

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.stsite.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 Epiphany of the Lord, January 06, 2013

THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

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

St. Thomas - 7:30 AM, Sunday 01/20/2013;

Our Lady of Mercy - No Mass this month 01/13/13.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Each new year seems to offer us a blank slate, a challenge to make a positive contribution. A new year can be compared to a new life, each child conceived is God's opinion that the world should go on. As each of us begins this new year, let us pledge ourselves anew to seeing that abortion does not thwart God's plan.

THE 40TH ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE



The March for Life is an annual pilgrimage of prayer and public witness to protest the 1973 decision of the U.S. Supreme Court to legalize abortion. As Catholics, we believe that all life is sacred. Participating in the March for life is an opportunity to be advocates for those who cannot speak for themselves and to help our government understand why we believe life is so sacred. Please come join us and take a stand for LIFE! We will be taking a car (or cars) to the metro stop in Vienna, VA., and then we will take the train into D.C. Please call the Parish Office if you would like to join this life saving event, Friday, January 25th, 2013.

VISITING PRIEST NEXT WEEKEND

Fr. Cruz From Martinsburg will be joining us next weekend, January 12th & 13th while Fr. Grassi is on vacation. Fr. Cruz will be available for confessions one hour before the Saturday evening Mass in Thomas and before and after the Sunday morning Masses as time permits.

THANK YOU!

I would like to thank those who took part in my 80th birthday "surprise party" at Our Lady of Mercy church. Because of it I now believe that old age is not as bad as some say it is. I Love you all and may God bless every one of you. Remember me in your prayers and I'll do the same for you. — "Jerry"

EPIPHANY POT LUCK DINNER!

All are welcome to join us today, Sunday, January 6th for a pot luck dinner immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass in Parsons at Our Lady of Mercy Church.

ROSARY BEFORE SUNDAY MASS

Just a reminder that the rosary is said every Sunday before Mass beginning at 10:30 AM at Our Lady of Mercy Church. This would be a great New Year's resolution!

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!!

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 30, 2012

St. Thomas: \$1,627.25

Our Lady of Mercy: \$806.00

Food Pantry

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

This month we are seeking **seashell macaroni**. 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.

A QUESTIONNAIRE FOR YOU TO PONDER.....

1. There's a preacher and his wife who are very, very, poor. They already have 14 kids. Now she finds out she's pregnant with her 15th. They're living in tremendous poverty. Considering their poverty and the excessive world population, would you consider recommending she get an abortion? **(YES or NO)**
2. The father is sick with sniffles, the mother has TB. They have 4 children. The 1st is blind, the 2nd is dead, the third is deaf and the 4th has TB. She finds she's pregnant again. Given the extreme situation, would you consider recommending abortion? **(YES or NO)**
3. A white man raped a 13 year old black girl and she got pregnant. If you were her parents, would you consider recommending abortion? **(YES or NO)**
4. A teenage girl is pregnant. She's not married. Her fiancé is not the father of the baby, and he's very upset. Would you consider recommending abortion? **(YES or NO)**

***** ANSWERS*****

If you have answered "yes" in any of these situations:

In the first case, you have just killed John Wesley. One of the great evangelists of the 19th century.

In the second case, you have just killed Beethoven.

In the third case, you have killed Ethel Waters, the great black gospel singer.

If you said yes to the fourth case, you have just declared the murder of Jesus Christ.

*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 Epiphany of the Lord

Jan. 07 Monday	-	NO MASS
Jan. 08 Tuesday	-	NO MASS
Jan. 09 Wednesday	-	NO MASS
Jan. 10 Thursday	-	NO MASS
Jan. 11 Friday	-	NO MASS
Jan. 12 Saturday	-	NO MASS
Jan. 12 SATURDAY VIGIL	Sara Massi	5:00 PM Thomas
Jan. 13 SUNDAY	Sadie Caldrono	9:00 AM Thomas
Jan. 13 SUNDAY	People of the Parish	11:00 AM Parsons

THOMAS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READERS	ALTAR BOYS
01/12	Rita Johnson	Beth Spencer	
01/13	Brittany & Summer Snyder	Michelle Snyder	Nathaniel Rader

PARSONS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READER	ALTAR BOYS
01/13	Tom Gutshall & Cindy Long	Kathy DiBacco	Any and all Available!
Cleaning:	01/06 - 01/12: Lois Matlick & Susie Gutshall		

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, 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.