

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - May 07, 2023



St. Thomas Aquinas - Thomas, West Virginia



Our Lady of Mercy - Parsons, West Virginia

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

Mission: OUR LADY OF MERCY

Pastor: Fr. Martin J. Smay, P.O. Box 300, Thomas, WV 26292 Tel: (304) 463-4488 www.sttsite.com

You may also reach Fr. Smay at the following email: msmay@dwc.org

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.*

HOLY HOURS OF REPARATION



We continue this month with our two Holy Hours of Reparation. The first will be in Thomas starting at 4pm on Thursday, May 25. The second will be in Parsons after the 11am Mass on Sunday, May 28. These holy hours are for the conversion of loved ones, and for the conversion of souls in Tucker County. All are welcome to join us!

OLM CHURCH YARD SALE COMING SOON

The Our Lady of Mercy Women are planning a yard and a bake sale on Memorial Day weekend in May. The women would greatly appreciate any gently used items that you are willing to donate (No clothes or shoes please). You may bring items beginning on May 1st and drop them off in the social hall. All donations are greatly appreciated.

MT. CALVARY CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

Please remove all flowers and any decorative items from on top of or around the grave stones at Mount Calvary Cemetery in preparation for Spring grounds upkeep. Thank you!

MOTHER'S DAY MASS CARDS

If you would like to remember living or deceased mothers on Mother's Day, cards can be found in the back of both churches for a suggested donation of \$2. It is only requested that a donation be left if a card is taken but all donations are appreciated!

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON

- May 07 - Ask Father after the 11am Mass in Parsons
- May 09 - Society of STT Women's meeting at 5pm
- May 14 - Mother's day & First Holy Communion
- May 16 - Knights of Columbus meeting in Thomas at 6pm
- May 21 - Covered Dish Dinner after 11am Mass in Parsons
- May 21 - Holy Hour of Reparation after Mass in Parsons
- May 25 - Holy Hour of Reparation at 4pm in Thomas
- May 26/27 - OLM yard/hotdog/bake sale fundraiser
- May 29 - Memorial Day Mass at 9am at the Cemetery

ABORTION

HAS NEVER BEEN ABOUT
"CHOICE"

IT'S ABOUT ESCAPING THE
CONSEQUENCES
OF YOUR CHOICE

BY TAKING ALL CHOICES AWAY FROM ANOTHER

HUMAN BEING

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR April 30, 2023

St. Thomas: \$2,274.58

Attendance: 5pm - 35; 9am - 55

Our Lady of Mercy: \$865.00

Attendance: 11am - 46

FORMED

The Catholic Faith on Demand
This week on Formed:

Spiritual Motherhood

The Augustine Institute Show

Join Dr. Tim Gray and Sr. Maris Stella for a conversation on the vocation of every woman, that of motherhood. Although all women will not be called to be physical mothers, every woman is called to be a spiritual mother.

<https://watch.formed.org/videos/the-augustine-institute-show-5-3-22-spiritual-motherhood>

Our parish has a FORMED subscription and it is free to all of our parishioners! Join now!

Miraculous Stories of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of Her Intercession

From Saint Alphonsus De Liguori, The Glories of Mary

There lived in Rome a woman, called Catherine the beautiful, who led a very sinful life. Hearing St. Dominic once preach on the devotion of the most holy Rosary, she had her name inscribed in the book of the confraternity, and began to recite it, but did not abandon her sinful life. One evening a youth, apparently a noble, came to her house, whom she received courteously. When they were at supper, she saw drops of blood falling from his hands while he was breaking a piece of bread, and then she observed that all the food he took was tinged with blood. She asked him what that blood meant? And the youth answered, that a Christian should take no food that was not tinged with the blood of Jesus Christ, seasoned with the memory of his passion. Amazed at this, she asked him who he was. "Soon," he answered, "I will show you"; and when they had withdrawn into another apartment, the appearance of the youth changed, and he showed himself crowned with thorns, his flesh torn, and said to her: Do you wish to know who I am? Do you not know me? I am your Redeemer. Catherine, when will you cease to offend me? See how much I have suffered for you. You have grieved me enough, change your life." Catherine began to weep bitterly, and Jesus, encouraging her, said: "Now begin to love me as much as you have offended me; and know that you have received this grace from me, on account of the Rosary you have been accustomed to recite in honor of my mother." And then he disappeared. Catherine went in the morning to make her confession to St. Dominic; and giving to the poor all she possessed, led so holy a life that she attained to great perfection. The Virgin often appeared to her; and Jesus himself revealed to St. Dominic, that this penitent had become very dear to him.

In one of our missions, after the sermon on Mary which it is our custom to preach, a very old man came to one of the Fathers of our congregation, to make his confession. He was full of consolation, and said: "Our Lady has done me a favor." "And what favor has she done you?" asked the confessor. "For thirty-five years, Father, I have made sacrilegious confessions, because I was ashamed of one sin, and yet I have passed through many dangers, and have been several times at the point of death, and if I had died then I certainly would have been lost; and now our Lady has done me the favor to touch my heart;" and when he said this he wept so bitterly, that he seemed to be all tenderness. After the Father had heard his confession, he asked him what devotion he had practiced, and he answered that he had never failed on Saturday to keep a strict fast in honor of Mary, and therefore the Virgin had taken pity on him, and he gave the Father permission to publish the fact in his sermons.

A certain canon, while he was repeating some devotions in honor of the heavenly mother, fell into the river Seine and was drowned, and being in mortal sin, the devils came to take him to hell. But Mary appeared at the same time, and said to them: "How have you dared to take possession of one who died praising me?" Then turning to the sinner, she said: "Repent, and be particularly devout to my Conception." He was restored to life, became a religious, and never ceased to thank his deliverer, and everywhere to propagate the devotion to her immaculate Conception.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK
Fifth Week of Easter

Monday, May 08

Easter Weekday

7:30am (T) Gloria Bluj †

Tuesday, May 09

Easter Weekday

5:00pm (T) Edith DiBacco †

Wednesday, May 10

St. John of Avila, Priest & Doc of the Church (opt);

St. Damien de Veuster, Priest (opt)

9:00am (P) Otis Johnson †

Thursday, May 11

Easter Weekday

5:00pm (T) Jennifer Lanthaler †

Friday, May 12

Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs (opt);

St. Pancras, Martyr (opt)

5:00pm (T) Diane Staron †

First Saturday, May 13

Our Lady of Fatima

9:00am (P) Jack Johnson †

5:00pm (T) Ned Killeen † (ANTICIPATED)

Sunday, May 14

Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00am (T) William S. Przybysz †

11:00am (P) People of the Parish

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.

Adoration

Simple Exposition

8:30am - 9:00am
every Wednesday in Parsons

4:00 - 5:00pm
every Friday in Thomas



Adoration & Benediction

Every First Friday

Next month:
June 2
4:00 - 5:00pm
Parsons

Talk to God.

He will listen to you.

This is a time for just you and God.

Tell Him what is on your mind. And remember, to hear God... you must listen first.

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

Kathy Kotten (304) 866-6243 (T)
Susie Gutshall (304) 478-3217 (P)
or Cindy Long (304) 478-4833 (P)

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

Mary Johnson, Joyce Arnold,
Donna Mason, Elaine Watson,
Paula Siler, Anne McVicker, Sharon Martin,
Madonna DiBacco, Sara Fletcher,
Sarah Nickel, Paul Wojtkowski, Dan Ingram,
Emily Lambruno, & Bob Metzger

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston maintains an Office of Safe Environment in accordance with the USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, 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 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.