

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, October 18 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Luke, Evangelist
2 Timothy 4:10-17b; Luke 10:1-9

Communion Service

Tuesday, October 19 – 7:00 a.m.

Sts. John de Brebéuf and Issac Jogues, Priests, and
Companions, Martyrs
Romans 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Luke 12:35-38

Dave Downey

Wednesday, October 20 – 7:00 a.m.

Romans 6:12-18; Luke 12:39-48

Bob Volk
(By Maureen Volk Norvell)

Thursday, October 21 – 7:00 a.m.

Romans 6:19-23; Luke 12:49-53

Deceased Members of the
Leslie & Ruth Harper Family
(By the Geisler Family)

Friday, October 22 – 8:30 a.m. (School Mass)

Romans 7:18-25a; Luke 12:54-59

Ed Veith
(By Marilyn & Pat Veith)

Saturday, October 23 – 5:30 p.m.

Romans 8:1-11; Luke 13:1-9

Mable, Raymond & John Salrin
(By Nancy, Tim & Angela Salrin)

Sunday, October 24 – 8:00 a.m.

Jeremiah 31:7-9; Hebrews 5:1-6; Mark 10:46-52

Parishioners of Holy Family
and St. Thomas

St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

John & Anne Norkus
(By Pat Sharow)

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

October 9-10, 2021

Holy Family: \$4,957.00
Sister Parish: \$205.00
School Support: \$95.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

October 10, 2021

St. Thomas: \$2,007.00

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❖ **Legion of Mary** meets on Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. in the convent. New members are welcome to attend.
- ❖ **Turkey Talk** - Save the date for Sunday, November 7 for the Holy Family Turkey Dinner. Drive thru and delivery will be available.

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 - Friday - 7:30 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 Schuhardt † Jack Cannon † Betty (Koch) Atteberry † Jim Steinkamp † Jenny Fox † Carrie Haskins † Heather Poppy † Stanley Harms † Pat Boylen † Michelle Baucom-Keller

† Myles Keller † Maisy Keller † Kimberly Kestner & Baby † Sheila Thompson † J. J. Gronewold † Jack Johnson † John Norkus † Jim Wort † Marilyn Wort † Carolyn Kassing † Cal Noelke † Maryann Yeakel † Kimberly McKinny † Marilyn Kerr † Bryce Shank † Elaine Parkin & family † Dawn Stoecker † Barb Kuhn † Derry Schnelle † Mary Klingele Ahmed † Becky Hill † Sheila Roberts † Kelsie Broom † MacKenzie Wilmoth † Karen Saxer † Kay Downey † Marilyn Clark † Jim Heaton † Vera Marie Rolf † Josh Meservey † Maddux Sweeting † Nancy Salrin † Larry Moorman †

ST. THOMAS

Pro Life Information: Visit the Catholic Conference of Illinois website www.ilcatholic.org for information on House Bill 1797 and Senate Bill 2190. The Parental Notice of Abortion Act requires that when a minor girl seeks to have an abortion, a parent or guardian is notified within 48 hours before the procedure. These 2 bills will allow a minor girl to have an abortion without her parents' knowledge. Please visit the website for more information and to contact your State representatives to oppose these bills.

The Supreme Court will be taking up the case of *DOBBS v. Jackson Women's Health*. It is hoped to be an opportunity to change *ROE v. WADE*. PRAY FOR DOBBS Informational Webinar - Thursday, October 14 at @2 p.m. (EST) prayfordobbs.com.

Read Bishop Paprocki's October 3, 2021 article in Catholic Times regarding the "Women's Health Protection Act" which will impose abortion on demand nationwide at any stage of pregnancy and will threaten state and federal conscience laws. Bishop Paprocki urges us to pray for our elected officials for a conversion of heart, who are promoting this act. It is a great article.

There are still days on the 40 Days for Life sign up board at the back of church for parishioners to sign up to pray to end abortion.

There are prayer cards "St. Joseph Defender of Life" in the back of church for parishioners, that you could use to assist with your prayers.

