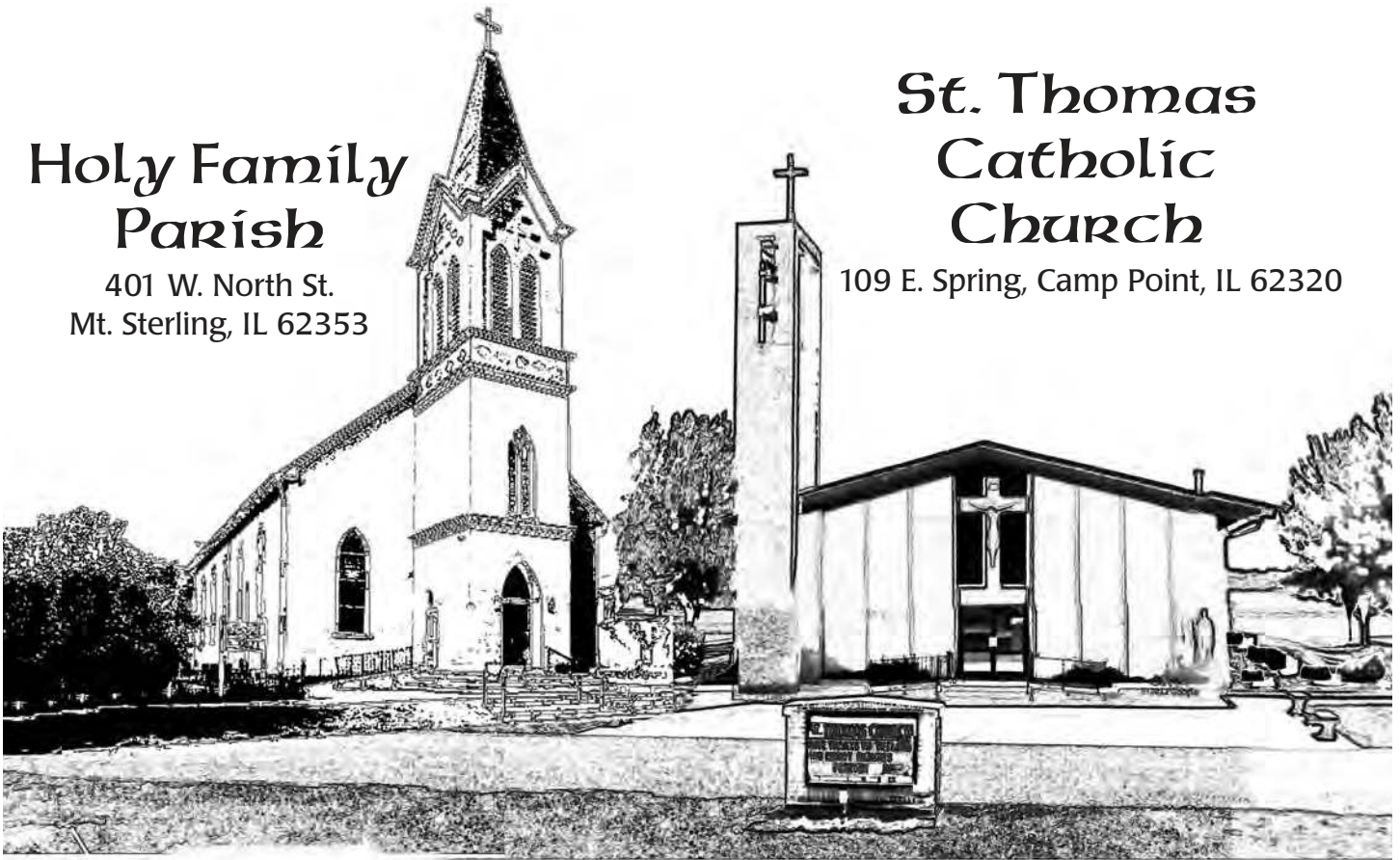


Holy Family Parish

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

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
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

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
<https://stthomascp.formed.org>

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, June 14 – 7:00 a.m.

2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Matthew 5:38-42

Communion Service

Tuesday, June 15 – 7:00 a.m.

2 Corinthians 8:1-9; Matthew 5:43-48

Communion Service

Wednesday, June 16 – 7:00 a.m.

2 Corinthians 9:6-11; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Paul, Frances & Larry Schenk and
Ruth James

(By the Schenk Families)

Thursday, June 17 – 7:00 a.m.

2 Corinthians 11:1-11; Matthew 6:7-15

James G. & Norma M. Wort
(By the Children)

Friday, June 18 – 7:00 a.m.

