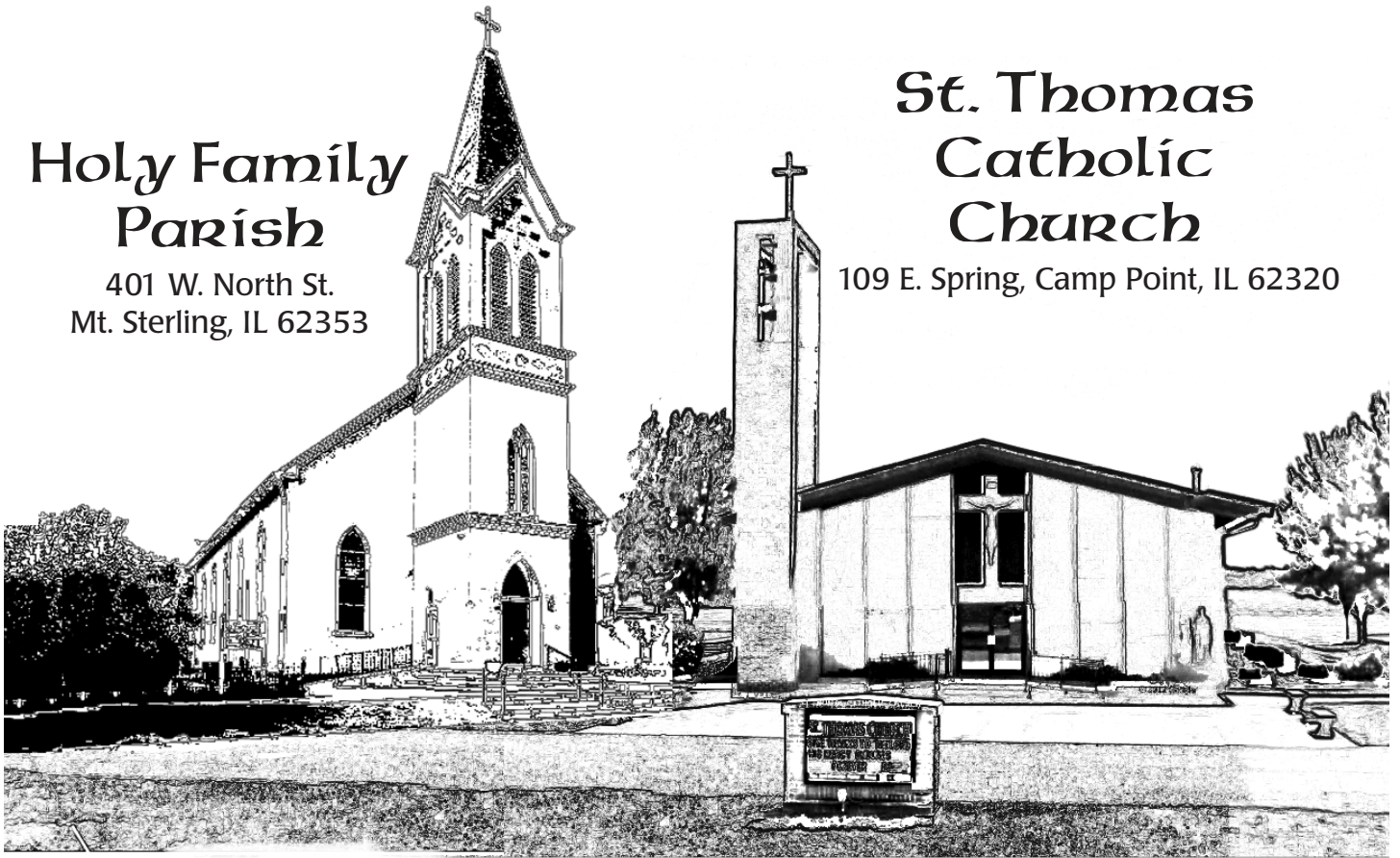


# Holy Family Parish

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) 773-3233  
*Emergency only* (217) 242-9669  
*E-Mail:* [akuhn@dio.org](mailto:akuhn@dio.org)

Deacon Michael P. Ellerman  
Ashley Guthrie, Bookkeeper  
Tammy McKeown, Parish & School Secretary  
Cheryl Dillard, Liturgical Music Coordinator  
Ann O'Sullivan, C.R.E.