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

October 24, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Jonah Coggeshall
Lector: Denise Taylor
Gift Bearers: Dan Kirlin Family
Ushers: Andrew Llewelyn, Justin Obert

Bosco Kids and RCIA Updates

Bosco Kids meets this Wednesday from 6:15-7:30 and RCIA meets on Wednesday from 6:30-7:45 in the school cafeteria. All are welcome. Please contact Ann O'Sullivan for more information or questions about either of these programs, aosullivan2031@gmail.com or 217-257-2516.

From the Pastor's Desk

As we continue to approach the end of the Liturgical Year, today the Church celebrates the Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time.

Our first reading from Isaiah's Songs of the Suffering Servant, while short, can often be easily overlooked as we rush to comment on the somewhat bold and self-centered demands of the disciples in the Gospel. But Isaiah actually sets the scene for the Gospel passage by addressing the question of human suffering.

As people of faith, suffering seems to go against our basic image of God as loving and caring, and in the face of the many expressions of suffering we are often left with the question, "how could God let this happen?"

Throughout history, many philosophers have attempted to answer this thorny question; for some, suffering is a divine punishment, for others a test or

an opportunity to strengthen faith or to show heroic virtue or fidelity. Yet in the end, it remains a mystery, beyond our comprehension.

As Christians, we often seek an explanation from Scripture. Isaiah tells us that the Lord was pleased to crush him in infirmity, and Hebrews tells us that Jesus was similarly... "tested in every way." At first glance neither sounds helpful, but when we look again through the eyes of faith, we see that these words are not simply meant to explain suffering, but to help us realize that even in suffering there can be good.

The suffering of the Servant is not without purpose or meaning, for the prophet tells us that through suffering he shall justify many. The term justification is important here. It is a term that implies that one has been acquitted and restored to right relationship with God, and that another has paid the price. Christ, in His suffering, has paid the price so that we can confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.

Discovering meaning in suffering is also an element in today's Gospel passage. Having basked in the glory and fame of Jesus, the disciples want a little more, a place of status and glory in the Kingdom. What they are surprised to hear is that authority and leadership in the Kingdom is not about glory but about self-giving, even to the point of suffering and possibly one's death. Clearly this is a reversal of their world view.

If discipleship and authority have a new meaning in the Kingdom, is it too much to conclude that suffering, too, may have a new meaning? While it cannot be avoided or even fully explained, we can begin to use it for a greater purpose. We can learn from it and, as people of faith, join our suffering to those of the Suffering Servant whom we now recognize as Christ. Perhaps, then, our sufferings might not seem so or meaningless impossible to

understand. Perhaps, then, we might become Christ to others, an image of the Servant in the midst of our world.

What gives us final hope is that not only did Christ experience suffering, as we do, but He ultimately overcame it in the Resurrection. Our hope is that we now can share in that triumph.

And now just a few notes:

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Monday, October 18 - Feast of St. Luke - St. Luke was A Syrian physician from Antioch and a companion of St. Paul. He wrote the Acts of the Apostles and also one of the four Gospels, a Gospel for the Gentile Christians that speaks of God's mercy, salvation love of the poor and marginalized, absolute renunciation prayer, and the Holy Spirit. He is often represented by a winged ox. St. Luke is the patron of the medical profession, painters, artists, sculptors, and butchers. St. Luke, Pray for us!

-Tuesday, October 19 - In the United States, the Obligatory Memorial of Saints John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues and Companions, Martyrs. Saints John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues were French Jesuit priests. They and their companions were oblate missionaries to the Hurons and Iroquis of North America. Isaac was tomahawked to death by Iroquis near Albany and John was savagely mutilated and slain near Georgian Bay. Isaac and John and their companions were martyred between the years of 1642 and 1649. Saints John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues and Companions, Pray for us!

-Wednesday, October 20 - In the United States, optional memorial of St. Paul of the Cross, Priest. In the United States this optional memorial of St. Paul of the Cross is perpetually transferred from October 19 to October 20. St. Paul of the Cross was a renowned preacher and founder of the Passionists (C.P.), today numbering nearly 2,000 members.

Passionists combine the apostolate of retreats and missions with penitential monasticism. St. Paul of the Cross died on October 18, 1775. St. Paul of the Cross, Pray for us!

