

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

E maii. statomasep@Smaii.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

<u>Monday, July 25 – 7:00 a.m.</u>

St. James, Apostle 2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Matthew 20:20-28

Communion Service

Tuesday, July 26 - 7:00 a.m.

Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary Jeremiah 14:17-22; Matthew 13:36-43

Roger & Caren Busen & Family (By Roger's Prayer Buddies & Families)

Wednesday, July 27 – 7:00 a.m.

Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21; Matthew 13:44-46

Floyd "Scotty" Blentlinger (By Ken & Mary Koch)

<u>Thursday</u>, <u>July 28 - 7:00 a.m.</u>

Jeremiah 18:1-6; Matthew 13:47-53

Elinor Davis (By Tom & Nancy Schneider)

Friday, July 29 - 8:30 a.m.

Sts. Martha, Mary & Lazarus Jeremiah 26:1-9; John 11:19-27

Fr. Thomas Henseler (By Norma Hufnagel)

Saturday, July 30 - 5:30 p.m.

St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Jeremiah 26:11-26, 24; Matthew 14:1-12

Jennifer Volk (By the Cooperstown Girls - Carol, Cheryl & Rosemary)

Sunday, July 31 - 8:00 a.m.

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21

Parishioners of Holy Family & St. Thomas

St. Thomas - 10:00 a.m.

Janet Harper (By the Family)

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

July 16-17, 2022

Holy Family: \$4,016.50 School Support: \$270.00 Sister Parish: \$65.00 Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD: July 17, 2022

St. Thomas: \$2,463.00

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

❖ Legion of Mary meets each Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. in the convent. All are invited to pray the Rosary with us and learn more about the Legion. "With Mary's help we guide, console and enlighten others."

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 to Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Our phone number is 217-773-2825.

The Rectory phone number is: 217-773-3233.

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

<u>Please keep the following in your prayers:</u>

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 † Janice Leverton † Margo Pool † Gary Shields † Carroll Hedden † Abby Schuhardt † Jack Cannon † Betty (Koch) Atteberry † Jim Steinkamp

† Heather Poppy † Stanley Harms † Sheila Thompson † J. J. Gronewold † John Norkus † Jim Wort † Marilyn Wort † Carolyn Kassing † Cal Noelke † Kimberly McKinny † Bryce Shank † Elaine Parkin and family † 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 † Susie Parker Campbell † Debra Parker Baker † Jeanette Shields † Connie Johnson † Tom Langan † Oakley Ham † Cameron Francis † Norma Herbster † Fritzi Harper † Steve Bunch † Rick Flatt † Elizabeth "Libby" Tichy † Mark Carlock † Jeff Kozak † Carol Likes † Rob Dresden † Jennie Neisen † Roger Busen

Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family of Mary Klingele Ahmed who passed away on June 28, 2022. May God keep you in His care! Eternal Rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let Perpetual Light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

ST. THOMAS

Give kids a Grand-New Perspective at VBS this year! By exploring God's awesomeness, kids form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead. Go off-road for a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the southwest. Register your kids TODAY!

Vacation Bible School at St. Thomas will be held the week of August 1-5 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. We will serve the participants

dinner at 5:30. Children entering preschool to 5th grade are welcome to attend VBS. Children entering 6th to 12th grade are welcome as Crew Leaders. Please register both campers and crew leaders.

https://forms.gle/KwxjTLHVBmu2vTJR7

Direct any questions or concerns to Alicia Schmidt, 217-257-3210, or a_ordner@hotmail.com.



St. Thomas Cursillo News: Gary and Gail Mast are the Area Representatives for St. Thomas Church. We will be having our first informal Ultrea for the St. Thomas community Tuesday, July 26, at 7 p.m. in the Hall. If you have already made a Cursillo, you are invited to attend.

We are also updating our email list. If you have attended a Cursillo and are not currently receiving emails from us, please email gailandgary92@gmail.com. Be sure to include your name and your original Cursillo #.

Pastoral Council Minutes – July 14, 2022 Pat Sharow, Laura Evans, Janice Brady, Fr. Kuhn, Claudia Coggeshall

Pastoral Council - Ideas for Donut Sunday discussed.

DRE – Family sign-up and family involvement for activities for PSR this fall discussed. St. Thomas received \$1000 grant for FORMED subscription this year.

Men and Women's – July 4 ice cream and pie made over \$1700.

St. Thomas Ice Cream Social will be held on SUNDAY, August 21, this year. Assignment sheets are coming for parishioners. Look for your envelope in the back of church.

Youth Group - Youth from St. Thomas will be attending TEC weekend on July 16 and 17. Discussion of Youth Group forming at St. Thomas in the future.

