

# 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, July 19 – 7:00 a.m.

Exodus 14:5-18; Matthew 12:38-42

Communion Service

### Tuesday, July 20 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr  
Exodus 14:21-15:1; Matthew 12:46-50

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

### Wednesday, July 21 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church  
Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15; Matthew 13:1-9

Paul, Francis and Larry Schenk  
and Ruth James  
(By the Schenk Families)

### Thursday, July 22 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Mary Magdalene  
Song of Songs 3:1-4b; John 20:1-2, 11-18

Marilyn Mating  
(By Barb Lehne)

### Friday, July 23 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Bridget, Religious  
Exodus 20:1-17; Matthew 13:18-23

Herbert, Anna, Raymond  
and Margaret Ebbing  
(By Jeff and Barb Kozak)

### Saturday, July 24 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Sharbel Makhluof, Priest; BVM  
Exodus 24:3-8; Matthew 13:24-30

Marjorie Salrin  
(By Legion of Mary)

### Sunday, July 25 – 8:00 a.m.

2 Kings 4:42-44; Ephesians 4:1-6; John 6:1-15

Verna Veith  
(By the Family)

### St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Parishioners of St. Thomas and  
Holy Family

## HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

July 10-11, 2021

Holy Family: \$4,151.25  
Sister Parish: \$85.00  
School Support: \$235.00

Peter's Pence: \$20.00  
Catholic Charities: \$40.00  
Mission Appeal: \$60.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

## ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

July 10, 2021

St. Thomas: \$1,894.00  
Sister Parish: \$15.00  
Parish Improvement: \$75.00  
Catholic Charities: \$55.00  
Mission Appeal: \$5.00

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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 – 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 and 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 and  
 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 and family † Liz  
 Bohannan and Baby Jack † Dawn Stoecker  
 † Barb Kuhn † Andy Ray † Derry Schnelle  
 † Mary Klingele Ahmed † Becky Hill † Sheila  
 Roberts † Kelsie Broom † MacKenzie Wilmoth

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 LITURGICAL ROLES

*July 25, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.*

**Sacristan:** Brent Obert  
**Lector:** David Leezer  
**Gift Bearers:** Maurice and Clara Schmidt  
**Ushers:** Jacob Schmidt and Maurice Schmidt

## From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time, and what a beautiful set of readings the Church gives us today to reflect upon, describing Jesus as a Shepherd. Of course, all of Sacred Scripture is beautiful, as it is the Living Word of God, and no ordinary piece of literature - not a piece of literature at all really, but rather the Living Word of God that speaks to us.

In our first reading from the Prophet Jeremiah, we hear God's warning against the "bad" shepherds who have scattered His people and driven them away because of their evil ways AND His promise to send other "good" shepherds to bring these people back. Jeremiah speaks ultimately of the one whom God will send to save His people; that is, Jesus.

In our second reading, St. Paul speaks directly of Jesus who has come to put an end to division and to unite God's people. Through Jesus and His Death and Resurrection, those who had been led astray are called back to God and Jesus, bringing peace among His people. Now, just as a side note: that peace that St. Paul speaks of doesn't necessarily mean an absence of conflict, but rather things operating as they should, as God intends them. Certainly, for those who do not accept Jesus' message and invitation to follow Him, conflict will arise.

*Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family of Fr. Thomas Henseler who passed away on July 9, 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.*

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Hazel Lee Prather, daughter of Ryan and Kaley Hill Prather, who was baptized on July 10, 2021! May God keep you in His care!

## 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

Finally, in our Gospel today from St. Mark, we have a couple of things going on. First, we hear about the Apostles' work among the people and how many, many people have been coming to them; so much so that they had not even an opportunity to eat. The needs of the people were so great. Even when Jesus calls them away for a bit of rest, the people flock after them. Certainly, from this image we can gather that the people were in great need of something and were attracted to what Jesus' Apostles offered. And what they offered was the Truth of Christ, His love, and His message.

But perhaps most striking in today's Gospel is that intimate line about Jesus at the end, "When Jesus saw the vast crowd, His heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things." This is a moving line which really shows Jesus' Love for His people.

So, what is it that we can take away from all of this, here in west-central Illinois in the middle of July in the year 2021? Well, as you have heard me say many times before, one of the beautiful things about Sacred Scripture is its timelessness. It speaks to us today just as much as it spoke to the people more than 2000 years ago, and just as much as it will speak to people in years to come. The Gospel message is for all of us, through all time. And today is no exception. Today's readings from Sacred Scripture are richly packed for our lives today.

