

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