

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.

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 05, 2014

THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

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

St. Thomas - 7:30 AM, Sunday 10/19/14;

Our Lady of Mercy - 12:30 PM, Sunday 09/12/14

(**St. Thomas** - Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri. at 7:45 AM)



PRO-LIFE CORNER

[speaking of his previous, aggressive pro-choice days] We fed the public a line of deceit, dishonesty, a fabrication of statistics and figures. We succeeded because the time was right and the news media cooperated. We sensationalized the effects of illegal abortions, and fabricated polls which indicated that 85 percent of the public favored unrestricted abortion, when we knew it was only 5 percent. We unashamedly lied, and yet our statements were quoted [by the media] as though they had been written in law.

Dr. Bernard Nathanson—former abortionist

PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY CRUSADE NEXT SATURDAY

Please consider joining us for a Rosary of reparation next Saturday, October 11th in front of the Parsons Court House. **All CCD students are encouraged to attend!** This event will replace Sunday CCD classes on the weekend of October 12th.



COLUMBUS DAY DINNER NEXT SUNDAY!

The Knights of Columbus, Thomas Council 2010, will have their annual Columbus Day dinner at Our Lady of Mercy Church social hall in Parsons on Sunday, October 12th, 2014 at 5:00 PM. The cost of the meal is \$15.00 per person. If you plan to attend please contact Fred Sikarskie at 478-3460 or Jim Nester at 478-4111 no later than Monday Oct. 6th. We need a head-count so we can purchase the proper amount of food. All Knights and their wives are invited to attend.

(INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AT 4:30 PM)



WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE!

I would like to thank all of you who prayed for me during my recent illness, I truly could not have made it through without your prayers. A special thank you to those who helped me in various ways and those who took over my responsibilities, (you know who you are!) Thank you! What a beautiful, caring parish family we have! I am so blessed to be a part of it. (A humble thank you to our Blessed Mother, I love you!) —Melinda Siler

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!!

October 5 - ASK FATHER immediately following the 11 AM Mass in Parsons.

October 5 - Our Lady of Mercy Women's Guild meeting immediately following Mass.

October 7 - Society of St. Thomas Women meeting at 7:00 in the Rectory Conference room.

October 11 - Public Square Rosary Crusade from noon to 1 PM at the **Parsons County Court House**.

October 12 - Knights of Columbus - Columbus Day Dinner at Our Lady of Mercy at 5:00 PM.

October 8 - Knights of Columbus meeting in Parsons at 7PM.

October 21 - Parish Council Meeting in Thomas after 5PM Mass.

October 24 - Pasta Fazool dinner.

Contributions for September 28, 2014

St. Thomas: \$2411.06

Catholic University: \$390.00

Our Lady of Mercy: \$678.00

Catholic University: \$163.00

BLACKWATER MINISTRY FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is in need of "valued" food items. This month we are seeking **tomato soup**. In subsequent months we will let you know what items are needed and ask your assistance in this need for our community.

The Saints & Depression *by: Father Joseph Esper*

(Continued from last week)

St. Ignatius experienced first-hand what he was later to refer to as desolation in his Spiritual Exercises. Much akin to depression, desolation is a state in which we feel restless, irritated, uncomfortable, unsure of ourselves and our decisions, assailed by doubts, and unable to persevere in our good intentions. According to Ignatius, God cannot cause desolation, although He may allow it for His own purposes — such as to remind us of our profound need for Him, or to "shake up" a sinner so as to bring about repentance. Feelings of desolation, Ignatius notes, are often caused or provoked by the evil one, especially after we've taken practical steps to grow in holiness or to discern and follow God's will. Based in part on his own experience, St. Ignatius of Loyola offers three very important pieces of advice to anyone undergoing desolation:

Don't change an earlier good resolution, for after you've made a decision that's pleasing to God, the Devil may try to make you have second thoughts.

Intensify your religious activities — that is, spend more time in prayer, meditation, and good deeds. For if Satan's temptations merely cause you to increase your efforts to grow in holiness, he'll have an incentive to leave you alone.

Persevere in patience, for the Devil's authority and ability to assault you is strictly limited by God, meaning that you'll be relieved of your spiritual sufferings if only you hold out long enough.