2 Corinthians 11:18, 21-30; Matthew 6:19-23

Beth Clark
(By Robin McGee)

Saturday, June 19 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Romuald, Abbot; BVM
2 Corinthians 12:1-10; Matthew 6:24-34

Ramon Hufnagel
(By the Family)

Sunday, June 20 – 8:00 a.m.

Job 38:1, 8-11; 2 Corinthians 5:14-27; Mark 4:35-41

Jack Logsdon
(By the Family)

St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Parishioners of Holy Family & St. Thomas

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

June 5-6, 2021

Holy Family: \$11,805.00

Sister Parish: \$20.00

School Support: \$852.00

Retired Diocesan Priests: \$20.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

June 6, 2021

St. Thomas: \$2,276.00

Sister Parish: \$160.00

Retired Diocesan Priests: \$100.00

Parish Improvement: \$25.00

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please contact Tammy at (217) 773-2825 or 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 - Tuesday - 8:00 a.m.-12:00 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 Schuhardt † Jack Cannon † Kim Koch † Betty (Koch) Atteberry † Jim Steinkamp † Jenny Fox † Carrie Haskins † Heather Poppy † Stanley Harms † Pat Boylen † Michelle Baucom-Keller † Myles Keller † Maisy Keller † Carol Eickelschulte † Kimberly Kestner & Baby † Sheila Thompson

† J. J. Gronewold † Jack Johnson † John Norkus
† Jim Wort † Marilyn Wort † Carolyn Kassing
† Cal Noelke † Joe Ray † Maryann Yeakel
† Kimberly McKinny † Marilyn Kerr † Bryce Shank
† Elaine Parkin & family † Liz Bohannan & Baby Jack
† Dawn Stoecker † Rick Parker † Barb Kuhn
† Andy Ray † Derry Schnelle † Mary Klingele Ahmed

Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family of Bill O'Sullivan who passed away on June 6, 2021. May God keep you in His care! Eternal Rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let Perpetual Light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

ST. THOMAS

St. Thomas Vacation Bible School - Planning is underway for VBS to be held August 2-6. I am in a unique situation of needing multiple teachers and helpers this year. Please prayerfully consider helping either in a classroom, the kitchen, or decorating. All help is needed, all ages. Our young children look forward to this week all year long and it's so rewarding, seeing the smiles on their faces. Please consider joining us. Please call or text, Kailyn Mast at 217-617-0282.

St. Thomas - 4th of July at the Park

St. Thomas is serving homemade ice cream and pie at the 4th of July celebration at Bailey Park. We can use your help. We need folks to serve at the park (short 2-hour shifts), setting up, and tearing down. And, of course, making pies or brownies. We will have a sign-up table after Sunday Mass.

If you can help defray the cost of ingredients by making a donation, that would be greatly appreciated. You can leave your donation at the sign-up table or put it in the collection basket marked "ice cream donation". Thank you for your support.

Men & Women's Society Needs You! Please consider coming to our next meeting on June

24 at 7 p.m. at the hall. We will discuss the upcoming 4th of July ice cream and dessert at Bailey Park, and the Ice Cream Social on August 18. Did you know that as members of St. Thomas, you are already a member! We need all the help we can get, so just bring your willingness to serve. Remember, we are the hands and feet of Jesus here on earth; as He came to serve, so should we. The meetings are usually on the first Thursdays of the month at 7:00 p.m., unless scheduled otherwise, like our meeting on June 24.

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

June 20, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Brent Obert

Lector: Jenny Obert

Ushers: Brent Obert, Tony Obert

From the Pastor's Desk

Have you ever said to yourself, or maybe even to someone else, "What kind of impact will my small contribution even make?" Now this could come about in any number of ways... "Oh, they won't miss just one; they won't even notice if I'm there or not; one more won't hurt; this is such a little amount, it's not even a drop in the bucket; that's a bigger problem than I can solve; I don't know anything about that, so I'll just stay out of it." Now that contribution could be any number of things...time, money, encouragement, advice, attention to detail, fulfilling responsibilities, prayer, so on and so forth.

When I was in seminary, since many of us were away at parishes on the weekends, and to try to get a more accurate count for food service, one person from each living quarter (what we call a CAM) was asked to collect information each week about who would be at each meal for the weekend and turn it into the kitchen. Now, it didn't have to be an exact science, but it was meant to be useful in preparing sufficient food, but not an overabundance so as to waste it. There were 15 CAMS. When asked

why he wasn't taking weekly counts, the guy in my CAM responsible for that said "Two or three people won't make any difference...the kitchen makes food by the pan full. I just turn in the same number every week."