Next meeting: August 11, 2022.

ST. THOMAS ICE CRAM SOCIAL - NEW DATE!



Join us on SUNDAY, August 21, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. for St. Thomas' Ice Cream Social! Please notice that it will be on a Sunday this year. The menu includes homemade ice cream (!), Maid Rites, hot dogs, chips, and drinks. FREEWILL OFFERING. There will also be a 50/50 Raffle and baskets raffles.

We need your help. We'd like everyone to be involved, one way or another, either helping or donating. Assignment sheets were made up. Look for yours at the back of church. Thanks for your dedication to St. Thomas!

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

July 31, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Jim Clausius
Lector: Karen Jansen
Gift Bearers: R. Frese Family

Eucharistic Minister: Laura Evans

Ushers: Jacob Schmidt, Maurice Schmidt

From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time, and we are reminded by the readings from Sacred Scripture for today that through the Sacrament of Baptism, we can confidently approach the living God in prayer.

In the first reading, we hear Abraham boldly attempting to "convince" God to "change" His mind. What this is really doing is demonstrating Abraham's confidence in his relationship with God. Even though he speaks very humbly and meekly, he has, what we might say, the audacity to believe he can negotiate with the Lord. He not only has faith in the power and justice of God, but he also has strong faith that his relationship with God is stable and friendly.

Abraham is the father of our faith because he was made righteous by his faith, and not the law, and he demonstrates that in the First Reading in being so concerned for the innocent people of the city.

In our second reading, St. Paul reminds us that we also have a stable relationship with the Lord. Our relationship with God is grounded in our Baptism. Even though we are sinners, our Baptism has "removed the bond of our sins and nailed it to the cross." We, like Abraham, can have confidence in our relationship with God, especially as we follow Jesus as His disciples.

As Jesus' disciples, we are taught to pray the Lord's Prayer and to be persistent in our prayers. This is so very important that we can often times overlook persistence and perseverance in our prayers. United to Christ in Baptism, we must seek, and persevere in seeking. We must knock and keep knocking until the door is opened to us. We should ask our Heavenly Father for what we need and do so consistently.

In the Gospel today, Jesus is teaching us to be people of faithful prayer. All too often people will turn to prayer only when they think their situation is hopeless. Jesus wants disciples who recognize that they are children of God by their Baptism and are confident to approach God as His beloved sons and daughters.

Too often, also, we forget that when we made promises at our Baptism, or our parents made them for us, that the Lord also made promises to us. We are cleansed and adopted by the power of that Holy Sacrament. Our Gospel today does not teach us that we will always receive what we want, far from it in fact. Sometimes we ask selfishly for comforts, or we are unable to see the Lord's plan in our lives that may require some suffering or lack.

The Gospel for today is not meant to turn the Lord into a genie that grants all our wishes. We are called to seek God first in our lives in all things and at all times. If He is the goal of our seeking, then we will certainly receive what we seek. If we seek only fame or fortune, the Lord will need to convert us more deeply so that our asking, seeking, and knocking is according to His Will.

In Baptism, we surrender our lives to the Lord. If we belong to Jesus, then we will seek and ask for the things that matter. Jesus expects His people to pray. He teaches us how to pray and calls us to be constant in our prayers. As children of God through Baptism, we can be confident that our prayers are heard and answered by a God who is merciful and truly wants what is best for us.

And now just a few notes:

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

- Monday, July 25 Feast of St. James, Apostle. James, the brother of John, is called "the Greater" because he followed Christ before the other Apostle of the same name. James was the first of the Twelve to be martyred, decapitated by order of Herod Agrippa I around the year 44. St. James is named in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I) and is patron of pilgrims, Spain, Guatemala, and Nicaragua. St. James, Pray for us!
- Tuesday, July 26 Obligatory Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St. Joachim is the

patron of fathers and grandparents, St. Anne the patroness of childless women and miners. Saints Joachim and Anne, Pray for us!

- Friday, July 29 Obligatory Memorial of St. Martha. Martha was the sister of Mary and Lazarus. She was a faithful disciple and a model of hospitality. St. Martha is the patroness of housewives, waiters, and waitresses. St. Martha, Pray for us!
- Saturday, July 30 Optional Memorial of St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church. St. Peter Chrysologus was known for his exceptional preaching ability and became known as "golden tongue." He died around the year 450. St. Peter Chrysologus, Pray for us!
- BAPTISM I am happy to have Baptized Jack Thomas Huber at St. Thomas last Sunday, July 17. Jack Thomas is the infant son of Dustin and Megan Huber. Jack Thomas is their first child. We welcome Jack Thomas as one of the newest members of God's family and St. Thomas Parish. Dustin grew up in this area, and he and Megan recently returned to this area and joined St. Thomas Parish.
- RESTORATION As I write this column, scaffolding is being set up around the church to begin the exterior restoration work at Holy Family. It is so good to see the work begin. Again, this is a very big project and one that is so very necessary.

