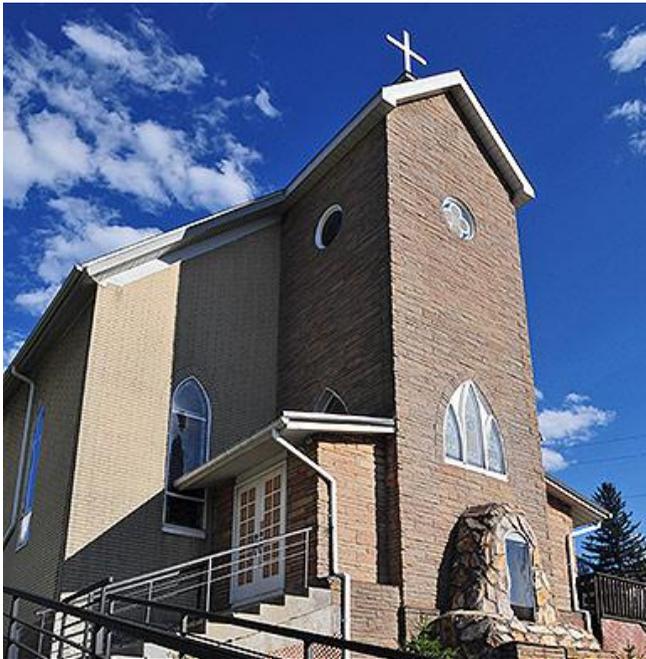


SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

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.

First Sunday of Lent, February 17, 2013

THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

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

St. Thomas - 7:30 AM, Sunday 02/17/2013;

Our Lady of Mercy - 12:30 PM, Sunday 02/10/13.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

There will be a second collection this weekend for Catholic missions among Black and Native Americans.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

"Since we are made in God's image (He who is I AM), it is clear that our intrinsic value comes primarily from our being and only secondarily from our actions.

....It follows then that fluid and nutrition should never be withheld as a means of hastening death even if the person will never regain consciousness or is deemed to have a poor quality of life."

*(Dr. George Delgado,
The Southern Cross, September 2012.)*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN FISH FRY

Please come to our delicious Fish Fry on ALL Fridays during Lent!

Dinner includes an 8 oz fish fillet with tartar or cocktail sauce; dinner roll with butter; cole slaw; green beans; macaroni n' cheese; fruit dessert; coffee or punch.

Cost: Adults \$8.00 Kids 12 & under \$4.00 CARRY OUTS AVAILABLE!

The dinner will be at both locations from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM,
at the St. Thomas Center and Our Lady of Mercy church social hall on Feb. 22, March 1, March 8 and March 15th.



ATTENTION YOUTH!

ALL YOUTH OF THE PARISH are reminded to help at the Lenten Fish Fry. The Knights generously hold these fish fry evenings so that they can raise the necessary funds to provide for the youth Kennywood trip. The youth are asked to be at either location at 3:45 PM.

PIES FOR SALE!

The Our Lady of Mercy Women's Guild will once again be making three different homemade pies to sell just in time for Easter: chocolate, coconut cream & lemon meringue! The cost is \$10. Please see one of the guild members to reserve a pie or call Melinda at 478 - 3814.

WITH SYMPATHY

Please pray for the soul of Mary Watkins who died last weekend. Please pray for the consolation of her family as well.



BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting all baby bottles this weekend, Feb.16th & 17th. Please be sure to place them in the baskets at the back of the church.

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!!

February 17 - Our Lady of Mercy Women's Guild Meeting after the 11:00 AM Mass in Parsons.

February 24 - Confirmation class with Father.

March 3 - **ASK FATHER** immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass in Parsons.

March 3 - Children's Stations of the Cross (MANDATORY).

Contributions for February 10, 2012

St. Thomas: \$1465.25

Our Lady of Mercy: \$813.00

Thomas Food Pantry

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

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

THE SEASON OF LENT

The annual Lenten Season is a fitting time to climb the holy mountain of Easter.