School: St. Mary (217) 773-2825

Website: [www.smseagle.org](http://www.smseagle.org)

Principal: Melissa Obert

## Mass Schedule

Daily: 7:00 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday - 8:30 a.m. Friday

Saturday: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m.

Holy days: Will be Announced

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 4:30-5:00 p.m. - Anytime by appointment

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

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: Will be Announced

First Friday Adoration of the Eucharist 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

First Friday Mass 6:00 p.m. with

Reconciliation prior 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.

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 6:00 p.m.

Website: [www.stthomascp.org](http://www.stthomascp.org)

<https://stthomascp.formed.org>

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### Monday, March 21 – 7:00 a.m.

2 Kings 5:1-15b; Luke 4:24-30

Communion Service

### Tuesday, March 22 – 7:00 a.m.

Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35

Bill & Marilyn Esela  
(By Legion of Mary)

### Wednesday, March 23 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop  
Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19

Mary Kleinlein  
(By Legion Aux. Unit 374)

### Wednesday, March 23 – 5:30 p.m.

**(Holy Family)**

Eleanor McClelland  
(By Tom & Nancy Schneider)

### Thursday, March 24 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Oscar Romero, Bishop & Martyr  
Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23

Sr. Sara Koch  
(By Barb & Glenn McGartland)

### Thursday, March 24 – 5:30 p.m.

**(St. Thomas)**

Patricia Woodworth  
(By Gary & Gail Mast)

### Friday, March 25 – 8:30 a.m.

**(School Mass)**

The Annunciation of the Lord  
Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10

Elinor Davis  
(By Barb Lehne)

### Saturday, March 26 – 5:30 p.m.

Hosea 6: 1-6; Luke 18:9-14

Josephine Burkey  
(By Jim & Rosanne Ray)

### Sunday, March 27 – 8:00 a.m.

Exodus 3:1-81, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12;  
Luke 13:1-9

Parishioners of Holy Family  
and St. Thomas

**St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.**

Orville & Maryann Gronewold  
(By Jim & Kim Gronewold)

### Sunday, March 27 – 1:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross at St. Thomas

#### HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

March 12-13, 2022

Holy Family: \$3,920.95  
Sister Parish: \$190.00  
School Support: \$502.00  
Parish Tithe: \$600.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

#### ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

March 13, 2022

St. Thomas: \$1,225.65  
Sister Parish: \$80.00  
Easter Flowers: \$210.00  
Rice Bowl: \$80.00

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.
- ❖ **Holy Family Bosco Kids** meets Wednesday from 6:15-7:30 and RCIA meets on Wednesday from 6:30-7:45 in the school cafeteria. Please contact Ann O'Sullivan for more information or questions about either of these programs, [osullivan2031@gmail.com](mailto:osullivan2031@gmail.com) or 217-257-2516.

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, 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 and Marie Hendren  
† Jolene Lawson † Sharon Johnson † Gavin  
McDaniel † Boyd Tenhouse † Donna Reische  
† Janice Leverton † Jack and Margo Pool  
† Gary Shields † Carroll Hedden † Bonnie  
Meats † Abby Schuhardt † Jack Cannon  
† Betty (Koch) Atteberry † Jim Steinkamp  
† Carrie Haskins † Heather Poppy † Stanley  
Harms † Pat Boylen † Sheila Thompson  
† J. J. Gronewold † John Norkus † Jim Wort  
† Marilyn Wort † Carolyn Kassing † Cal Noelke  
† Maryann Yeakel † Kimberly McKinny † Bryce  
Shank † Elaine Parkin and family † Mary  
Klinge Ahmed † Sheila Roberts † Kelsie  
Broom † MacKenzie Wilmoth † Kay Downey  
† Marilyn Clark † Jim Heaton † Vera Marie Rolf  
† Nancy Salrin † Christine Colgan Moore  
† Maddy Perry † Greg Flynn † Dwayne Koch  
† Lori Bradshaw † Dennis Houston † Denver  
Reische † Amy Ormond Lucky † Louise  
Hendricks † Penny Ebbing † Susie Parker  
Campbell † Debra Parker Baker † Jeanette  
Shields † Connie Johnson † Tom Langan

