

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

*Fr. Tomkosky's Column*

**MONDAY 12-9**      *PEOPLE OF THE PARISH*  
12:05 PM      ST. THOMAS AND SEVEN DOLORS

**TUESDAY 12-10**      NO MASS

**WEDNESDAY 12-11**      ELIZABETH S. LEE  
8:00 AM      RICHARD & CONSTANCE LETRENT  
3:00PM OLGF HOLY HOUR

**THURSDAY 12-12**      CHARLES BRAINWAITE  
8:00 AM      RICHARD & CONSTANCE LETRENT

**FRIDAY 12-13**      MARK YOUNG  
8:00 AM      DOUG YOUNG  
ADORATION UNTIL 9:30AM  
3PM HOLY HOUR

**SATURDAY 12-14**  
5:00 PM      ROBERT RYAN  
                 ANNE JONES

**SUNDAY 12-15**  
7:00 AM      *PEOPLE OF THE PARISH*  
                 ST. THOMAS AND SEVEN DOLORS

9:30 AM      ROSS TORRES  
                 MOM & DAD

### 4:00 PM PENANCE SERVICE

#### Server Schedule:

#### DECEMBER 14-15

5:00PM	Barb Carrodus	Cotchen
7:00AM	Larry Smith	A. Clark
9:30AM	Santo Collura	D & K Long

Mass Readings for December 15  
First Reading Zephaniah 3:14-18a  
Second Reading Philippians 4:4-7  
  
The Gospel Luke 3:10-18

**Holy Day of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady and the need to go to Mass twice this week-end:** I will have the normal Mass at 5 pm on Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup>, and on Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> there will be no 7 am Mass, but only the 9:30 am Mass, then I will go down to have Noon Mass at Beans Cove **for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**; and come back and do a 6:30 pm Mass here for the Vigil of the Immaculate Conception. Then on Monday December 9<sup>th</sup>, I will have Mass for the Immaculate Conception here at St. Thomas at 12:05, and then at Seven Dolors in Beans Cove at 7 pm. Plan accordingly.

**The St. Thomas Advent Penance Service:** will be on next Sunday Dec 15 at 4 pm. There will be 5 priests hearing Confessions – take advantage of this opportunity.

**General Confession:** If you want to do a Confession of your whole life up to this point to get a fresh start with God and grow spiritually, please call or email me during Advent.

**Brown Scapular:** Of Our Lady of Mt Carmel- let me know if you want to be enrolled in.

**Winter reminder:** If school in Bedford is cancelled or delayed: for the safety of everyone when the winter weather is bad, **we will cancel 8 am daily Mass** and will reschedule the intention to the first open date on our Mass calendar. Also, if Bedford school is cancelled on a Weds or Friday, the 3 pm Holy Hour is cancelled as well.

**Great Meditation book to get:** *Divine Intimacy* by Fr. Gabriel of Mary Magdalene. You can find a one volume leather hardback copy at Baronius Press (<https://www.baronius.com/devotional.html>), or get it on your Amazon Kindle broken into 4 smaller books at [www.amazon.com/kindle/books](http://www.amazon.com/kindle/books).

**New EWTN winter program guides:** Take one on the radiators and watch some shows.

**Lending Library:** Before or after Mass, go to the library to borrow a good book or DVD or CD to help you and your loved ones grow in the understanding of the treasure of our Catholic faith and the spiritual life, esp. in these challenging times. Remember good spiritual reading helps us grow into deeper spiritual union with the Blessed Trinity.

**Info about the Divine Mercy Devotion and helping the Souls in Purgatory:** Go online and read the new **Winter 2022** quarterly Marian Helper magazine at: [www.marian.org/imh/](http://www.marian.org/imh/). There is also info on how to join **the Marian helpers** which is a great Catholic group to belong to with many spiritual benefits and **the Holy Souls Sodality** to help the souls in Purgatory (see [PrayForSouls.org](http://PrayForSouls.org) or call: 1-800-462-7426). You can also check out their You Tube channel with many good Catholic videos [www.youtube.com/MarianHelpers](http://www.youtube.com/MarianHelpers). And if you or anyone you love needs prayers, please call the Divine Mercy Prayer line at 1-800-804-3823 or go online to: [www.marian.org/prayerline](http://www.marian.org/prayerline). And they have a great online Catholic store at <https://divinemercurygiftshop.org/> (1-888-484-1112) for purchasing rosaries; metals of the saints, artwork, books, etc.

