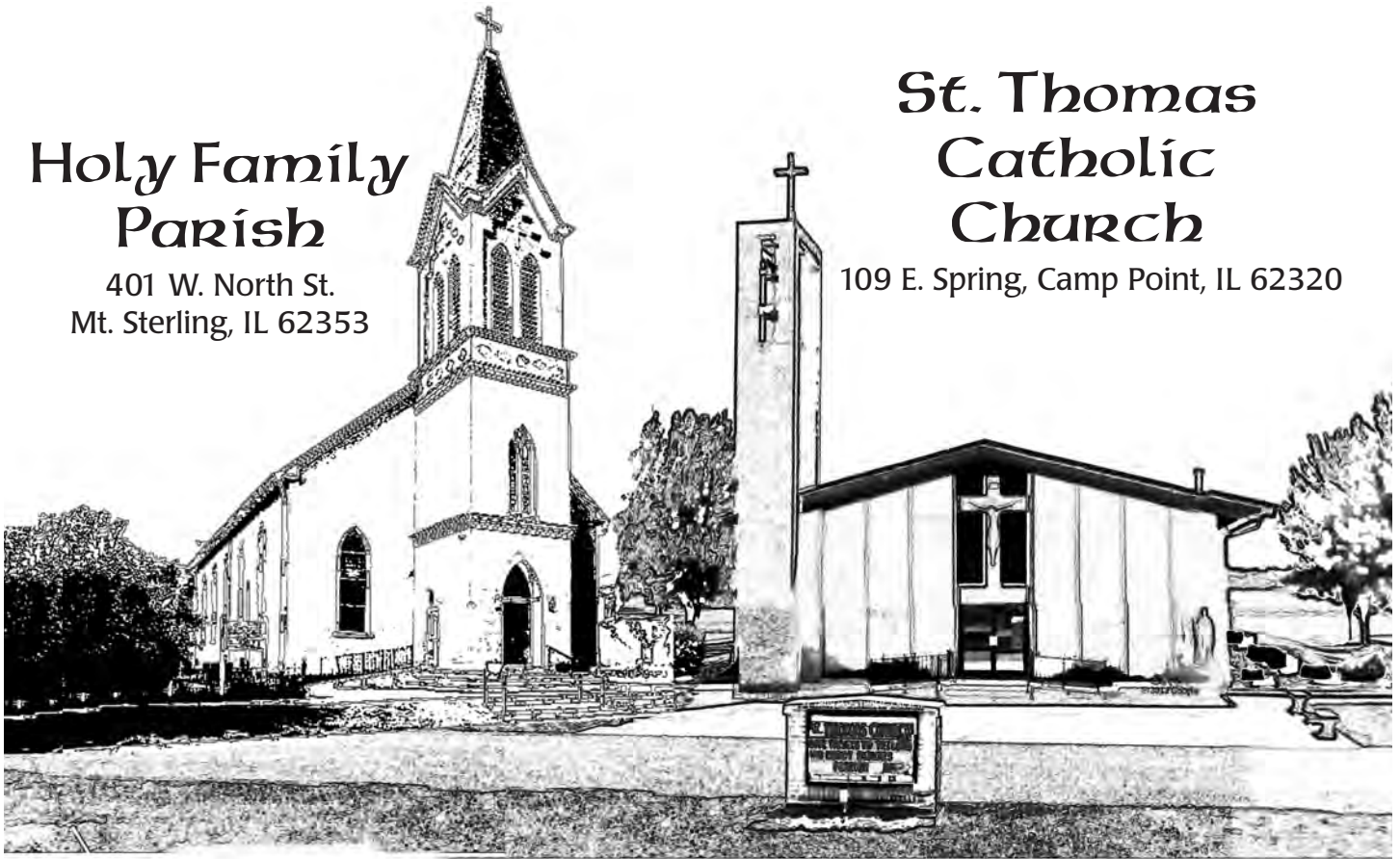


Holy Family Parish

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) 773-3233

Emergency only (217) 242-9669

E-Mail: 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

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

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

<https://stthomascp.formed.org>

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, May 9 – 7:00 a.m.

