

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

Mission: OUR LADY OF MERCY

St. Thomas Aquinas
Thomas, West Virginia

Our Lady of Mercy
Parsons, West Virginia



Pastor: Rev. Timothy J. Grassi,
P.O. Box 300, Thomas, WV 26292 —Tel: 304-463-4488

Parish Website:
www.stsite.com

Sacrament of Baptism:

Please contact the priest to make arrangements. Instructions for both parents are required. Sponsors from outside the Parish need a letter of eligibility from their Pastors.

Sacrament of Matrimony:

Arrangements should be made with the Pastor at least six months in advance of the intended date of marriage. Preparation classes with the Pastor are required.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick:

If you know of anyone who is seriously ill, hospitalized, shut-in, or about to undergo surgery, Please contact the Pastor or the Parish office to let us know

Sacrament of Penance:

Saturday 4:00 – 4:30 p.m., and 30 minutes before all weekday Masses and anytime upon request.

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, November 10, 2013

THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

During the month of **November**, the Tridentine Mass will be offered at the following times and churches:

St. Thomas - 7:30 AM, Sunday 11/20/2013;

Our Lady of Mercy - **NO MASS** in November.



PRO-LIFE CORNER

"I've noticed that everyone who is for abortion has already been born." – Ronald Reagan

"I do not believe the promises of the Declaration of Independence are just for the strong, the independent, the healthy. They are for everyone—including unborn children." – George W. Bush

THANKSGIVING DINNER AT ST. THOMAS CENTER

Preparation is already underway for the 2013 Ecumenical Thanksgiving Dinner for shut-ins and people of the Davis and Thomas area. This year the dinner will be hosted again in the St. Thomas Center. Volunteers, donations of time, talents and gifts will be needed to provide the following: baked sliced turkeys, dressing, and pumpkin pies and bring them to the St. Thomas Center by 9 AM on Thanksgiving morning; donations of money for potatoes, rolls, butter, milk, and Styrofoam containers for the dinner; help to prepare and serve the meals starting at 9:00 AM in the kitchen at St. Thomas Center; help to deliver meals in the Davis-Thomas, Pierce-Benbush area and Pineview apt.; a group of people to help wash dishes and clean up the Center. If you plan on helping with any of the above mentioned items or you have any questions please call Kathy & Pat Kotten (866-6243).

WITH SYMPATHY

Please pray for the soul of Yvonne Lothes who died this past week. She was buried from Our Lady of Mercy Church on Saturday, November 9th. Please pray for the consolation of her family as well.

COVERED DISH DINNER

A covered dish dinner will be held immediately following the 11 AM Mass at Our lady of Mercy Church next Sunday, November 17th.
All are invited to come.

BIBLE STUDY CLASSES

We continue our next set of Bible Study classes this week at Our Lady of Mercy. **The study is postponed for 1 week at St. Thomas.** Session 11 will be held at Our Lady of Mercy Church this **Monday, November 11th** at 6:30 PM. **(Please note change of date - one time only.)** Be sure to cover these lessons before you come to class. We invite anyone who may be interested, to come and join us.

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!!

November 10 - Our Lady of Mercy Women's Guild meeting immediately following Mass.

November 13 - Knights of Columbus monthly meeting in Thomas at 6:00 PM in the Knights of Columbus room.

November 17 - Covered dish dinner immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of Mercy.

November 24 - **Teen Night** with Fr. Grassi at 5 PM at Our Lady of Mercy Church.

November 28 - **THANKSGIVING** - Dinner at the St. Thomas Center; takeout and deliveries as usual.

Contributions for November 3, 2013

St. Thomas: \$2010.00

Archdiocese of Military Services: \$378.00

Our Lady of Mercy: \$547.00

Archdiocese of Military Services: \$172.00

Thomas Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is in need of "valued" food items.

This month we are seeking **spaghetti sauce**. In subsequent months we will let you know what items are needed and ask your assistance in this need for our community.

PARENTS/GRANDPARENTS ARE YOU AWARE OF THE LATEST DANCE CRAZE?

The grainy high school dance video is lurid.

A teenage boy dances behind his winter-formal date, hands on her hips, thrusting his pelvis against her while she hitch-ups her satiny gown and bends at the waist. Another couple dance facing each other, their bodies enmeshed and their hips gyrating in a frenzy. A boy approaches a third couple, nearly sandwiching the girl between himself and her partner.

Teenagers call it "freaking, grinding, or the nasty," a style of dance made popular on MTV. Educators call it "simulated sex" that has no place at school dances. This clash between outraged adults and sexualized teens is being played out at homecoming dances, winter formals and proms across the nation.

Why write about this? We want to bring this to the attention of parents/grandparents who might not be aware of the latest type of dancing that peer pressure is imposing on their children.

AN ATTACK ON PURITY: Immodest dress and dance is an attack on the purity of children. Purity is a "battle," the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us in Article 9 on the 9th commandment. Through what is going on at school dances the enemy appears to be winning that battle to destroy the purity of some of God's children. Schools may have rules about dancing and dances may have chaperones, but having rules and having chaperones have proven to be an insufficient remedy and ineffective means to combat immodest dress and dance in our modern over-sexed culture.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us modesty is needed to protect purity because purity requires modesty: *Purity requires modesty, an integral part of temperance. Modesty protects the intimate center of the person. It means refusing to unveil what should remain hidden. It is ordered to chastity to whose sensitivity it bears witness. It guides how one looks at others and behaves toward them in conformity with the dignity of persons and their solidarity.* (2521)

CCC 2520 tells us that the "baptized must continue to struggle against concupiscence of the flesh and disordered desires," and exhorts us to "purity of vision, external and internal... discipline of feelings and imagination." We are warned that "appearance arouses yearning in fools."

