

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

Fr. Tomkosky's Column

MONDAY 4-29 JAMES RESTLY
8:00AM BOB & MARCIA RESTLY
ADORATION UNTIL 9AM

TUESDAY 4-30 NO MASS

WEDNESDAY 5-1 JAMES LEE
8:00 AM RICHARD & CONSTANCE LETRENT
3:00PM OLG HOLY HOUR

THURSDAY 5-2 DEBBIE & DEBBIE ANN
8:00 AM JIM & SHARON FEIGHT

FRIDAY 5-3 MARK MIKOSZ
8:00 AM DAVE & MARILYN GASH
ADORATION UNTIL 9:30 AM
3:00 PM DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR

SATURDAY 5-4
8:00 AM FOR ALL OF US TO GROW IN
LOVE FOR OUR LADY

5:00 PM WILL JONES
ANNE JONES

SUNDAY 5-5
7:00 AM *PEOPLE OF THE PARISH*
ST. THOMAS AND SEVEN DOLORS

9:30 AM JOHN KUNC, JR
DUDZINSKI FAMILY

Server Schedule:

MAY 4-5

5:00PM	Barb Carrodus	A & T Clark
7:00AM	Al Godissart	Yanoshak
9:30AM	Rick Dovala	Cordova

Mass Readings for May 5

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

Second Reading 1 John 4:7-10

The Gospel John 15:9-17

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. There is a very good website for this very purpose: it is called Catholics Come Home: www.catholicscomehome.org.

Confirmation: 8 11th grade CCD students will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this Tuesday evening in Altoona at the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral at 7 pm from Bp. Bartchak. Please pray for *Dominic Albus, Nico Cordova, Madison Cotchen, Joseph Huxta, Shannon Letrent, Emily Pratt, Kyler Weyant, and Adam Wolfhope* that they always be open to all the graces God wants to give them in this special Sacrament to witness to the Faith now as an adult. Anyone is welcome to attend the Mass too.

1st Saturday: Mass is this Saturday at 8 am. Please make the 5 first Saturday Masses if you haven't already for yourself or to offer for a loved soul who may be in Purgatory.

Planning ahead: Mark it that the Holy Day of obligation of *the Ascension of Jesus* is a week from this Thursday on May 9th. The Mass schedule will be in next week's bulletin.

Free chaplets of St Michael and for the Souls in Purgatory: Please contract me if you want one or both types of chaplets, 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, 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: Attendance has picked up nicely for the *Wednesday 3 pm Our Lady Guardian of the Faith Holy Hour and the 3 pm Friday Divine Mercy Holy Hour*. 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.

Daily Catholic Wisdom: Sign up for a free daily inspiration to come to your inbox that takes a minute to read - sign up at www.catholicwisdom.org, and get a free e-book from the holy priest Fr. Reginald Garrigou La Grange called *Knowing the Love of God*. 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, John Andzelik, Debbie Fisher, Dean Scuderi, Micki McCahan, Gianna Clapper and Barb Isaac.

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 28 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

In the Gospel today, Jesus says “Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.” Indeed, by helping the poor we can “bear much fruit” and we find that with Jesus we can do everything.

Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will show that you are indeed the disciple of Jesus as it will bring your love to those who live in fear and doubt, loneliness, and dread.

Our next regular meeting is Monday, April 29 at 2:00 p.m. in St. Thomas Hall. Please join us.

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

COLLECTION LAST WEEK:

Weekly Envelopes	\$3,399.03
Monthly	225.00
Loose	1,566.88
Candle	26.00
Ash Wednesday	25.00
Easter	70.02
Good Friday	45.00
Black & Indian Missions	25.00
Total	\$ 5,381.93

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.

LECTIO DIVINA: PRAYING WITH THE SCRIPTURES, Saint Thomas Church Hall-Saturday, May 18th 8:00AM-Mass, 8:30AM-3:00PM-Program. Presented by: Sandy Monier and The Women at the Well Prayer Groups. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided at no cost. Any free will offerings will be appreciated. ALL ARE WELCOME. Register by May 13th by calling: Diana-814-330-1938, Pat-814-623-1337 or Susan-706-400-8204

April 28, 2024 – 5th Sunday of Easter

Our readings today teach us what it means to bear fruit as disciples of Christ. We hear in each of our readings that it is from the Lord that good effects will be produced in our lives. And Jesus clearly tells us how to do this in our Gospel, as He says, “I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.” We can remain in Christ by staying faithful to His commandments and frequently receiving the sacraments. And our day to day moments should be a reflection of those commitments.

Let us begin this week reflecting on these questions, ‘how is God bearing fruit in my life?’ and ‘have I invited the Holy Spirit to work in my life?’ Then let us consider the areas of our days that we can more fully invite the Lord into. May we strive to stay connected to the Vine.

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024

**O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.
Psalm 98**