



Pastor:
 Rev. Thien Nguyen, SVD
 tdnguyen@dwc.org
 Phone: 304-364-5895
 Cell: 405-826-1205

Director of Religious Education
 Mrs. Pat McPherson
 Email pjy82pjm@hotmail.com

More information on our parish website:
<https://stthomasgassaway.org>

Sharing God's Blessings	
Date	Collection
July 27&28	\$ 1704

By August 3, CSA 2024, we raised \$4,925 (100%) of \$4920, Our Building insurance will be more than \$12,000; the sharing of CSA this year will use to pay for our building insurance. Please keep the bard raising. Thanks for your support !

MASS ETIQUETTE

- Remember to **be silent, turn off, and put away your cell phones**, tablets, and gaming devices prior to the start of Mass.
- Keep in mind the Communion fast**—we are to fast from food and drink (water and medicine excluded) one hour before receiving Holy Communion. **This includes chewing gum.** Even you are not planning to receive the Holy Communion, chewing gum is generally not appropriate in a church, including during Mass, for Catholic teaching. Let us prepare our body and soul to worthily receive and worship our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.
- When we are in the church (specifically in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament), **we should keep our volume to a reverential whisper, if conversation is necessary. This is to promote prayer with Christ in the Eucharist and to prepare our hearts and minds for Mass and express our reverence to the present of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.** Community time is best for after Mass in the hall or outside the church. Thank you for your mindfulness!

LITURGY SCHEDULE
SATURDAY: 5:00 p.m
SUNDAY 11:00 a.m
Sunday at 8:30 a.m at Risen Lord, Clay
WEEKDAY: Tue, Wed, Thu at 5:00 p.m.
Friday at 8:00 a.m
Holy Day of Obligation at 6:00 p.m
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:
Every Tuesday at 5:00 p.m prior to Mass
RECONCILIATION:
 •Any time 30 minutes before or after daily Mass, After Sunday Mass
Other days by appointment
MASS INTENTIONS
Saturday August 3—Mass at 5:00 p.m

SUNDAY AGUSUST 4
 FOR PARISHIONERS OF ST. THOMAS

Tuesday—Adoration and Mass at 5:00 p.m
 The Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
Wed Aug 7 Mass at 5:00 p.m
Thursday Aug 8 —For our benefactors
Friday — August 9—Mass at 8:00 a.m

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
 John Taylor - Aug. 5
 Benjamin Peters - Aug. 10

May you have a Happy and Blessed Birthday!



THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION August
For Political Leaders Let us pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor



The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions entrusted to his Worldwide Prayer Network for the year 2024

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
 In last Sunday's Gospel we saw how excited the people were after Jesus had fed them (5000 people) with just a few loaves and fish. They were so excited that they wanted to make him king. They cry: This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world. (John 6:14). Their being fed with bread reminds them of Moses, who fed the people with manna (see today's First Reading).

Today we continue with the 6th chapter of John on Jesus as the Bread of Life. In today's Gospel passage from John 6:24-35, we witness a profound dialogue between Jesus and the crowds who seek Him. After the miracle of the loaves and fishes, the people are eager to find Jesus, but their search is not purely spiritual. They are driven by their physical hunger and the desire for more of the miraculous bread that filled them.

When they find Jesus, He challenges their motivations, saying, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves." Jesus is pointing out that their quest is rooted in a temporary satisfaction rather than a deeper spiritual hunger.

Jesus then shifts their focus from the bread that perishes to the bread that endures to eternal life. He says, "**Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.**" This is a call to seek something greater than mere physical sustenance—He invites them (and us) to seek the true bread from heaven. This dialogue reveals two essential truths for us:

The True Nature of Our Hunger: We all have physical needs, but Jesus is inviting us to recognize a deeper hunger within us—the hunger for spiritual fulfillment and eternal life. In a world that often focuses on immediate gratification, it's easy to overlook the deeper, more enduring needs of our souls. We might find ourselves pursuing fleeting pleasures or temporary solutions to our problems, but Jesus calls us to seek the food that lasts.

Jesus as the Bread of Life: Jesus declares, "**I am the bread of life.**" He is not just speaking metaphorically but is revealing His identity as the source of spiritual nourishment. Just as bread sustains physical life, Jesus sustains our spiritual life, our soul. Through Him, we receive the grace, strength, and nourishment we need to live fully and faithfully. The bread Jesus offers is Himself—His Body given to us in the Eucharist. In receiving this divine nourishment, we are united more deeply with Him and with each other. The Eucharist is not just a symbol but a profound reality through which Jesus gives Himself to us, satisfying our deepest hunger and drawing us into the divine life.

As we reflect on this passage, let us examine our own lives and our search for fulfillment. **Are we merely seeking the bread that fills our stomachs, or are we seeking the Bread of Life that transforms our hearts and souls? Are we aware of the profound gift of the Eucharist and the divine sustenance it provides?**

In our daily lives, may we continually turn to Jesus, recognizing Him as our ultimate source of life and hope. Let us approach the Eucharist with reverence and gratitude, knowing that in it, we encounter the living Christ who satisfies our deepest hunger and leads us to eternal life. We pray in the Lord Prayer that "give us this day our daily bread". God hears our prayers, and there are over 350,000 masses celebrated all over the world everyday. In the Holy Mass, the Church offers us two types of bread: a) the Bread of Life, contained in God's Word and b) the Bread of Life, contained in the Holy Eucharist. St. Ignatius of Antioch (35-107 A.D.), an early church father and martyr, called the Eucharist the "**the bread that provides the medicine of immortality, the antidote for death, and the food that makes us live forever in Jesus Christ**"

Let us nourish our souls with this Heavenly Manna—Bread of Life and carry Jesus to our homes and workplaces, radiating Jesus' love, mercy and compassion all around us. May the grace of the sacrament of holy Eucharist strengthen us in our faith and empower us to live as true disciples, always seeking the eternal nourishment that only Christ can provide.

Food Pantry-Help Wanted!
Pick up at Mountaineer Food Bank
 at 1:00 p.m
Unload + Prepacked
 1:45 p.m. on August 7

Distribute on August 8,
 from 9:00 a.m. —12:00 a.m.

Next OCIA Class will be held at 5:00 p. m on August 9, 2024
 All are welcome to join us.

GOT LIFE QUESTIONS? OCIA
 Have you or someone you know? Expressed an interest in becoming Catholic? Been baptized as a child, but not received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist? Have a child older than 7 who's not baptized? The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the process for adults who desire to join the Catholic faith and for those seeking more information on the Catholic Church.

If you are *interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, please let Fr. Thien know. 304-364-5895* or *tdnguyen@dwc.org*



On July 24 & 25 at our Mission Church-
 the Risen Lord Food Pantry in Clay
 we served 273 families with more than
 15,000 lbs. of food.
**THANKS VOLUNTEERS
 AND BENEFACTORS**
*“Truly I tell you, whatever you
 did for one of the least of these
 brothers and sisters of
 mine, you did for me.”
 (Matthew 25:40)*



July 11 St. Thomas Food Pantry serve 94 families with more than 8,000 lb of food. A nurse from Wheeling also helped to check blood pressure for 13 people. We also gave out more than 140 Rosaries for people.
Big Thanks to Deacon Dave Galvin, volunteers and benefactors of St. James the Greater in Charles town, WV for helping us with new fence for our food pantry garden! THANKS VOLUNTEERS AND BENEFACTORS !

