

MASSES FOR THE WEEK
Third Sunday of Easter

Apr. 16 Monday	-	7:15 AM Thomas
Apr. 17 Tuesday	-	5:00 PM Thomas
Apr. 18 Wednesday	-	9:00 AM Parsons
Apr. 19 Thursday	-	5:00 PM Thomas
Apr. 20 Friday	-	5:00 PM Thomas
Apr. 21 Saturday	-	9:00 AM Parsons
Apr. 21 SATURDAY VIGIL	Martha Nichols	5:00 PM Thomas
Apr. 22 SUNDAY	Joseph & Mary Deegan	9:00 AM Thomas
Apr. 22 SUNDAY	People of the Parish	11:00 AM Parsons

THOMAS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>	<u>READERS</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
04/21	Kathy Supak	Beth Spencer	Any available
04/22	Kaitlyn Simmons	Matt Hinkle	Wesley Snyder

PARSONS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>	<u>READERS</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
04/22	Dee Oldaker & Addie Buckley	Kathy DiBacco	Any available

Cleaning: 04/15: - 04/21: Joanne Sikarskie & Terry Silk

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 **Â 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, **Â 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.

THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

During the month of April, the Tridentine Mass will be offered at the following times and church:
 St. Thomas - 7:30 AM,
 (Low Mass) Sunday 04/08/18
 Our Lady of Mercy - 12:30 PM,
 (Low Mass) Sunday 04/15/18.

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)

Let us remember in prayer all of our sick and shut-ins:

Champ Sedmock, "Sob" Gennantonio, Eleanor James, J. Pat Nichols, Vincent DiBacco, Mary Johnson, Joanne Michael, Leo Pase Jr., Scott Hinkle, Jean Sagace, Stan and Darlene Sedmock and Martha Wolf.

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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 15, 2018



St. Thomas Aquinas Thomas, West Virginia



Our Lady of Mercy Parsons, West Virginia

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH
Mission: OUR LADY OF MERCY

Pastor: Rev. Timothy J. Grassi, P.O. Box 300, Thomas, WV 26292 Tel: 304-463-4488 www.sttsite.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 - 4:50 p.m., and 30 minutes before all weekday Masses and anytime upon request.

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.*

CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL "ALMOST HEAVEN"

The Catholic Sharing Appeal, or the CSA, is an annual appeal that offers funds to a variety of ministries, services and programs throughout our diocese, as well as the needs of our parish. The theme of this year's appeal, Almost Heaven, was inspired by the beauty of this wonderful state we live in. This week you will be receiving a mailing that will give you more information on the various ministries that the CSA supports. Please take time to review the materials. After prayer and discussion with your family please consider making a commitment to the Catholic Sharing Appeal.

The goal for each of our churches is:

St. Thomas Aquinas: \$11,715

Our Lady of Mercy: \$4,395

PARSONS FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

We would like to thank all of those who donated so generously to the 40 lbs of Food for Lent Drive. Total contributions gathered were: 345 lbs of food and \$225 in monetary donations. Your kindness in "feeding the hungry" this Lent was deeply appreciated.

THE EASTER SEASON!

The fifty days from Easter to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better, as one "great Sunday." These above all others are the days for the singing of ALLELUIA. The days of the Easter octave from the "early hours: of this "great Sunday," with accounts of the Lord who rose early in the morning, and the early preaching of the disciples who were witnesses to His Resurrection.

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!!

Apr. 15 - OLM Women's Guild meeting after the 11 AM Mass.

May 01 - Society of St. Thomas Women monthly meeting at 7 PM in the St. Thomas Center.

May 06 - "ASK FATHER" after 11 AM Mass in Parsons.

May 09 - Knights of Columbus meeting at 7 PM in Parsons.

May 13 - Mother's Day & First Holy Communion.

May 20 - OLM Women's Guild meeting after the 11 AM Mass.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

No woman wants an abortion as she wants an ice cream cone or a Porsche. She wants an abortion as an animal caught in a trap wants to gnaw off its own leg.

— Frederica Mathewes-Green —

PRAYERS FOR PRIESTS

Come and pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood today, Sunday, April 15th at 2 PM at St. Brendan's Church in Elkins. There will be a holy hour and reflection on the priesthood by Fr. Chapin Engler about why he loves being a priest of Jesus Christ.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR APRIL 08, 2018

St. Thomas: \$2,190.31

Our Lady of Mercy: \$747.00

FOOD PANTRY

BLACKWATER MINISTERIAL FOOD PANTRY: The Food Pantry is in need of valued food items. This month we are seeking rice & tuna. If you would like to make a monetary donation make checks out to Blackwater Food Pantry and send to St. Thomas Church, P.O. Box 300, Thomas, WV 26292

ARE YOU A VICTIM OF SELF-PITY?

By Donald F. Miller, C.S.S.R.

Perhaps nobody, on reading the above title, will feel inclined to answer the question with a yes. It is our experience, in dealing with many thousands of troubled souls, that people resent the accusation that they are victims of self-pity almost as much as being called liars or hypocrites. At least there is usually a quick reaction of self-defence against the charge.

Whoever you are, or whatever be your first reaction to the above title, don't toss this aside as if it could not possibly offer anything that you need. Self-pity is like a hidden cancer; it may have crept up on you without your being aware of it. You can become aware of it, and do something about it, only if you look boldly and humbly at the many ways in which it can manifest itself in human character.

What Self-Pity Is: Self-pity is a complex thing, not easy to define in a few simple words. A picture of it, as it is seen in the lives of many people, can best be given through a description of its three principal features. After presenting each feature, we shall add a number of questions through which an individual can learn for himself whether he is inclined toward self-pity, or already its victim.

1. *Selfpity is marked by the habit of concentrating one's inner thoughts and attention on one's own troubles, or on one particular cause for sorrow.*

This means that the general direction of a person's innermost thoughts is toward the circumstances in his life that make for sadness. Some people see only gloom in everything within them and around them. Others succumb to selfpity because of one particular happening in their lives, and they refuse to think of scarcely anything but that. Thus a person who has lost a beloved relative or friend by death can make the memory of that loss and the sorrow connected with it the focal point of all his thinking, and refuse to snap out of the sadness such thinking always causes. Thus a person whose marriage has failed can refuse to permit anything but the thought of his (or her) misery and loneliness to dominate his mind, until this leads, as will be shown below, to terrible sins in an effort to escape sadness.

Ask yourself these questions, and answer them sincerely, if you want to know whether this first feature of self-pity is to be found in you:

When I am alone, do I find myself thinking, most of the time, of my miseries, my ill-health, my unhappiness in marriage, my lack of success in business, my inability to have what most prosperous people have?

Do I permit myself to think that I have been neglected and forgotten by God, or cruelly and unjustly treated by Him?

Do I sum up my whole life by saying it has been nothing but a burden, and sometimes by saying, 'I wish I had never been born'?

Am I accustomed to look only at the hardships of my state in life, and to consider them too heavy to be borne? As a wife and mother, am I among those who consider bearing children and rearing children just an endless and unrelieved bore? As a husband and father have I got into the habit of considering the task of supporting and raising a family so grinding that I'm constantly wishing I were a free man again?

Am I constantly comparing my lot in life with that of others, and then concluding that I'm worse off than practically everybody else? (Continued next week).

PARISH ROSARIES PRAYED

Total Rosaries for 2 weeks.....287

Total Rosaries for the year.....14,194

(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.