Well, true, two or three people probably wouldn't cause a shortage or excess of food. But if everyone had that same attitude, and you multiply 2 or 3 by 15, suddenly you have 30-45 people. Now that's a much bigger impact. And that's the impact that your small contribution and my small contribution will make. And you see, regardless of the cooperation of the person on the CAM responsible for this, food services continued...it couldn't nor didn't come to a halt. But it was potentially those whom the kitchen was serving, primarily the seminarians, that would lose out the most because of the attitude that this small responsibility just didn't matter.

Our readings today speak to this point. They speak to what we are called to do but also how God works, with or without us. You see, God's work is carried out whether we cooperate or not, but when we choose not to, we will be the ones who lose out. St. Paul in our second reading today tells us to aspire to please the Lord "for we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil." And now that's something pretty strong to take note of.

The first reading and the Gospel for today speak of God's work and His Kingdom and how that comes about. God's Kingdom emerges from the smallest beginnings, like the mustard seed in the parable in the Gospel, and grows almost imperceptible over time like the seed scattered on the ground that we also heard about in the Gospel. And it is God's work that brings this about as we heard in the first reading...the Lord brings low the high tree, lifts high the lowly tree, withers up the green tree, and makes the withered

tree bloom. So often we fall into thinking that WE have accomplished these things, that it is OUR work. But no, God makes it clear that it is HIS work, often done through us and through what He calls us to do.

And while the Kingdom of God grows almost unperceivable, so too can evil if we're not on guard against it. Little acts of turning away from God and turning toward sin makes it grow all the more acceptable and easier to do until it has reached a point of overtaking us. A regular and honest examination of our life and seeking forgiveness and healing in the Sacrament of Reconciliation can help us to build a life of virtue centered on God.

Today's readings call us to look at our own lives and the things we do or don't do, those small things that help to build the Kingdom of God or those little things that detract from it. We are reminded that the smallest of gestures can and do have a big impact, even if we don't see it immediately, or ever for that matter. But a kind word to someone who is hurting may make all the difference to that person. It may turn their life around. A word or note of encouragement to someone about a vocation could be just the spark that is needed to develop that vocation. A short prayer for someone who has offended us may be the beginning of healing and reconciliation needed for both persons. You get the idea. Never underestimate what the smallest of actions or words can do...good or bad.

And it's also helpful at the same time to reflect on and recognize all of the small, little things that God and others do for us each and every day. Often times we miss out on recognizing these opportunities, but let's begin today to consciously pay attention to what others and our Lord are doing for us and offer thanks and praise to God for that.

Finally, our readings also give us hope in the face of trial and persecution. As mentioned earlier, God's work will always

be carried out. Sometimes we're faced with pessimism and apprehension about what is going on around us, and rightly so sometimes. "How can and how will the Church ever survive" we might find ourselves asking. But our Catholic faith has survived and endured, and even grown over the past 2000 plus years despite persecution, despite governments trying to obliterate it, despite people's unwillingness to repent and turn toward God. You see, the Church is a sign of the Kingdom of God, guided and protected by the Holy Spirit. We have that assurance. And so, it is with great hope and joy that we proclaim the Kingdom of God.

And so, let us give thanks to God for all He has done for us, for all He does for us, and let us ask the Lord to open our hearts to do the work He calls us to do to spread His Kingdom here on earth, mindful of those little words and actions that have a huge impact. And let us remain hopeful in the coming of God's Kingdom as we carry on with doing God's work in today's world.

And now just a few notes:

- COMMUNION SERVICE - I am unable to be at the parish Tuesday morning, June 15, so I am planning to have a Communion Service on that day at the regular 7:00 a.m. time at Holy Family. Thank you for your understanding.

- PIE AND ICE CREAM - St. Thomas will once again be serving homemade ice cream and pie at the Fourth of July Celebration in Bailey Park in Camp Point. We need folks to help and to bring pies. There will be a sign-up after the Sunday Mass the next couple of weeks to sign up. I ask you to do what you can to help support this. There is also a need for ice cream containers. If you have some, please drop them off at the hall or church.

- VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - Vacation Bible School at St. Thomas is August 2 through August 6, 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

each evening. More information will be forthcoming.

- ETERNAL REST - We have recently had several deaths of parishioners from both parishes including Faye Greenwell, Pat Parker, Elinor Davis, and Bill O'Sullivan. I would ask you to pray each day for the repose of their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed.

- PRAYERS FOR THE SICK - We also have a number of parishioners from both parishes, as well as friends and family of parishioners, who are or have been hospitalized, some with very serious health concerns. We pray for them and for all those who are sick or suffering in any way, known or unknown to us.

