

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, February 03, 2019



St. Thomas Aquinas - Thomas, West Virginia



Our Lady of Mercy - Parsons, West Virginia

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH

Mission: OUR LADY OF MERCY

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

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 PENANCE

Saturday 4:00 - 4:50 p.m., and 30 minutes before all weekday Masses and anytime upon request.



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.*

BLESSING OF THROATS TODAY!

"St. Blaise is given special recognition on Feb. 3rd, not only with a feast day, but with a unique ceremony that parallels the practice of anointing the sick. In this case, it is blessing the throats of those with throat disorders and anyone who wishes to avoid getting such a malady." (Fr. William Saunders)

We will have the blessing of throats today, immediately following all of our weekend Masses in honor of St. Blaise .

COVERED DISH DINNER

We will have a covered dish dinner next Sunday, February 10, immediately following the 11 AM Mass in Parsons at Our Lady of Mercy Church. All are welcome to attend!

VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)

FREE tax help for low to moderate income families who make \$55,000 and below. VITA is available at Community Action Center in Parsons next to the Church of God. Please call 478-3536 to make an appointment. VITA will begin on February 5th and continue until April 2nd.

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT FORMED LATELY?

Several interesting topics you can find on Formed.org this month are: What do we do when prayer is hard?; Are Most People Atheists?; Did Jesus Condemn Praying the Rosary?; and finally, The Case for Jesus; This is an audio by Dr. Brant Pitre a scripture scholar and bestselling author. He uses biblical and historical evidence to bolster the "case for Jesus" by exposing the problems with the many false theories that have been introduced over the past hundred years, resulting in widespread skepticism about the reliability of Christian Faith. He tackles head-on questions like: Were the four Gospels written anonymously? Did Jesus claim to be God? Did Jesus fulfill the Jewish prophecies of the Messiah? and many more. If you would like to sign up on Formed.org, please call the parish office for the code.

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!!

FEB. 03 - Feast of St. Blaise with blessing on throats

FEB. 03 - "Ask Father" - immediately following Mass in Parsons

FEB. 10 - Covered dish dinner after the 11am Mass in Parsons

FEB. 13 - Knights of Columbus meeting at 6pm in Thomas

MAR. 06 - Ash Wednesday

PRO-LIFE CORNER

The law FORBIDS live dismemberment of a cow, horse, calf, hog, mule, or sheep unless it is rendered incapable of feeling pain. Kansas courts have BARRED the state legislature from giving similar humane protection to LIVING unborn children.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be offered on Fridays after the 5 PM Mass in Thomas in reparation for the sins of the Clergy who have scandalized the Faithful and disgraced the Church. We will do this until our Bishop is appointed.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR January 06, 2019

St. Thomas: \$2,883.00

Church in Latin America: \$522.00

Our Lady of Mercy: \$834.00.

Church in Latin America: \$365.00

FOOD PANTRY

BLACKWATER MINISTERIAL FOOD PANTRY: The Food Pantry is in need of "valued" food items. This month we are seeking chicken soup. In subsequent months we will let you know what items are needed and ask your assistance in this need for our community.

DO WIVES HAVE TO BE 'SUBMISSIVE'?? TODD AGLIALORO

Some of the most politically incorrect verses in the Bible exhort women to be "submissive" to their husbands. St. Paul uses this language several times in his epistles (the Revised Standard Version uses the word subject): Wives, be subject to your husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. As the church is subject to Christ, so let wives also be subject in everything to their husbands (Eph. 5:22-24). This language recurs in other New Testament letters, for example Colossians 3:18 and Titus 2:5. To some modern readers it confirms their worst suspicions about Christian male chauvinism. They think it also gives cover to husbands who want to lord their authority over their wives, treating them like servants or worse. There is more than one way to understand this text. The biblical Greek word used for subject or submit is a form of hypotasso, which has the sense of "putting under." It denotes the ordering of one thing beneath another thing. The Latin roots of the English word submit have the same meaning. That makes sense in the context of these verses, where an analogy is drawn between a wife's relation to her husband and the Church's relation to Christ. The Church is clearly "ordered beneath" Christ, just as the body is ordered beneath the head. The Christian tradition tends to take these words at face value and ascribe a headship of authority to the husband within marriage. St. John Chrysostom, a late-fourth-century Father and Doctor of the Church who wrote about Christian marriage, suggests that this is for the sake of practicality: Just as when the generals of an army are at peace one with another, all things are in due subordination, whereas on the other hand, if they are at variance, everything is turned upside down; so, I say, is it also here. In this understanding, subordination means an ordering of roles and authority that allows a marriage to function smoothly, just as similar ordering allows a body to function. (Paul develops this same theme in regard to the whole Church in 1 Corinthians 12:12-31.) Critics of this reading usually fail to note the rest of the passage, which commands a husband to love his wife as Christ loves the Church. This means giving himself up for her, "nourishing and cherishing her" (Eph. 5:25-29) just as Christ gave his life for the Church and continues to love it and build it up. This actually entails a more difficult and sacrificial duty than is prescribed for wives.

