

**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
Sept 14 & 15	\$ 1362

**By August 30, CSA 2024, we raised \$5410 (110%) 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. Please keep the bard raising. **Thanks for your support !**

**Next OCIA Class will be held at 6:00 p.m on Sept 27**  
 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](mailto: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 Sept 21—Mass at 5:00 p.m**

**SUNDAY SEPT 22**  
**FOR PARISHIONERS OF ST. THOMAS**

**Sept 24—** For Marian and Joe Agostino's Intentions  
 Mass at 8:00 am Since Father Thien help food pantry in Clay.

**Sept 25—NO MASS** Since Fr. Thien help food pantry and have Mass in Risen Lord, Clay

**Sept 26** For Marian and Joe Agostino's Intentions  
**Sept 27—**For Marian and Joe Agostino's Intentions



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
 Allison Frame - Sept. 22  
 Retha Moss - Sept. 23  
 Caleb Shaver - Sept. 24  
 Jane Dever - Sept. 25

**Wishing you all Happy and Blessed Birthday**

**CCD Class**  
**Sept 15 & 22**

**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.

**Pastor's Pondering**  
*Greetings on this Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time!*  
*Dear brothers and sisters,*  
 Please join me to welcome Deacon Bryce Burl Timberlake to join our Eucharistic celebration this weekend. Deacon Timberlake is one of twenty permanent deacons who were ordained past June 7 in our diocese. He is appointed permanent deacon at St. James the Greater in Charles Town, WV.  
 Today, the readings invite us to reflect on the themes of humility, service, and the true nature of greatness in the eyes of God. Its invite us to become great in the sight of God by doing God's will as Jesus did, surrendering our lives to Him in the service of others.  
**In the first reading:** The passage from the Book of Wisdom sounds like a messianic prophecy similar to the "Suffering Servant" prophecy in Isaiah." Referring to a righteous sufferer, the passage points to Jesus' crucifixion and tells us how the world often ill-treats those who strive to live justly and do God's will. The world may often measure success in terms of power, wealth, and status, but God calls us to a different standard. It urges us to choose the path of righteousness in spite of painful consequences.  
**In the Gospel from Mark,** we find the disciples arguing about who among them is the greatest. Jesus, knowing their hearts, responds by bringing a child into their midst. He tells them that whoever wants to be first must be last, and whoever welcomes a child in His name welcomes Him. This powerful imagery turns societal norms upside down. In the context of Jesus' time, children were often seen as insignificant. Yet, in welcoming a child, Jesus highlights the importance of humility and the need to serve those who are vulnerable and marginalized.  
 This message is profound and challenging. In our daily lives, it's easy to get caught up in the pursuit of success, recognition, and power. As Christians, we may find ourselves measuring our worth against worldly standards, whether it's in our jobs, social circles, or even within our faith communities. But Jesus reminds us that true greatness lies not in our achievements, but in our capacity to serve others with love and humility.  
 As we reflect on this teaching, consider how we can embody this spirit of service in our own lives. How can we welcome the "children" in our midst—those who are overlooked, marginalized, or in need? Perhaps it's through acts of kindness, a listening ear, or simply showing compassion to those who may feel invisible.  
 Moreover, let us examine our own hearts. Are there areas where we cling to notions of superiority or status? Are there times when we prioritize our own ambitions over the needs of others? Jesus calls us to shift our perspective, to find joy in serving rather than seeking to be served.  
 As we journey through this week, let's challenge ourselves to reflect on how we can live out this call to humility and service. May we seek opportunities to lift others up, to see the face of Christ in those we encounter, especially the least among us.  
 Let us pray for the grace to embrace a life of humility and to find fulfillment not in the accolades of the world but in the quiet, profound joy of serving others. *Fr. Thien*

**THANK YOU**  
 Thank you all to bring yourselves, relatives friends and food to join our Parish picnic last Sunday. Especially Thanks Connie Moore for organizing the food and Theresa Peter for the game. We had many dishes of good food, good games and a wonderful time together. (See some pictures in the second page on e-bulletin on the parish website)

**ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING**  
 Sept 22:  
 Altar Society Meeting will be held after Mass. Please mark your calendar. Thanks.

**2nd Collection for Catholic University of America:**  
**September 24 & 25—**  
 This collection provides funding for academic scholarships at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC in response to the commitment made by the bishops at its foundation in 1887. It is the only U.S. university with Pontifical faculties. Students are enrolled from all 50 states and almost 100 countries in 12 schools



**THANK YOU**

A Big Thank You to Kathy Bronkhurst, Marian Agostino, Dot Shimko, Connie Moore, Collen Mahon, Mary Hailer, Louise Elwood, Rick Allen, Tom Teubert, the McLaughlin family and 7 volunteers from St. Joseph the Worker, Weirton, WV for the help for the Food Pantry this week and have blood pressured check up for 16 people. **We served 109 families 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