-Friday, October 22 - Optional memorial of St. John Paul II, Pope. Born Karol Jozef Watjtyla in 1920 in Wadowice, Poland, John Paul II is well known to many of us and a beloved Pope to many. As Archbishop of Krakow, he took part in the Second Vatican Council. He was elected pope on October 16, 1978. His exceptional apostolic zeal, especially for families, young people, and the sick, led him to make numerous pastoral visits throughout the world. John Paul II left as a heritage to the Church a rich Magisterium and the promulgation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the revised Code of Canon Law, and the Third typical edition of the Roman Missal. Pope John Paul II died on April 2, 2005 and was canonized by Pope Francis on April 27, 2014 along with Pope John XXIII whose memorial we celebrated last Monday, October 11. Pope St. John Paul II, Pray for us!

-Saturday, October 23 - Optional memorial of St. John of Capistrano, Priest. St. John of Capistrano was a Franciscan and known to be a reformer of the Franciscans and the Poor Clares. He preached devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus (the memorial celebrates on January 3). St. John of Capistrano died in 1456 and is the patron of military chaplains.

I might also mention as a reminder that during Ordinary Time, when there is no other Obligatory Memorial, Feast, or Solemnity celebrated on a Saturday, we also always having the option of celebrating the Blessed Virgin Mary. When no other option memorial exists, I will most often celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is for the weekday Mass generally celebrated in the mornings, not for Vigil Masses celebrated on Saturday evenings in anticipation of Sunday.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - Next Sunday, October 24 is World Mission Sunday. We are encouraged to and called to assist with the mission of the Church in spreading the Gospel. The following is a letter from Bishop Paprocki concerning World Mission Sunday:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, World Mission Sunday - the annual, worldwide Eucharistic celebration for the Missions of the Church- will be on October 24 this year. World Mission Sunday joins all Catholics of the world into one community of faith. At Mass that Sunday, we recommit ourselves to our common vocation, through Baptism to be missionaries, through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, and by giving generously to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Pope Francis's message for World Mission Sunday this year reflects on the theme: "We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). He reminds us that, "as Christians, we cannot keep the Lord to ourselves," as we "recall with gratitude all those men and women who by their testimony of life help us to renew our baptismal commitment to be generous and joyful apostles of the Gospel."

On World Mission Sunday, we join our Holy Father in supporting his missions. As we pray and respond here at home, we share in those celebrations taking place in every parish and school throughout the world. Together, through our prayers and financial support, we bring the Lord's mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions.

In a world where so many things divide us, World Mission Sunday rejoices in our unity as missionaries by our Baptism, as it offers each one of us an opportunity to support the life-giving presence of the Church among the poor and marginalized in more than 1,111 mission dioceses.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki, Bishop of Springfield in Illinois.

I encourage your prayers the Church's missionary efforts. Envelopes for the World Mission Sunday Collection are included in your set of envelopes and I'd ask you to drop them in the collection basket next Sunday. If you do not have an envelope, you can place your contribution in a plain envelope and clearly mark it "World Mission Sunday." Thank you for your prayers and support.

-STORM DOOR - The top window of the back storm door on the former convent at Holy Family has been broken. I announced at the Masses at Holy Family last week that if anyone has a storm door in good shape that they no longer need, please let me know and we'll see if it will fit. The door is standard size, 36" x 80". Thank you for help.

-RESPECT LIFE MONTH - Another reminder that October is designated as Respect Life Month though we should never think that this should be confined to just one month of the year. The attacks against life are many. Please continue to pray and offer sacrifice for the respect for and protection of all human life. Pray too for the conversion of hearts for those who have no regard for human life, especially the legislators and elected officials who seek to destroy human life through abortion which is simply murder of unborn children.

While I will be working with parishioners on a "Respect Life Corner" for the bulletin each week in the near future, I urge you all to make yourself aware of the current events surrounding respect for life and especially abortion. There are radical bills promoting abortion and jeopardizing protection and freedom of conscience that are being introduced by lawmakers that each of us need to be aware of and speak out against. Bishop Paprocki also writes excellent articles in the Catholic Times concerning Respect for Life and other

important topics. Nancy Pelosi's Bishop has called for prayer and sacrifice for the Speaker of the House and her conversion.