First, Jesus warns of those shepherds who mislead and scatter the flock. It is a sad reality but these shepherds, these leaders, still exist today. And we need to be ever on guard against those who try to lead us astray, who try to lead us away from Christ. And they can be found in the most deceiving of ways, but their message never brings the peace of Christ that St. Paul speaks of. St. Paul tells us today in the second reading that Jesus unites what has been divided. So too, a shepherd for God's people, a leader, will always unite people together. Those leaders who divide only aim to draw us away from Christ.

And be very careful here. A genuine shepherd for God's people is one who aims to unite people in the Truth of Christ. This can and does cause conflict at times, but the Truth of Christ will always unite and will always bring peace. You see, uniting people in the Truth of Christ is not done by allowing a free-for-all where people are attracted to some form of entertainment or superficial good feeling or a host of self-serving activities. And it's certainly not accomplished by trying to alter the Truth. Those who refuse the Truth of Christ because of its difficulty at times or because it interferes with a desire, cut themselves off from the unity of Christ because of their own refusal. This is not division; this is simply refusal to accept the Truth of Christ.

In all of this though we need not despair, as we can be assured of God's promise in the first reading that He will appoint shepherds who will bring us to Christ. And frankly, this can sometimes be a painful experience for some who have to let go of tightly held ideas and open themselves to the Truth of Christ, the fullness of Truth.

And this promise of God to appoint shepherds who will bring us to Christ is not something that we can just sit back and let happen. Some folks today like to speak of a "vocation crisis" in the Church. But the Lord Himself promises shepherds to lead His people. Certainly, then, He is still calling these folks. We have not so much a vocation crisis but perhaps an issue with knowing and responding positively to God's call. And that is the responsibility of all of us. Our prayers for vocations are important, but so too is our encouragement and nurturing of vocations and our response to God's call in all things.

If God is calling you to be a shepherd for His flock, are you willing to say yes to God? Or are you drawn to other worldly allurements? More importantly, are you continually encouraging vocations within your own family and community? If your son or daughter or grandchild is being called by God to serve the Church as a priest or religious brother or sister, are you offering support for God's call or are you looking for

your son or daughter or grandchild to be “more successful.” It isn’t someone else’s responsibility. It isn’t for “someone” else to do. It is OUR responsibility. It is for US to do. God’s promise to appoint shepherds remains, but we have to be willing to listen and accept His message. This begins by handing ourselves over completely to the Lord each day and working to conform our Will to His in everything we do.

And our Gospel today tells us that there is indeed much work to be done. There were great crowds following Jesus and His Apostles, longing for what they offered, longing for that which only Christ can give. Today, there are still many, many people longing for what only Christ can give. And that should, like Jesus, move us to pity. It is our responsibility to bring Christ to others so that they too may enjoy that peace found only in Christ. And we can begin to do this by showing others Christ working in our lives, through every action we make, every word we speak, every deed we carry out. An authentic Christian life will be attractive to others and will draw others to Christ. We need to make sure each and every day that we are living an authentic Christian life in all that we do and say.

And so, let us reflect on how God is calling us to unite His people to Him and ask Him to give us the strength and courage to lead others in an authentic Christian life centered on the Truth of Christ.

And now just a few notes:

- FR. TOM HENSLER - As I mentioned last weekend at all the Masses, Fr. Tom Hensler died on Friday, July 9. As of my writing this, arrangements were still pending. Please keep Fr. Hensler in your prayers for the repose of his soul and also his family in this time of sorrow. 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.

- ICE CREAM - St. Thomas has some homemade ice cream left from the Independence Day celebration. Since I do not know for sure who to have you call if you’d

like to purchase some, you can call the Parish Office and I will get you taken care of. I am also hoping that there will be folks who can get it for you after Mass as well. Cost is \$15 per gallon.

- BAPTISM - It is with great joy that I baptized Hazel Lee Prather, daughter of Ryan and Haley Prather, last Saturday evening (July 10) at Holy Family.

- PRECIOUS BLOOD - There was a piece in the most recent edition of the Catholic Times concerning the Precious Blood at Mass. Someone asked if Catholics will be able to partake in the Blood of Christ since the pandemic is nearly over. The response was from Fr. Christopher House, a priest of our Diocese.

In summary, I simply want to remind everyone that the distribution of the Precious Blood is ALWAYS optional, and that decision is made by the celebrant of the Mass. When or even if a parish returns to offering the Precious Blood is a decision of the Pastor of the parish.

