

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.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 14, 2013

THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

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

St. Thomas - NO MASS, Sunday 07/21/2013;

Our Lady of Mercy - 12:30 PM, Sunday 07/14/13.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

In a column addressed to "The Ultrasound Generation," New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan stated, "You are different than any generation that came before you in that your very first baby pictures were taken not with you in your mother's arms, but you alive in her womb." The Southern Cross, March 2013

OLD PHOTOS NEEDED



Any "church activity" related photos you may be willing to let us borrow of St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Veronica's or Our Lady of Mercy Churches would be greatly appreciated for a special project. Please write your name on your photos and drop them off at the Rectory or give them to Fr. Grassi. We will make copies of the pictures and then safely return them to their owners. Thank you!



BIBLE STUDY CLASSES

Our next Bible Study class (Session 5) will be held at Our Lady of Mercy Church this Wednesday, July 17th at 6:30 PM. (Session 6) will be held at St. Thomas this Thursday, July 18th at 5:30 PM. Come and join us and learn about the story of salvation!

*Ignorance of Scripture, is ignorance of Christ.
—St. Jerome*

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The Red Cross will be having their "blood drive" event this Thursday, July 18th from noon until 6 PM at the Presbyterian Church in Parsons. Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Parsons.

"Blood cannot be manufactured — it can only come from generous donors like you. One donation can help save the lives of up to 3 people."

VISITING PRIEST

Please take note of the Mass schedule, Fr. Grassi is going on vacation over the next two weeks. While he is away, Fr. Michael Beers will be covering the Masses and Confessions on the weekend of July 20th and 21st. Confessions will be at the usual times at both churches.

BUILDING FUND DONATIONS

A sincere thank you to the entire parish and visitors for your generosity in this years annual building fund collection. To date we have received **\$1,693.07!** Your sacrificial offering will help off-set the cost of maintaining our church properties.

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!!

July 18 - 4th degree Knights meeting at 7:00 PM in Thomas.

August 4 - "Ask Father" after the 11:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of Mercy Church.

August 6 - Society of St. Thomas Women monthly meeting, 7:00 PM at the Rectory conference room.

August 14 - Knights of Columbus monthly meeting in Parsons at 7:00 PM in the social hall.

Contributions for July 07, 2013

St. Thomas: \$2,369.36

Our Lady of Mercy: \$755.00

Thomas Food Pantry

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

This month we are seeking **dry noodles**.

In subsequent months we will let you know what items are needed and ask your assistance in this need for our community.

WHY RAPTURE DOCTRINE IS WRONG AND UNBIBLICAL?

4) Wrong method of interpreting Bible books: The proponents of the rapture interpret passages from one book by using "clues" found in another. Christians had been reading Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians for 1800 years before anyone questioned that Paul was describing the Second Coming. Those who now see in it a Rapture before a period known as the "Great Tribulation" do so by applying a unique method to reading the Scriptures. They read selected parts of Daniel, First Thessalonians, Mathew 24 and Revelation almost as a single piece that explicitly maps out end-time events. This approach has led to a view of all human history known as "Dispensationalism." The most frequently quoted passages arguing for the Rapture are from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians, the book of Revelation, and the Old Testament book of Daniel. Typically, these passages are lifted from their context and shuffled together, in order to create a teaching about Rapture. Two of these passages are representative of a very special style of Bible literature known as "[apocalyptic literature](#)." When this kind of literature is read in a way that respects the historical and literary contexts of the materials used, it becomes difficult to find support for any notion of a Rapture as described and taught today. This means that those who find the Rapture in the Bible are reading many of its diverse apocalyptic passages together without recognizing the different circumstances of the believers to whom each was addressed. Instead, what should be understood as separate apocalyptic books are seen as a single work of prophecy in which future events are clearly and specifically predicted.

5) Flawed foundation: All advocates of the rapture agree that the main argument is based on 1 Thessalonians 4:17. The argument stands or falls depending on the meaning of one word. The Greek verb for "caught up" is *harpagesometha*. Does it convey the sense of abduction here? No, "[it] combines the ideas of force and suddenness seen in the irresistible power of God" Why would Paul use such a strong word? Let's allow the Bible to speak for itself. The context of the subject begins in verse 13 and concludes in verse 11 of the next chapter. Paul wrote this section of the letter in answer to concerns of the local Christians. As you read verse 13, you discover that Christians in Thessalonica were grieving over the unexpected deaths of members of their congregation. Paul wrote that they should not grieve over this: "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus [believers who had died]" (verse 14). Was he responding to a worry about whether Christ would rescue believers from the Great Tribulation? No, nothing is said of this. Nor is there anything in these verses that intimates Christ making a swooping pass by the earth to snatch off a few people to take them to heaven. These verses refer only to the doctrine of the second coming, at which time Jesus sets foot on the earth. "...that whether we wake or sleep [remain alive or die], we should live together with Him. Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing." Any claim that "the comfort" of these verses was about being snatched away to heaven takes incredible license with the Bible. Paul's reason for using such a strong word as *harpagesometha* was to reassure people that, at Christ's return, God would reunite believers who remain alive with believers who had died. The dead won't be behind in any way!

6) Modern and popular heresy: The "Rapture" is a bizarre but popular modern Christian heresy that involves a mysterious, non-Biblical figure called "The Antichrist" and his minions who are secretly manipulating world events to bring about a horrible "End Times" in which all the true believing Christians will suddenly disappear, and all the remaining people in the world will be subjected to horrible oppression and persecution before Jesus finally comes back and a final bloody worldwide battle begins. Hence, the Rapture theory is rejected and condemned as heresy by the vast majority of Protestant denominations. It is rejected as heresy by all Orthodox authorities, and it is rejected as heresy by the Magisterium or teaching authority of the Catholic Church. They consider it not just wrong, but extremely wrong -- dangerously wrong, in a very serious way. Dark, distorted, twisted, and deluded are the typical reactions amongst mainstream Christian thinkers. (Continued next week!)

As we pray the Rosary before our Masses in this month of July, 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
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 15 Monday	-	No Mass
July 16 Tuesday	-	No Mass
July 17 Wednesday	-	No Mass
July 18 Thursday	-	No Mass
July 19 Friday	-	No Mass
July 20 Saturday	-	No Mass
July 20 SATURDAY VIGIL	Wanita Quattro	5:00 PM Thomas
July 21 SUNDAY	Barbara Colabrese	9:00 AM Thomas
July 21 SUNDAY	People of the Parish	11:00 AM Parsons

THOMAS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READERS	ALTAR BOYS
07/20	Kathy Supak	Beth Spencer	
07/21	Betty Woods & Summer Snyder	Don Woods	Wesley Snyder

PARSONS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READER	ALTAR BOYS
07/21	Tom Gutshall & Fred Sikarskie	Kathy DiBacco	Any and all Available!
Cleaning:	07/14 - 07/20: Joanne Sikarskie & Terry Silk		

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, and Mike Michael.

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.