As Ignatius discovered, depression can be a great spiritual challenge — and also a great opportunity for growth. Let us keep this in mind whenever we suffer from depression and turn to the saints for their intercession.

For Further Reflection

St. Philip Neri, known for his constant cheerfulness, used to pray, "Let me get through today, and I shall not fear tomorrow."

"Refresh yourself with spiritual songs, which have often caused the tempter to cease his wiles; as in the case of Saul, whose evil spirit departed from him when David played upon his harp before the king. It is also useful to be actively employed, and that with as much variety as may be, so as to divert the mind from the cause of its sadness." — St. Francis de Sales

"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve." — Albert Schweitzer

Something You Might Try

Keep things in perspective. As St. Augustine notes, "Every morning you put on your clothes to cover your nakedness and to protect your body from the inclement weather. Why don't you also clothe your soul with the garment of Faith? Remember every morning the truths of your creed, and look at yourself in the mirror of your Faith. Otherwise, your soul will soon be naked with the nakedness of oblivion." In a sense, Augustine is pointing out the importance of beginning the day with prayer. If this prayer helps us remember that we have received all good things from our loving Father, who also offers us an eternity of joy and fulfillment, it will be easier to fight depression and keep things in proper perspective.

Merely identifying your problems can help you feel better about them. Make a list of all the things that depress you. Divide the items into two categories: those you can't do anything about and those you can. Take the former and place them in God's hands; then take the latter and, starting with the easiest one, do something!

If you suffer from severe or ongoing depression, contact your doctor or the National Institute of Mental Health.

Further Reading

Proverbs 12:15; Proverbs 15:15; Psalm 77:1-14.

My strength fails;

I feel only weakness, irritation, and depression.

I am tempted to complain and to despair.

What has become of the courage I was so proud of,
and that gave me so much self-confidence?

In addition to my pain, I have to bear the
shame of my fretful feebleness.

Lord, destroy my pride; leave it no resource.

How happy I shall be if You can teach me
by these terrible trials, that I am nothing,
that I can do nothing, and that You are all!

As we pray the Rosary before our Masses in this month of September, 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
Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Oct. 06	Monday	Albert Obyc	7:15 AM	Thomas
Oct. 07	Tuesday	Frances Shaga	5:00 PM	Thomas
Oct. 08	Wednesday	Alicia Nolan	9:00 AM	Parsons
Oct. 09	Thursday	Zdzislaw Fiutowoski	5:00 PM	Thomas
Oct. 10	Friday	Frances Shaga	5:00 PM	Thomas
Oct. 11	Saturday	Dick Sakal	9:00 AM	Parsons
Oct. 11	SATURDAY VIGIL	Living & deceased members of the James A. Diethrick family	5:00 PM	Thomas
Oct. 12	SUNDAY	People of the parish	9:00 AM	Thomas
Oct. 12	SUNDAY	Frank & Frances Usnik	11:00 AM	Parsons

THOMAS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READERS	ALTAR BOYS
10/11	Rita Johnson	Beth Spencer	
10/12	Betty Woods & Summer Snyder	Diane Rader	Nathaniel Rader

PARSONS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READER	ALTAR BOYS
10/12	Addie Buckley & Emily Siler	Fred Sikarskie	Any and all Available!
Cleaning:	10/05 - 10/11: Joanne Sikarskie & Terry Silk		

PRAYER LINE
If you would like to place someone on our prayer line call Mary Frances Evans - Thomas (463-4413)
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. daylight savings time, (6:00 p.m. standard time), alternating in the Knights of Columbus room Thomas, and Social Hall, Parsons. Visit us at: thomaskofc2010.org

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) in the Rectory Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. **Cookbooks are still available. \$10.00**

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, Vivian Bozic, "Sob" Gennantonio, Eleanor James, J. Pat Nichols, Earl & Mary Moore, Eula Jean & Henry Udovich, Elizabeth Lane, Judy Gutshall, Vincent DiBacco, Dan and Mary Ingram, Mary Johnson, Joe Sagace, Jim Willis, Russ Perando, Jack Lambruno, Jo Ann Michael, Betty Stewart, Shari Burns and Joan Brofka.

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.