The character of the Lenten Season is to spiritually prepare for the paschal mystery. Catholics are reminded of their Easter Duty—to receive Holy Communion during the Easter Season. Therefore, we are also reminded of the sacramental confession necessary to prepare for this duty. Please take this time of Lent to prepare and make a good and thorough confession in preparation for the great feast of Easter. Lent runs from Ash Wednesday until the Mass of the Lord's Supper exclusive on Holy Thursday.

FORTY DAYS OF PRAYER FOR LIFE

In conjunction with the Knights of Columbus, we would like to place a serious emphasis on prayer and fasting for a specific intention during the 40 days of Lent. Particularly, our intention is to ask God's guidance for our government officials to make legislative decisions which support life, traditional marriage and family values. (Prayer card in the back of church.)

Are you engaged or newly married? If so, February's issue of "Got Marriage? For Life!" is just for you! Visit:

<http://www.dwc.org/files/MarriageNewsletterFebruary2013.pdf>

LENT SCHEDULE - Stations of the Cross

WEDNESDAY - immediately after the 5:00 PM Mass at Our Lady of Mercy. (*Wednesday Mass during Lent will be at 5:00 PM.*)

FRIDAY - immediately after the 5:00 PM Mass at St. Thomas.

*****The Knights of Columbus have asked that we pray the Rosary after the Stations of the Cross in Parsons for the protection of our Religious Liberty and Freedom of Conscience in the United States.***

THE CROSSES IN OUR LIVES

By Lorene Hanley Duquin

Jesus tells us that if we are going to be His followers, we have to "take up [our] cross and follow him" (Mt 16:24). But did it ever occur to you that sometimes we pick up the wrong crosses?

There is an old story about a married couple who had a lot of crosses that they dragged around. Every day, they begged the Lord to take away some of their crosses. One night Jesus appeared and said, "Show me the crosses." The couple emptied their sack. They had many black crosses in various sizes, and one gold cross.

Jesus picked up the gold cross and said: "This is the true cross. The black crosses are all of your own making. Get rid of them and you'll discover that the true cross will be light, because I will help you carry it."

We all experience pain and difficulties in life. But how many of the crosses that we carry are of our own making?

- How often are they the result of not getting our own way?
- How often are they due to anger or resentments that stem from hurts we were never able to forgive?
- How often do they stem from envy over not having what someone else has?

Just like the cross of Jesus, the real crosses in our lives often involve sacrifices for someone or something that is greater than we are. The real crosses in our lives always lead to resurrection and new life. The real crosses are bearable because Jesus promises that "my yoke is easy, and my burden light" (Mt 11:30).

As we pray the Rosary before our Masses in this month of February, 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
First Sunday of Lent

Feb. 18 Monday	Margaret Cassell	7:15 AM Thomas
Feb. 19 Tuesday	Bill Kovach	5:00 PM Thomas
Feb. 20 Wednesday	Nicholas & Katherine Kaltnecker	5:00 PM Parsons
Feb. 21 Thursday	Mary Watkins	5:00 PM Thomas
Feb. 22 Friday	*Pope Benedict XVI	5:00 PM Thomas
Feb. 23 Saturday	Edwin Kaczmarek	9:00 AM Parsons
Feb. 23 SATURDAY VIGIL	Elizabeth Krosnick	5:00 PM Thomas
Feb. 24 SUNDAY	People of the Parish	9:00 AM Thomas
Feb. 24 SUNDAY	William R. Marco	11:00 AM Parsons

THOMAS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READERS	ALTAR BOYS
02/23	Kathy & Pat Kotten	Nancy Zizunas	
02/24	Titi Ferguson & Mary Sagace	John Ferguson	Nathaniel Rader

PARSONS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READER	ALTAR BOYS
02/24	Cindy Long & Joanne Sikarskie	Betty Jane DiBacco	Any and all Available!
Cleaning:	02/17 - 02/23: Pat Usnik & Christine Rosenau		

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, Nancy Nester, Terry Silk 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.