

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

Mission: OUR LADY OF MERCY

St. Thomas Aquinas
Thomas, West Virginia

Our Lady of Mercy
Parsons, West Virginia



Pastor: Rev. Timothy J. Grassi,
P.O. Box 300, Thomas, WV 26292 —Tel: 304-463-4488

Parish Website:
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 – 4:30 p.m., and 30 minutes before all weekday Masses and anytime upon request.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph, December 30, 2012

THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

During the month of **December**, the Tridentine Mass will be offered at the following times and churches:

St. Thomas - 7:30 AM, Sunday 12/16/12;

Our Lady of Mercy - 12:30 PM, Sunday 12/09/12.



PRO-LIFE CORNER

An article in Life Site news (1/11/12) contains the following observation by a British physician: "This year we were introduced to the ugly practice of selective reduction, a euphemistic term that describes the killing of one fetus in a multiple pregnancy. Selective reduction is becoming more commonplace because fertility treatments like IVF are creating more and more multiples and doctors are advising patients to "reduce" their quadruplets, triplets and even twins down to two or even one baby.

THANKS TO ALL!

Once again it is with heartfelt gratitude that I acknowledge all the efforts put into making our Christmas Masses Holy and splendorous for the occasion of the Birth of Christ. Thank you to all those who helped in numerous ways to make everything come together smoothly and efficiently. A special thank you to all who helped in any way with the Christmas programs at both St. Thomas and Our Lady of Mercy Churches. Applause to our CCD teachers for their excellent coordination to facilitate the programs and the time spent in practicing with the children. Both performances were truly magnificent. Thank you to all the ladies of St. Thomas Aquinas who helped with the preparation and clean-up of the delicious dinner following the program in Thomas.

The adult choirs at both churches were phenomenal! (A special thanks to Diana Villamor for her help in preparing these musical presentations.) Thanks to all who helped make our churches look so beautiful especially our Confirmation students. My sincere appreciation to all of you for your loving service to Almighty God through our parish and mission.

—Fr. Grassi

WITH SYMPATHY



We pray for the soul of Genevieve Yeager who died on Christmas day and was buried from our parish on Friday, December 28th. May she rest in peace and may her family be consoled.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

The Christmas flowers at St. Thomas Aquinas and Our Lady of Mercy Churches were donated in loving memory of Maria Lomanto, Ron Fortney, Kameron Forney, Alfred Quattro, Jack Evans, William & Leah Marco, Zelda James, Kermit K. James, Fiona Ruth Silk, and deceased members of the Long and Mason families.

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!

January 1 - Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God.

January 6 - Epiphany pot luck dinner at Our Lady of Mercy church immediately following Mass.

January 9 - Knights of Columbus monthly meeting at 6:00 PM at the St. Thomas Center.

January 13 - Our Lady of Mercy Women's Guild meeting after the 11 AM Mass in Parsons.

January 25 - 40th Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Contributions for December 23 & 25, 2012

St. Thomas: \$2,167.00

Christmas: \$1,687.25 Catholic Charities: \$596.00

Our Lady of Mercy: \$734.00

Christmas: \$805.63 Catholic Charities: \$326.00

Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is in need of "valued" food items.

This month we are seeking **bean/bacon soup**. In subsequent months we will let you know what items are needed and ask your assistance in this need for our community.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

The Christmas season extends from the vigil of Christmas through the Baptism of the Lord, Sunday January 13th, 2013. The Church holds most sacred the memorial of Christ's birth and early manifestations. Christmas is the feast that sings of the gift of life. The birth of a child moves us and causes tenderness. Contemplating the baby Jesus in the manger, how can we not think of the newborns who are not welcomed and are rejected? This Christmas Season, let us open our minds and hearts to welcome the Messiah, who comes at this sacred moment to save us from sin and deliver us from the darkness of evil.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

This is a Holy Day of Obligation! Please note the Mass schedule on the back of the bulletin.

EPIPHANY POT LUCK DINNER!

All are welcome to join us next Sunday, January 6th for a pot luck dinner immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass

THE FIVE FIRST SATURDAYS — THE PERFECT NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION!

