

# *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](http://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.

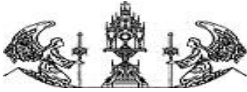
*Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2013*

### THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

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

**St. Thomas** - 7:30 AM, Sunday 05/19/2013;

**Our Lady of Mercy** - 12:30 PM, Sunday 05/12/13.



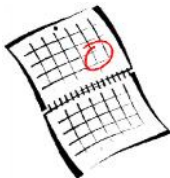
### PRO-LIFE CORNER

Virginia's passage last year of a law requiring an ultrasound before an abortion procedure produced a torrent of angry protest from pro-abortion forces, alleging among other things that the law was part of a "war on women." In fact, ultrasound is an essential part of informed consent beneficial to both mother and child. Perhaps abortion supporters are angry that once a woman sees her unborn child on ultrasound she is less willing or unwilling to abort it. NRL News, Spring, 2012

### CHURCH YARD SALE & BAKE SALE!!!

The Our Lady of Mercy Women's Guild will have a church yard/bake sale and we will also be selling hotdogs this Friday & Saturday, May 24th and 25th (*Memorial day weekend.*) If you would like to donate items for the yard sale you may drop them off in the social hall between Monday, May 20th & Thursday, May 24th between the hours of 7AM - 7 PM. **(NO clothes or broken items please.)** If you would like to donate baked goods for the bake sale please drop them off on Thursday or bring them to the yard sale on Friday morning. The Yard/Bake sale will begin at 8:00 AM on Friday morning and we will stay open until business slows down. We will reopen on Saturday from 8:00 until noon. If you donate an item that does not sell and you would like it back please let one of the women know, otherwise all items that have been donated and **not** sold will be donated to local thrift shops.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING



Our regularly scheduled Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 21st in the Social Hall of Our Lady of Mercy immediately following the 5:00 PM Mass. All council members please mark your calendars.

### 2013 CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL

DO YOU LOVE ME?

St. Thomas.....\$2,945.00 pledged  
(Goal: \$8,405)

Our Lady of Mercy .....\$1,770.00 pledged  
(Goal: \$2,635)



### EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!!

- May 21 - Parish Council Meeting** immediately following the 5:00 PM Mass at Our Lady of Mercy.
- May 24 & 25** - Church yard/bake sale from 8:00 until ? Friday and from 8:00 until Noon on Saturday.
- May 27 - MEMORIAL DAY MASS** at 9:00 AM at the Mt. Calvary Cemetery.
- June 2 - "ASK FATHER"** immediately following the 11 AM Mass in Parsons at Our Lady of Mercy Church.
- June 4** - Society of St. Thomas Women will meet at 7:00 PM in the rectory conference room.
- June 9** - Our Lady of Mercy Women's Guild meeting immediately following the 11 AM Mass.
- June 9 - Dinner Theater** in the St. Thomas Center Social Hall.
- June 11** - Trip to Kennywood!
- June 12** - Knights of Columbus monthly meeting at 7:00 PM in Parsons.

### Contributions for May 05, 2013

**St. Thomas: \$1,452.25**

**Our Lady of Mercy: \$690.00**

### Thomas Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is in need of "valued" food items. This month we are seeking **canned potatoes**. In subsequent months we will let you know what items are needed and ask your assistance in this need for our community.

## MYSTERY DINNER THEATER

We will be hosting ***Theater of the Word Incorporated*** to bring us an evening of food, fun and entertainment. We will have a PASTA MANIA dinner while we enjoy some "killer entertainment." Please join us for this Interactive comedy mystery. This should prove to be a night of great family fun. Tickets for the evening will be \$20.00 per person. Dinner with dessert and drinks as well as the show is all inclusive. Get your tickets now!

