

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

MONDAY 4-22 **HARRY KARNs, JR**
8:00AM FAMILY
ADORATION UNTIL 9AM

TUESDAY 4-23 **NO MASS**

WEDNESDAY 4-24 **JOAN MURRAY**
8:00 AM CARL MURRAY
3:00PM OLGf HOLY HOUR

THURSDAY 4-25 **THERESE KARNs**
8:00 AM PAT BRENNER

FRIDAY 4-26 **CHARLES E. BRAITHWAITE**
8:00 AM RICHARD & CONSTANCE LETRENT
3:00 PM DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR

SATURDAY 4-27
5:00 PM **KAYLA NICODEMUS**
JOE KAMINSKI & FAMILY

SUNDAY 4-28
7:00 AM **PEOPLE OF THE PARISH**
ST. THOMAS AND SEVEN DOLORS

9:30 AM **JOAN PERCE**
ANNE JONES

Server Schedule:

APRIL 27-28

5:00PM	Pat Brenner	Cotchen
7:00AM	Dan Smith	Serio
9:30AM	Lloyd Roach	D & K Long

Mass Readings for April 28

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

Second Reading 1 John 3:18-24

The Gospel John 15:1-8

Inviting people back to the Catholic Church: The Easter season is a special time of grace. If you know anyone in the Parish or your family or in your social circle that has been away from the active practice of the Catholic faith, please invite them back, as an instrument of God's grace. Encourage them to get in touch with me either by e-mail or phone and I will try to help them out anyway I can, especially if they need to go to Confession or need to look at getting a marriage blessed in the Church. Also, there is a very good website for this very purpose: it is called Catholics Come Home: www.catholicscomehome.org.

Free chaplets of St Michael and for the Souls in Purgatory: Please contract me if you want one or both types of chaplets. A kind soul has made some extra chaplets of both, so if you want one and the prayers that go with it, just email me or call and leave a message, so I can make a list of who wants them, and then you can get the chaplets after a weekend Mass soon. Remember these chaplets are slightly different than the regular or 7 Sorrows Rosary, and so it's easier to pray them on a special set of chaplet beads. If you want to make a donation for them, just put the money in a white envelope and mark it and give it to me or put it in the Sunday collection.

Wednesday and Friday 3 pm Holy Hours: Please make it a holy habit to attend, as much as possible, the *Wednesday 3 pm Our Lady Guardian of the Faith Holy Hour* and the *3 pm Friday Divine Mercy Holy Hour*, esp. now that the weather is nice. It is a great time to grow in prayer as we adore our Eucharistic Lord and fulfill what Our Lady asks us to help her with, namely the conversion of hardened sinners here and throughout the world. It is also always a time of special graces as Jesus died on the Cross for our salvation at the 3 o'clock hour, and so I always offer Confessions afterwards at both HH's to help everyone benefit further from the special graces of turning away from sin and toward a life of greater holiness.

Some excellent websites on the Catholic spiritual life: Check out – www.spiritualdirection.com and www.Avila-Institute.com and www.mysticsofthechurch.com. All very good. And if you have questions, ask me.

Blessed Easter water: Take some during the Easter Season – to bless yourself at home.

Books to help one grow in understanding of prayer/interior life: As I mentioned in my homily Sunday, I recommend the following books: the 4th section of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, two little books by Fr. Thomas Dubay, *Prayer Primer* and *Deep Prayer-Deep Conversion* from Ignatius Press; also, the little book the *3 Ways of the Interior Life* by Fr. Reginald Garrigou La-Grange – which leads to his masterwork: the bigger 2 volume work *The 3 Ages of the Interior Life*. Holy reading leads to real prayer.

Daily Catholic Wisdom: See this site where you can sign up for a free daily inspiration to come to your inbox that takes a minute to read - sign up at www.catholicwisdom.org.