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

Communion Service

Tuesday, May 10 – 7:00 a.m.

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

Barb Kuhn

(By Henry & Dolores Studnicki)

Wednesday, May 11 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 12:24-13.5a; John 12:44-50

Mary Kleinlein

(By Mary Margaret Bullard)

Thursday, May 12 – 7:00 a.m.

AT ST. THOMAS

Acts of the Apostles 13:13-25; John 13:16-20

Kathy Mowen

Friday, May 13 – 8:30 a.m.

(School Mass)

Acts of the Apostles 13:26-33; John 14:1-6

Agnes Boylen

(By the Boylen Family)

Saturday, May 14 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Matthias, Apostle

Acts of the Apostles 1:15-17, 20-26; John 15:9-17

Eleanor McClelland

(By Legion of Mary)

Sunday, May 15 – 8:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27; Revelation 21:1-5a;
John 13:31-33a, 34-35

Parishioners of Holy Family
and St. Thomas

St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Juanita Thompson

(By Brent & Jenni Obert)

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

April 30 – May 1, 2022

Holy Family: \$4,448.00

Sister Parish: \$25.00

School Support: \$890.00

Parish Tithe/ACSA: \$30.00

Easter: \$60.00

Seminary: \$25.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

May 1, 2022

St. Thomas: \$2,302.30

Parish Improvement: \$308.00

St. Thomas weekly budgeted amount: \$2,635

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❖ **Legion of Mary** meets on Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. in the convent. New members are welcome to attend.
- ❖ **Nocturnal Adoration:** Saturday, May 7, beginning at 10:00 p.m. and concluding on May 8 at 7:45 a.m.

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 and Marie Hendren † Jolene Lawson † Sharon Johnson † Gavin McDaniel † Boyd Tenhouse † Donna Reische † Janice Leverton † Margo Pool † Gary Shields † Carroll Hedden † Abby Schuhardt † Jack Cannon † Betty (Koch) Atteberry † Jim Steinkamp † 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 Klingele Ahmed † Sheila Roberts
 † MacKenzie Wilmoth † Kay Downey
 † Marilyn Clark † Jim Heaton † Vera Marie
 Rolf † Nancy Salrin † Christine Colgan
 Moore † Maddy Perry † 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
 † Oakley Ham † Norma Hufnagel
 † Cameron Francis † Norma Herbster
 † Fritzi Harper † Steve Bunch † Rick Flatt

ST. THOMAS

THE SEARCH was a wonderful study that we did during Lent. This study was completely different than any other study we have ever done before.

Testimonials included:

This series is very enlightening and profound! It teaches the fundamentals of human life in a fascinating way.

This was amazing. I had goosebumps. The visuals, the music, and most of all the message was on point. God has truly put together an exceptional team to bring us this show.

This fourth episode was like experiencing the finest meal of your lifetime. Everything that has gone into the preparation of each course is perfect — the seasonings, the texture, the taste, the presentation, and the choice of wine is delightful. You come away knowing that you will never enjoy another meal as much as what you have just consumed. It satisfies and you come away needing nothing more. This is awesome!

Thank you for taking us along this Search in our lives.

Beautifully conveyed! How can anyone look around this world and not know the existence of God?

If you would like to do this study on your own or in your own small group, contact Laura Evans as there are workbooks still available at no cost for you to use!

Check out the videos at formed.org.

Care Net Pregnancy Services of Quincy will be holding their annual Baby Bottle Fundraiser starting Mother's Day, May 8, when you can pick up your baby bottle at the back of church and fill it with change until Father's Day, June 19, when you can bring it back.

Any questions, ask Claudia Coggeshall.