What if I were to make you the astounding offer of ONE MILLION DOLLARS in exchange for some light and pleasant work — say for a few hours a month for 5 months?

Too good to be true, you would say. But I have an even MORE ASTOUNDING OFFER for you:

A GUARANTEE OF THE GRACES TO REACH HEAVEN!

The work required? **No work at all.** The cost? **Absolutely free!** The catch? **No catch!** Just receive Holy communion, go to confession within 8 days before or after first Saturday, meditating for 15 minutes—once a month or 5 months.

Of course, this offer doesn't come directly from me. I have no such power to make this amazing and wonderful guarantee. *(Brochures are available in the back of the churches with further explanations.)*

THE OFFER COMES FROM THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN, OUR LADY OF FATIMA!

Make the Five First Saturdays as requested by Our Lord and Our Lady with the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Her promise: To assist at the moment of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation.

(Here is a grid to help you keep track of your consecutive Five First Saturdays.)

As we pray the Rosary before our Masses in this month of December, we will pray In reparation for sins, for all those serving in our armed forces, for peace in the Middle East and For the Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK — The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Dec. 31	Monday	(Solemnity of Mary)	Leonard Teranto	5:00 PM Parsons
Dec. 31	Monday	(Solemnity of Mary)	Sr. Francesca DiBacco, C.S.J.	7:00 PM Thomas
Jan. 01	Tuesday	(Solemnity of Mary)	Paul DiBacco	9:00 AM Thomas
Jan. 02	Wednesday		Poor Souls in Purgatory	9:00 AM Parsons
Jan. 03	Thursday		Joseph & Virginia Stankus	5:00 PM Thomas
Jan. 04	First Friday		Helen Grance	1:00 PM Cort. Acres
Jan. 04	First Friday		ADORATION & BENEDICTION	5:00 PM Parsons
Jan. 04	First Friday		Robert McDonald	6:00 PM Parsons
Jan. 05	First Saturday		John Botefuhr	9:00 AM Parsons
Jan. 05	SATURDAY VIGIL		Joseph & Virginia Stankus	5:00 PM Thomas
Jan. 06	SUNDAY		Frank Loscar	9:00 AM Thomas
Jan. 06	SUNDAY		People of the Parish	11:00 AM Parsons

THOMAS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
01/05	Kathy & Pat Kotten
01/06	Betty Woods & Mary Sagace

READERS
Kathy Supak
Diane Rader

ALTAR BOYS
Wesley Snyder

PARSONS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
01/06	Miranda & Emily Siler
Cleaning:	12/30 - 01/05: Joanne Sikarskie & Terry Silk

READER
Betty Jane DiBacco

ALTAR BOYS
Any and all Available!

PRAYER LINE

If you would like to place someone on our prayer line call Mary Frances Evans - Thomas (463-4413) or Martha Nichols - Davis (259-5370) Paula Siler - Parsons (478-4104) or Cindy Long - Parsons (478-4833)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Monthly meeting on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., alternating in the Knights of Columbus room
Thomas, and Social Hall, Parsons.

OUR LADY OF MERCY WOMEN'S GUILD

Meetings are held the second Sunday of the Month immediately after Mass in the Parish Hall.

SOCIETY OF ST. THOMAS WOMEN

Every woman of the parish is a member of the Society. Monthly meetings are the first Tuesday of the month
(except Jan., Feb., March)

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.*

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

Dorothy Breth, Theresa Cook, Helen Wilson, Champ Sedmock, Frances Shaga, Vivian Bozic, Solena Massi, Lois Lamont, "Sob" Gennantonio, Martha Kochenderfer, Genny Yeager, Eleanor James, Mary Watkins, Earl & Mary Moore, Betty Swantek, J. Pat and Martha Nichols, Muriel Nestor, Eula Jean & Henry Udovich, Tony Lambruno, Elizabeth Lane, Vincent DiBacco, Judy Gutshall, Dan and Mary Ingram, Mary Johnson and Sherry Burns.

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.