

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

Director of Religious Education
 Mrs. Pat McPherson
 Email pjm82pjm@hotmail.com
 More information on our parish website:
<https://stthomasgassaway.org>

Sharing God's Blessings	
Date	Collection
Jan 25 & 26	\$839
Thanks for your contribution	

Notice:

2024 Catholic Calendar and Contribution envelopes are available at vestibule. If you don't see your envelope box, please pick up a box of "unnamed" envelopes to use and please let us know your number. Thanks for your contribution.

CCD Class will be held on Feb 2 & 16

Parents, please bring your kids to the class
 - OCIA Class TBA

Please contact Fr. Thien Nguyen for:

- **Anointing of the sick; Holy Communion to the sick or homebound.**
 - **Baptism of infants and Children under 7. RCIA/RCIC is for adults and children older than 7. Mee**
- + **Sacrament of Marriage:**
 Arrangements should be made with the pastor at least Six months before a wedding. Please, do not set a wedding date before contacting your pastor. Preparation classes with the pastor are required.

LITURGY SCHEDULE
SATURDAY: 5:00 p.m
SUNDAY 11:00 a.m
WEEKDAY: Tue, Wed, Thu at 5:00 p.m.
Friday at 8:00 a.m
Holy Day of Obligation at 6:00 p.m
EUCHARISTIC 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 for Nathan
Rq Chi Tram
SUNDAY FEB 2
FOR PARISHIONERS OF ST. THOMAS

Tue, Feb 4 for Nathan—*Rq Chi Tram*
Wed, Feb 5 for Nathan—*Rq Chi Tram*
Thursday Feb 6
For Benefactors of our parish
Friday Feb 7 for Nathan —*Rq Chi Tram*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Fr. Thien Feb. 1
- Theresa Peters Feb. 2
- Christine Taylor Feb. 3
- Jeff Wilson Feb. 4
- Leif Hopen Feb. 5



Wishing you all Happy and Blessed Birthday

The Diocesan Office of Safe Environment has updated their requirements for employees and volunteers. The new requirements include:

1. Annual Virtus Training Module (4.0) – Update needed if you haven't completed in 2023 or 2024
2. Background Check every 3 years
3. Policy Manual – Code of Conduct Please log into your account via www.virtusonline to make sure you are up to date on all requirements.

If you have questions concerning you login or password please contact: Sharon Goudy Direct Dial: 304.230.1504 or sgoudy@dwc.org

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 the Diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

Dear brothers and sisters,
Happy Feast of the Presentation of the Lord and World Day for Consecrated Life. This feast used to be called the Purification of Mary because, according to Leviticus 12:2-8, "a woman who bore a child was unclean for forty days following the birth of a son or eighty days following the birth of a daughter." Although Mary was the most holy of women, she chose to submit herself to the Law, just like any other Jewish mother.



A number of years ago, the Church changed this feast from the Feast of the Purification of Mary to the Feast of Candlemas. Because Simeon called Jesus the Light of the Nations, this feast is also the day when candles are blessed.

In the Eastern Orthodox Church, this feast is called the Feast of the Encounter, the first encounter of the Old Testament, represented by Simeon, Anna, and the Temple, with the New Testament, represented by the Lord. Jesus is presented in the Temple following the ancient Jewish laws. In the New Law of the Kingdom of God, Jesus' own body would become the New Temple.

Today, we gather to celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which highlights the moment when Mary and Joseph brought the infant Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem, fulfilling the law of Moses. On this feast day, we are invited to see Christ not only as the fulfillment of God's promise, as Simeon and Anna so beautifully proclaim, but also as the one who calls each of us to follow Him in a unique way. As Simeon prophesies to Mary, this child will be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to Your people Israel" (Luke 2:32). Jesus is the light that illumines the path to salvation, and He calls each one of us to bear that light in the world.

Today is also the World Day for Consecrated Life. Just as Mary and Joseph presented Jesus to God in the Temple, we, too, are invited to offer our lives in service to God — and this offering can take many forms. On this day, we honor and pray for those who have chosen the path of consecrated life — men and women who have dedicated themselves entirely to God through the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

Like Simeon and Anna, they are called to a life of profound devotion and witness. Through their vows, they live out a radical response to the call of Jesus, and in doing so, they reflect the light of Christ in a world that desperately needs it. Let us pray today for all those living the consecrated life. May their witness be a shining light to the world. And may we also pray for the young to respond to God's call with open hearts, offering themselves completely to Him in whatever way He asks, especially for Consecrated life. ~ Fr. Thien

Prayer for Consecrated Persons

God our Father,
 we thank you for calling
 men and women
 to serve in your Son's Kingdom
 as sisters, brothers,
 religious priests,
 consecrated virgins, and hermits,
 as well as members of
 Secular Institutes.
 Renew their knowledge
 and love of you,
 and send your Holy Spirit
 to help them respond generously
 and courageously to your will.
 We ask this through
 our Lord Jesus Christ,
 who lives and reigns with you
 and the Holy Spirit, one God,
 for ever and ever. Amen.

Blessing of Throats At Mass This Weekend.

February 3, Memorial of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr. St. Blaise was born in Sebaste, Armenia, and became a physician. His virtues won for him the esteem of both the clergy and people to such a degree, that he was elected bishop of his native city. From then on, Blaise zealously gave of himself to all of his faithful. When the governor of Cappadocia came to Sebaste to persecute Christians, Blaise was arrested, and they tried to get him to recant his faith. While in prison, Blaise ministered to and healed fellow prisoners, including saving a child who was choking on a fishbone, which led to the blessing of throats on Blaise's feast day. Blaise was beheaded, suffering death for the faith on February 3, 316. Saint Blaise has been extremely popular for centuries in both the Eastern and Western Churches.

Eventually the custom of the blessing of throats arose, in our present Roman Ritual, the priest prays,
"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

This practice continues in many parishes on St. Blaise's feast day." In honor of St. Blaise, and ask for his intercession, we will bless throats this weekend at each liturgy, February 1 and 2. If you wish received blessing, please come up to the front immediately after Mass.

THANKS YOU! On Jan 9, 2025 Despite the weather, St Thomas Food Pantry remains faithful to serving those in need. Due to icy road and a winter storm, only 50 families came for food pantry today. Eight mothers came for diapers, baby wipes and highchairs. We are glad to serve those in need. Seeing the good works, a Good Samaritan who came to pick up the food for his neighbors and helped us to plowed snow. *During this week, we served 7 more families and 5 more mothers!* **Thanks Benefactors and all volunteers. God bless you all. Stay warm and well fed!**



January 21-23, During the last three days, even in extreme cold weather (-7 to 26), parishioners and volunteers of Risen Lord Food Pantry are still faithful. We unloaded, packaged and distributed food for the poor in Clay County. We served about 15,000 pounds of food to 192 families. Thank you all Benefactors and Volunteers.