Thoughts from the Saints: On True Love for neighbor - "Love for our neighbor consists of the following: to desire the greater good of everyone; to do what good we can when we can; to bear, excuse and hid others' faults; and to pray for others daily, especially for difficult souls" (St. John Vianney). Have a blessed week. ✚

Please Remember In Your Prayers

Those Who Are In Need of Healing:

Karen McAleer, Joan Deike, Cheryl Gross, Sara Pullen, Carolyn Arnold, Sherry Diehl, Ruth Zack, Matt Siehl, Bryan Braman, Mark Fleegle, Scott Ward, Nora Massie, Melissa Baker, Cathy Houseworth, Anita Spiker, Angie Wolfhope, Frank Dohoda, Marie Smith, Mike Montreal, Jordan Seville, Debbie Wertz, Kathleen Tomkosky, Gabriel Grassi, Beverly Clark, Molly Wyman, Nicole Shorey, , Dianna Garvis, Parker Lease, Mary Grace Imgrund, Kathy Nebel, Patrick Fleming Sr., Bruce Leonard, Mary Sue Harris, Mary Anderson, Pat Kohler, Danny Mulhern, Gerald Steves, Fr. John Byrnes, Terry Metivier, Don Hershberger, Carolyn Hershberger, Nadine Naugle, Sandi Fleegle, Nancy Woods, Sandy Rouzer, Emily Diehl, Ed Dudzinski, Fae Montreal, David Hinson, John Sloniger, Tom Futcher, James B. Whisker II, Inga Pepoy, Tina Datesman, Marlene Claycomb, Tara Musselman, Hope Yotko, Catherine Marie Boob, Suzanne Wilk, Evelyn Yost, Charles Cuppett, Edith Cuppett, Peggie Scritchfield, Father John Moineau, Patricia Quarry, Jacob Clark, Melinda Stone, David Brunstretter, Robert Fulmer, Cathy Vent, Matthew Kostelac, Preston Taylor, Liz Anderson, Amanda and Tim Hixenbaugh, Fr. Tom Acklin, Sue Durr, Tina Honkus, Jane H. Davidson, John Wolfhope, Sara Felton, Debbie Porta, Lawrence Quarry, Cpl. Hunner Flint, Barry Leydig, Danielle Henry, Scarlette Chris, Toni Reiss, Barry Fleegle, Rick and Val Dovala, Troy Nelson, Dorothy Natolly, Sherry Kendall, Ernie Imgrund, Patricia Worrell, Richard Grimes. Leesa Keys-Waite, Robert Myers, Brittany Dodson, Dwayne and Edith Smith, Penny Wyman, Cindy Zimmer and John Andzeliik.

To have someone placed on the Prayer list or the Military List, Please call the rectory 623-5526. Please ask the person for their permission before placing them on either list. Please call the rectory to have them removed from the list when they recover or are no longer serving in the military.

In Defense of Our Country Both at Home and Abroad:

Leo Gressick Jr., Jim Hillegass, Richard Keller, Wilbert Litzinger, Mark Popchak, George Pullman, Sean Richards, Michael Ryder, Gregory Smith, Jonathan Vogel, Ryan Smithmyer, Matt Stankan, Jennifer Lindsey Whetstone, Lindsey Zack, Michele Notestine, Heather Dovala, John Bankes, Ian McCoy, Curt Shane, Derrick Bunja, Michael Franklin, Drew Diehl, Adam Wertz, Aaron Ebersole, Michael Haith, Josh Gregor, Katie Simmons, Shaun Shaffer, Daniel Veltre, Justin Porta, Marco Veltre, Jeremy Porta, Patrick Sanders and Cpl. Hunner Flint.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL **814- 979-0272**

April 21 - Fourth Sunday of Easter:

Today, we celebrate “Good Shepherd Sunday” where we reflect on Jesus’ care and love of us.

This month, through your gifts, you enabled the Society of

St. Vincent de Paul to bring the love and care of Jesus to those less fortunate.

If anyone has Rosaries that need repaired please contact Linda Steele at 814-979-0882.

COLLECTION LAST WEEK:

Weekly Envelopes	\$4,824.02
Monthly	833.00
Loose	420.50
Candle	30.00
Easter	35.00
Total	<u>\$6,142.52</u>

There will be a second collection next weekend for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal.

2nd Annual St. Thomas Spring Craft/Vendor Show, Saturday May 4, 2024 9am to 4pm and Sunday May 5, 2024 11am to 3pm at St. Thomas Hall. For more information call 814-494-1608.

April 21, 2024 – 4th Sunday of Easter

On this fourth Sunday of Easter, we hear that Jesus is the Good Shepherd and we are His sheep. In Jesus’ time, a shepherd was someone who protected and guided his sheep. Jesus does this for us and so much more. He is the Shepherd that lays down His life for His sheep. This message calls us to reflect inward – do we allow Jesus to shepherd our lives?

