

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, February 23, 2020



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.*

COME CELEBRATE MARDI GRAS!

We will celebrate "Mardi Gras" with a festive dinner immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass today, Sunday, February 23rd, at Our Lady of Mercy church. Join us as we feast on delicious soups, sandwiches, finger foods and desserts prepared by our ladies. All are welcome to join the fun and festivities.

QUILT & STAINED GLASS RAFFLE

The Our Lady of Mercy Women's Guild is selling chances on a beautiful quilt and stained glass window piece, both made and donated by Maureen Andreas. Suggested donation of \$5 per ticket with two chances to win. The drawings will be held on Sunday, May 10th after the 11am Mass in Parsons. Please see one of the ladies after Mass to get your tickets.

2ND COLLECTION ON ASH WEDNESDAY

Church in Central and Eastern Europe: This collection provides aid to meet the needs of rebuilding the Church. It focuses on training seminarians and lay leaders, supporting social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral and catechetical centers, schools, church construction and renovation, and evangelization through Catholic media.



BEST LENT EVER

"Best Lent Ever" is a free email program that will guide you on an incredible 40-day journey to become the-best-version-of-yourself, making this a truly life-changing Lent. Sign up at BestLentEver.com/ParishSignUp and starting Ash Wednesday, participants will receive daily inspirational emails from the Dynamic Catholic team. Throughout Lent, participants will discover how to open their hearts to God and do more than just give up chocolate for Lent.

"Know the greatest service that man can offer to God is to help convert souls." ~St. Rose of Lima

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!!

- Feb 23 - Mardi Gras Pot luck dinner after the 11am Mass
- Feb 26 - ASH WEDNESDAY (*A day of fasting and abstinence*)
- Feb 26 - 2nd Collection (Aid to the Church in Central & Eastern Europe)
- Mar 01 - "ASK FATHER" after the 11am Mass in Parsons
- Mar 08 - Daylight savings time begins

Abortion has never been
about "choice"



LENT SCHEDULE

~Stations of the Cross~

WEDNESDAYS: Immediately after 5:00pm Mass at Our Lady of Mercy Church . (Wednesday Mass during Lent will be at 5:00pm.)

FRIDAYS: Immediately after 5:00pm Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas Church.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR February 16, 2020

St. Thomas: \$2,879.00
Our Lady of Mercy: \$1,138.00

FOOD PANTRY

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

LENT AND EASTER REGULATIONS

A distinction is to be made between Lent and the Easter Triduum. Strictly speaking, Lent ends with the beginning of the Triduum on Holy Thursday. The ordo notes: "Lent runs from ash Wednesday until Evening Prayer I of Holy Thursday." Traditionally, Christians fast on two sorts of occasions. One may be termed times of repentance (for example, Lent).

The other occasion is by way of anticipation (for example, the one hour before Holy Communion or the "paschal fast" during the Triduum in anticipation of the Easter event).

Lenten Fast and Abstinence

1. Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 60. Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to each one's needs, but eating solid food between meals is not permitted.
2. Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years or older on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent.
3. Continuing the diocesan custom, all of the appropriate age are asked to fast and abstain on all the Wednesdays and Fridays of Lent as a voluntary practice.

The Paschal Fast

1. All Catholics of the appropriate age (see above) are to fast and abstain on Good Friday.
2. All Catholics are encouraged, as a voluntary practice, to fast on Holy Saturday until the celebration of the Easter Vigil.

LENTEN SACRIFICE

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

a) 40 Cans of Food for the Food Pantry

b) a Monetary donation, (suggested donation: \$20. Money can be dropped in the collection baskets in an envelope marked "Food Pantry").

(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.)

LENTEN FISH FRY

Come join the Knights of Columbus for our Lenten Fish Fry's!
Dinner includes an 8 oz fish fillet with tartar or cocktail sauce;

dinner roll with butter; coleslaw; greenbeans; 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 4:00pm - 6:30pm,

At the St. Thomas Center and

Our Lady of Mercy Church social halls on:

Feb. 28, Mar. 06, Mar. 13, Mar. 20, Mar. 27 and Apr. 03.



PARISH ROSARIES PRAYED

Total Rosaries for 2 weeks: 232

Total Rosaries since May 2016: 25,900

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Feb. 24 Monday	Steve Swisher	7:15am Thomas
Feb. 25 Tuesday	Vince DiBacco	5:00pm Thomas
Feb. 26 Ash Wednesday	J. Pat Nichols	9:00am Parsons
Feb. 26 Ash Wednesday	Albert DiBacco	5:00pm Thomas
Feb. 27 Thursday	John Cunningham	5:00pm Thomas
Feb. 28 Friday	Don Woods	5:00pm Thomas
Feb. 29 Saturday	Lela & Ben Long	9:00am Parsons
Feb. 29 SATURDAY VIGIL	Marshall Long	5:00pm Thomas
Mar. 01 SUNDAY	People of the Parish	9:00am Thomas
Mar. 01 SUNDAY	*Jeff Dean	11:00am Parsons

THOMAS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>	<u>READERS</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
02/29	Donna Walker	Beth Spencer	Any available!
03/01	Katlyn Simmons	Mateo Hinkle	Mateo Hinkle

PARSONS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>	<u>READERS</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
03/01	Miranda Grace & Addie Buckley	Fred Sikarskie	Any available

Cleaning: 02/23 - 02/29: 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 March,
the Tridentine Mass
will be offered at the following
times and church:
St. Thomas - 7:30am
(Low Mass) 03/08/20
Our Lady of Mercy - 12:30pm,
03/15/20 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, Pat Ricottilli, "Sob"
Gennantonio, Mary Johnson, Jean
Sagace, Ed Kepner, Donna Mason,
Elaine Watson, Paula Siler, Anne
McVicker, Jerry DiBacco, & Paul
Wojtkowski.

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.