In all of this and in all our work to protect and respect human life (indeed, in all the work we do), we must first and foremost keep God at the center of all of it, conforming our will to His and renewing ourselves each day through prayer and sacrifice and an open and willing heart to courageously know and follow God's Will. Murder, no matter how one may try to frame it, is NEVER part of God's Will. May our own conversion of heart, our unending prayers, and our tireless sacrifice lead others to conversion of heart as well.

-MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY - Again, I remind everyone that October is also designated the month of the Holy Rosary. I encourage this devotion for everyone. Consider praying the Rosary every day, with your family if possible. Our prayer life is always possible if we make it a priority. What a great way to also pray for the respect for and protection of all human life in all stages.

-TURKEY DINNER - Mark your calendars for November 7, the first Sunday in November, for the Holy Family Turkey Dinner. To the Holy Family Parishioners, letters for the Turkey Dinner have gone out by U.S. Mail. If you have not received a letter, please let me know. I encourage you to help support the Turkey Dinner as you have done so graciously in the past. I thought last year's Turkey Dinner was such an enjoyable day. I'm going to make the challenge once again this year that we meet or exceed the raffle proceeds of the SMS Hog Roast. We have our work cut out for us since the Hog Roast raffle was very successful.

-DEER CLASSIC - Once again, just a reminder that The Brown County Deer Classic Committee has been hard at work. This year's Deer Classic is set for Saturday, November 13. Thank you for your support of the BCDC. As a side note, as has been done in the past, the Vigil Mass that evening will be at 4:00 p.m.

-OBSERVATION - I can't help but mention what I observed last Sunday at the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas. It was a great thing to see. For those who regularly attend the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas on Sunday, it would have been difficult for you not to have noticed the visitors at Mass since there were at least two full benches. After Mass as people were leaving and I was outside, these folks exited and as I welcomed them to St. Thomas, I asked them if they were new to the area, visiting, or if they had family in the area. They told me that they were from the Peoria area and were camping at Siloam Springs State Park. We talked for only a moment but I told them it was good to have them with us and they responded that it was good to be with us for the celebration of the Mass.

It was clear to me that being at Mass on Sunday during their camping trip was not a last minute thought but was very much a part of the planning of the entire camping trip. The clothes they wore were not "camping gear" but I'd guess were carefully packed with the intention of wearing them on Sunday for Mass. They arrived well before Mass began and participated in the Liturgy. It was clear that the celebration of the Sunday Mass was a priority for them. Again, it was great to have them with us and to see this.

I'm not suggesting that anyone reading this does not make their faith and the celebration of the Sunday Liturgy a priority. I certainly hope you do. And I hope you can be a witness to the faith just as these folks were. All too often there are excuses after excuses why we cannot or do not attend Mass at least once a week. Let's remember that Christ must be the center of our lives and EVERYTHING we do must center around Christ.

As always, please be assured of my daily prayers for each of you and thank you for your continued prayers for me, one another, our parishes and school, and the Universal Church. May you have a most blessed week.

-Fr. Aaron

**Bulletin Short for
Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time -
17 October 2021**

What Do You Wish? We go to Jesus all the time, asking, pleading, wanting. We ask to be healthy; we plead to be safe; we want this, that, and the other for ourselves and for those we love. In our going to him, Jesus asks: "What do you wish me to do for you?" Then he listens. Sometimes our asking is right on. Sometimes it is pushy, overly ambitious, seeking top-dog status. Then Jesus says, do not be a bad king or queen; instead, act like a slave, be a servant. Grasping the cross is the way to the Kingdom of God.

- What honor or prestige do I want that I really do not need?
- When next I ask Jesus for what I wish, what needs of others will I also add to the list?
- How will I serve and when will I serve others this week?
-

CFCAC Requests Donations of Deer Meat

With deer season upon us, Community for Christ Assistance Center (CFCAC) is in need of donated deer and funds to process these deer. Deer meat is a great benefit to the Food Pantry by providing clients with nutritious meat and stretching Food Pantry funds. If you are a deer hunter, please consider donating a harvested deer. CFCAC will pay for the processing at the Golden Locker. If anyone would like to make a monetary donation to help defray the cost of processing, that would also be greatly appreciated. Thank you to all who help in any way to help CFCAC serve the needs of our community.

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