

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.

3rd Sunday of Lent, March 19, 2017

THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

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

St. Thomas - 7:30 AM, (Low Mass) Sunday 03/12/17;

Our Lady of Mercy - 12:30 PM, Sunday 03/19/17.
(Low Mass)

PRO-LIFE CORNER

"If life is not a continuum, from conception to natural death, then all of us are potential victims if we fall out of favor with a ruling elite."

—Cal Thomas

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN FISH FRY

Please come to our delicious Fish Fry on ALL Fridays during Lent!

Dinner includes an 8 oz fish fillet with tartar or cocktail sauce; dinner roll with butter; coleslaw; green beans; macaroni n' cheese; fruit dessert; coffee or punch.

Cost: Adults \$8.00 Kids 12 & under \$4.00 CARRY OUTS AVAILABLE!

The dinner will be at both locations from 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM, at the St. Thomas Center and Our Lady of Mercy church social hall on Mar. 24, Mar. 31, and Apr. 7.



SPAGHETTI DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

The Weston Vicariate CAMP will be holding a spaghetti dinner and silent auction fundraiser on Sat. April 1 at St. Brendan Parish Hall in Elkins. This event runs from 3 until 7 PM and take outs will be available. The cost for adults is \$8 and children \$4. For tickets or questions please call Deacon Raymond Godwin at 304-642-2279.

PIES FOR SALE!

The Our Lady of Mercy Women's Guild will once again be making three different homemade pies to sell just in time for Easter: chocolate, coconut cream & lemon meringue! The cost is \$10. Please see one of the guild members to reserve a pie or simply add your name to the pie fundraiser form in the back of the church. You may also call Melinda at 478-3814.

LENTEN SACRIFICE

During Lent, the Knights of Columbus suggest one of these sacrifices:

a) 40 Cans of Food for the Food Pantry; or **b) a Monetary donation, (suggested donation: \$20).** Of course any amount of canned foods or money is greatly appreciated, the important thing is that all of us can have the opportunity to practice the corporal works of mercy, one of which is feeding the Hungry.

LENT SCHEDULE - Stations of the Cross

WEDNESDAYS - immediately after the 5:00 PM Mass at Our Lady of Mercy. (*Wednesday Mass during Lent will be at 5:00 PM.*)

FRIDAYS - immediately after the 5:00 PM Mass at St. Thomas.

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!!

March 19 - Diocesan Priests' Retirement Fund—2nd collection

March 26 - No CCD - afternoon Stations of the Cross in Parsons following Mass.

March 26 - Catholic Relief Services—2nd collection.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MARCH 12, 2017

St. Thomas: \$3,286.00

Our Lady of Mercy: \$873.00

BLACKWATER MINISTRY FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is in need of "valued" food items. This month we are seeking "tuna & ravioli." Each month we will let you know the items that are most needed. (PLEASE NO OUTDATED ITEMS.)

THE SEASON OF LENT

The annual Lenten Season is a fitting time to climb the holy mountain of Easter.

The character of the Lenten Season is to spiritually prepare for the paschal mystery. Catholics are reminded of their Easter Duty—to receive Holy Communion during the Easter Season. Therefore, we are also reminded of the Sacramental Confession necessary to prepare for this duty. Please take this time of Lent to prepare and make a good and thorough confession in preparation for the great feast of Easter. Lent runs from Ash Wednesday until the Mass of the Lord's Supper exclusive on Holy Thursday.

CALLING ALL MEN

All men are invited to a Lenten day of reflection on Saturday, April 8th, from 9 AM until Mass at 5 PM. This will take place in the St. Thomas Center and in the St. Thomas Church. Deacon David Galvin, Father Alban, Fr. DeViese and I will be presenting spiritual topics for men. Lunch will be provided. (There will be time for prayer and confessions as well.)

More Information to follow in the upcoming weeks.

AN IRISH STORY FOR LENT

March 1, 2007 by Father Joe

An Irishman moves into a tiny hamlet in County Kerry, walks into the pub and promptly orders three beers. The bartender raises his eyebrows, but serves the man three beers, which he drinks quietly at a table, alone. An hour later, the man has finished the three beers and orders three more.

This happens yet again.

The next evening the man again orders and drinks three beers at a time, several times. Soon the entire town is whispering about the Man Who Orders Three Beers.

Finally, a week later, the bartender broaches the subject on behalf of the town. "I don't mean to pry, but folks around here are wondering why you always order three beers."

'Tis odd, isn't it?" the man replies, "You see, I have two brothers, and one went to America, and the other to Australia. We promised each other that we would always order an extra two beers whenever we drank as a way of keeping up the family bond."

The bartender and soon the whole town was pleased with this answer, and soon the Man Who Orders Three Beers became a local celebrity and source of pride to the hamlet, even to the extent that out-of-towners would come to watch him drink.

Then, one day, the man comes in and orders only two beers. The bartender pours them with a heavy heart. This continues for the rest of the evening – he orders only two beers. The word flies around town. Prayers are offered for the soul of one of the brothers.

The next day, the bartender says to the man, "Folks around here, me first of all, want to offer condolences to you for the death of your brother. You know-the two beers and all..."

The man ponders this for a moment, then replies, "You'll be happy to hear that my two brothers are alive and well... It's just that I, myself, have decided to give up drinking for Lent."

PARISH ROSARIES PRAYED

Total Rosaries for 2 weeks.....242

Total Rosaries for the year.....6,717

(since May 2016)

Please pray the Rosary remembering reparation for sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and For the Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and for all those serving in our armed forces.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Third Sunday of Lent

Mar. 20 Monday	*Scott Smith	7:15 AM Thomas
Mar. 21 Tuesday	Audrey Meara	5:00 PM Thomas
Mar. 22 Wednesday	*Irene Delasco	5:00 PM Parsons
Mar. 23 Thursday	Soul Closest to Heaven	5:00 PM Thomas
Mar. 24 Friday	Sam Gelfond	5:00 PM Thomas
Mar. 25 Saturday	Bill & Leah Marco	9:00 AM Parsons
Mar. 25 SATURDAY	John Lawrence	5:00 PM Thomas
Mar. 26 SUNDAY	Vivian Bozic	9:00 AM Thomas
Mar. 26 SUNDAY	People of the Parish	11:00 AM Parsons

THOMAS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READERS	ALTAR BOYS
03/25	Rita Johnson	Kathy Supak	
03/26	Betty Woods	Don Woods	Isaac Quattro

PARSONS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READER	ALTAR BOYS
03/26	Addie Buckley & Kaylee DiBacco	Betty Jane DiBacco	Any and all Available!
Cleaning:	03/19 - 03/25: 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)**

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is committed to the protection of its children and young people. The Diocese complies with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People by maintaining an Office of Safe Environment. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families/Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513 Å FREE. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237, Å FREE (toll free) or 304.233.0880: Sister Ellen Dunn, ext. 264; Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Msgr. Frederick Annie, ext. 267, or Msgr. Anthony Cincinnati, 270. For more information on the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment, please go to www.dwc.org, then click the "Diocese" tab, then click "Office of Safe Environment" under the "Offices" menu. To learn more about the Catholic Church's efforts in preventing sexual abuse of children in the United States, please visit <http://www.usccb.org>. Under "Issues and Action," click "Child and Youth Protection" from the drop down menu.

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: Champ Sedmock, "Sob" Gennantonio, Eleanor James, J. Pat Nichols, Mary Moore, Vincent DiBacco, Mary Johnson, Joe Sagace, Jim Willis, Jean Lomanto, Edward Brobst, Frank Hoffner, and Charles Siler.

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.