



SAINT THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH
 624 Kanawha St., Gassaway, WV 26624
 304.364.5895 stthomasgassaway@gmail.com

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

Director of Religious Education
 Mrs. Pat McPherson
 Email pjy82pjm@hotmail.com
 More information on our parish website:
<https://stthomasgassaway.org>

Sharing God's Blessings	
Date	Collection
Oct 12 & 13	\$ 1161

By August 30, CSA 2024, we raised \$5460 (111%) of \$4920, Our Building insurance will be \$11,618; the sharing of CSA this year will use to pay for our building insurance. Please keep the bard raising. **Thanks for your support !**

Next OCIA Class will be held at 6:00 p.m on Oct 25
 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

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
Saturday Oct 19 for Anne Ho and Peter Khang
SUNDAY OCT 20
FOR PARISHIONERS OF ST. THOMAS
& for Cathy Umanetz; Vicki Britner; Delores Ruppert, Grethel Nardella

THERE WILL BE NO WEEKDAY MASS this week since Father Thien is going on a retreat at the John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston.
In case of emergency call me at: 405-826-1205

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ai Qui Hopen - Oct. 21
 Kevin Carpenter - Oct. 21
 Terry Mangano - Oct. 24
 Michael Larch - Oct. 26

Wishing you all Happy and Blessed Birthday

CCD Class
Oct 13 & 20

An Act of Spiritual Communion
 My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
 I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
 Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
 I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
 Never permit me to be separated from You.
 Amen.

Greeting on WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Dear brothers and sisters,
 From Saturday, October 12, until October 19, Father Provincial Adam Oleszczuk, SVD visited SVD confreres ministering in the Appalachia District. As he wraps up his visit he writes: **“Thank you, God, for the open-hearted, faith-filled missionaries of the Appalachia District and throughout the Chicago Province.”** Our parish was blessed that Father Provincial visited and celebrated Mass with our parish. He was impressed and glad about the beauty of our church, our parish life and parish ministry of reach out to help the less fortunate and the needy with our ministries of Food pantry, Backpack program, Walking with Moms in Need and Utility Assistance. His encouragement and support truly uplift the mission of helping those in need." This year, SVD Chicago province granted St. Thomas **\$16,500** for these ministries, also granted **\$16,500** for Risen Lord, our parish Mission. We are grateful for these grants, and we extend a big thanks to the SVD Chicago Province for their support!



This weekend marks the most important day for our Catholic identity and mission: Mission Sunday. Mission Sunday was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1926, inviting Catholics worldwide to reflect on their fundamental responsibility to spread the Gospel and support missionary efforts.

“Go and invite everyone to the banquet!” is this year’s theme for Mission Sunday. Pope Francis's message for World Mission Day 2024 emphasizes the importance of witnessing faith to everyone through action and love. He highlights the call to evangelize not just through words, but by living out the Gospel in daily life. The emphasis on the theme is also on **“everyone,” not excluding any group of people, culture, or origin, because God is the God of all, and God’s kingdom is open to all.**

In his message, the pope writes: *“As I emphasized, “This is the heart of mission: that ‘all’, excluding no one. Every mission of ours, then, is born from the heart of Christ in order that he may draw all to himself” (Address to the General Assembly of the Pontifical Missionary Societies, 3 June 2023). Today, in a world torn apart by divisions and conflicts, Christ’s Gospel remains the gentle yet firm voice that calls individuals to encounter one another, to recognize that they are brothers and sisters, and to rejoice in harmony amid diversity. “God our Savior desires everyone to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Tim 2:4). Let us never forget, then, that in our missionary activities we are asked to preach the Gospel to all: “Instead of seeming to impose new obligations, [we] should appear as people who wish to share their joy, who point to a horizon of beauty and who invite others to a delicious banquet” (Evangelii Gaudium, 14). For the full message: <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/missions/documents/20240125-giornata-missionaria.html>.*

This year's Mission Sunday theme also aligns with the theme of our 150th (Sept 8, 1875- Sept 8, 2025) anniversary of the SVD: **“Witnessing to the Light: From Everywhere for Everyone.”** Currently, the SVD has 5754 members and are working in 76 countries. There are nine of us, priests, working in WV, Wheeling- Charleston Diocese. Please pray with us and for us that we continue to be faithful missionaries and for more vocation in our society. We are blessed to have you all as part of our SVD family. Please know that you and your loved ones are remembered daily in our prayers. Thanks for your prayers and continued support.

With the spirit of Mission Sunday, let’s **“Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.”** (Mark 16:15).

~ Fr. Thien, SVD

Second Collection
Oct 19 & 20 we will celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis invites the entire Church to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the world’s most vulnerable communities. Please unites Catholics worldwide in prayer, solidarity, and support for the Church’s mission efforts, particularly generous in next week’s collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

HURRICANE HELENE RELIEF FUND

The Bishop has asked us to join in a national Catholic relief collection for the victims of Hurricane Helene who now have suffered a double blow with Hurricane Milton. That special collection will be taken up the weekend of **October 26 & 27.**

Checks can be made out to “St. Thomas Church.” Please write “Hurricane Relief” in the memo section of the check or place your donation in an envelope marked “Hurricane Relief.”

Please continue to remember in prayer all those whose lives have been changed in the wake of these disasters.

THANK YOU

A Big Thank You to Marian Agostino, Dot Shimko, Connie Moore, Mary Hailer, Colleen Mahon, Tom Teubert and Rick Allen, and 6 volunteers from St. Joseph the Worker parish in Weirton for the help for the Food Pantry on Oct 9 & 10 We served 102 families and the nurse from Weirton Dr. Ann checked blood pressure for 16 people this month.
“If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one.” –Mother Teresa
Also Thanks SVD and All Benefactors have been supporting us with this ministry ~ Fr. Thien

Father Provincial Adam Oleszczuk, SVD visited SVD confreres ministering in the Appalachia District And visited our parish & celebrated Mass with our parish on Tuesday Oct 15, 2024