## ST. THOMAS

**St. Thomas Parish Wide Study** - "Outstanding offering of goodness, beauty, and truth! Incredibly well done and presented. You have managed to hit the mark on each end every episode! This is exactly what we need right now! Exactly!! We need goodness, we need the beauty

of love to move us, and we need to be told the truth. You have pulled out all the stops, held nothing back, and declared it from the rooftops! Thank you for loving your neighbor and loving God." This is what just ONE person stated after viewing *The Search*. Starting February 22 at 7 p.m. and running for 7 Tuesday's, we will explore *The Search* which is a video-based program designed to enkindle wonder as it takes people on a journey through life's enduring questions. We hope you can join us at the Parish Hall for this Lenten Study. Unable to make it? It is available at [formed.org](http://formed.org). This is a free course thanks to a grant we received from the Harvest of Thanks Campaign from the Diocese of Springfield. If you are interested in participating, please contact Laura Evans at 217-316-1734 or [levans@adams.net](mailto:levans@adams.net).

There will be a sign-up poster for parish families to pray for life in America during Lent for the 40 Days for Life Campaign at the back of St. Thomas Church.

This would be a nice personal Lenten resolution if you have not been able to find one yet. [www.40daysforlife](http://www.40daysforlife).

**St. Thomas Pastoral Council Meeting March 10, 2022** - Fr. Aaron, Pat Sharow, Claudia Coggeshall.

Pastoral Council - Diocesan-wide listening session March 27, 2:00 p.m. at St. Francis, Quincy. This was discussed in an article in *Catholic Times* March 6. Would anyone be interested in attending for St. Thomas? Let Fr. Aaron know. March 19 is St. Joseph Feast Day. St. Francis Litany before Mass. Times and days for Holy Week Masses will be coming.

Fr. Aaron is still in need of someone to head the Arts and Environment Ministry for St. Thomas. Father will work with person or persons to assist with decorating for Liturgical Seasons.

Right to Life of Illinois will be coming to Quincy March 29 at St. Francis for their Ground Zero Tour. Information will be shared on combating Gov. Pritzker's and the Pro Abortion's lobby to make Illinois the abortion capital of the Midwest. Flyer in back of church on how to sign up to attend or contact Claudia Coggeshall.

Information on board in back of church regarding St. Thomas' parish involvement at Christ Outreach Center.

DRE - Lenten mission for our sister parish in Guatemala. PSR Family Lenten Project - sacramental in our homes. June 25, First Communion and

Confirmation. PSR sign up for 40 Days for Life Prayer. Participation in Adams Co. RTL Poster and essay contest.

Parish-wide study Tuesday evenings, *The Search*, during Lent.

Totus Tuus will be held at St. Peters this summer. We would like our youth to consider attending this. More information to come.

Rice Bowls in back of church.

Men and Women's - Fish Fry in March. First Sunday, April 3, they will be having a dinner after Mass.

Buildings and ground - Broken window in south hall door has been addressed.

Next meeting: May 12, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

## ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

March 27, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.

|                              |                          |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Sacristan:</b>            | Denise Taylor            |
| <b>Lector:</b>               | Karen Jansen             |
| <b>Gift Bearers:</b>         | R. Frese Family          |
| <b>Eucharistic Minister:</b> | Laura Evans              |
| <b>Ushers:</b>               | Jerry Herkert, Tod Perry |

## From the Pastor's Desk

Today we celebrate the Third Sunday of Lent. Having now fully immersed ourselves into the Season of Lent, I encourage you to really take a good look at where you are with the Season. Has it started off rocky? I encourage you to persevere. Does your Lenten resolve seem to have started strong but is beginning to wane? Then I encourage you to recommit yourself this very moment. Has it been strong and fruitful? Then give praise and thanks to God and continue on.

