

PENTECOST SUNDAY - May 28, 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.*

MEMORIAL DAY SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection this Memorial Day weekend, May 27 & 28, for the Mount Calvary Cemetery Fund. Donations will be used to defray the maintenance costs at the cemetery. Special envelopes will be provided. Please make checks payable to:

Mount Calvary Cemetery Fund

ATTENTION KNIGHTS

A 4th Degree Knights of Columbus meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 7 at 6pm in the St. Thomas Center. All members please attend.

TWENTY-TEN CORP ANNUAL MEETING

Everyone who is a member of Knights of Columbus Council 2010 is also a member of the Twenty-Ten Corp. The annual meeting for the Twenty-Ten Corp. will be held at the Park on Sunday, June 4 at 2pm. Please mark your calendars!

HOLY HOUR OF REPARATION

There will be a Holy Hour of Reparation today following the 11am Mass in Parsons. This holy hour is for the conversion of loved ones, and for the conversion of souls in Tucker County. All are welcome to join us!

FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY

Don't forget our local food pantries! Please place any food and monetary donations in the back of the church today, Sunday, May 28, and a volunteer will pick them up and deliver them to the proper location.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers at the altar and in front of the Blessed Mother in St. Thomas Aquinas Church are donated in loving memory of the Staron and Saboites families by Carol Saboites.



EVENTS ON THE HORIZON

May 28 - Holy Hour of Reparation after Mass in Parsons

May 29 - Memorial Day Mass at 9am at the Cemetery

May 31 - Bocce Ball at the K of C Park at 5:45

June 04 - Ask Father after the 11am Mass in Parsons

June 04 - 2010 Corp meeting at 2pm at the K of C Park

June 07 - 4th Degree K of C meeting at 6pm in Thomas

**THERE IS NO
SUCH THING
AS A SAFE
ABORTION.
SOMEBODY
ALWAYS DIES.**

THE CALDRON POOL

PRAY THE ROSARY DAILY

The Rosary Tally for the last 6 weeks is shown below. Thank you for persevering in prayer.

Total Rosaries for 6 weeks: 484

Total Rosaries since May 2016: 46,075

The rosary is prayed every Sunday in Parsons beginning at 10:30am.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR May 21, 2023

St. Thomas: \$2,071.58

Ascension: \$185.00

Attendance: 5pm - 39; 9am - 60

Our Lady of Mercy: \$891.00

Ascension: \$40.00

Attendance: 11am - 47

FORMED

The Catholic Faith on Demand
Our parish has a FORMED subscription and it is free to all of our parishioners! Join now! Registering on FORMED is easier than ever!

1. Go to FORMED.org/signup
2. Enter your parish zip code or name to select your parish
3. Enter your name and email

The Virtue of Modesty

by Father Smay

I think that when most people think of the virtue of modesty, they think of proper dress. Certainly proper dress falls under modesty, but the virtue itself is actually a broader than mere dress. Modesty is the virtue by which we regulate our externals in accord with the situation. In regards to clothing, I am blessed that we do not generally have any grievous issues with people showing too much skin at Saint Thomas Aquinas or Our Lady of Mercy (as a side note, at many churches in Italy there are signs which show acceptable and unacceptable coverage; their rules are clear and enforced: shoulders *and* knees must be covered, and no midriff). But proper dress extends to more than merely “wearing enough;” there is a reason that we refer to wearing our “Sunday best” to Mass. Moderating our dress in accord with the dignity of the Mass is also important. If we show up for Mass suitably dressed for doing yard work, then we need to stop and take account of the the great mystery which is taking place on the altar and the fact that we are in God’s house, not the greenhouse.

Moderation of externals extends itself to speech (thus using profane language - “four letter words” - is an offense against modesty). Both of these activities should be moderated, once again, by the fact that when we are in church, we are in God’s house. As our Lord reminded us when He cleansed the Temple of the moneychangers, “It is written, ‘My house will be called a house of prayer’” (Matthew 21:13). Our churches are houses of prayer. So our behavior should accord with this purpose; the church is not a saloon or a social hall. That’s not to say that we shouldn’t talk at all in church, but at the very least moderating the volume of our voices, going outside when the weather permits, not disturbing those who are trying to pray are all considerations. This is especially true before Mass. Pope Francis commented, “When we go to Mass, perhaps we arrive five minutes early and begin to chat with the person next to us. But this is not the moment for chitchat; it is the moment of silence to prepare ourselves for the dialogue. It is the moment for recollection within the heart, to prepare ourselves for the encounter with Jesus. Silence is so important!”

Connected with speaking in church is a different manner of making noise: clapping and applause. Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, before he became Pope Benedict XVI, wrote, “Whenever applause breaks out in the liturgy because of some human achievement, it is a sure sign that the essence of liturgy has totally disappeared and been replaced by a kind of religious entertainment.” The truth is that we go to Mass to render right worship to the true and living God; the Mass is not about us. Pope Saint John XXIII, who was known for his affability and sense of humor, after entering a church to applause said, “I am very glad to have come here. But if I must express a wish, it is that in church you not shout out, that you not clap your hands, and that you not greet *even* the Pope, because ‘templum Dei, templum Dei’ [The temple of God is the temple of God].” And Pope Saint Pius X said, “It is not fitting to applaud the servant in his Master’s house.”



MASSES FOR THE WEEK
Eighth Week in Ordinary Time

Monday, May 29

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church (obl)
9:00am (Cemetery) Holy Souls in Purgatory †

Tuesday, May 30

Weekday
5:00pm (T) Maggie DeMotto †

Wednesday, May 31

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast)
9:00am (P) Margaret Kochenderfer Teranto †

Thursday, June 01

St. Justin, Martyr (obl)
5:00pm (T) Jim Morvay †

First Friday, June 02

Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs (opt)
5:00pm (T) Poor Souls in Purgatory †

First Saturday, June 03

St. Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs (obl)
9:00am (P) Fr. Timothy J. Grassi
5:00pm (T) Marguerite Zizunas † (ANTICIPATED)

Sunday, June 04

The Most Holy Trinity (Sol)
9:00am (T) Jennifer Lanthaler †
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.

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.

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

Is not our Lord as meek and humble in the Blessed Sacrament as He was during His life on earth? Is He not always the Good Shepherd, the Divine Consoler, the Changeless Friend? Happy the soul that knows how to find Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, and in the Eucharist all things!
~Saint Peter Julian Eymard

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