

## 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, September 29, 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](http://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

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 - 4:50 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, and 30 minutes before all 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.*

## LADIES, MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

A Ladies Day of Reflection will be held on Friday, October 25, 2019 at the St. Thomas Center BEGINNING at 9:00 AM. The day will include Adoration, Benediction, Mass and Confessions will be available with visiting priests. The day should end at about 4:00 PM. The retreat will be run by the Nashville Dominican Sisters. All are strongly encouraged to attend. Breakfast snacks, Lunch and other snacks provided.

SIGN UP SHEET IN THE BACK OF BOTH CHURCHES.  
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

## PLEASE TAKE NOTE

Please take note of the Mass times for First Friday on the back of the bulletin. Adoration and Benediction will be at 4pm and Mass at 5pm at Our Lady of Mercy Church dure to the upcoming wedding.

## QUILT RAFFLE and BASKET RAFFLE

The Society of St. Thomas Women is selling chances on a beautiful, blue quilt with a seascape theme made by Sandra Kendall. Suggested donation of \$5 per ticket.

The ladies are also having their annual Christmas Basket Raffle! The basket will include multiple Christmas gifts and a \$100 walmart gift card. Suggested donation of \$5 per ticket.

The drawings will be held on Sunday, December 15th after the 9am Mass in Thomas. Please see one of the ladies after Mass to get your tickets.

## JUST A REMINDER

Seminarian Justin Golna will be ordained on October 3rd in Rome. For those of you who would like to send cards his address is:

Pontifical North American College  
00120 Vatican City State  
Europe

His e-mail is: justingolna@gmail.com

## EVENTS ON THE HORIZON!!!

Sept. 29 - 2nd collection for Catholic University

Oct. 01 - Society of St. Thomas Women meeting in the rectory conference room at 7pm

Oct. 06 - ASK FATHER after the 11am Mass

Oct. 09 - 4th Degree K of C meeting at 6pm followed by regular meeting at 6:30 in Thomas

## PRO-LIFE CORNER

A young pregnant wife had been hospitalized for a simple attack of appendicitis. The doctors had to apply ice to her stomach and when the treatments ended the doctors suggested that she abort the child, they told her it was the best solution because the baby would be born with some disability but the young brave wife decided not to abort, and the child was born.

That woman was my mother and I was the child.

– Andrea Bocelli

## BAKE SALE TODAY

The Society of St. Thomas Women is having a bake sale immediately following the weekend Masses TODAY Saturday, September 28th and Sunday, September 29th . Please stop by for some fresh baked goodies!!!



## CONTRIBUTIONS FOR September 22, 2019

St. Thomas: \$2,806.25

Our Lady of Mercy: \$1,166.00

## FOOD PANTRY

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

## ORDAINED TO SACRIFICE . . .SACRIFICE AND VOCATIONS

*Father John A. Hardon, S.J*

Every vocation is born of sacrifice, is maintained by sacrifice, and is measured in the apostolate by the sacrifice of those whom God calls to the priesthood or the religious life. This should not be surprising, once we realize that it was by His sacrifice that Christ redeemed the world. The servant is not greater than his Master. In fact, the more intimate ones vocation to the service of Christ, the more demanding will be the sacrifices required.

Barring an extraordinary grace from God, He generally calls those persons to follow Him as priests or religious who have been taught the value of sacrifice from childhood. The experience of self-denial in the use and enjoyment of material things is the normal predisposition for a lifetime practice of evangelical poverty. Training in self-control of the senses, especially in the use of the media, is the ordinary preparation for a lifelong dedication to consecrated chastity. Careful and loving nurture in self-denial, almost from infancy, is God's usual way of conditioning the human will for commitment to the counsel of obedience.

If sacrifice in childhood and young adulthood is the seedbed of vocations, continued fidelity in serving the Church is impossible without the habit of self-surrender. There are many reasons for the tragic loss of so many once-dedicated persons in affluent countries like America. But surely one of these reasons is the prior loss of a willingness to give in to the sometimes hard demands of Christ's love. We may, therefore, say that vocations are nourished on sacrifice as the body is sustained on food. Or, as the Savior told His followers and bade them follow His example "My food is to do the will of him who sent me" (Jn. 4:34).