Yet more importantly is to know that the Body of Christ in the form of bread, even a tiny fragment of it, is the Fullness of Christ...Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. Likewise, the Precious Blood in the form of wine, even a tiny droplet, is the Fullness of Christ...Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.

There really should be no concern over when or even if a parish will offer the Precious Blood. In receiving even the tiniest fragment of the Blessed Sacrament is to receive the Fullness of Christ...Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. What a beautiful gift! Should there be any question at all as to why we are called to be in a state of grace before receiving the Blessed Sacrament? Consuming “more” of the Blessed Sacrament at any particular Mass cannot possibly give us more of Christ or more grace or more anything as we receive the Fullness of Christ in even the tiniest portion of the Body and Blood of Christ made truly present to us in the Holy Eucharist. I am looking to write more about the Holy Eucharist in weeks to come. Perhaps this is a good starting point.

And as a side note, the priest celebrant of the Mass, and any priests who are con-celebrating, must consume both the Body and Blood of Christ under both species (forms) from that which is consecrated at the Mass in which the priest is celebrating or con-celebrating. The priest celebrant, and any priest con-celebrants, always self-communicate. No one else, including a deacon, is to ever self-communicate. Rather, Holy Communion must always be given by a priest or deacon who are ordinary ministers of Holy Communion or, in some cases, by an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion who has been mandated by the Bishop through the Pastor of a parish.

#### LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

- Tuesday, July 20 - Optional memorial of St. Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr. Early accounts report that St. Apollinaris was ordained bishop by St. Peter himself. Known for his power to heal in the name of Christ, he was frequently exiled, tortured, and imprisoned for the faith and finally martyred in the first century. St. Apollinaris, Pray for us!

- Wednesday, July 21 - Optional memorial of St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church. St. Lawrence, a Capuchin, was known to be a forceful preacher and extensive writer. He died in 1619. St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Pray for us!

- Thursday, July 22 - Feast of St. Mary Magdalene. St. Mary Magdalene was a disciple of Jesus and present at His Crucifixion. In the Gospel from St. Mark, she is the first to witness to the Risen Lord. St. Mary Magdalene died in the first century and is the patroness of the Order of Preachers. St. Mary Magdalene, Pray for us!

- Friday, July 23 - Optional memorial of St. Bridget, Religious (not to be confused with St. Brigid). St. Bridget was born in Sweden, the mother of eight, and foundress of the Order of the Most Holy Savior (Bridgettines). She died in 1373 in Rome. Along with St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross and St. Catherine Sienna, St. Bridget was declared co-patroness of Europe by Pope St. John Paul II in 1999. St. Bridget, Pray for us!

- Saturday, July 24 - Optional memorial of St. Sharbel Makhluf, Priest. St. Sharbel Makhluf was born in north Lebanon in 1828, became a monk of the Maronite Rite, and ordained a priest in 1859. Devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary, he spent the last twenty-three years of his life as a hermit. Despite temptations to wealth and comfort, St. Sharbel taught the value of poverty, self-sacrifice, and prayer by the life he lived. He possessed the gift of performing miracles even during his lifetime. St. Sharbel Makhluf died in 1898 at the age of 70 and was canonized in 1977 by Pope Paul VI. St. Sharbel Makhluf, Pray for us!

Thank you for all of your prayers and support for me, one another, our parishes and school, and the Universal Church. As always, please know of my continued daily prayers for you as well. May you have a most blessed week.

- Fr. Aaron

### **Bulletin Short for Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 18, 2021**

**Hard Work Requires Rest.** After all the traveling light last week to do ministry, Jesus tries to take the Apostles away for some rest. But the people see them go, discover where they are headed, and get there first. Oh, my! So, Jesus ministers to them by teaching many things. After we work hard at mercy works, sometimes we can rest. Sometimes not.

- How can I find some rest from work in the quiet place of prayer?
- How can my restful prayer strengthen me to do more?
- What will I do next?

### **Mt. Sterling Vacation Bible School**

**First Christian Church (117 W. Washington)  
Tuesday-Thursday - July 20-22, 2021  
6:00-8:00 p.m.  
Preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.**



Office Hours: 7:30 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.

Phone Number: 773-2825

Melissa Obert: [mobert@smseagle.org](mailto:mobert@smseagle.org)

Tammy McKeown: [tmckeown@smseagle.org](mailto:tmckeown@smseagle.org)



### **St. Mary School Golf Classic**

Our SMS Golf Classic will be on July 31, 2021, at Rolling Greens in Mt. Sterling.

Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. with a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. The tournament will be an 18-hole best ball scramble. Mulligans will be available for purchase and lunch will be provided. A 4-person team is only \$240.00 and a hole sponsorship is \$75.00. We look forward to seeing you at the SMS Golf Classic.

