

30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, October 27, 2019



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. at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, and 30 minutes before all 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.*

PLENARY AND PARTIAL INDULGENCES FOR THE POOR SOULS

From Nov. 1st to Nov. 8th

To gain a PLENARY INDULGENCE one must observe the three conditions for obtaining indulgences in addition to either visiting a cemetery each day or visiting a church or a public oratory on Nov. 2 and reciting one Our Father and the Creed.

To gain a PARTIAL INDULGENCE one must devoutly visit a cemetery and pray for the departed, even if the prayer is only mental. You may also gain a partial indulgence when the Eternal Rest prayer is prayed during the month of November

PRAYER LINE

*It is a Spiritual Work of Mercy
to pray for the living.*

How would you like to be on the Prayer Line? It's simple, just call the parish office (304-463-4488) and have your name added to the list. When there is a need, you will receive a phone call and the name of a person who needs your prayers.

QUILT RAFFLE and BASKET RAFFLE

The Society of St. Thomas Women is selling chances on a beautiful, blue quilt with a seascape theme made by Sandra Kendall. Suggested donation of \$5 per ticket.

The ladies are also having their annual Christmas Basket Raffle! The basket will include multiple Christmas gifts and a \$100 walmart gift card. Suggested donation of \$5 per ticket.

The drawings will be held on Sunday, December 15th after the 9am Mass in Thomas. Please see one of the ladies after Mass to get your tickets.

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!!

- Nov 01 - All Saints Day - a HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
(CCD students are expected at Adoration at 5:00pm)
- Nov 02 - All Souls Day
- Nov 03 - Daylight savings time ends (set your clocks back)
- Nov 03 - 2nd collection for Archdiocese for Military Services
- Nov 05 - Society of St. Thomas Women's meeting at 7pm in the Parish Center
- Nov 10 - Our Lady of Mercy Women's Guild meeting following the 11am Mass in Parsons
- Nov 13 - 4th Degree Knights of Columbus meeting at 6:00pm followed by their regular meeting at 6:30pm in Parsons

PRO LIFE CORNER

**Ok, it's your body
but:
doing drugs is illegal
suicide is illegal
prostitution is illegal
not wearing a seatbelt is illegal
so why is
**KILLING AN
UNBORN CHILD LEGAL?****

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

The second collection next weekend is for the Benefit of the Archdiocese of Military Services (AMS). Your donation will help minister to those who put themselves in harm's way to protect this great nation of ours. Your kind donation will in essence ensure support for the free exercise of the Catholic Faith in the U.S. Armed Forces, in keeping with the liberties our Constitution guarantees; the very same freedoms our men and women in uniform risk their lives to defend.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR October 20, 2019

St. Thomas: \$2,795.67
Universal Mission: \$357.00

Our Lady of Mercy: \$1,060.00
Universal Mission: \$205.00

FOOD PANTRY

BLACKWATER MINISTERIAL FOOD PANTRY: The Food Pantry is in need of "valued" food items. This month we are seeking ravioli/sloppy joe mix. In subsequent months we will let you know what items are needed and ask your assistance in this need for our community.

IS MARY'S QUEENSHIP BIBLICAL *By: Edward Sri*

(continued from last week)

A few Old Testament prophecies incorporate the queen mother tradition when telling of the future Messiah. One example is Isaiah 7:14, which originated during a time of dynastic crisis in Judah when Syria and Israel were threatening Jerusalem and plotting to overthrow King Ahaz. God offers Ahaz a sign that the kingdom will continue: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, a young woman shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Emmanuel" (Isa. 7:13-14).

On one level, this passage points to the next king (Hezekiah) as a pledge that the Davidic dynasty will continue despite the threats of invading armies. At the same time, the royal son who is to be named "Emmanuel" points to the future messianic king (cf., Isa. 9:6-7, 11:1-2). This is why the New Testament says Jesus fulfills this prophecy from Isaiah (Matt. 1:23). For our purposes we should note how this prophecy links the mother to her royal son. Since the oracle is addressed specifically to the Davidic household and concerns the continuation of the dynasty, the young woman bearing forth the royal son would be understood as a queen mother. This has implications for our understanding of Mary. Since the mother of the king always ruled as queen mother, we should expect to find the mother of the messianic king playing the role of the true queen mother in the everlasting Kingdom of God.

With this Old Testament background, we can now more clearly see how the New Testament portrays Mary in light of the queen mother tradition.

The Gospel of Matthew has often been called the "Gospel of the Kingdom." Matthew emphasizes that Jesus is "the Son of David," who is the true King of the Jews establishing the "Kingdom of Heaven." With all this kingly imagery, it should not be surprising to find queen mother themes as well.