Sacrifice is, finally, the condition and norm of apostolic work in the priesthood and religious life. Who have been the great achievers in the vineyard of the Lord over the centuries? Have they not been the men and women who never said "enough" in their zeal for souls; who labored, like St. Paul, in season and out of season, selflessly and exhaustingly; who never counted the cost in time or effort or personal preference; in a word, who lived lives of heroic sacrifice?

All of this is common knowledge for those who have come to know Christ who, "having joy set before Him, chose the Cross." But this kind of knowledge needs to be taught and learned if the vocations which the Church so desperately needs are to be fostered and preserved in our day.

### PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY

September 29, 2019

Priesthood Sunday is a special day set aside to honor priests in the United States without whom the Mass could not be offered and Sacraments could not be celebrated. The number of priests and ordinations in the US has steadily declined in the past 50 years. Meanwhile, the number of parishes without a resident priest pastor has sharply increased in the same period of time.

We thank God everyday that Fr. Grassi is here with us in Tucker County. I don't know what we did to deserve such a wonderful priest, but God has truly blessed us. THANK YOU Fr. Grassi! Thank you for being there when we need you, for all of the hospital and nursing home visits, home visits for the sick, for the late phone calls, for your wise advice, for praying continuously for us, for teaching us our faith, and for loving and caring about us so much that you will do anything to get our souls to heaven.

We appreciate everything you have done for us over the years! Happy Priesthood Sunday!

### PARISH ROSARIES PRAYED

Total Rosaries for 2 weeks: **244**

Total Rosaries since may 2016: **23,588**

### YOU ARE INVITED



Miranda Siler & Cedric Grace would like to invite their parish family to attend the celebration of their marriage this Saturday, October 5th, 2019 at 1:00pm at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Parsons.

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**  
**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Sept 30 Monday	Joseph & Mary Deegan	7:15am Thomas
Oct. 01 Tuesday	*Veronica Hoffman	5:00pm Thomas
Oct. 02 Wednesday	Poor Souls in Purgatory	9:00am Parsons
Oct. 03 Thursday	Roy & Margaret Arnold	5:00pm Thomas
<b>Oct. 04 First Friday</b>	Stan Sedmock	<b>1:00pm Cort Acr</b>
<b>Oct. 04 First Friday</b>	<b>ADORATION &amp; BENEDICTION</b>	<b>*4:00pm Parsons</b>
<b>Oct. 04 First Friday</b>	*Benedict Hoffmann	<b>*5:00pm Parsons</b>
<b>Oct. 05 First Saturday</b>	Karen Renzelli	<b>9:00am Parsons</b>
<b>Oct. 05 SATURDAY VIGIL</b>	Marshall Long	<b>5:00pm Thomas</b>
<b>Oct. 06 SUNDAY</b>	People of the Parish	<b>9:00am Thomas</b>
<b>Oct. 06 SUNDAY</b>	J. Pat Nichols	<b>11:00am Parsons</b>

**THOMAS**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>	<u>READERS</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
10/05	Betty Woods	Beth Spencer	Any available!
10/06	Katlyn Simmons	Diane Rader	Isaac Quattro

**PARSONS**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</u>	<u>READERS</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>
10/06	Miranda Siler & Ariona Plumley	Fred Sikarskie	Any available

Cleaning: 09/29 - 10/05: Joanne Sikarskie & Terry Silk

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; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; or Rev. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304-230-1504. For more information on the Diocese's Office of Safe Environment, please go to [www.dwc.org](http://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 October, the Tridentine Mass will be offered at the following times and church:  
St. Thomas - 7:30am, (Low Mass) 10/13/19  
Our Lady of Mercy - 12:30pm, 10/20/19 only when requested in advance

If you would like to place someone on our prayer line call  
Mary Frances Evans (304) 463-4413  
Susie Gutshall (304) 478-3217  
Or Cindy Long (304) 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, Jean Sagace, Ed Kepner,  
Donna Mason, Elaine Watson, Paula  
Siler & 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.**