

## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - June 28, 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](http://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.*

## CONGRATULATIONS FR. JUSTIN GOLNA

We would like to congratulate Fr. Justin Golna on his ordination that took place on Saturday, June 27th in Wheeling. Fr. Golna will be coming to our parish on July 4th & 5th to celebrate the weekend Masses with us. Please join us after the 5:00pm Saturday evening Mass in Thomas and after the 11:00am Sunday morning Mass in Parsons for light refreshments to celebrate Fr. Golna's ordination!

## BIBLE STUDY

Deacon Phillip Szabo will continue having his weekly bible study on Tuesday, June 30th following the 5pm Mass in Thomas and on Wednesday, July 1st following the 9am Mass in Parsons. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

## THEOLOGY WITH THE DEACON

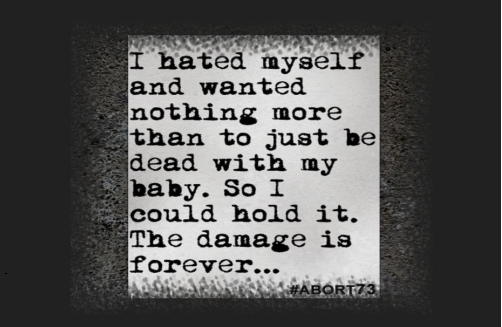
Come join Deacon Phillip Szabo for an exciting theology talk on Tuesday, July 21st, (the day before he leaves us!) following the 5:00pm Mass in Thomas. Since we can't have our usual "Theology on Tap," we will do our own version in the Parish hall. Light refreshments will be served. Mark your calendars.

## WINNERS OF THE QUILT & STAINED GLASS ART

The drawings for the quilt and stained glass piece took place last Sunday at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Parsons. The winners of the drawings are: Whitney Matlick (quilt) and Peter & Patricia Ogden (stained glass). Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who bought chances.

## 2ND COLLECTION - PASTORAL SOLIDARITY FUND FOR THE CHURCH IN AFRICA

The Pastoral Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa the Subcommittee on the Church in Africa provides grants to finance pastoral projects that support the maintenance and growth of the Church in Africa. Funded projects include outreach programs, schools, evangelization, and education of clergy and lay ministers.



I hated myself  
and wanted  
nothing more  
than to just be  
dead with my  
baby. So I  
could hold it.  
The damage is  
forever...

#ABORT73

## PRAYER

### FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

At Thy feet, O my Jesus, I prostrate myself and I offer Thee the repentance of my contrite heart, which is humbled in its nothingness and in Thy holy presence. I adore Thee in the Sacrament of Thy love, the ineffable Eucharist. I desire to receive Thee into the poor dwelling that my heart offers Thee. While waiting for the happiness of sacramental Communion, I wish to possess Thee in spirit. Come to me, O my Jesus, since I, for my part, am coming to Thee! The love embrace my whole being in life and in death. I believe in Thee, I hope in Thee, I love Thee. Amen.

## CONTRIBUTIONS FOR June 21, 2020

St. Thomas: \$9,960.58

Our Lady of Mercy: \$1,324.14

## FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Don't forget our local food pantries in both Thomas and Parsons! Food is needed now more than ever. Please bring your food donations to the back of the church where a volunteer will pick them up and deliver them to the proper location.

Thomas Food Pantry: (cereal)

Parsons Food Pantry: food or monetary donations are Collected every 1st Sunday.

## THOU ART PETER

By Fr. Hezekias Carnazzo

“Thou art Christ” – Peter to Jesus . . . “Thou art Peter; and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give to thee the keys to the kingdom of heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt bind upon the earth, it shall be bound also in heaven.” – Jesus to Peter (Matt 16:16-19)

For the correct interpretation of Scripture, it is critical that we read biblical texts in context. The Greek word *christos* (*messiah* in Hebrew), means “anointed.” The term *messiah* was used by the Jews to refer to the reigning king of Israel. By calling Jesus the Anointed One, St. Peter identifies Jesus as the King, the Son of David, the New Solomon. As David’s son Solomon would in time past build the Temple in which the Chosen People would worship God, so now Jesus, the pre-eminent Son of David, the New Solomon, is building His Church upon Simon, whom He renames *Petros*, literally, *Rock*.