- HOSPITALIZATIONS - If you or a family member are ever hospitalized, I encourage you to personally let me know as soon as possible either by contacting me directly or by calling the office. If there is an emergency and a need for the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick immediately, please do not hesitate to call me on my cell phone any time, day or night. I will make every effort possible to get there right away or find a priest in the area.

- HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS - I would also like to make sure all of our homebound parishioners are receiving regular visits. If you or a parishioner you know is homebound, again, please let me know so that I can arrange a visit.

- 60TH JUBILEE - Sister Marcelline Koch, OP, recently celebrated her 60th Jubilee, 60 years of Religious Life with the Springfield Dominican Sisters. Many of you, of course, know Sister Marcelline and her family as she is a native of Mt. Sterling. Sister Sara Koch, who died in 2020, and Sister Marcelline were cousins. Sister Marcelline has served in a number of roles including teaching and administration and leadership. Two of her siblings, Barb Lehne and Deacon Paul Koch, still reside in

Mt. Sterling. Sister Marcelline also has a brother, Carl, in Aurora and a brother, Leon, in Wausau, Wisconsin. Sister Marcelline says that she finds great joy in being a Religious Sister. To young people discerning a call to consecrated life, she says this: "Don't be afraid. Let your YES be bold and courageous."

Sixty years is a great milestone, and we offer our congratulations to Sister Marcelline. Please continue to pray for all of our priests and religious, and that folks continue to respond generously to God's call in their life.

– BAPTISMS – We recently welcomed two new members into the Church through Baptism. Ila Schaefer, daughter of Conner and Jennifer Schaefer, was baptized at Holy Family on Saturday, May 8. Catherine Evans, daughter of Matt and Laura Evans, was baptized at St. Thomas on Sunday, May 9. What a great joy!

– 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.

Thank you all for your continued prayers and support for me, one another, our parishes and school, and the Universal Church. Please know of my continued daily prayers for each one of you as well. I know that I end each week's bulletin column in much the same way, but I do pray for each of you every day, and the gratitude I have for your witness to the faith and all that you do (known and unknown at times) is not something I could ever fully express in words. May you have a most blessed week!

-Fr. Aaron

**Bulletin Short for
Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
13 June, 2021**

This Is How It Is. Two parables about seeds today. The first one is about the secret growing from seed to harvest. The second is about the smaller seeds growing large. This is how it is with God's kingdom, God's rule. It is growing among us now. It is present with us today. But it is not yet finished. God still has much to do. So do we.

- What is my part today, this week, to build up God's kingdom, God's rule?
- What little thing can I do – think like Saint Thérèse of Lisieux – that will benefit someone else in a (surprisingly?) big way?
- How can I care for the earth so seeds and plants can prosper?

Bosco Kids Updates

We are starting to plan for next year's activities for Bosco Kids and other religious education programs for the parish.

Bosco Kids will start with registration and orientation on Wednesday 9/1 at 6:15 p.m. We need a couple more teachers in this program.

We are planning to start a Youth Group Program for our high school students. We are very excited to start this and are looking for adults and teens to help us get this organized. We will plan a meeting in June to start the planning.

RCIA will start in September for anyone interested in getting more information about joining the Catholic Church next year.

Please contact Ann O'Sullivan, PSR Coordinator, at 217-257-2516 or aosullivan2031@gmail.com if you have questions about or are interested in helping out or joining any of these programs.

BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG

Just a reminder that Father's Day is June 20, and Pregnancy Resource Center baby bottles should be returned at the weekend Masses.



Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Phone Number: 773-2825
Melissa Obert: mobert@smseagle.org
Tammy McKeown: tmckeown@smseagle.org



St. Mary School is under construction!!!

With our increasing enrollment (YAHOO!!!), many changes are being made to accommodate our needs. We hired another PreK teacher (Mrs. Dani (Buss) Dietrich). Her classroom will be in the current kindergarten classroom.

Mrs. Weronko (K teacher) will move her classroom up to the 3rd/4th classroom across from the office. Mrs. Heldt (3rd/4th teacher) will move her classroom up to the library. Mrs. Meggie Koch (5th-8th grade language arts teacher) will be sharing her classroom with the STEM lab.

The middle school library books will be in the upstairs hallway and the elementary library will be in a room off the stage. The new 3rd/4th grade room and the new library will be getting drywall/textured walls soon. Once those rooms are ready, we will be painting and organizing those rooms.

New SMART BOARD projectors will be installed throughout the summer too!

Classes are filling up fast! We are hoping to have **120 students** enrolled for

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