Please call Brad Kassing (217-248-2505) or Mark Lipcaman (217-370-6720) with any questions.

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### **St. Mary School Registration**

SMS registration will be on July 27, 2021, at St. Mary School cafeteria from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Many of our classrooms are nearing capacity, so please call Melissa at 217-773-2825 if you are interested in sending your child to SMS for the 2021-2022 school year.

<p><b>KASSING LUMBER CO., INC.</b>  217-773-2611 • Fax: 217-773-2323  Cell: 217-653-3338  601 Pittsfield Rd.  Mt. Sterling, IL  chrisk@kassinglumber.com</p>	<p><i>Hendricker</i>  <i>Funeral Home</i>  406 South Capitol Avenue  Mt. Sterling, IL  217-773-3362  email: info@hendrickerfh.com</p>	<p><b>GUNN CONSTRUCTION</b>  Excavating Contractors  Dozers • Backhoe • Cranes  Endloaders • Scrapers  Jeff Gunn Cell: 217-257-6364  Camp Point 217-593-6629</p>	<p><b>Mt. Sterling Monuments</b>  Jim Henrick, Owner  Cell: 217-617-3956  Randy Johnson, Owner  Cell: 217-617-3322  212 West Main Street  Mt. Sterling, IL 62353  Ph.: 217-773-2026 Fax: 217-773-2975</p>
<p><b>RANDY E. FRESE</b>  STATE REPRESENTATIVE  94TH DISTRICT  3701 E. Lake Centre Drive, Suite 3  Quincy, Illinois • 217-223-0833  repfrese@adams.net</p>	<p><b>Channel Janssen Seed &amp; Services</b>  Doug and Karen Janssen  Certified Crop Advisor  202 E 4th St • Golden, IL  Office: 217-696-4658  Cell: 217-430-2865</p>	<p><b>JIL TRACY</b>  STATE SENATOR  47TH DISTRICT  3701 E. Lake Centre Drive, STE 3  Quincy, IL • 217-223-0833  senatortracy@adams.net</p>	<p><b>SCHMIDT Agri-Consulting</b>  SPECIALIZING IN SOIL AND TISSUE SAMPLING  Jacob Schmidt, Owner • 217-617-7053  schmidtj@unitedsoilsinc.com  Camp Point, IL</p>
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<p><b>AL Construction</b>  Andrew Likes  Owner  (217) 430-5696  Camp Point, Illinois</p>	<p><b>Benjamin Drebes</b>  Financial Advisor  4531 Maine St. • Suite C  Quincy, IL 62305  217.223.9313  benjamin.drebes@edwardjones.com  www.edwardjones.com</p> <p><b>Edward Jones</b>  MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING</p>	<p><b>Hamilton Funeral Homes, Inc.</b>  Lummis Hamilton Funeral Home  Camp Point • 217-593-6517  Hamilton Funeral Home  Clayton • 217-894-6553  Benjamin A. Hamilton, Funeral Director  www.hamiltonfuneralhome.net</p>	<p><b>YINGLING NUESSEN</b>  Business, Personal &amp; Agricultural Insurance  111 W. Washington St. Suite A  Mt. Sterling IL 62353  217.773.3397 • mike@ynagency.com  www.ynagency.com</p>
<p><b>PIONEER BRAND PRODUCTS</b>  <b>MARK EBBING</b>  SALES REPRESENTATIVE FOR  PIONEER BRAND PRODUCTS  717 815E ST.  MT STERLING, IL  217-242-4407</p>	<p><b>Knights of Columbus</b>  Council #1281  <b>Mt. Sterling, Illinois</b>  Meeting first Tuesday  of each month  Jim Rischar • 217-430-1133</p>	<p>Healthy Teeth &amp; Beautiful Smiles Start Here  <b>Specializing in</b>  • Family friendly  • Adult dental care • Implants for all ages  <b>Mt. Sterling dental center</b>  839 Route 24 West • Mt. Sterling, IL  217.773.3213  www.mtsterlingdentalcenter.com</p>	<p><b>FARMERS STATE BANK &amp; TRUST CO.</b>  Mt. Sterling • Tiptonville • Versailles  VISIT US ONLINE @  www.fsb-tc.com  (217) 773-3319 FDIC</p>
<p><b>RIA RAY INSURANCE AGENCY</b>  Risk Management and Insurance Services  Brad and A.J. Kassing  Mt. Sterling, IL  217.773.3851</p>			

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