

# Holy Family Parish

401 W. North St.  
Mt. Sterling, IL 62353



# St. Thomas Catholic Church

109 E. Spring, Camp Point, IL 62320

Rectory: (217) 773-3233  
E-mail: [holy.family@smseagle.org](mailto:holy.family@smseagle.org)

## Parish Staff

Rev. Aaron Kuhn, Pastor – (217) 242-9669  
Deacon Michael P. Ellerman  
Ashley Guthrie, Bookkeeper  
Tammy McKeown, Parish & School Secretary  
Cheryl Dillard, Liturgical Music Coordinator  
Ann O'Sullivan, PSR  
D.R.E: Laura Evans – (217) 316-1734

School: St. Mary (217) 773-2825  
Website: [www.smseagle.org](http://www.smseagle.org)  
Principal: Melissa Obert

## Mass Schedule

Daily: 7:00 a.m. (Tues.-Thurs.)  
Saturday: 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:00 a.m.  
Holy days: 8:30 a.m. (during school year), 5:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Penance  
Saturday: 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration  
First weekend of month

Phone (217) 593-6685, (217) 773-3233  
E-mail: [stthomascp@gmail.com](mailto:stthomascp@gmail.com)

Parish Secretary: Pat Sharow – (217) 209-4765

Arts & Environment: Amanda Genenbacher – (217) 257-3184  
Liturgical Music Coordinator: Anita Witt – (217) 440-9060  
Renting of Hall: Cathy Holtschlag – 217-430-7493  
Community for Christ Assistance Center Board Member:  
Dorothy Obert – (217) 593-6520  
Ministry Schedule: Bobbi Mock – (217) 430-2859  
CHWC Director: Karen Janssen – (217) 242-5283  
D.R.E: Laura Evans – (217) 316-1734

Sunday Mass 10:00 a.m.  
Holy Day: 7:30 p.m.

First Friday Adoration of the Eucharist 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
First Friday Mass 6:00 p.m. also Reconciliation after Mass

Ladies Bible Study Wednesday 9:30 a.m.

PSR classes Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Men & Women's Society Meeting 1st Thursday 7:00 p.m.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting – 2nd Thursday 7:00 p.m.  
Website: [www.stthomascp.org](http://www.stthomascp.org)  
<https://stthomascp.formed.org>

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### Monday, April 26 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 11:1-18; John 10:1-10

Communion Service

### Tuesday, April 27 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 11:19-26; John 10:22-30

Marilyn Mating  
(By Norma Hufnagel)

### Wednesday, April 28 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr;  
St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest  
Acts of the Apostles 12:24-13:5a; John 12:44-50

Dewaine Clayton  
(By Ed and Norma Markert)

### Thursday, April 29 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church  
Acts of the Apostles 13:13-25; John 13:16-20

Chris Clevenger  
(By Becky Render)

### Friday, April 30 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Pius V, Pope  
Acts of the Apostles 13:26-33; John 14:1-6

Lucille Wagner  
(By Nancy Salrin)

### Friday, April 30 – 8:30 a.m.

**(School Mass)**

### Friday, April 30 – 9:30 a.m.

**(School Mass)**

### Saturday, May 1 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Joseph the Worker  
Acts of the Apostles 13:44-52; John 14:7-14

Terry Dillard  
(By Cheryl Dillard)

### Sunday, May 2 – 8:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8

Parishioners of Holy Family

### St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Eugene Steinkamp  
(By Barb Steinkamp)

### St. Thomas – 11:30 a.m.

Parishioners of St. Thomas

## HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

April 17-18, 2021

Holy Family: \$2807.01  
School Support: \$610.00  
Sister Parish: \$10.00  
Easter: \$460.00

Operation Rice Bowl: \$25.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

## ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

April 18, 2021

St. Thomas: \$2,254.00  
Easter: \$20.00

Catholic Home Mission: \$50.00

St. Thomas weekly budgeted amount: \$3,000

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❖ **Red Cross Blood Drive:** One donated pint of blood can benefit up to three people who are in need. The blood that is donated here at the drive in Mt Sterling will have a great chance of staying local. **The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be located at the Legion Hall on Wednesday, April 28, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.** Please call Mary Kassing (217-257-3117) or the Red Cross (800-733-2767) for an appointment.
- ❖ **Nocturnal Adoration:** Saturday, May 1 beginning at 10:00 p.m. and concluding on May 2 at 7:45 a.m. Since we skipped April, you should come for your May hour (for example, if you came at 10:00 in March you should come at midnight in May).

Please contact Tammy at (217) 773-2825 or [tmckeown@smseagle.org](mailto:tmckeown@smseagle.org) with any information you wish to have placed in the bulletin. I will need any information by Monday at 2:00 p.m. for insertion into the next weekend's bulletin.

