

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
Mar 8 & 9	\$ 1589
Catholic Sharing Appeal Raised \$1,790 (34%) of \$5,300 with 9 gifts. Thanks for your contribution	

Altar Society will held the meeting March 16, after Mass.
 Next Sunday, **March 23rd**
 Parish Council and Financial will held the Meeting after Mass

CCD Class will be held on March 16 and 23
 Parents, please bring your kids to the class

- OCIA Class will be held on Mar 21 at 6:00 p.m**

All are welcome to join us to share your faith with Catechumens and Candidates.

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 Mass During Lent at 5:00 p.m
STATION OF THE CROSS 5:30 P.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 March 15 for
Paul & Paulette Samples Rq. Phil+Theresa Peters
SUNDAY MARCH 16
FOR PARISHIONERS OF ST. THOMAS
Peter Nguyen Rq. Phil+Theresa Peters
Mon, March 17—St. Partrick Feast
 Mass at noon.
Tue, Mar 18 for Karen Jacobs
 Rq. Phil+Theresa Peters
Wed, Mar 19 - St. Joseph, husband of Mary
For Jose Bordonada Rq. Phil+Theresa Peters
 Thur, Mar 20 - For parish's Benefactor
Friday, Mar 14— Mass at 5:00 p.m
 Harvey Given Rq. Phil+Theresa Peters

ALL FRIDAY MASSES DURING LENT WILL BE AT 5:00 PM. THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE MASS AT 5:30 PM.

THANK YOU
A Big Thank You to Marian Agostino, Dot Shimko, Connie Moore, Collen Mahon, Pat McPherson, Mary Hailer, Dale & Louise Elwood, Rick Allen, Teresa Sutton, Kevin Carpenter, the McLaughlin family and 5 volunteers from St. Joseph the Worker, Weirton, WV for the help for the Food Pantry on March 12 & 13
We served 107 families this month.
"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one." Mother Teresa
Also, Thanks All Benefactors have been supporting us with this ministry ~ Fr. Thien

Important Guidelines
 Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

Greetings on the Second Sunday of Lent
Dear brothers and sisters,

On this Second Sunday of Lent, the Church invites us to journey up the mountain with Jesus, Peter, James, and John, as we witness the glorious event of the Transfiguration. In today's Gospel (Luke 9:28-36), we are given a glimpse of Jesus' divine glory, a foretaste of the Resurrection, and a profound call to "Listen to Him."

1. The Glory of the Transfiguration: Jesus takes three of His closest disciples up the mountain to pray. While in prayer, His appearance changes, and His clothes become dazzling white. This transformation reveals His divine nature, affirming that Jesus is not just a teacher or prophet but truly the Son of God. The presence of Moses and Elijah symbolizes the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets in the person of Jesus Christ.

For Peter, James, and John, this moment of glory is both awe-inspiring and confusing. Peter, in his excitement, suggests building three tents to hold onto this divine encounter. Yet, the true purpose of the Transfiguration is not to remain on the mountain but to strengthen their faith for the difficult journey ahead, especially the Passion and Cross.

2. "Listen to Him": A cloud overshadows them, and the voice of the Father speaks: "**This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to Him!**" This command is not just for the disciples but for all of us. In the noise and distractions of life, it can be easy to lose sight of Jesus' voice. Yet, the Father calls us to open our hearts and attentively listen to His Son.

During this Lenten season, we are invited to deepen our prayer life and listen more intently to Christ through the Scriptures, the teachings of the Church, and the quiet promptings of the Holy Spirit. Are we making space in our busy lives to listen to Him? Are we allowing His words to shape our decisions and actions?

How Do We Listen to God? Listening to God requires intentional effort. Here are three practical ways to cultivate this habit:

- Through Scripture:** The Bible is the living Word of God. When we read and meditate on Scripture, we allow God to speak directly to our hearts. As Psalm 119:105 says, "*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*"
- Through Prayer:** In prayer, we not only speak to God but also listen. After presenting our petitions, we should take time to sit quietly and open our hearts to His voice.
- Through the Church and Others:** God also speaks through the teachings of the Church, our spiritual leaders, and the wisdom of fellow believers. Being part of a faith community helps us to hear God's voice more clearly.

3. From Glory to the Cross: The Transfiguration prepares the disciples for the scandal of the Cross. Soon, they will see this same Jesus humiliated and crucified. The memory of His divine glory is meant to sustain them through the darkness of Good Friday. In our own lives, we too experience moments of joy and consolation, but we are called also to carry our crosses. The Transfiguration reminds us that the sufferings of this present time are nothing compared to the glory to be revealed (cf. Romans 8:18).

As we continue our Lenten journey, may we follow Jesus more closely, listen to Him more attentively, and find strength in the hope of His Resurrection. Let us climb the mountain of prayer and descend with renewed hearts, ready to embrace both the Cross and the promise of eternal life.

On Sunday March 9, 13 candidates, catechumens of St. Thomas and Risen Lord, attended the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversation. It was a joyful day for our parish. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for the Easter Sacraments. As St. Arnold Janssen, SVD said, "**To proclaim the Good News is the first and greatest act of love of neighbor.**"



Priests Health & Retirement Association (PHRA) Collection March 23, 2025

A special second collection is scheduled for March 23, 2025, to support the Priests' Health and Retirement Association (PHRA), a fund that provides health insurance and retirement benefits to retired priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Please take a moment to reflect on the many years of service by our priests and how we can take this opportunity to thank them in a very particular way with a gift to the PHRA collection.

On Sunday March 9, 13 candidate, catechumens and their godparents, sponsors of St. Thomas and Risen Lord, attended the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversation. It was a joyful day for our parish.

"Bishop Mark Brennan will celebrate Easter Vigil at St. Thomas on April 19. His presence will greatly encourage our parishioners to continue to bring the Gospel to people in West Virginia!

As St. Arnold Janssen, SVD said,
"To proclaim the Good News is the first and greatest act of love of neighbor."



**Feb 26 & 27, Risen Lord Food Pantry served food for 244 family of the needy in Clay County.
 On March 12 and 13, St. Thomas Food pantry served 107 families in Braxton County.
 Thank you all Benefactors and Volunteers.**