Like the fig tree in today's parable, we must bear the fruit of Christian living. Bushes, trees, and soil figure prominently in the Scriptures we hear today. There is the burning bush that grows on holy ground, and of course we hear Jesus' puzzling parable of the fig tree. (By the way, I am referring to the readings for Year C which we are in. We also have the option for Year A readings this Sunday and some following Sundays.)

Metaphors about growth as well as plant words are often times some favorite ways of describing our lives. We know what someone means when they say they are "putting down roots," or when we describe children as "growing like weeds." And we know what Jesus means when the Scriptures speak to us using expressions and images that are about trees and soil.

Think for a moment about our lives as Christians. Our lives contain elements of the burning bush, the holy ground, and even the fig tree. Take first the captivating image of the burning bush in the first reading. Our lives should be like that burning bush as we are called to be on fire with God's love. In other words, we should be radiant with God's love, a fire that burns within us. That love, God's love, should radiate out into the world through each of us, bringing warmth and light. That fire should be revealed in how we speak and act, a fire that does not burn yet which brightens the world.

When we gather together, we should remember that we are standing on holy ground. In fact, wherever we stand is holy ground, because it is ground that has been created by God. Deeper still, by the ashes of Ash Wednesday, we were reminded that we are made of that holy ground. We are made BY holiness, and we are made FOR holiness.

Finally, there is Jesus' parable about the fig tree. In the end, it is not sufficient for the fig tree to simply be called a fig tree. It must bear fruit. The same is true of our identity as Christians. We, too, must bear fruit.

Yet we also know that bearing the fruit of Christian living requires patient tending. We must allow God and others to care for us. We must also exercise Christ-like care for ourselves and for those around us. We, too, need nourishment (fertilizer, if you will) to energize us, to help us to grow, to fill us with life. God seeks to provide us with this nourishment in the Holy Eucharist, and especially as we come to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass where we are fed with the Word of God and nourished by His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. This is an incredible reality that, frankly, just the thought of should bring us to our knees.

In the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, God shares with us the food that will see us through the cold and dark of our Lenten winter. God tends to us, helping us to grow and change in new and holy ways. In the Holy Eucharist, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, we are nourished as we make our way to the springtime of Easter.

What an incredible gift, one that I hope none of us take for granted!

And now just a few notes:

- THANK YOU - I want to thank those who helped with and supported the St. Thomas Fish Fry. It was good to see you there.

- FISH FRY - The Mt. Sterling Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Fish Fry this Friday, March 25. Please plan to join them at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Mt. Sterling. Serving will be from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., dine in or carryout.

- SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION - This Friday, March 25, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. This is a significant celebration in the Church and thus has been raised to a Solemnity, the highest celebration in the Church. This is one of just a few Solemnities celebrated during the solemn season of Lent. Mass that day will be at 8:30 a.m. at Holy Family. I encourage each of you to join us for Mass for this Solemnity.

- LISTENING SESSION - As part of our diocese's response to Pope Francis' call to provide input for the Synod of Bishops that will take place at the Vatican in October of 2023, Bishop Paprocki invites all the faithful of our diocese to a diocesan wide listening session on Sunday, March 27, at 2:00 p.m. Groups will gather locally in the deaneries and connect together with the Bishop and across the deaneries by video. Please see the *Catholic Times* (online or in print) for more information. The Quincy deanery will gather at the St. Francis Parish Center, Quincy, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Anyone interested from the parishes is invited.

- RIGHT TO LIFE - The Illinois Right to Life has embarked on what they are calling the "Ground Zero Tour." In efforts with the Adams County Right to Life, the Ground Zero Tour will be hosting an evening in

Quincy on Tuesday, March 29, at St. Francis beginning at 6:00 p.m. I would encourage you to learn more about this and to try to attend if you are able. You can learn more by going to the Adams County Right to Life website, [www.rtlac.org](http://www.rtlac.org). There, you can also find additional information for upcoming events concerning Right to Life. Or give me a call if you don't use a computer or have trouble with the website.