## OFFICE HOURS

*School Office hours will be Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Our phone number is (217) 773-2825.*

*The rectory phone number is: (217) 773-3233.*

## SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

### Please keep the following in your prayers:

All Caregivers † The shut-ins of our parish and community † Matthew Bishop † For the safety of all of our military † For a Special Intention † Gay Gunn † Don & Marie Hendren † Jolene Lawson † Sharon Johnson † Gavin McDaniel † Boyd Tenhouse † Donna Reische † Janice Leverton † Jack Pool † Gary Shields † Carroll Hedden † Bonnie Meats † Abby Schuardt † Jack Cannon † Kim Koch † Betty (Koch) Atteberry † Jim Steinkamp † Pat Parker † Jenny Fox † Carrie Haskins † Heather Poppy † Stanley Harms † Pat Boylen † Michelle Baucom-Keller † Myles Keller † Maisy Keller † Faye Greenwell † Carol Eickelschulte † Kimberly Kestner & Baby † Sheila Thompson † Suzanne Forsythe † J. J. Gronewold † Jack Johnson † Rhonda Koch † John Norkus † Jim Wort † Marilyn Wort † Cal Noelke † Joe Ray † Arika Pipkin † Maryann Yeakel † Kimberly McKinny † Marilyn Kerr † Bryce Shank † Elaine Parkin & family †

## ST. THOMAS

We will celebrate our St. Thomas parishioners who are graduating (8th grade, high school or college) at Mass on May 16 (time TBA).

If this is you, please reach out to Laura Evans either on Facebook or email ([levans@adams.net](mailto:levans@adams.net)) so we can include you in the bulletin! Also, if you would like to be a reader during Mass, please let her know as well!

**Mother's Day May 9 is the kickoff for Care Net Pregnancy Services Annual Baby Bottle**

**Blitz.** Care Net is a crisis pregnancy center that offers free services to women, men, and their families who are facing unplanned pregnancy. Baby bottles will be placed in the back of St. Thomas Church on Mother's Day. Please pick up a baby bottle and place your loose change in it and return the bottle Father's Day June 20.

There is currently legislation in the Illinois house to repeal the Parental Notification Act, that requires a parent or legal guardian to be notified when a minor under age 18 seeks an abortion. There was an article in the Catholic Times April 4, 2021 explaining the attempt to repeal this law and where it will lead. Please contact your state lawmaker, who for most of us would be Jill Tracy, and ask her to vote "No" to legislation that would repeal Illinois' Parental Notification Law.

## ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

### May 2, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.

**Sacristan:** Jim Clausius

**Lector:** Bobbi Mock

**Ushers:** Butch Likes, Mike Likes

### May 2, 2021 - 11:30 a.m.

**Lector:** McKenzie Wilkey

**Ushers:** Matt Schmidt, Andrew Llewellyn

## From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Fourth Sunday of Easter, also known as Good Shepherd Sunday (hence the Gospel of the Good Shepherd we hear today). Today is also designated as the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd who knows us, who cares for us, and who willingly lays down His life for us. In our second reading for today from the First Letter of St. John we hear this: Beloved, we are God's children now. Indeed, we are children of a God who will do anything to protect us and care for us because of His great love for us.

Jesus, the Incarnation of God's perfect and abundant love for us, provides an image for this love in the Gospel, an image of a good shepherd, an example and an image that would have been well understood at the time and is cause for us to understand as well.

"I am the Good Shepherd," Jesus says. A good shepherd is not a hired hand who, when trouble comes, flees from it rather than facing it, leaving the sheep exposed to danger and death. Jesus makes that clear to us. Rather, the Good Shepherd is one who knows His own sheep, He cares for His own sheep and leads them to safety, and He never flees from danger.

The Good Shepherd lays down His life for his sheep. In the relatively short Gospel passage for today, Jesus says five different times that the Good Shepherd "lays down his life" for His sheep.

As human beings, we face many dangers in our lifetime, many threats to our safety and well-being. We may face sickness, loss, fear or any number of other things. We may face ridicule, or we may worry for our loved ones; we may struggle with loneliness, have anxiety, or we may struggle with sin.

Yet Jesus knows us. We are the sheep of His flock. He sees us as we are, with all of our accomplishments and all of our failures. Jesus cares for us, and He shepherds us through this world, and our life of faith.

We can take comfort by trusting in God and in Jesus, the Good Shepherd, and by remembering these things: Jesus knows us, He knows what we face; He understands our fears, our loss, our struggles; He knows everything about us, and He does not flee from this information, He does not run away like the hired hand. Rather, our Good Shepherd, the Lord Himself, cares for us and remains with us to protect us. Our Good Shepherd loves us, so much so that He laid down his life for us.