This duty should put to rest any notion, either on the part of critics or bossy husbands, that the Bible commands wives to be lowly and subservient, with their husbands free to demand obedience like a dictator. Husbands may have a final authority in marriage, patterned after Christ's headship over the Church, for the sake of a smooth-running household and in light of the principle that parts of a body serve different purposes, but that authority is itself subject to the requirements of love and self-sacrifice. Keeping in mind this duty of love, and building on the preceding verse (21) that introduces this passage in Ephesians — "Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ" — John Paul II interpreted these passages slightly differently: in a context of "mutual submission." Although there's an apparent contradiction in such language, since two people or things can't be "put under" each other in the same respect, in this understanding we can interpret submission not as an ordering of authority but as the mutual regard and self-giving love that both husband and wife must practice in marriage. Paul is simply expressing that idea in two different ways, corresponding to the analogy of marriage with the relationship between Christ and his Church. As John Paul wrote in his 1988 apostolic letter *Mulieris Dignitatem*, in his writings on submission Paul knows that this way of speaking... is to be understood and carried out in a new way: as a "mutual subjection out of reverence for Christ" (cf. Eph. 5:21). This is especially true because the husband is called the "head" of the wife as Christ is the head of the Church; he is so in order to give "himself up for her," and giving himself up for her means giving up even his own life (24). Whether these passages refer simply to mutual loving consideration between husband and wife or whether they reveal truths about proper roles and duties within marriage, in neither case do they claim that men are superior to women, or worse, give husbands dictatorial powers over their wives.

PARISH ROSARIES PRAYED

Total Rosaries for 2 weeks.....276

Total Rosaries since May 2016.....20,152

Please pray the Rosary remembering reparation for sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and For the Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and for all those serving in our armed forces.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Feb 04 Monday	Anton Kotten.	7:15 AM Thomas
Feb 05 Tuesday	David F. Silk	5:00 PM Thomas
Feb 06 Wednesday	Poor Souls in Purgatory	9:00 AM Parsons
Feb 07 Thursday	Michael Fortini	5:00 PM Thomas
Feb 08 Friday	*Keara Kotten	7:00 AM Thomas
Feb 09 Saturday	Lela & Ben Long	9:00 AM Parsons
Feb 09 SATURDAY VIGIL	Frank Hoffner	5:00 PM Thomas
Feb 10 SUNDAY	People of the parish	9:00 AM Thomas
Feb 10 SUNDAY	Rose Nolin	11:00 AM Parsons

THOMAS

DATE	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READERS	ALTAR SERVERS
02/09	Kathy & Pat Kotten	Kathy Supak	Any available
02/10	Mary Sagace	Michelle Snyder	Mateo Hinkle

PARSONS

DATE	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	READERS	ALTAR SERVERS
02/10	Kaylee DiBacco & Becca Siler	Betty Jane DiBacco	Any available

Cleaning: 02/03 – 02/09: Cindy Long & Betty DiBacco

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is committed to the protection of its children and young people. The Diocese complies with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People by maintaining an Office of Safe Environment. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact the West Virginia Bureau for Children and Families/Child Protective Services by calling the Child Abuse Hotline at 800.352.6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237, (toll free) or 304.233.0880: Sister Ellen Dunn, ext. 264; Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Msgr. Frederick Annie, ext. 267, or Msgr. Anthony Cincinnati, 270. For more information on the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment, please go to www.dwc.org, then click the "Diocese" tab, then click "Office of Safe Environment" under the "Offices" menu. To learn more about the Catholic Church's efforts in preventing sexual abuse of children in the United States, please visit <http://www.usccb.org>. Under "Issues and Action," click "Child and Youth Protection" from the drop down menu.

THE TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

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

St. Thomas - 7:30 AM,
(Low Mass) 02/10/19
Our Lady of Mercy - 12:30 PM,
02/17/19 only when
requested in advance

If you would like to place someone on our prayer line call
Mary Frances Evans - Thomas (463-4413)
Susie Gutshall - Parsons (478-3217)
Or Cindy Long - Parsons (478-4833)

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

Champ Sedmock, "Sob"
Gennantonio, Eleanor James, Vincent
DiBacco, Mary Johnson, Joanne
Michael, Leo Pase Jr., Jean Sagace, Ed
Kepner, Loretta DiMaio, Martha
Wolf, & Jimmy Quattro.

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.