- BAPTISM - I think I forgot to include in last week's bulletin the Baptism of Silvia Jane Jezierski at St. Thomas on Sunday, March 6. We welcome Silvia Jane as a Daughter of God and one of the newest members of God's family. Silvia Jane is the newborn daughter of Martin and Madeline Jezierski. She has two brothers. The Jezierski family recently joined St. Thomas Parish. We welcome them and are very happy to have them with us.

- SCRUTINIES - As I noted above, there is an option this Sunday to use the readings from Year A (we are currently in Year C). Those who attend the 5:30 p.m. Saturday evening Vigil Mass at Holy Family will hear the readings for Year A. The other two Sunday Masses will hear the readings from Year C.

If you are wondering why, on this Third Sunday of Lent, we celebrate the First Scrutiny and the readings for Year A are used for this (we will celebrate the Scrutinies at the 5:30 p.m. Mass at Holy Family).

The Scrutinies (there will be three of them) are for the Elect, those who will be Baptized at the Easter Vigil, and are celebrated at a Sunday Mass (or at the Saturday Vigil Mass). The Scrutinies are beautiful rituals given to us by the Church to help those who are journeying toward Baptism and entry into the Church that their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ may be deepened. The Scrutinies are Rites of the Church for self-searching and repentance and have, above all, a spiritual purpose. The Scrutinies are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the Elect; to bring out, then strengthen, all that is upright, strong, and good. The Scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the Elect from the power of sin and satan, to protect them

against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

The three Scrutinies occur on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent. Following the First Scrutiny, the Elect are presented with the Creed. Following the Third Scrutiny, the Elect are presented with the Lord's Prayer.

We have a couple of folks who will be Baptized and others who will come into full communion with the Church at the Easter Vigil. I ask you to continue to keep all of these folks in your prayers.

#### - LENTEN REGULATIONS

1. ABSTINENCE - Everyone 14 years of age and over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.  
2. FAST - Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 is required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is permitted. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength may be taken according to each person's needs, but together these two should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids (including milk and fruit juices) are allowed.  
3. To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is seriously sinful.

- ADDITIONAL MASSES DURING LENT -  
Wednesday evenings, 5:30 p.m., at Holy Family.  
Thursday evenings, 5:30 p.m., at St. Thomas.

- ADDITIONAL CONFESSION TIMES - I will be offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation before each of the additional evening Masses during Lent: Wednesday evenings, 4:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. at Holy Family, and Thursday evenings, 4:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. at St. Thomas. I will also offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Sundays during Lent before the start of the Stations of the Cross. I will try to be in the Reconciliation Room by 12:15 p.m. until 12:45 p.m.

- STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Wednesday evenings after the 5:30 p.m. Mass at Holy Family. Friday evenings, 6:00 p.m. at St. Thomas. Sunday afternoons at 1:00 p.m., alternating parishes (Sunday, March 20, will be at Holy Family; Sunday, March 27, will be at St. Thomas).

- 40 DAYS FOR LIFE - St. Thomas has the 40 Days for Life Calendar in the back of

church. Please sign up for one or more days to pray for life during Lent.

- RICE BOWLS - Are in the back of each church. Please consider taking one and using it as part of the Lenten Season and your own Lenten practices.

- PASCHAL TRIDUUM - This is the tentative schedule of Masses and services that I am planning for the Paschal Triduum during Holy Week:

- Holy Thursday, March 14 - Mass at St. Thomas at 5:30 p.m.; Mass at Holy Family at 7:30 p.m.

- Good Friday, March 15 - Services at 5:30 p.m. at St. Thomas; Services at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Family. Additionally, Stations of the Cross at Holy Family at 11:00 a.m. and at St. Thomas at 3:00 p.m.