And now just a few notes:

-WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS - As I mentioned before, today is designated as World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We pray in a special way this day for Vocations to the Priesthood and the Consecrated Life. I invite you all to join in offering special prayers this day for this particular intention.

-GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY - Also as I mentioned before, the Fourth Sunday of Easter is designated Good Shepherd Sunday. As I already noted, the Gospel for today reminds us that Christ is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for us. So too, we are called to lay down our lives, to hand our lives completely over to the Lord. As we reflect on Christ as the Good Shepherd, let us also reflect more fully on how the Lord is calling us to lay down our lives, how He is calling us to hand ourselves completely over to Him. It is only in doing so that we will have the fullness of life. Isn't it so interesting, in some ways, that the only way to have fullness of life, complete freedom, and the hope of Eternal Life is to hand our lives totally and completely over to the Lord, recognizing that our lives are not our own. May we always be open to the Lord's promptings in our life to do just that and respond always with a generous heart.

-CONFIRMATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - Several of our young people from both parishes will be receiving the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion next weekend. While the conferral of these Sacraments is ordinarily done by the Bishop, Bishop Paprocki's permission for Pastors to Confirm and give First Holy Communion is still in place.

Confirmation and First Holy Communion will be at Holy Family on Saturday, May 1 at the 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass.

Confirmation and First Holy Communion will be at St. Thomas on Sunday, May 2 at the 11:30 a.m. Mass.

I ask you to keep all of the young people who will be receiving these

Sacraments in your prayers. It is with great joy that we celebrate these Sacraments with our young people, and it is a great honor for me to be able to confer these Sacraments.

-NOCTURNAL ADORATION - Nocturnal Adoration will be at Holy Family beginning at 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 1 and will go overnight until the start of the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday. Benediction will be around 7:45 a.m. on Sunday morning. I encourage you spend some time in front of the Blessed Sacrament if you are able.

-COFFEE AND DONUTS - We are planning to resume monthly coffee and donuts at St. Thomas. Our plan is to have coffee and donuts next Sunday, May 2 after Mass. Please plan to join us. Listen for more details at Mass.

-MEMORIAL OF ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER - On March 19 we celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph, the Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On May 1, we celebrate the memorial of St. Joseph the Worker. St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, foster-father of Jesus, and spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary is certainly significant to us and held in high esteem. As we celebrate the memorial of St. Joseph the Worker, I will be celebrating Mass at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 1 at Holy Family. We pray for St. Joseph's intercession and on this day in particular, we pray for all those who labor. St Joseph, Pray for us!

-FEAST OF ST. MARK - We ordinarily celebrate the feast of St. Mark on April 25. This year, of course, the Fourth Sunday of Easter takes precedence over that celebration. Still, we remain mindful of St. Mark on whose Feast Day it is customary to have the Blessing of Fields and Flocks. As our farmers work to prepare and plant the fields and care for livestock, we ask for St. Mark's intercession in keeping them safe and that their labors may bear much fruit.

-MEMORIAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK  
- April 28 is the memorial of St. Peter

Chanel. St. Peter Chanel was a priest, a French Marist missionary on the Pacific Islands of Wallis and Futuna. St. Peter Chanel was martyred in 1841.

April 28 is also the memorial of St. Louis Mary de Montfort who died in 1716. St. Louis de Montfort founded the Congregation of the Daughters of Wisdom and established numerous confraternities for the recitation of the Rosary. St. Louis de Montfort also founded the Missionaries of the Company of Mary (S.M.M.), today numbering about 850 religious. St. Louis de Montfort's chief work is "True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin" and is widely known for promoting devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

April 29 is the Obligatory Memorial of St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church. St. Catherine died in 1380 and is noted as a peacemaker in the Church and renewer of religious life. She was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970. She is the Patroness of Italy and Co-Patroness of Europe.

April 30 is the memorial of St. Pius V, Pope. St. Pius V died on May 1, 1572 and was canonized on May 22, 1712. He implemented the reforms of the Council of Trent and promulgated the Roman Catechism, the Roman Missal, and the Roman Breviary.

-POPE'S INTENTION FOR MAY - "The world of Finance. Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers."

-PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN - If you have not previously participated in a Protecting God's Children training, there are opportunities to do so in-person once again but you can also still do it online. Those in the parishes that are volunteering in any way need to complete this training. The online option is a great option and opportunity. Please let me know if you need to complete this and I will get you the information on how to complete it

online. Background check renewals may also be needed for some folks. If you receive a renewal form from us, please complete and sign it and return it to us as soon as possible. This is only a background check renewal. The Protecting God's Children training is one-time only and does not need to be repeated. Background checks are renewed periodically. If you do the online training, we will need you to complete a hard copy Background Check form as this is not available online.

