

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Lent, known as Laetare Sunday. Laetare means "rejoice" in Latin. Even though Lent is a solemn season, we take this day to rejoice as Easter approaches. This hope reminds us of the salvation Christ gave us through his death and resurrection.

Today's Gospel, John 9:1-41, shows us this joy when Jesus says, "I am the light of the world." His light shines for those who are humble and truly seeking God's guidance. But for people who are proud and think they already have all the answers, this light reveals their blindness, even to God.

The story of the man born blind shows this well. When Jesus heals him, it is more than just a physical cure; the man starts to see God with his heart and mind. The Pharisees try to pressure him and his parents to deny Jesus, accusing Jesus of being a "sinner" for healing on the Sabbath. But the man stands firm, saying that only God could do such a miracle. Later, when he meets Jesus again, his faith grows, and he says, "I do believe, Lord," and worships him.

Sadly, the Pharisees, who saw themselves as God's chosen and wise people, would not open their hearts to Jesus, the Light of God. They shut themselves off and chose to stay in the darkness of their own limited views and mistakes.

As we keep up our Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and giving to others, let's ask God to help us see His love and presence more clearly in our lives and in the world. May we work toward a deeper understanding of God's teachings and the faith passed down by the Church. Let's also find the courage to share the good news of God's love, healing, and salvation with others, even when it's hard. May God's joy and peace light our way and guide us to His eternal home. Amen.



ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Gassaway, West Virginia
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT — A
MARCH 15, 2026

Gospel

John 9:1-41

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth.

His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him.

We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day.

Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

When he had said this, he spat on the ground

and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him,

"Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" —which means Sent—.

So he went and washed, and came back able to see.



His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am." So they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He replied, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went there and washed and was able to see." And they said to him, "Where is he?" He said,

Cont.

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/031526.cfm>

Readings of the Week:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Isaiah 65:17-21	Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12	Isaiah 49:8-15	Jeremiah 7:23-28	Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22	Jeremiah 11:18-20	Ezekiel 37:12-14
Psalm 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b	Psalm 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9	Psalm 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18	Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22	Psalm 34:17-21 and 23	Psalm 7:2-3, 9-12	Psalm 130:1-8 Romans 8:8-11
John 4:43-54	John 5:1-16	John 5:17-30	Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a	John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30	John 7:40-53	John 11:1-45

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 website: <https://stthomasgassaway.org>

Sharing God's Blessings

Date	March 7 + 8, 2026
Collection	235 & 1105
Diocesan Priests' RF	120 (RL)
Mass Attendance	8 + 13 & 55

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
- *Other days by appointment*

BIRTHDAY

Chris Allen — March 17

Stations of the Cross
Risen Lord

Every Sunday at 8:00 am

Stations of the Cross
St. Thomas Church

at **6:00pm** on Fridays
 — after **5:30 pm Mass**

Lenten Penance Service

After today 11:00am Mass
 Soup & Bread lunch at noon,
 followed by Penance Service
 with Fr. John Finnell and Fr. Dominic

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 15, 2026

Vocation Views:

Jesus opens the eyes of the blind man, as he can open our eyes blinded by the sins we have committed. Be open to new areas that God is leading you to trust His promises.

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

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Date	Readers	Bring up the Offertory Gifts	Extraordinary Ministers
March 15	Westley Carpenter	McLaughlins	Pat McPherson/ Mac Bailes
March 22	Mac Bailes	Shavers	Westley Carpenter/ Fred Friend
March 29	Lindsay Harman	Kathy & Marty Bronkhurst	Tom Teubert & Candy Teubert

RISEN LORD

FAMILY NIGHT

March 12, 2026



Next FAMILY NIGHT

Thursday, April 9, 2026

5:30pm — 7:30pm

CCD

March 15 & March 29, 2026

OCIA

Monday, March 23rd, 2026
 2:00pm

Ecumenical Luncheon

Dates/Location

Time: Noon to 1:00 pm

Monday, March 30, Gassaway
 Presbyterian Church

Tuesday, March 31, Gassaway
 St. Thomas Catholic Church

Wednesday, April 1, Gassaway
 Methodist Church

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Easter Flower donation —
 ongoing until Palm Sunday

**Community Lenten Luncheons /
 Ecumenical Services** 3/30 — 3/31
 — 4/1 Locations and time TBA

Holy Thursday — April 2 — 6:00pm

Washing of the Feet:

Need 12 volunteers

Good Friday — April 3 — 3:00pm

Holy Saturday/ Easter Vigil —

April 4 — 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday — April 5 — 11:00am

Easter Egg Hunt following Mass
 for the children

RISEN LORD FOOD PANTRY

Special Thanks!!!

to Benefactors & Volunteers
for St. Thomas Food Pantry

February 26, 2026:

Ann and Mike Hall, Vicky Grose,
Cheryl and Vernon Hensley,
David Linkinoggor, Tim Hahn, Mike Mance,
Megan, Madison and Michael Murphy
Duane Smith, Rick Allen,
Kathy and Larry Schoonover.

Your sacrifice and service made it possible
for **248 families** to experience
the love of neighbors and of God,
especially in times of need.

*May God's
abundant grace
and blessings
continue to
pour upon you,
your families
and friends
throughout this
Holy Season
of Lent
and Easter
when it comes*



St. Thomas Food Pantry

Special Thanks!!!

to Benefactors & Volunteers
for St. Thomas Food Pantry

March 12, 2026:

Marian Agostino, Kathy & Marty Bronkhurst,
Louise & Dale Elwood, Connie & John Moore,
Scott Lazur, Fred Friend, Rick Allen.

The **115 families** and **20 Moms** were experiencing
God's love, comfort and joy like the rain and wind
from your gracious services to the less fortunate.