### DANGER OF MORAL RELATIVISM

**\*\*The basis of all Catholic Christian morality** is our belief in the God Who created all things and in Jesus Who taught us even better how to live. We believe we are created in God's image and that we, and all creation, are basically good. Yet we recognize our own tendencies toward evil, especially in an excess of our desires. The Ten Commandments are part of the code given by God to the early Israelites that helped them to live better lives in relationship with Yahweh. We believe in the same values, with certain changes because of our knowledge of Jesus Christ. We believe Jesus, as God-become-human, "God among us," has most truly shown us how to live. Our moral life is based on trying to live and treat others as Jesus did. Jesus demanded faith of his followers (miracles only happened for people of faith), and ongoing conversion (repentance), recognizing that we will never do all that we could. It is not always easy to follow Jesus' teachings. The Catholic Church maintains the ideal that we all should be trying to live a perfect life. Since (as we know all too well), living this perfect life is not possible for us children of Adam and Eve unaided, God has given us sacraments like Reconciliation, the penitential rites at Mass, and one time during the year (Lent) when we try to focus on our own lives and how we are continually called to be better. We must, as Jesus' followers, always continue to strive to be better, without focusing on the mistakes of the past. Catholic moral teachings can be divided roughly into two types: social teachings (involving all of society) and personal teachings (involving each individual's call to live a moral life).

**Evolution of morality:** The Catholic Encyclopedia article on Ethics makes the following observation: "A new epoch in ethics begins with the dawn of Christianity. Ancient paganism never had a clear and definite concept of the relation between God and the world, of the unity of the human race, of the destiny of man, of the nature and meaning of the moral law. Christianity first shed full light on these and similar questions. As St. Paul teaches (Romans 2:24 sq.), God has written His moral law in the hearts of all men, even of those outside the influence of Christian Revelation. This law manifests itself in the conscience of every man and is the norm according to which the whole human race will be judged on the day of reckoning. In consequence of their perverse inclinations, this law had to a great extent become obscured and distorted among the pagans. Christianity, however, restored it to its pristine integrity. Thus, too, ethics received its richest and most fruitful stimulus. Proper ethical methods were now unfolded, and philosophy was in a position to follow up and develop these methods by means supplied from its own store-house." According to the Westminster Dictionary of Christian Ethics, "There is no 'Christian ethics' that would deny the authority of the Bible, for apart from scripture the Christian church has no enduring identity." The Ten Commandments are an example of God telling his people what is acceptable. Christian churches have always considered it a part of their calling to teach, reprove, correct, and train in righteousness, and they have always considered the Bible "profitable" for that task. With virtually one voice, the churches have declared that the Bible is an authority for moral discernment and judgment.

**Sources and resources: 1)** <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/morality/>

2) <http://www.aboutcatholics.com/beliefs/christian-morality/> 3) <http://carm.org/moral-relativism> 4) <http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?recnum=9510> 5) <http://www.catholiceducation.org/articles/religion/re0919.htm>

*As we pray the Rosary before our Masses in this month of May, 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**

### **Pentecost Sunday**

May 20 Monday	*Sandra Farrota	7:15 AM Thomas
May 21 Tuesday	Jane Coughlin	<b>5:00 PM Parsons</b>
May 22 Wednesday	John Donica	9:00 AM Parsons
May 23 Thursday	Elizabeth Howard	5:00 PM Thomas
May 24 Friday	Barbara Colabrese	5:00 PM Thomas
May 25 Saturday	Mary Buckley	9:00 AM Parsons
May 25 <b>SATURDAY VIGIL</b>	Eleanor Golladay	<b>5:00 PM Thomas</b>
May 26 <b>SUNDAY</b>	Sara Massi	<b>9:00 AM Thomas</b>
May 26 <b>SUNDAY</b>	People of the Parish	<b>11:00 AM Parsons</b>

#### **THOMAS      EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

05/25 Rita Johnson  
05/26 Betty Woods & Mary Sagace

#### **READERS**

Beth Spencer  
Diane Rader

#### **ALTAR BOYS**

Nathaniel Rader

#### **PARSONS      EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**

05/26 Dee Oldaker & Joanne Sikarskie  
**Cleaning:** 05/19 - 05/25: Joanne Sikarskie & Terry Silk

#### **READER**

Jessica Gutshall

#### **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, Eleanor James, 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, Mike Michael 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.**