**Thoughts from the Saints:** On Mary's Immaculate Conception – *“The Immaculate Conception is the promising dawn of the radiant day of Christ”* (Pope St. John Paul II). 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, 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, 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, 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, Cathy Vent, Matthew Kostelac, Preston Taylor, Amanda and Tim Hixenbaugh, Fr. Tom Acklin, Sue Durr, Tina Honkus, Sara Felton, Debbie Porta, Cpl. Hunner Flint, Barry Leydig, Danielle Henry, Scarlett Chris, Toni Reiss, Barry Fleegle, Rick and Val Dovala, Troy Nelson, Sherry Kendall, Ernie Imgrund, Patricia Worrell, Richard Grimes, Leesa Keys-Waite, Robert Myers, Penny Wyman, Cindy Zimmer, John Andzelik, Debbie Fisher, Barb Isaac, Sal Santino, Adam Wright, Cora Sue Sheirer, Jeremy Porta, Sue Prescott, Dan Grazer and Marlene Rankin.

**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, 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, Adam Wertz, Aaron Ebersole, Michael Haith, Josh Gregor, Katie Simmons, Shaun Shaffer, Daniel Veltre, Justin Porta, Marco Veltre, Jeremy Porta, Cpl. Hunner Flint, Zackary Richards and Jullian Taylor.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

**814- 979-0272**

**December 1-First Sunday of Advent:**

As we begin Advent we are called to “wait” in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. Wherever you live in our parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home.

**Your gifts in the St. Vincent de Paul poor box enabled the Society to assist and bless those families in the following ways during the month of November: utilities (heat, water, electric, etc.) – 12, food – 3, rent – 5, medical needs – 1, motor vehicle needs – 3. 15 families received Thanksgiving food vouchers provided by the parishioners of St. John’s Church in Everett, 2 families received donated turkeys and trimmings for a Thanksgiving meal. In all 41 families received assistance during the month of November. There was incredible response and generosity from our supporters. Thank you and God bless you!**

**December 8-Second Sunday of Advent:**

In today’s Gospel John the Baptist urges us to “Prepare the way of the Lord,” and this is what Advent is all about. We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need.

**Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas. If anyone has Rosaries that need repaired or if you want any type of chaplet please contact Linda Steele at 814-979-2838.**

**COLLECTION LAST WEEK: 11/24/2024 and 12/1/2024**

Weekly Envelopes	\$3,715.25
Monthly	130.00
Loose	264.10
Candle	10.00
All Saints Day	60.00
Catholic Charities	255.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,434.35</b>

Weekly Envelopes	\$3,716.25
Monthly	1,348.00
Loose	585.45
Candle	13.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,662.70</b>

**THERE WILL BE A SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND FOR THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS.**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00PM IN CHAMBERS.**

**St. Thomas Hall’s 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Craft/Vendor Show. Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> 9am-4pm and Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> 11am-3pm.**

**The winners for the November drawing of the St. Thomas Ladies Guild 500 Club are: Phyllis Colvin, Dave Pytel, Becky Gallagher, Phyllis Hodgkins**

**ADVENT/CHRISTMAS CHOIR**

**I am looking for anyone (all ages) who would be interested in singing in the choir, for the Christmas Eve Mass. We will practice on a couple Wednesdays before Christmas. If you are interested, please call or text Missy Territo at 814-977-8074.**

**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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:familylife@dioceseaj.org); [www.dioceseaj.org/family-life](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**DECEMBER 8, 2024**

**O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations,  
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard  
in the joy of your heart.**

**Isaiah**