

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY - June 12, 2022



St. Thomas Aquinas - Thomas, West Virginia



Our Lady of Mercy - Parsons, West Virginia

SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH Mission: OUR LADY OF MERCY

Administrator: Fr. Martin J. Smay, P.O. Box 300, Thomas, WV 26292 Tel: (304) 463-4488 www.sttsite.com
You may also reach Fr. Smay at the following email: msmay@dwc.org

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 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 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 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.

WHAT DO CATHOLICS BELIEVE AND WHY

How well do you *REALLY* know your faith?

Classes are held once per month on different topics. Come and dive deeper into the things you *THOUGHT* you knew. Join us for the next class on:

ACTUAL GRACE

Monday, June 13 at 6:30pm in Parsons
Thursday, June 16 after Mass in Thomas

Presenter: *Father Smay*

BIBLE STUDY ON THE BEATITUDES

Monday evenings at Our Lady of Mercy
Thursday evenings at St. Thomas Aquinas

Series begins on June 20th (Parsons)
& June 23rd (Thomas) and will run for two weeks.

Light food will be provided during Bible
studies. Bring your Bible!

FATHER'S DAY CARDS

If you would like to remember living or deceased fathers on Father's Day, cards can be found in the back of both churches for a suggested donation of \$2. We request a donation only if you take a card.

OLM CHURCH CLEANING SIGN UP

Do you have a little extra time on your hands? OLM Church needs volunteers to clean. If you are interested in helping please sign up in the back of the Church.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY

Peter's Pence is the name given to the financial support offered by the faithful to the Pope as a sign of their sharing in his concern for the many different needs of the Universal Church.

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON

June 14 - St. Thomas Women's meeting after 5pm Mass in the Center conference room

June 19 - Father's Day breakfast after 9am Mass in Thomas

June 19 - Father's Day coffee & donuts after 11am Mass in Parsons

June 21 - Knights of Columbus Meeting at 6pm in Parsons

June 26 - Consecration of the Parish during Sunday Masses

PRO-LIFE CORNER

"God, give us the courage to protect every unborn life.

For the child is God's greatest gift for the family, for a nation, and for the world."

~*Mother Theresa of Calcutta*

FATHER'S DAY IS NEXT WEEK

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH

In honor of all of our fathers, there will be a father's day breakfast after the 9am Mass in the St. Thomas Center sponsored by the Society of St. Thomas Women. All are welcome!

OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

All are invited to join us for coffee and donuts, in honor of all of our fathers, after the 11am Mass sponsored by Our Lady of Mercy Women's Guild.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JUNE 05, 2022

St. Thomas: \$2,853.00

Attendance: 5pm - 42; 9am - 32

Our Lady of Mercy: \$1,210.00

Attendance: 11am - 48

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Don't forget our local food pantries! The Blackwater Ministerial Association Food Pantry in Davis and the Hinkle House Food Pantry in Parsons are accepting food donations. Please bring your food donations to the back of the church and a volunteer will pick them up and deliver them to the proper location.

Demography is Destiny, Part III

by Father Smay

Last week in part II of this column we looked at two basic points:

- The renewal of our church must begin with a spiritual renewal.
- This spiritual renewal must begin with our relationship to and understanding of the Mass.

While it is most certainly true that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the “source and summit” of the Christian life, the Christian life can, by no means, be reduced or confined to the Mass. Saint Paul exhorts us to “pray without ceasing” by which he certainly did not mean “spend all your time at Mass.” Therefore, in addition to renewing our understanding of and commitment to the Mass, we will also have to pray for the conversion of souls.

It is the perpetual teaching of the Catholic Church that we can merit – or earn – graces for others. If we are in God’s good graces (i.e. have not committed any mortal sins since our last good confession), then we living are members of the Mystical Body of Christ. As such, we are living a life which is supernatural (by having a share in God’s own life) and therefore we are able to merit grace for others. Just as someone can receive a blood transfusion from another person, so too can grace be transferred from one member of Christ’s Mystical Body to another member, thus strengthening or even restoring it to life and health.

