

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

On this First Sunday of Christmas, Christians everywhere celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. As we mark this special day, we look to the Holy Family as an example for our own families. We dedicate our families to follow God’s guidance and receive His blessings. To do this, we are encouraged to welcome God into our homes, so we can grow together in unity, faith, love, and obedience to God’s ways, no matter what life brings—whether times are joyful or challenging.

Scripture tells us that after celebrating Jesus’ birth with the angels, shepherds, and magi, the Holy Family had to escape King Herod’s deadly threat by fleeing to Egypt. Later, Mary and Joseph listened to God’s guidance and returned to Nazareth, as we hear in today’s Gospel (Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23).

To keep living and growing in God’s ways, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple to fulfill the Jewish law of offering their firstborn son to God (Luke 2:22-28). Like every family, the Holy Family faced worries and challenges. They learned and grew in faith and trust in God’s guidance, as shown when Mary and Joseph found Jesus in the temple (Luke 2:41-52).

As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, let us pray for our families and for families everywhere. By learning from the Holy Family’s example of facing struggles with faith and trust in God, may we dedicate our families to God’s guidance and blessings. May our families and all nations grow in understanding, unity, joy, love, peace, and blessings, in both good times and hard times, just as the Holy Family did. Amen.



ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Gassaway, West Virginia

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 28, 2025

Gospel

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

When the magi had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him.” Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, Out of Egypt I called my son.

When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” He rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel.

But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go back there. And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, *He shall be called a Nazorean.*



Readings of the week:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday—Jan. 1	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 John 2:3-11	1 John 2:12-17	1 John 2:18-21	Numbers 6:22-27	1 John 2:22-28	1 John 2:29–3:6	Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalms 96:1-6	Psalms 96:7-10	Psalms 96:1-2, 11-13	Psalms 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 Galatians 4:4-7	Psalms 98:1, 2-4	Psalms 98:1, 3-6	Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Luke 2:22-35	Luke 2:36-40	John 1:1-18	Luke 2:16-21	John 1:19-28	John 1:29-34	Matthew 2:1-12

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Sharing God's Blessings

Date	Dec 20 + 21, 2025
Collection	25 & 855
Mass Attendance	6 + 12 & 59
Religious Ret. Fund	110
Christmas Flowers	30 & 435

Thank you for your contribution

Liturgy Schedule
RISEN LORD CHURCH

SUNDAY MASS: **8:30am**
Liturgy Schedule

ST. THOMAS PARISH

ROSARY: Sunday 10:30a.m.

WEEKEND MASSES:

Sat: 4:00 p.m. (Sunday Vigil)
Sun: 11:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY: Tue & Wed: 4:00p.m.
Thu & Fri: 8:00a.m.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Every Tuesday at 4:00p.m.
 prior to Mass

RECONCILIATION:

- Any time 30 minutes before or after daily Mass, After Sunday Mass

Christmas 2025 Flower Offering In Memory/Honor Of:

Joe & Marian Agostino:
 Leo & Dorothy Koller
 Carl & Thelma May
 May Family
 Koller Family
 June Agostino
 Agostino Family

Rick & Christine Allen: Allen & Frame Families

Martin & Kathleen Bronkhurst: Sienna, Dave, Clara

Sue Cunningham:
 Deceased members of the Morton & Cunningham Families

McLaughlin Family McLaughlin Family

Patricia McPherson:
 Joe D. McPherson
 Joseph & Theresa McPherson
 Dorothy & Gerald Young

Constance Moore:
 Deceased members of the Ashley, Lazur & Moore Families

John Taylor:
 Ruth Taylor
 John Taylor
 Archabald Taylor
 Earnest Taylor
 Frank Kitts

Maxine Taylor:
 Opha Turner
 Eva Turner
 Kenneth Turner
 Bud Turner
 Ella June Patton

Thomas & Candace Teubert:
 In Honor of the Teubert Family

Phil & Theresa Peters:
 William C. Taylor
 Kathryn & Dick Minnich
 Don & Frances Peters
 Jim Carter
 John Peters
 Steve Peters

NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

**Solemnity of Mary,
 the Holy Mother of the Lord**

12/31/2025 4:00 pm Vigil Mass at Risen Lord

01/01/2025 11:00 am Mass at St. Thomas

HAPPY BIRTH DAY

Colleen Mahon — Dec. 28

Grace Stewart — Dec. 29

Marty Bronkhurst — Jan. 2

Dane Hopen — Jan. 3

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Date	Readers	Bring up the Offertory Gifts	Extraordinary Ministers
December 28	Jennifer Knowles	Harmans	Westley Carpenter & Fred Friend
January 4	Theresa Sutton	Carpenters	Jennifer Knowles/ Mac Bailes
January 11	Candy Teubert	McLaughlins	Pat McPherson/ Westley Carpenter
January 18	Pat McPherson	Shavers	Tom Teubert and Candy Teubert

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

December 28

Vocation Views:

**Mary and Joseph always say yes to God.
 In our prayer, we ask for the courage and strength to also say yes to God.**

DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES & SISTER SERVANTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT 800-553-3321

Risen Lord Family Night

12/11/2025



Special Thanks

Angel Tree 

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have picked up an Angel Tree ornaments and purchased gifts for the children in our county. You have made 10 children very happy this Christmas season. Thank you all for being so thoughtful, generous, and caring. Marian

Christmas Flowers 

Thank you very much to everyone for your generous contributions for the Christmas Flowers.



Risen Lord Food Pantry Maysel, West Virginia

Thank You,
Thank You !!!
to Benefactors & Volunteers
for Risen Lord Food Pantry
December 18, 2025:

Ann Hall, Mike Mance, Vicky Grose, Eva Tax,
Cheryl Hensley, Kathy and Larry Schoonover,
Megan, Mitchell, Madison and Michael Murphy,
Rick Allen, Tom Tuebert,
Friends from Wheeling:
John and Nick Turziano
Your sacrifice and support made it possible
to share the love and joy of Thanksgiving
with 323 families.

May we all be rejoicing with the Emmanuel !!!

*May God's richest blessings and grace
pour upon you, your families and friends.*



St. Thomas Food Pantry Special Thanks !!!

to Benefactors & Volunteers
for St. Thomas Food Pantry
December 11, 2025:

Marian Agostino, Pat McPherson,
Connie & John Moore, Colleen Mahon,
Rose DeProspero, Theresa & Phil Peters,
Scott Lazur, Toney Marcum, Lydia Bennett,
Zeb Bennett, Vicki Bennett, Rick Allen,
Marty & Kathy Bronkhurst, Tom & Candace Teubert,
Kari Friend, Allison Evans, Maxine Taylor,
Matthew Peters, Bethany Peters, Phil Peters II,
Benjamin Peters.

to share the love and joy of the Emmanuel
with 102 families and 15 Moms.
In the last several days, we also served 34 more
families.

*May the joy, peace, love and blessings
of the Emmanuel pour upon families,
nation and world this Holy Season of
Christmas and throughout the New Year.*