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

May 15, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan:	Dawn Peters
Lector:	Denise Taylor
Gift Bearers:	D. Wagner Family
Eucharistic Minister:	Maurice Schmidt
Ushers:	John Brady, Darren Hildebrand

From the Pastor's Desk

Happy Easter to each of you. Today we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Easter and so, while the world has allowed Easter Day to come and go and has "moved on," it is very appropriate that we continue to wish one another a Happy Easter as we continue in the Easter Season in the Church. For some reason, it is difficult for many to remain in the Season for such an extended period of time. All too often there is a "hurry up and get it over with" approach to our Liturgical Seasons and, frankly, our Christian lives and its elements. May we cooperate all the more with God's grace to enter more fully into the Paschal Mystery. May we remain in this Season of Easter with a more steadfast heart.

This Fourth Sunday of Easter is also designated as World Day of Prayer for Vocations and is often referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday. I will speak a bit more about that later.

Our readings today help us to remain mindful that Jesus the Good Shepherd grasps our hand and continues to offer us Eternal Life.

Jesus often uses images to help us understand His teaching. When left to their own devices, sheep can wander off and risk being lost or injured. We too, when left to our own devices, can wander off and risk becoming lost. We need Jesus, the Good Shepherd, in our lives.

Regardless of the Liturgical Cycle we are in (this year we are in cycle C), the Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Easter, Good Shepherd Sunday, will speak of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

So great is our Good Shepherd that He knows each of us by name and gives us Eternal Life. Jesus tells us that no one can take a sheep from His hand or from the Father's hand because He and the Father are one. Some try to interpret this as a "get out of jail free" card so to speak. In other words, they try to tell themselves (and others for that matter) that we can choose to do what we want and it's okay because we are, after all, in Jesus' hand.

The truth, however, is that no external force, no other person or entity, can take us out of Jesus' hand or the Father's hand. But certainly we are capable of letting go of Jesus' hand, the Father's hand. As tightly as Jesus grasps our hand out of love, we can break the grasp and choose to run away, risking the very real chance that we can become lost.

By the grace of God, however, we have Jesus the Good Shepherd grasping our hand, bringing us back time and time again, forgiving us, making us new, and re-gifting us with salvation. Wander as we do and as lost as we might become, Jesus

has promised us that He will leave the ninety-nine and come to find us.

The reality of our faith and our free will is such that we must allow ourselves to be found. God will never force Himself upon us any more than the evil one can force himself upon us. It is always up to us to choose good over evil, light over darkness, and life over death. May we have the strength and understanding to be wise disciples, wise enough to know that embracing Jesus and His ways and His Truth bring us to the Eternal Life that we not only strive and hope for but live our very lives for.

And now a few notes:

- WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - As I mentioned earlier, this Fourth Sunday of Easter is designated World Day of Prayer for Vocations and is commonly known as Good Shepherd Sunday. The following, which I also shared in last week's bulletin, is taken from the USCCB website:

"The purpose of World Day of Prayer for Vocations is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to 'Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest' (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the Priesthood and to the Consecrated Life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (Priesthood and Diaconate), Consecrated Life in all its forms (male and female Religious Life, Societies of Apostolic Life, Consecrated Virginity), secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life. This year marks the 59th Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations."

I ask each of you to pray especially on this day for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life and for the holiness of these vocations. As you pray for these vocations, please remember also all priests

and religious who strive to faithfully serve the Church.

Please also remember our own Diocese's initiative to pray one Hail Mary each day at 4:40 p.m. that our Diocese may have 40 seminarians. I encourage you to join folks throughout the Diocese in this daily prayer.

- APOSTOLATE - Speaking of praying for Priests and Religious, St. Thomas recently organized a Seven Sisters Apostolate and I wish to thank them for that. The Seven Sisters Apostolate is a call to strengthen the Church by ensuring a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop - a "holy wasting" (cf. Mt. 26:10) or lavishing of prayer for his deeper conformity to Christ.

A Seven Sisters group begins when at least seven women respond to a call to the mission of the apostolate. If more than seven women desire to pray in this manner, a core group of seven is designated while others substitute or provide additional hours of prayer.

