



SAINT THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Pastor:
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More information on our parish website:
<https://stthomasgassaway.org>

Sharing God's Blessings

| Date | Collection |
|--------------|------------|
| July 13 & 14 | \$ 1297 |

By July 20, CSA 2024, we raised \$4215 (87%) 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. 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 SUNDAY JULY 7
FOR PARISHIONERS OF ST. THOMAS
Saturday July 20—For Beata's intentions
SUNDAY JULY 21

FOR PARISHIONERS OF ST. THOMAS
Tuesday July 23—For Beata's intentions
Wed July 24— Mass at 8:00 am since Fr. Thien help Food Pantry in Risen Lord, Clay
 For Beata's intentions

Thursday July 25—For our benefactors
Friday — July 26—For Beata's intentions



OCIA Class will be held at 5:00 p. m on July 19, and July 26 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

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
 All the readings of the XVI Sunday in Ordinary Time invite us to reflect on the themes of shepherding, rest, and compassion—themes that resonate deeply with our human experience and our relationship with God.

In the first reading from the Prophet Jeremiah, we encounter God's stern rebuke against the leaders who have failed in their duty to shepherd His people Israel. God declares, "Woe to the shepherds who mislead and scatter the flock of my pasture!" These words remind us of the grave responsibility that leaders—whether in the Church, in society, or in our families—have towards those entrusted to their care. Leadership is not merely about authority or control, but about caring for and nurturing those under one's charge with love, integrity, and wisdom.

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In today's Gospel, we see Jesus as the compassionate shepherd who invites His apostles to rest after their strenuous ministry. In their weariness, Jesus recognizes their need for renewal and invites them to a deserted place to rest awhile. This act of Jesus teaches us an important lesson: amidst our busy lives, filled with responsibilities and commitments, it is essential to carve out moments of silence, prayer, and rest in order to be renewed in mind, body, and spirit. It is in these quiet moments that we encounter God's presence and find the strength to continue our journey of discipleship.

However, the crowds follow Jesus and His apostles, eager for more of His teachings and healing. Moved with compassion, Jesus sets aside His own need for rest and begins to teach and heal the people. This shows us the depth of Jesus' love and His selfless dedication to the welfare of others. He is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep, guiding them with gentleness and compassion.

As we gather here today, let us reflect on how we live out our roles as shepherds and sheep in our own lives. Are we attentive to the needs of those around us, offering compassion and support to those who are hurting or lost? Are we attentive to our own need for spiritual renewal and rest in the Lord? Do we have compassion for those who are lost, confused, or in need of guidance in their lives?

Let us also take to heart the invitation of Jesus to find moments of rest and renewal in Him. Let us make time for prayer and silence, allowing God to speak to our hearts and strengthen us for the journey ahead. May we strive to be shepherds after the heart of Jesus—shepherds who lead with humility, compassion, and love.

The Council Vatican II remind us, "The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the men of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ." (Gaudium et spes #1(Joy and Hope) the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World—Vatican II)

Second Collection next weekend July 20 & 21 for:

1) The Catholic Communication Campaign connects people with Christ in the United States and in developing countries around the world through the Internet, television, radio, and print media. Fully 50% of the money collected remains here in the Wheeling Charleston Diocese to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the Gospel message!

2) The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is an anti-poverty program of the Bishops of the US. CCHD funds organizations nation-wide, including West Virginia.

Walking with Moms in Need

The Pro-life mission doesn't end with saving babies from abortion. It is just the beginning. Women who choose life often need support during and after their pregnancies.

Walking with Moms in Need is a nationwide, parish-based initiative to increase support for pregnant and parenting mothers in need. Our parish established this ministry on April 7, 2024. If you would like to support us, the donation envelop is on vestibule, or consider to donate diapers, baby wipes, baby clothes... Also, if you know any mom need help, please introduce them to us as well.

Kari Friend: 304- 690-2001;
Kathy Frame: 304-644-6938;
Amber Green: 304- 678-5100,
Anita Lang: 304-880-8031.
St. Thomas ~ Fr. Thien 304-364-5895





On June 26 & 27 at our Mission Church-
 the Risen Lord in Clay
 we served 265 families with more than
 14,000 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 !