Right away, Matthew shows explicitly how the infant Jesus is the "Emmanuel" child as prophesied in Isaiah 7:14 (Matt. 1:23). As we saw above, this prophecy links the royal messianic child with his queen mother. Further, Matthew singles out the intimate relationship between the mother and her royal son by using the phrase "the child and his mother" five times in the first two chapters, recalling the close association between queen mother and royal son as described in the Books of Kings. Just as the queen mother was constantly mentioned alongside the Judean kings in 1 and 2 Kings, so Mary is frequently mentioned alongside her royal son, Jesus, in Matthew's infancy narrative (Matt. 1:18; 2:11, 13, 14, 20, 21).

We find Mary portrayed against the background of Davidic kingdom motifs in Luke's Gospel as well, especially in his accounts of the Annunciation and Visitation. First, the angel Gabriel is said to appear to a virgin betrothed to a man "of the house of David" (1:27). Then the angel tells Mary, "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end" (Luke 1:31-33).

Hear the strong Davidic overtones describing Mary and her royal son: a woman from the house of David giving birth to a son who will be the new king whose reign will never end. With echoes from the queen mother tradition of the Davidic kingdom and the mother-son prophecy of Isaiah 7:14, we can conclude that Mary is being given the vocation of queen mother.

Mary's royal office is made even more explicit in Luke's account of the Visitation. Elizabeth greets Mary with the title "the mother of my Lord" (Luke 1:43). This title is charged with great queenly significance. In the royal court language of the ancient Near East, the title "Mother of my Lord" was used to address the queen mother of the reigning king (who himself was addressed as "my Lord"; cf., 2 Sam. 24:21). Thus with this title Elizabeth is recognizing the great dignity of Mary's role as the royal mother of the king, Jesus. Mary's queenship can also be seen in the great vision described in Revelation 12. We have seen how the Old Testament queen mother tradition serves as an important background for understanding Mary's royal office. Indeed, the New Testament portrays Mary as the queen mother par excellence. Thus, prayers, hymns, and art giving honor to Mary's queenship are most fitting biblical responses for Christians. In honoring her as queen mother we do not take anything away from Christ's glory, but rather we exalt him even more by recognizing the great work he has done in her and through her.

Understanding Mary as queen mother sheds light on her important intercessory role in the Christian life. Just like the queen mother of the Davidic kingdom, Mary serves as advocate for the people in the Kingdom of God today. Thus, we should approach our queen mother with confidence, knowing that she carries our petitions to her royal son and that he responds to her as Solomon did to Bathsheba: "I will never refuse you."

MASSES FOR THE WEEK
THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Oct. 28 Monday	*Matthias Hoffman	7:15am Thomas
Oct. 29 Tuesday	Hildegard Studer	5:00pm Thomas
Oct. 30 Wednesday	Stefanie Krumm	9:00am Parsons
Oct. 31 Thursday (<i>All Saints Day vigil</i>)	Mike Priestes	7:00pm Parsons
Nov. 01 First Friday (<i>All Saints Day</i>)	Albert DiBacco	1:00pm Cort. Acr.
Nov. 01 First Friday (<i>All Saints Day</i>)	ADORATION & BENEDICTION	5:00pm Thomas
Nov. 01 First Friday (<i>All Saints Day</i>)	Joseph & Mary Deegan	6:00pm Thomas
Nov. 02 First Saturday (<i>All Souls Day</i>)	Karen Renzelli	9:00am Parsons
Nov. 02 SATURDAY VIGIL	Cherie Arnold Putlovic	5:00pm Thomas
Nov. 03 SUNDAY	Robert Liwanag Arcilla	9:00am Thomas
Nov. 03 SUNDAY	People of the Parish	11:00am Parsons

THOMAS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>	<u>READERS</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
11/02	Betty Woods	Kathy Supak	Any available!
11/03	Mary Sagace	Diane Rader	Isaac Quattro

PARSONS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>	<u>READERS</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
11/03	Miranda Siler & Ariona Plumley	Kathy DiBacco	Any available

Cleaning: 11/03 – 11/09: Lois Matlick & Susie Gutshall

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. 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 (toll free) or 304.233.0880: Sister Ellen Dunn, ext. 264; Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or Rev. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304-230-1504. 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 November, the Tridentine Mass will be offered at the following times and church:

St. Thomas - NO MASS - CANCELLED

Our Lady of Mercy - 12:30pm, 11/17/19 only when requested in advance

If you would like to place someone on our prayer line call:

Susie Gutshall (304) 478-3217
Or Cindy Long (304) 478-4833

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

Champ Sedmock, "Sob"
Gennantonio, Eleanor James, Mary Johnson, Jean Sagace, Ed Kepner, Donna Mason, Elaine Watson, Paula Siler & Jimmy Quattro.

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.