- Holy Saturday, March 16 - Easter Vigil begins at 8:00 p.m. at Holy Family.

- Easter Sunday, April 17 - 6:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Masses at Holy Family; 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas.

- HOLY THURSDAY - I need to have at least two people (or two couples) sign up to be present with the Blessed Sacrament after the Masses at both parishes on Holy Thursday night. Of course, anyone is both welcome and encouraged to spend some time in prayer that evening in front of the Blessed Sacrament. But since I will be having Mass at both parishes it will be necessary to make sure there is someone always present with the Blessed Sacrament, as I cannot be at both places the entire time. I will put a sign-up sheet in the back of each church. For St. Thomas, I will need folks starting at 6:30 p.m. through 11 p.m. At Holy Family, I will need folks from 8:30 p.m. through Midnight. Again, I encourage everyone to spend some time that evening in prayer with the Blessed Sacrament but am asking that I have at least two people at all times who can sign up for an hour and commit to being present. If you miss the sign-up sheet, just give me a call at the Rectory, 217-773-3233.

- WASHING OF FEET - I will be doing the washing of feet during the Holy Thursday Liturgy. I will be asking folks, but if you are planning to be present, I'd ask you to consider

having me wash your feet. Please let me know or be open to accepting when I ask.

- RESTORATION PROJECT - Just a quick update on the restoration efforts at Holy Family. I am scheduled to meet with Greg Fleck, the Director of Properties for the Diocese, on Tuesday, March 22, to present the proposed project details to begin the process of approval from the Diocese. Please continue to keep the restoration project in your prayers and to continue to support it in any way that you can. Thank you for the support you have already given.

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

- Fr. Aaron

**Bulletin Short for  
Third Sunday of Lent - March 20, 2022**

**Reflecting on a Tree and a Bush.** In Luke's parable, the gardener wants to give the unproductive fig tree a second chance. Here is an image of God's tending to all of us - always wanting the opportunity for second (and third and fourth and...) chances. In the Exodus account, God, in an unconsumed burning bush, speaks to Moses. Both vineyard and Horeb are holy ground, places for God's saving activity.

- How will I work the holy ground of my life this week, this Lent?
- What fruit will my life bear?
- How will I listen and respond to what God calls out to me?

**Holy Family Bosco Kids and  
RCIA Updates**

Here's the schedule for Bosco Kids for Lent:

- Every Wednesday at 5:30 - Lenten Mass.
- Every Wednesday after Mass - Stations of the Cross (Bosco Kids will be leading the Stations on 3/16 and 3/23).

- Every Wednesday - Class from 6:30 to 7:30.
- 3/19 - Saturday 5:30 Family Mass with our Bosco Kids.
- On 3/23 - Families will join us for Reconciliation for grades 2-8 at 6:30 in the church. First Reconciliation for the 2nd graders will occur about 7:00 p.m.
- On 3/30 - Families will join us for a Foot Washing Service with Deacon Mike at 6:30 in the church.
- On 4/6 - Regular class.
- No class on 4/13 - Holy Week.

**CHANGES IN HOLY FAMILY  
CHOIR PRACTICE**

Choir practice for the Easter season will be as follows:

Wednesday 3/16: After Mass & Stations

Tuesday 3/22: 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday 3/29: 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday 4/6: After Mass & Stations

All are welcome - Come join us!

**ATTENTION CURSILLISTAS**

Dave Ferrill is rector for the upcoming Cursillo weekend, March 24-27. Also, there are a number from our parish on the team. We are gathering before the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Family Friday, March 25, at 6:30 to 7:30 to pray for everyone on the weekend. Come join us in prayer.

**K of C FISH FRY**

Mt. Sterling Knights of Columbus will be having a fish fry on Friday, March 25, from 5-7 p.m. at the K of C Hall. Menu: Fish, potato salad, baked beans, and dessert. Over 10 years old: \$12; 6-10 years old: \$6; Under 6: free. Dine in or carryout available.

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**Knights of Columbus**  
Council #1281  
**Mt. Sterling, Illinois**  
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