THE IMPACT OF LYRICS: The impact of lyrics should also be cause for alarm. For example, we can look at the lyrics for several songs played at our own TCHS such as: "Apple Bottom Jeans" (about a stripper.) "Young, Wild an Free" (about doing drugs.) "Get Low" (this song is so explicit, there are no words to describe it.) Concerned parents should google these lyrics, but be prepared to be shocked. This is the filth into which our school students have been immersed. Is it any wonder that promiscuity is such a big problem? How can we expect to succeed at instilling purity, modesty and chastity in teens while simultaneously pouring vile lyrics into their heads and souls?

ADULT RESPONSIBILITY: If we don't do all we can to hinder the behavior of these children, how do we know that one day God won't hold us responsible for it? The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (1868) states that: "we...have responsibility for the sins committed by others when we cooperate with them...by not disclosing or not hindering them when we have an obligation to do so." Are we regularly placing our Catholic children in near occasions of sin? Have we forgotten the words of Christ on adultery: But I say to you, everyone who looks at a women with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart (Matthew 5:28) And what about Christ's warning that we not be deceived: Do not be deceived; neither...idolaters nor adulterers nor boy prostitutes...will inherit the kingdom of God. (1 Cor. 6:10)

CONCLUSION: Understanding that provocative dress leads to impure thoughts and sometimes provocative dancing, we need to work to educate across the board on purity, modesty and chastity. We need to expose the lies of the culture and educate others that we don't need to follow its lies and errors-that there is another and a better way. We need to find a way to control immodest dress and the immodest dancing that is occurring at dances. This is not easy. How tempting it is to throw in the towel and compromise, or turn our back on the matter and give up entirely. But we cannot give up. To give up is to surrender our children to the enemy. The purity of our children must become top priority.

We must re-double our efforts to battle the messages coming at the children from the world. Through prayer and with help from the Father, we must engage in the battle to reclaim and defend the purity of god's children whom He has entrusted to us. With protection from the Blessed Mother, we must put on the "armor of God." For this battle is "not against flesh and blood; but against principalities and power, against the rulers of the world of this darkness, against the spirits of wickedness in the high places (Eph. 6:12). (*Excerpts taken from: "To Close to Dirty for the Dance" by Seema Mehta, Times Staff Writer and "Dances in the Catholic School: Parental Concerns and Suggested Remedies" by Catholic Lane Editor.*)

As we pray the Rosary before our Masses in this month of November, we will pray in reparation for sins, for all those serving in our armed forces, for peace in the Middle East and For the Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK
Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Nov. 11	Monday	-	NO MASS
Nov. 12	Tuesday	-	NO MASS
Nov. 13	Wednesday	-	NO MASS
Nov. 14	Thursday	-	NO MASS
Nov. 15	FRIDAY	-	NO MASS
Nov. 16	SATURDAY	-	NO MASS
Nov. 16	SATURDAY VIGIL	Nellie Uchic	5:00 PM Thomas
Nov. 17	SUNDAY	Norman DePollo	9:00 AM Thomas
Nov. 17	SUNDAY	People of the Parish	11:00 AM Parsons

THOMAS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READERS	ALTAR BOYS
11/16	Kathy & Pat Kotten	Kathy Supak	
11/17	Betty Woods & Mary Sagace	Diane Rader	Isaac Quattro

PARSONS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READER	ALTAR BOYS
11/17	Fred & Joanne Sikarskie	Tom Gutshall	Any and all Available!
Cleaning:	11/10 - 11/16: Lois Matlick & Susie Gutshall		

PRAYER LINE
If you would like to place someone on our prayer line call Mary Frances Evans - Thomas (463-4413) or Martha Nichols - Davis (259-5370) Paula Siler - Parsons (478-4104) or Cindy Long - Parsons (478-4833)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Monthly meeting on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., alternating in the Knights of Columbus room Thomas, and Social Hall, Parsons.

OUR LADY OF MERCY WOMEN'S GUILD
Meetings are held the second Sunday of the Month immediately after Mass in the Parish Hall.

SOCIETY OF ST. THOMAS WOMEN
Every woman of the parish is a member of the Society. Monthly meetings are the first Tuesday of the month (except Jan., Feb., March)

HOLY COMMUNION: *We welcome to the Holy Mass all who share our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. While all are welcome here, we cannot extend to all an invitation to receive Holy Communion. This is not for lack of Christian hospitality. Rather, it is the recognition by the Catholic Church that real divisions of faith and practice do sadly exist among Christians. Practicing Catholics who go to Confession whenever needed are invited to receive Holy Communion. Non-Catholic Christians and those Catholics who should not receive Holy Communion (including those married outside the church and those in need of the sacrament of Penance) are asked to pray for a spiritual communion with the Lord Jesus and for the unity of His Church. Those who are not receiving Holy Communion but who would like to receive a blessing are invited to indicate this desire by crossing their arms across their chests as they approach the priest in the Communion procession.*

Let us remember in prayer all of our sick and shut-ins:
Dorothy Breth, Champ Sedmock, Frances Shaga, Vivian Bozic, Solena Massi, "Sob" Gennantonio, Martha Kochenderfer, Eleanor James, Earl & Mary Moore, J. Pat and Martha Nichols, Muriel Nestor, Eula Jean & Henry Udovich, Elizabeth Lane, Vincent DiBacco, Judy Gutshall, Dan and Mary Ingram, Mary Johnson, and Mike Michael.

We offer a hearty welcome to all of our visitors! If you would like to make a contribution to our parish, please use the visitor's envelope in the pew.