The initial recipient of a Seven Sisters group is the parish pastor. After the pastor has a committed group, subsequent groups may be formed for others, such as the parochial vicar, a retired priest, a priest serving in a non-parish assignment, or a bishop. The group's intention is directed towards the office of the shepherd more than the individual. In other words, the group prays for the priest until he is reassigned, at which time his successor becomes the recipient of those prayers. This helps to guard against an undue attachment to a certain priest.

Each member commits to a Holy Hour on a distinct day of the week, thus covering a complete week. The commitment is to that day; the Seven Sister may pray at any time on that day. If she is unable to offer her Holy Hour, she secures a substitute.

The Holy Hour is ideally prayed in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament - either in an Adoration Chapel or in front of a

Tabernacle - but not restricted to the parish of which the Seven Sister is a member. Thus, one can remain faithful to the commitment when traveling, when a parish does not offer Perpetual Adoration, or when there is limited access to a particular church.

Claudia Coggeshall organized this Apostolate. If you would like more information, please contact her. This is but one way that folks can offer prayer for priests. Your prayers for priests and your Pastor are so very important and very much needed. Thank you to everyone for your prayers for me.

- MOTHER'S DAY - Today we also celebrate Mother's Day. Though it is a secular celebration, we recognize the importance and beauty of all mothers, with our Blessed Mother being the model for all mothers. We recognize and honor those women who have cooperated with God to bring life into this world. And so, Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers.

Certainly we recognize that there are some who are separated for a time here on earth from their mothers through earthly death. This can be difficult and challenging. Yet, we are mindful that we remain united to our deceased loved ones through Christ. We pray for the repose of their souls and for their eternal salvation.

- BAPTISM - On Saturday, April 30, I celebrated the Baptism of Trenten James Miller at St. Thomas. Trenten is the infant son of Tyler and Amanda Miller. I am happy to welcome Trenten James as one of the newest members of the Church and St. Thomas Parish.

- SIU PILGRIMAGE - As of this writing, a small group of students from Eastern Illinois University will be making a pilgrimage to Quincy to visit Venerable Augustus Tolton's grave. You may be wondering why I'm telling you this...well, I'm glad you asked.

The group will be driving to Beardstown to begin the pilgrimage walk. They will

walk from Beardstown to Mt. Sterling (Holy Family) on Tuesday, May 10. They will be staying overnight in Mt. Sterling. The next day they will join us for 7:00 a.m. Mass, have breakfast, and then head out walking again to Camp Point (St. Thomas). They will be staying overnight in Camp Point. The next morning, they will again join us for 7:00 a.m. Mass (more on that in a moment), have breakfast, and head out for the final stretch of walk to Quincy.

Now, a couple of notes concerning the pilgrimage. First off, the Newman Catholic Center Director at SIU will be traveling with the group and has extended an invitation to anyone in the parishes that would like to join the group on their pilgrimage.

Second, the group was not asking for much, but I am extending some additional hospitality to them. When they arrive in Mt. Sterling Tuesday evening, I will have supper for them and then also provide breakfast for them on Wednesday morning before they head out. On Wednesday evening, I will provide supper for them at St. Thomas when they arrive and breakfast on Thursday morning before they head out again. It would be nice to have a person or two to help with the meals, especially breakfast since I will be celebrating Mass. I suspect it to be a small group, probably not more than ten and likely fewer than that. If you are interested in helping, please let me know.

Third, please note that the 7:00 a.m. Mass on Thursday, May 12, will be at St. Thomas.

Please keep these pilgrims in your prayers as well as the Cause for Sainthood for Venerable Augustus Tolton.

- TREE TRIMMING - There are some trees in our cemetery in Mt. Sterling that need some trimming. Please be aware that we will be doing that trimming sometime soon. I recognize that there are and will be varying opinions about the tree trimming, and thus I wanted to make folks aware that we will be trimming trees as needed.

- SACRAMENTS - Just a reminder that the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion will be celebrated for our parishes on Saturday, June 25, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield. We are planning a celebration at both parishes for those who are receiving the Sacraments. This will be for the entire parish. As part of the celebration at the parish, I am also planning to invest each child receiving the Sacraments with the Brown Scapular. More information will be forthcoming. Families with children receiving the Sacraments should already have a lot of the information.

