

Pastor:
 Rev. Thien Nguyen, SVD
 tdnguyen@dwc.org
 Phone: 304-364-5895
 Cell: 405-826-1205
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
June 22 & 23	\$ 1044


By June 29, CSA 2024, we raised \$4215 (86%) 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 JUNE 30
FOR PARISHIONERS OF ST. THOMAS
Thursday July 4 —For parish's benefactors
 And for our country

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Sue Cunningham - July 2
 Mac Bailes - July 3
 Tom Teubert - July 4
 Rick Allen - July 5
 Tracy Minnich - July 8

Wishing you a wonderful and blessed Birthday.

OCIA Class will be held at 5:00 p. m on July 12, 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

Pastor's Pondering
JULY 3RD—HAPPY FEAST DAY of ST. THOMAS THE PATRON OF OUR PARISH
Dear parishioners and friends of St. Thomas parish, Greetings on this Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
 July 3rd is the Feast of Saint Thomas the Apostle, patron of our parish – Feast Day of our parish. On this feast day, we are reminded to pray for our parish and each of us to follow his example for the zeal of evangelizer. **It's good opportunity to remind all of us about history and Mission Statements of our parish.**
History: "Saint Thomas Catholic Church was built in 1906, is the oldest church building in Gassaway. Richard C. Kerens from St. Louis was the moving force behind this effort, in partnership with Henry Gassaway Davis. Richard C. Kerens was born in Ireland in 1842. As an infant, his parents brought him to America. While in the Union Army during the Civil War, he became interested in transportation and afterwards was greatly involved in the development of railroads in various parts of the United States. Mr. Kerens, with Senators Henry Gassaway Davis and Stephen Benton Elkins, worked for the development of the West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh Railway and the Coal Coke Railroads of West Virginia. Together, they helped to produce coal and lumber in West Virginia. Richard Kerens died in Marion, PA on September 4, 1914.

Richard had St. Thomas church was built as a memorial to his father, Thomas Kerens. The exterior stone was quarried just over a half mile from the church site. This is the same quarry from which the stone of the present Community building was made. The wood in the interior of the church was all cut from the local area as well. The workers on the building were mostly from Italy. They were the expert stone masons and carpenters who gave the church its solid and beautiful appearance. It is claimed that the church cost \$30,000 at the time it was built." (*adapted from the Centennial Program*)
 On this Feast Day of Our Parish, we especially pray for Mr. Richard Kerens; his parents, Mss. Mary Baily Fisher and all departed priests, parishioners and benefactors who helped to build and maintain our church. Also, we remember all of parishioners of St. Thomas parish who has been supporting our parish. May Christ our God, through the intercession of our parish patron, Saint Thomas the Apostle, bless you abundantly on this feast. **Let's gather on Wednesday July 3rd at 5:00 p.m to have Mass, to praise and Thanks God together.**
 Also, this week we will celebrate our national feast and remember the **248nd anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, July 4th 1776.** I pray that you and your family will find time to celebrate the birth of our nation and give thanks to God for our many blessings. We also pray that God will guide and protect us in the many challenges we face as a nation. May our nation progress towards a Culture of Life for all, beginning with the unborn. ~ Fr.Thien

MISSION STATEMENT
of St. Thomas Parish
We, the people of St. Thomas Parish in Braxton County, West Virginia, have an ardent desire to see the spirit of Jesus alive in our lives by conscientiously following our Catholic beliefs. Our commitment to this desire will be realized through prayer, love, respect, and caring for one another involving everyone in the parish: the youth, the elderly, the sick, the homebound, as well as those whom we meet everyday.

Have fun on your summer vacations. Please remember to keep the Lord and His third Commandment "**Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day**" in mind and remember to honor His day as holy with regular weekend Mass attendance while at home or away.
 A gentle reminder that, for those of us who are strong and able bodied, there is no replacement or alternative to active participation at the Altar.
Livestreaming on electronic devices are tremendous blessings for those among us who are ill, elderly or in a weakened state and thus unable to attend Mass, **but these means are not substitutes for all who can and should be celebrating in person.**
 You can easily find the time for Sunday Mass near you by going to **masstimes.org**. Then enter the State and the zip code.



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)*



**On June 13, St. Thomas Food Pantry serve 116 families
with more than 8,000 lb of food.
Two nurses from Wheeling also helped to check blood pressure for 15 people.
THANKS VOLUNTEERS AND BENEFACTORS**

