



**Pastor:**  
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<https://stthomasgassaway.org>

Sharing God's Blessings	
Date	Collection
July 20 & 21	\$ 926

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 27—For Beata's intentions**  
**SUNDAY JULY 28**  
**FOR PARISHIONERS OF ST. THOMAS**  
**Tuesday July 30—For Beata's intentions**  
**Wed July 31 Mass at 5:00 p.m**  
**Thursday August 1 —For our benefactors**  
**Friday — August 2—Mass at 8:00 a.m**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
 Joe Agostino - July 29  
 Robin McLaughlin - July 30  
 Kayla Peters - July 31  
 Peter Shimko - Aug. 1  
**May you have a Happy and Blessed Birthday!**

**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*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,  
 Two weeks ago, we on July 10 & 11 at our parish, St. Thomas Food Pantry served 97 families (about 270 individuals) with more than 8000 lb of food. Last Thursday, July 25 at our Mission church, Risen Lord Food Pantry, we served 273 families (about 650 individuals) with around 15000 lb of food. Thank our benefactors, especially St. James the Greater parish who brought us 6 pallets of vegetables and a truck load of stuff for walking with moms in need, and all volunteers who help us a hand to prepare and distribute the food.  
**Today's readings offer us a profound lesson on the generosity of God and the nature of true abundance.** As we reflect on these passages, we are invited to recognize and trust in God's providential care and to understand what it means to truly find our fulfillment in Him.  
 In the first reading from the Second Book of Kings, we hear the story of Elisha, who, at the command of God, performs a miracle with twenty barley loaves and fresh grain. He commands his servant to distribute the loaves among a hundred men, (2Kings 4:42-44) and despite the apparent inadequacy of the food, there is more than enough—indeed, there are even leftovers. This miracle reveals God's power to provide abundantly beyond our expectations. It reminds us that God's ways are not our ways; He can multiply what seems insufficient into an overflow of blessing.  
 Similarly, in the Gospel reading from Mark, we encounter the famous miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Jesus takes five loaves and two fish, blesses them, breaks them, and gives them to the disciples to distribute for more than 5000 people. The result is that thousands are fed, with twelve baskets of leftovers remaining. This miracle not only addresses the physical hunger of the crowd but also points to a deeper spiritual reality.  
 Both miracles have a common thread: they reveal the abundant generosity of God. In both cases, what seems like a small, inadequate offering is transformed by divine power into a bounty that exceeds the needs of those present.  
 Jesus' act of feeding the multitude is not just a demonstration of His compassion but also a sign of His identity as the Bread of Life. In the very next chapter, Jesus will explain that He is the true bread from heaven, the source of eternal life (*the Next Five Sunday- Gospel of John chapter 6*). This miracle prefigures the Eucharist, the sacrament where Jesus offers Himself as the bread of life, sustaining us not just physically but spiritually. There is an estimated (at least) 350,000 Catholic Masses celebrated every day on planet Earth.  
 In reflecting on these readings, we are challenged to consider how we respond to God's generosity. Are we, like the crowd, seeking merely to satisfy our immediate needs, or are we open to the deeper, spiritual nourishment that God offers? Do we trust in God's ability to provide for us, even when our resources seem inadequate?  
 The multiplication of the loaves and fishes teaches us that true abundance is not measured by material wealth or quantity but by the richness of God's grace and love. It calls us to a different kind of economy—one where we understand that all we have comes from God, and it is through sharing our gifts, however small they may seem, that God's abundance is made manifest. Also, this story reminds us that in the hands of God, even the smallest gifts can be transformed into something extraordinary. God does not measure our offerings by their size but by the love and faith with which they are given.  
 We are also reminded that God calls us to be instruments of His generosity. Just as Jesus took the small offering of the boy's loaves and fish and multiplied it, He invites us to bring our own gifts, however modest, and place them in His hands. Through our acts of charity, compassion, and service, we participate in God's work of multiplying blessings and meeting the needs of others. Also, may we, like Elisha, embrace the challenge of faith with courage and trust in the boundless generosity of our Lord. In our actions, our offerings, and our trust, let us witness the miraculous transformation that occurs when we place our gifts in God's hands.

**Farewell to Seminarian, Frt. Cong Nguyen, SVD**

Dear, Frt. Cong,  
 As the summer draws to a close and you have to go back to seminary, we want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for visiting and helping our parish this summer. Your time with us has been a true blessing, and your dedication and enthusiasm have not gone unnoticed.  
 As you continue on your journey, know that you carry with you our sincere prayers and best wishes. May the road ahead be filled with continued growth, joy, and fulfillment. Thank you once again for everything. You will be missed. Wishing you every blessing in your future endeavors.

*Fr. Thien & parishioners of St Thomas parish.*

**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 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 !**