We are Christ’s, even more than a child is to a parent. He created us, brought us forth into the world, and sustains our lives each day. Evil persists in our world so Jesus willingly laid down His life for us at Calvary so that we might be saved. He is our Shepherd, whether we remain in His flock or go astray. Whether we accept His care, protection, and guidance or not, He is our Good Shepherd.

Let us look inward this week and ask ourselves, ‘who is my Shepherd?’ and ‘have I gone astray?’ Name the areas in your life that you have neglected and ask Jesus to bring you home. Pray for His mercy, seek His forgiveness in the sacraments and begin again. Remember that we are His and He is ready for us to come home, as He says, “I know mine, and mine know me.”

RECONCILIATION (Confessions): Saturdays – 3:45 pm

ADORATION: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Will be held every Monday after 8:00 am Mass until 9:00 am

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS: The First Friday of every month after 8:00 am Mass there is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 9:30 am

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS: Mass The First Saturday of every month at 8:00 am. Confessions following.

HOLY HOUR: Friday afternoon at 3:00 pm. Confessions at 4:00 pm.

BAPTISMS OF INFANTS AND CHILDREN: Parents are expected to be registered in the parish and to attend a class on the Sacrament of Baptism before a child is baptized. Due to the hectic schedule that often faces new parents as well as the nature of the material covered, we encourage parents to attend prior to the birth of the child. Call the Rectory Office for an appointment.

MARRIAGES: The Sacrament of Matrimony requires a time of Preparation. Arrangements are to be made with the Priest of the Parish nine months before the date of marriage. Your church date and time are to be set prior to your reception date and time. The Pre-Cana Conferences or Engaged Encounter must be part of the marriage preparation. **Either the bride or the groom or both must be a registered and practicing member of St. Thomas parish.** To make Marriage Preparation arrangements in the parish, call 623-5526.

Children of parishioners are reminded that they are removed from their parents' registration upon their 22nd birthday and must register as an adult member of the parish.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING: Certified diocesan instructors are located throughout the diocese. Contact the diocesan Family Life Office, 814-886-5551; familylife@dioceseaj.org; www.dioceseaj.org/family-life

NEW PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME! Please call the Rectory for an appointment. If you are moving away or returning, please let us know so we can maintain accurate records. Changes in phone number are also appreciated.

INACTIVE CATHOLICS: Baptized Catholics who have not been practicing their faith are most welcome to return Please call or email Fr. Tomkosky if you have questions.

R.C.I.A (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults): This process sees to the needs of adults who wish to become Catholic. Catholics baptized as infants and have never received the Sacraments of First Holy Communion or Confirmation are also invited into this process. Call the Rectory for Details.

CARE OF THE SICK: Those confined to home due to illness or age should contact the Rectory. Arrangements will be made to bring the Eucharist and if needed, the Sacrament of the Sick.

ENVELOPES: Regular use of envelopes provide a stable income for the parish and enables us to prepare a budget. A record of your contributions is kept and a statement will be mailed upon your request.

PROJECT RACHEL: Is a program of counseling, compassion, and healing for women and men who have been involved in an abortion. Call (814) 884-8000 or ProjectRachel@dioceseaj.org **HURTING RELATIONSHIPS?** Spouse to Spouse or Spouse to Child. Call (814) 535-6538.

BIRTHRIGHT: Believes that every pregnant woman has to right to give birth, and every child has the right to be born. Call 1-800-550-4900. www.birthright.org Birthright, 216 Dibert Street, Johnstown, PA 15901

CATHOLIC COUNSELING: Call Catholic Charities...Altoona office... 814-944-9388.

**SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

215 East Penn Street

Bedford, Pennsylvania 15522

PHONE:(814) 623-5526 FAX: (814) 623-1741

WEB SITE: www.webparish.com/aj/thomas

Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

Most Rev. Mark Bartchak, Bishop

SERVING YOUR PARISH

Rev. Richard B. Tomkosky, Pastor

ricopadre@hotmail.com

MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY: 5:00 p.m. Mass in the Church

SUNDAY: 7:00 a.m. Mass in the Church

9:30 a.m. Mass in the Church

Note: The Rosary is recited ½ hour before each Mass.

Confessions: Saturday, 3:45 p.m. in the Church.

Or call the rectory for an appointment.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday 8:00am-12:00pm

Thursday 8:00am-11:30am

All ordinary parish business should be conducted at this time. Please call Father to make an appointment with him at 623-5526 ext.3

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 21, 2024

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

Psalm 33