Peter’s proclamation that Jesus is the Christ evokes Our Lord’s response that Peter is the Rock upon which Jesus, the New Solomon, will build the house of God, the Church. “The rock” in ancient Israel was the “rock of Moriah” upon which Solomon built the house of God (the Temple) and upon which the Dome of the Rock, an Islamic shrine, stands today. Among the Jews, there was a tradition that named this rock as the capstone of the gates of hell, and as long as this rock was in place, hell could not prevail on earth. Having declared that Peter is the new rock, our Lord concludes his proclamation with the words, “and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it,” confirming that Peter is indeed the foundation-stone of the Church.

Following this proclamation, our Lord grants to Peter “the keys to the kingdom of heaven.” As with every royal house, certain customs and offices are attached to the ruling king. In ancient Israel, the King’s “right-hand man,” similar to our Vice-President, was given the Hebrew title, *al-bayit*. It was this man’s job to be the keeper of the kingdom, and to run the royal house while the King was engrossed in other affairs. This official was said to be “over the house” of the King (cf. Num 12:7; 1 Kgs 18:3; 2 Kgs 15:5). A similar position, found in the ancient Egyptian court, was held by Joseph when he assisted Pharaoh during the great famine that brought Israel’s family to Egypt (cf. Gen. 41:37-45). To Joseph, “*al-bayit* of the royal house of Egypt,” Pharaoh proclaimed, “You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command; only as regards the throne will I be greater than you.” In order to show the authority which this man held within the kingdom, the King of Israel gave to his “*al-bayit*” the “keys to the kingdom,” which were symbolically placed upon his shoulder as a sign of his authority. As we read in the book of Isaiah regarding the *al-bayit* of the royal house of Israel, “who is over the household . . . He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David; he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut and none shall open. And I will fasten him like a peg in a sure place, and he will become a throne of honor to his father’s house. And they will hang on him the whole weight of his father’s house” (Isaiah 22:15, 21-24). It is in view of this royal office that we hear Our Lord, the newly proclaimed King of Israel, declare that Peter will be his *al-bayit*, protecting the house of God from all danger. Upon Peter’s shoulder, then, the New Solomon places the keys to the kingdom, and declares that whatever Peter “binds on earth shall be bound in heaven” (Matt 16:19), whatever “he shall open. . . none shall shut” (Is 22:22).

Now let us call to mind the Catholic theology of participation in divine life. Let us always remember the Word was made flesh to give us the greatest thing anyone can ever give to another: His own life. Each one of us who has been baptized into Christ has been given this gift of participation in Christ. As Saint Paul explains, “One is an eye, one is a foot, another is a hand”: all members of the One Body of Christ (1 Cor 12:12-31). It is participation in this divine life that makes a priest able to hear confessions, holy men able to perform miracles, and Blessed Peter to be the foundation stone of the Church. Today there are over 30,000 Protestant denominations; there is only one Church built by Jesus Christ. *Viva il Papa!*

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**  
*Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Jun 29 Monday	Robert McDonald	7:15am Thomas
Jun 30 Tuesday	Warren & Mayme Holbrook	5:00pm Thomas
Jul 01 Wednesday	Poor Souls in Purgatory	9:00am Parsons
Jul 02 Thursday	Connie DeLauder	5:00pm Thomas
<b>Jul 03 First Friday</b>	<b>ADORATION &amp; BENEDICTION</b>	<b>5:00pm Thomas</b>
<b>Jul 03 First Friday</b>	Don Woods	<b>6:00pm Thomas</b>
<b>Jul 04 First Saturday</b>	Karen Renzelli	<b>9:00am Parsons</b>
<b>Jul 04 SATURDAY VIGIL</b>	Michael Durkin	<b>5:00pm Thomas</b>
<b>Jul 05 SUNDAY</b>	Diane Ulch & Imelda Stevenson	<b>9:00am Thomas</b>
<b>Jul 05 SUNDAY</b>	People of the Parish	<b>11:00am Parsons</b>

**THOMAS**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>	<u>READERS</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
07/04			
07/05			

**PARSONS**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>	<u>READERS</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
07/05			

Cleaning: 06/28 - 07/04

**THE  
TRADITIONAL  
LATIN MASS**

During the month of May,  
the Tridentine Mass  
will be offered at the following  
times and church:  
St. Thomas - "PENDING"  
(Low Mass) 07/12/20  
Our Lady of Mercy - "PENDING"  
07/19/20 only when  
requested in advance

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](http://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.

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:

"Sob" Gennantonio, Mary Johnson,  
Jean Sagace, Joyce Arnold, Donna  
Mason, Elaine Watson, Paula Siler,  
Anne McVicker, Jerry & Madonna  
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.**