The thought has come to me many times since beginning this assignment that we do not need to convert one single person to the Catholic Faith in order to grow our churches. There are very many persons living in Tucker County who are already Catholic but stopped practicing the Faith. Furthermore, many of these lapsed Catholics are young and have children. For some weeks now I have been compiling a list of lapsed Catholics in Tucker County. There are 34 names on this list. Many of you have shared with me that you have relatives and friends who aren’t Catholic or have stopped practicing the Faith and are troubled by their absence from the Church. In addition to the prayers which we are already saying for these persons, it would be highly advantageous to come together regularly for the purpose of praying for the conversion of souls in Tucker County in general and for the conversion of our loved ones specifically.

Some have already expressed interest in forming such a group. I am hoping that this idea can take flesh in the coming weeks. While we can remain “apart” and pray for these intentions, it is useful to come together because 1) we can encourage one another and 2) many together are stronger than each individual. There is a booklet titled “Holy Hours of Reparation” which might be useful for our purposes (I already have many copies of this booklet – if you, patient reader, want one, I am happy to give one to you, on the condition that it be appropriately used).

Having covered the main points about what we can change spiritually in order to avoid death, we can now turn to our horizontal relationships, that is, our relationships with others.

If we want our churches to flourish, we need to become more vocal and aggressive in sharing our Faith and inviting others to explore the possibility of becoming Catholic or to return to the practice of the Faith. This is not difficult and requires no special training, just a sincere invitation. In the case of non-Catholics, I think that in a certain sense you have an advantage over me: you are able to invite people to come to Mass with you. When I invite someone to Mass, what I am doing is essentially inviting them to come to an alien environment where perhaps the only person they know or have had contact with is me and I’m not going to be sitting with them during Mass.

This brings me to a second point: it would be good if we had something other than Mass to invite people to. For many it is more effective if they come to some church event which is less formal than Mass, a half-way place where they can meet and get to know people and become comfortable around Catholics. In a certain sense, Jonathan’s Bible studies and the “What do Catholics believe and why?” classes are the only things we do that somewhat fit this category (they don’t fit it well). Perhaps some of you have ideas of what we might do. Some have offered various ideas, they will be discussed in next week’s bulletin.

To be continued next week...

MASSES FOR THE WEEK The Most Holy Trinity

Monday, June 13

St Anthony of Padua, Priest & Doc of the Church (obl)
7:30am (T) Stella Shreves †

Tuesday, June 14

Weekday
5:00pm (T) Agnes Okolish Videmsek †

Wednesday, June 15

Weekday
9:00am (P) Colin Sutton

Thursday, June 16

Weekday
5:00pm (T) Gene Randolph †

Friday, June 17

Weekday
5:00pm (T) Phillip Wilson †

Saturday, June 18

Weekday; BVM
9:00am (P) Mary Ann Nytransky
5:00pm (T) M. Loupie Lambruno † (VIGIL)

Sunday, June 19

The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
9:00am (T) Jean Sagace †
11:00am (P) People of the Parish

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.

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston maintains an Office of Safe Environment in accordance with the USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, 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 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

Adoration

Simple Exposition

8:30am - 9:00am
*every Wednesday
in Parsons*

4:00 - 5:00pm
*every Friday
in Thomas*



Adoration & Benediction

*Every First
Friday*

Next month:
July 01
4:00 - 5:00pm
in Thomas

"Let us never forget that an age prospers or dwindles in proportion to its devotion to the Holy Eucharist. This is the measure of its spiritual life and its faith, of its charity and its virtue."

~ St. Peter Julian Eymard

If you would like to place someone on our prayer line call:

Kathy Kotten (304) 866-6243 (T)
Susie Gutshall (304) 478-3217 (P)
or Cindy Long (304) 478-4833 (P)

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

Mary Johnson, Joyce Arnold, Donna Mason,
Elaine Watson, Paula Siler, Anne McVicker,
Madonna DiBacco, Sara Fletcher, Sarah Nickel,
Paul Wojtkowski, & Jennifer Lanthaler