As the work begins, we will almost certainly recognize a few inconveniences, but we will work through all of those. Please be aware of any minor adjustments we may need to make on short notice.

It is likely that we will need to relocate weekday Masses during the duration of the restoration or at least a large part of it. As soon as I know for sure, I will let you know. Saturday Vigil Masses and Sunday Masses should be unaffected.

At this point, the east front door and back west Sacristy door will likely be blocked off and closed for use during the entire duration of the restoration. The other doors of the church (including the west front door with the ramp) should remain open and available for use.

Though we may need to limit the use of the church at times, we will continue to celebrate Funeral Masses, Weddings, etc. as necessary in the church.

Thank you for your continued support of this phase of the restoration project. Please continue to keep the restoration in your prayers. I will be putting together some additional detailed information about the project itself and getting that out to you. Your continued support, including financial support, continues to be necessary as we move forward. Thank you again for that support.

- FLOWERS - As I mentioned in last week's bulletin, Bobbi Mock, who is currently taking care of heading up the flowers and decorating at St. Thomas church, asked me about our parish gardeners providing flowers for the church. I think it's an excellent opportunity. So, if you are interested, please get in touch with Bobbi (or me). What's it involve?...simply sharing some fresh cut flowers from your flower garden for the church. Again, get in contact with Bobbi for more details.

I also spoke with Martha Fluckey about doing this same thing at Holy Family and she has agreed to coordinate it for Holy Family. So, please reach out to Martha if you might be able to do this for Holy Family.

- ICE CREAM - St. Thomas Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Sunday, August 21. Please note that this is a change from the many years prior when the social was held on a Wednesday. This year, the committee has created work lists so please pick yours up in the back of church. If you or someone you know would like to order some homemade ice cream, please call Pat or the Parish Office.

- ANNIVERSARY On Saturday, July 23, Glen and Amy Koch will be celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary with renewal of vows at the evening Vigil Mass. Their actual anniversary was in June. As we congratulate Glen and Amy, it's also a good time for us to reflect on the sanctity of marriage and the importance of family life. Let us all continue to pray for good and holy vocations to the married life and let us also pray for families that they may live the life of holiness that God has called them to.
- SPIRITUAL INSIGHTS From St. Therese of Lisieux: "The Creator of the universe awaits the prayer of one poor little person to save a multitude of others, redeemed like her at the price of His Blood."
- From St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta: "Everybody today seems to be in such a terrible rush, anxious for greater developments and greater riches and so on, so that children have very little time for their parents. Parents have very little time for each other, and in the home begins the disruption of peace in the world."
- From venerable Msgr. Aloysius Schwartz: "When you pray, you only have to ask for two things: You should ask for the light to see the will of God, and you have to ask for the courage to be able to do the will of God."
- From Msgr. Romano Guardini: "When we come into church from the outside our ears are filled with the racket of the city, the words of those who have accompanied us, the laboring and quarreling of our own thoughts, the disquiet of our hearts' wishes and worries, hurts and joys. How are we possibly to hear what God is saying? That we listen at all is something; not everyone does. It is even better when we pay attention and make a real effort to understand what is being said. But all this is not yet the attentive stillness in which God's word can take root. This must be established before the service begins, if

possible, in the silence on the way to church, still better in a brief period of composure the evening before."

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

- Fr. Aaron

Bulletin Short for Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 24, 2022

About Praying. Abraham is persistent in his pleading with the Lord. And the Lord listens and relents. A disciple asks Jesus, after seeing Him pray, how to pray. Jesus gives a form that we use at every Mass and that we hand on to the elect each Lent. He then goes on about persistence in our praying.

- How does my prayer plead for the Kingdom of God to come?
- How does my prayer ask for what I need to do God's mercy work?
- How does my prayer seek and offer forgiveness?



MT. STERLING VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sponsored by First Baptist, First Christian, Presbyterian, Holy Family, Methodist, and Versailles Christian
Churches



July 25, 26, 27, 2022

Preschool through 6th grade

July 25-26 6:00-8:00 p.m.

July 27 6:00-8:30 p.m.

(No meal will be served)

Location: First Christian Church

117 W. Washington St.

Mt. Sterling, Illinois