- SCHOOL YEAR - It is hard to believe that the end of the school year is fast approaching. So too, we will be taking our "summer break" for PSR and RCIA. However, the break certainly does not mean that we stop learning or participating in the life of the Church. May we all have a safe and enjoyable summer as we keep Christ at the center of our lives in all things.

- EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - The mandates for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion must be renewed each year with the Bishop. We recently did this at St. Thomas. We need to work on this at Holy Family. I will be working with Tammy to seek those mandates for folks who have been Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in the past. If you would like your name added or removed, please let Tammy or me know.

I will also be sending out a letter to Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at both parishes who have been mandated by the Bishop explaining the distribution of Holy Communion, and especially what to do for those presenting themselves in the line for Holy Communion but are unable to receive for whatever reason. Some practices in the past continue to occur that should not be happening. This is likely just due to not knowing.

As a reminder for anyone distributing Holy Communion, the Bishop's directive (and that which we are to be following) is that when someone approaches in the line for Holy Communion who cannot receive, you are to bow slightly and say "Receive Christ in your heart." There is no blessing, no other words, no touching of the forehead, no extending of an arm or hand.

Since there continues to be some misunderstanding about this, and in some cases a lack of knowledge about it altogether, I will try to get additional information out in the bulletin once again concerning this.

- LIFE - I ask you all to continue to pray for the protection of and respect for all human life. Human life is under serious and brutal attack, and in some cases there is complete disregard for human life altogether; often times disguised as healthcare or some kind of right. Please continue to pray for our government leaders and legislators and the Supreme Court that they may open their hearts to protecting life in all stages, from conception until natural death.

Thank you 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. May you have a most blessed week.

- Fr. Aaron

Bulletin Short for Fourth Sunday of Easter - May 8, 2022

Hearing the Voice of the Shepherd. Oh, to hear the voice of the One who keeps us safe. The One who protects us all. The One who leads us to the Father. We do know and believe that this shepherd still speaks today - often very softly.

- How will I listen for the voice of the Shepherd every day?
- How will I choose to follow the voice of this Shepherd and not other voices?
- How can I help others to listen to this voice? And follow?

Baby Bottle Boomerang

The kickoff for the Holy Family Baby Bottle Boomerang fundraiser for the Pregnancy Resource Center will kick off on Mother's Day. Baby bottles will be distributed on May 7-8 and collected on Father's Day, June 18-19. There are a few options for contributing: take a bottle home, fill with change, and return on Father's Day; bring a check, made out to the PRC Rushville, instead of taking a bottle; or contact Mary Koch, 217-506-2033, for other arrangements. Donations to the Center may be made in memory of a loved one. (Just fill out information on the form in the bottle.) Please only take a baby bottle if you plan to contribute and return the bottle. Also, if you have a baby bottle not returned from previous years, please return it. Every gift is much appreciated and brings hope and help to families in our community.

HOLY FAMILY EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

Barb Lehne - *In memory of William & Helen Koch and Marjorie Salrin*

Rita Joan Zurita - *In memory of Marie & Raymond Koch Family*

Dawn & Doug Dunn - *In memory of Jennifer Volk and Doug & Margie Dunn*

Mary Kassing - *In memory of Vic, Allen & Joyce Kassing*

Jane Veith - *In memory of Frank & Edith Veith Families and Joseph & Rosa Klingele Families*

Jim & Rosanne Ray - *In memory of William & Ruth Ormond, Francis & Mary Ray, and Joan O'Connor*

Norma Hufnagel - *In memory of Ramon Hufnagel, Elmer & Evelyn Hufnagel, and Emmett & Dorothy Lehne*

Cheryl Dillard - *In memory of Bob & Sylva Dixon and Julie Link*

Kenny & Mary Koch - *In memory of Norma Koch*

Barry & Karen Wear - *In memory of the Darbee Family*



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