-DAILY PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS - I want to encourage you to join folks around the Diocese at 4:40 each day in praying one Hail Mary for our Diocese to have 40 seminarians. This was begun some time ago and I hope that you will join us in this.

-REMINDER - Please help us to keep our Churches neat, clean, and beautiful. Take some time to straighten the books in the pews before you leave and to attend to any other housekeeping items that you may notice.

-DOORS - If you are visiting Holy Family Church, as you leave the church, please make sure the door is securely latched as you leave. Sometimes you have to push on the door to make sure it latches. Thank you for your attention to this.

-SERVERS - I know there has been some interest expressed in serving which is great. I will be setting up some training for this in each parish. If you are interested in serving, please let me know. I'd really like to have a big list of servers for each parish. What a great privilege it is to serve for Mass!

-USHERS - I am still looking for ushers that we can begin scheduling at Holy Family. Please let me know if you are interested. If I reach out to you for ushering, please consider saying yes to helping us usher at Mass from time to time.

Thank you all for your continued prayers and support for me, one another, our parishes and school, and the Universal Church. You remain in my prayers each day. Happy Easter to each of you. May you have a most blessed week.

-Fr. Aaron

**Bulletin Short for  
Fourth Sunday of Easter - 25 April 2021**

**Being Good.** Jesus is good. He is the best of shepherds. He knows and protects, leads and loves. He offers himself as a pattern for our own living.

- Who needs my guidance?
- Who needs my love and protection?
- How will I be good today, this week, this Easter Time?

**FROM THE DRE**

**Parish Wide Couples Study**

Do you rarely get a date night with your spouse? We have taken care of that for you! Make plans for date night every Saturday after the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday at Holy Family. Plan to head to the K of C Hall afterwards for a meal and a study where, together with your spouse, you will discover why marriage matters, the truth about the commitment in love, God's plan for true spiritual and physical intimacy, skills for communicating, and resolving conflict, the importance of forgiveness and healing, ways to thrive in marriage, and so much more! We are hoping to provide childcare if it is needed! Join us May 15 and 22, June 12, July 24, and August 14. Contact Laura Evans to sign up at 217-316-1734 or [levans8783@gmail.com](mailto:levans8783@gmail.com). This is for **BOTH** Holy Family and St. Thomas Parishioners! *Laura will be on maternity leave starting March 8, so any early registration that could occur would be much appreciated!*

**IT ALL WORKS FOR GOOD!**

Welcome back singers! Our Missal and Music Issue are in the pew. Please sing the hymns with us. The numbers are on the board.

If you aren't comfortable singing, **read** the words to yourself as they are sung. The hymns are chosen to enhance the liturgy of each Mass.

Thanks!

Your Church Musicians



Are you passionate about teaching students and want to work for a school that values you as a professional? If so, St. Mary School has a position for you!

St. Mary School is looking for a 2nd Grade teacher and an additional full-time Preschool teacher. SMS supports a culture of critical thinking, problem-solving, and character development. The ability to exhibit a variety of teaching methodologies is preferred as well. Candidates must have a valid teaching certificate.

The responsibilities of a teacher at SMS include: positive rapport with students; preparation of materials for class; complete midterm and quarterly report cards; participate in parent-teacher conferences, administer assessments, participate in faculty and profession meetings, and develop lesson plans.

Why should you apply? St. Mary School has small class sizes, comparable compensation and benefits to the public school, 40-minute consecutive prep time each day, teacher collaboration, mentor teachers, positive and supportive atmosphere, and a family environment! If you are interested, please send your resume to Melissa Obert, 408 W. Washington, Mt. Sterling, IL, 62353 or email at [mobert@smseagle.org](mailto:mobert@smseagle.org).

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL**

Does anyone have gently used towels and/or washcloths they would be willing to donate to the K of C Hall? If so, please contact Beth Boylen at 217-242-1237.

### **PRAYER FOR PRIESTS**

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests.

Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments.

Help our priests to be strong in their vocation.

Set their souls on fire with love for your people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.

Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.

Allow them to experience joy in their ministry.

Help them to become instruments of your divine grace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest.

Amen.

### ***Healing Prayer***

*Heavenly Father, we pray that You will lay your healing Hands upon all those who are sick. We beg You to have compassion on all those who are suffering so that they may be delivered from their pitiful circumstances.*

*In Jesus, we pray.*

*Amen.*



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