

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

This Second Sunday of Easter is also called Divine Mercy Sunday. In today's Gospel from John 20:19-31, we hear how Jesus appears to the disciples twice in the upper room after rising from the dead. During the second visit, Jesus gives them peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit, bringing forgiveness, healing, and reconciliation with God and each other. This time, Thomas is with them. He had not believed the others when they said Jesus was alive. Seeing Thomas's doubt, Jesus invites him to touch the wounds in His hands, feet, and side. When Thomas realizes Jesus is truly risen and standing before him, he says, "My Lord and my God." Jesus replies, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Let us give praise and thanks to God as the disciples did. Sometimes, like them, we may not stay close to the Lord in prayer or service. We might deny Him when our faith is challenged, turn away out of fear or distraction, or even betray Him for our own comfort or gain. No matter what, God loves us without condition. He blesses, forgives, heals, and gives us a peace that the world cannot offer. He even gave His life for our sins. May the blessings, joy, and peace of the Risen Lord remain with us, with all God's children, and with people of goodwill everywhere. Like Thomas, the other disciples, and the early Christians, may we share the Good News of the Risen Lord in our daily lives, especially with those who have not yet had the chance to know Him. May we be instruments of God's mercy, healing, peace, and care for those who are suffering or struggling. And may they one day join us in giving praise and thanks to our Merciful Father through the Divine Mercy of our Savior and Risen Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



## ST. THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Gassaway, West Virginia

### 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER — DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

APRIL 12, 2026



#### Gospel

##### John 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Cont.

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/041226.cfm>

#### Readings of the Week:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	3rd Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:23-31	Acts 4:32-37	Acts 5:17-26	Acts 5:27-33	Acts 5:34-42	Acts 6:1-7	Acts 2:14, 22-33
Psalms 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9	Psalms 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5	Psalms 34:2-9	Psalms 34:2 and 9, 17-20	Psalms 27:1, 4, 13-14	Psalms 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19	Psalms 16:1-2, 5, 7-11 1 Peter 1:17-21
John 3:1-8	John 3:7b-15	John 3:16-21	John 3:31-36	John 6:1-15	John 6:16-21	Luke 24:13-35

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**Director of Religious Education**  
 Mrs. Pat McPherson  
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 More information on our parish  
 website: <https://stthomasgassaway.org>

**Sharing God's Blessings**

<b>Date</b>	<b>April 4 + 5, 2026</b>
<b>Collection</b>	<b>555 &amp; 2185</b>
<b>Mass Attendance</b>	<b>27 + 9 &amp; 57</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>50</b>

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.**

**EUCHARISTIC 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*

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**ERIC WILSON**  
**ERICA MAULDIN**

on entering into full communion  
 with the Catholic Church



**MATCHING CHALLENGE**  
**FOR WINDOWS PROJECT**

By Sunday, April 5, 2026, we have received \$11,100, which is 55.5% of the \$20,000 matching challenge.

Thank you very much to ALL for your prayers, encouragement, support and meaningful sacrifice for this special project.

**2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**April 5, 2026**

Vocation Views:

**'As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'**  
**Jesus commissions us to be his witnesses to the end of the world, do not be afraid to proclaim him in thought, word, and deed.**

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

**LITURGY SCHEDULE**

Date	Readers	Bring up the Offertory Gifts	Extraordinary Ministers
April 12	Beata Pawlowski	Shavers	Mac Bailes/ Westley Carpenter
April 19	Dot Shimko	McLaughlins	Candy Teubert / Tom Teubert
April 26	Candy Teubert	Harmans	Pat McPherson/ Mac Bailes
May 3	Connie Moore	Jane and Ford Dever	Westley Carpenter/ Freddie Friend

**St. Thomas Food Pantry**

**Special Thanks!!!**

to Benefactors & Volunteers  
 for St. Thomas Food Pantry

**April 9, 2026:**

Marian Agostino, Louise & Dale Elwood,  
 Pat McPherson, Tom & Candy Teubert,  
 Eric & Emily Wilson, Connie & John Moore,  
 Kari Friend, Scott Lazur, Rick Allen.

The **107** families and **20** Moms are experiencing God's love, comfort and joy like the sunshine and fresh air from your gracious services to the less fortunate.

*May the abundant grace and blessings, joy and peace of the Risen Lord continue to pour upon you, your families and friends throughout this Holy Season of Easter. Amen.*



**PARISH COUNCIL & FINANCE COUNCIL**  
**MEETING AFTER SUNDAY MASS — 04/19/2026**  
**IN THE PARISH HALL**

**CCD**

April 12 & April 19

**BIRTHDAY**

Barbara Bailes — April 12  
 Bill Hopen — April 13  
 Westley Carpenter — April 16  
 Ciaran McLaughlin — Apr. 18

**EASTER 2026 FLOWER OFFERING**

Rick & Christine Allen 11/4/2025	Miles Christian Allen
Joe & Marian Agostino 12/4/2025	Leo & Dorothy Koller Carl & Thelma May May Family Koller Family June, Angie & Rosco Agostino Agostino Family
Carpenter Family 14/4/2025	Russell Carpenter
Sue Cunningham 15/4/2025	Deceased members of the Wine, Amos, Morton Families
Rose DeProspero 16/4/2025	In Honor of Pete Shimko & Tom Hailer
McLaughlin Family 17/4/2025	McLaughlin Family
Patricia McPherson 18/4/2025	McPherson & Young Families
Constance Moore 19/4/2025	Ashley, Lazur & Moore Families
Phil & Theresa Peters 21/4/2025	William C. Taylor John & Ruth Taylor Ella June Patton C. W. Gorden
Teresa Sutton 22/4/2025	
John Taylor 23/4/2025	Helen Teets, Betty Johnson, Bud Johnson, Helen Evans, Rita Cogar, Leo Ruppert
Maxine Taylor 24/4/2025	Burl Turner, Dora Turner, Kenneth Turner, Ronie Tanner, Maggie Nicholson

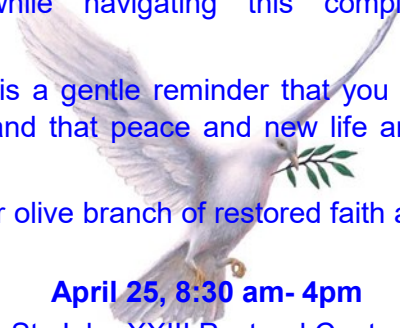
**The Olive Branch** is a FREE 1-day retreat created to help individuals who are separated or divorced. It is designed to offer information and resources to aid in achieving personal and spiritual growth while navigating this complicated and painful process.

**The Olive Branch** is a gentle reminder that you need not go through this journey alone and that peace and new life are promised to those who remain faithful.

This program is your olive branch of restored faith and hope in the midst of the storm.

**April 25, 8:30 am- 4pm**  
St. John XXIII Pastoral Center  
Charleston, WV

**To register go to [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org). For more information call 304-233-0880 EXT. 289. Reservations are required.**



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