

# 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, August 15 – 7:00 a.m.

#### AT HOLY FAMILY

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Revelation 11:19a, 12:1-61, 10ab; 1 Corinthians 15:20-27;  
Luke 1:39-56

Parishioners of Holy Family & St. Thomas

### Monday, August 15 – 8:30 a.m.

#### AT ST. THOMAS

Larry Balzer  
(By Greg & Elizabeth Likes)

### Monday, August 15 – 5:30 p.m.

#### AT ST. THOMAS

Darrell Kindhart  
(By Edie Ascherman)

### Monday, August 15 – 7:00 p.m.

#### AT HOLY FAMILY

John Yeakel  
(By Jim & Rosanne Ray)

### Tuesday, August 16 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Stephen of Hungary  
Ezekiel 28:1-10; Matthew 19:23-30

Georgia Volk  
(By Joan Zurita)

### Wednesday, August 17 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr  
Ezekiel 34:1-11; Matthew 20:1-16

Mona Gragg  
(By Legion of Mary)

### Thursday, August 18 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Clare, Virgin  
Ezekiel 36:23-28; Matthew 22:1-14

Tom & Barb Kuhn  
(By Mary Fischer)

### Friday, August 19 – 8:30 a.m.

#### (School Mass)

St. John Eudes, Priest  
Ezekiel 37:1-14; Matthew 22:34-40

Marie Faugust  
(By Barb Lehne)

### Saturday, August 20 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church  
Ezekiel 43:1-7ab; Matthew 23:1-12

Parishioners of Holy Family & St. Thomas

### Sunday, August 21 – 8:00 a.m.

Isaiah 66:18-21; Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13; Luke 13:22-30

Larry Harshman  
(By Legion of Mary)

### St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Tommy Ordner  
(By Jacob & Alicia Schmidt)

#### HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

##### July 30-31, 2022

Holy Family: \$3,613.70  
School Support: \$235.00  
Sister Parish: \$10.00  
Assumption: \$20.00  
ACSA: \$20.00

##### August 6-7, 2022

Holy Family: \$3,285.20  
School Support: \$1189.00  
Sister Parish: \$20.00  
Assumption: \$25.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

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

##### July 31, 2022

St. Thomas: \$2,776.00  
Parish Improvement: \$25.00

##### August 7, 2022

St. Thomas: \$1,826.00  
Sister Parish: \$100.00  
Votive Candles: \$12.00  
Vacation Bible School: \$30.00

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](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 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

**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 † 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

## ST. THOMAS

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

## ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

**August 21, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.**

<b>Sacristan:</b>	Denise Taylor
<b>Lector:</b>	Jenni Obert
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	J. Schmidt Family
<b>Eucharistic Minister:</b>	Kim Gronewold
<b>Ushers:</b>	John Brady, Darren Hildebrand

## From the Pastor's Desk

As the Church celebrates the Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time, the readings from Sacred Scripture for the day remind us to choose Christ's message and to unite our lives with His.

The first reading from the Prophet Jeremiah is another version of a familiar scenario...a prophet ignored, ridiculed, and mistreated. In this case, it is Jeremiah who prophesied in Jerusalem during the reign of Zedekiah. For many years he had warned the people of Judah about an oncoming disaster. Often referred to as "the weeping prophet," Jeremiah scolded the Jewish leadership of the day for its failure to worship the one true God alone and for its reliance on military alliances over trusting in the Lord.

Of course, no one wanted to hear these scolding words of doom and gloom. In fact, determined to silence him forever but to avoid having his blood on their hands, those in power contrived to have him arrested and imprisoned in a muddy cistern. There, they hoped he would be forgotten and would die.

As a prophet, Jeremiah brought division. One may see this as bad. However, this division was not because God sought to instigate such, but because people choosing whether to listen to and follow God's word - or not - necessarily divided the community.

With a message no one wanted to hear (a message from God Himself, remember), Jeremiah knew that his fidelity to the Lord could possibly result in death, and yet he did not shy away from obeying God's call.

On His way to Jerusalem, Jesus tells His disciples that He has come to establish not peace but division. Again, this can sound strange, at the very least, on the surface level and to those who do not have a deeper understanding of Christ's mission, His Truth, and the Kingdom.

Jesus describes how His message will divide communities and pit family members against family members. Relationships will suffer, and Jesus Himself will suffer death. As with every previous prophet, those who heard - and still hear - Jesus' message had the choice to heed it or ignore it. That is what divides. Because when we enter into the Life of Christ through Baptism, we are united to Him, and with each other.

Today, our lives as Christians are often marked with the same kinds of turmoil as our ancestors. Just as the Cross is never too far from the empty tomb, so struggles and suffering are part of the human experience. Yet as Christians we are challenged to keep our eyes firmly fixed on the Lord, never losing sight of His presence and His offer of grace. We are challenged to choose Christ's message, uniting ourselves to and drawing strength from all those who walk the pathway of the Christian life with us.

And now just a few notes:

#### LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

- Monday, August 15 - Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This

celebration is elevated to a Solemnity which points to its great significance. We celebrate Mary being assumed (taken up into) into Heaven, Body and Soul. Normally a Holy Day of Obligation, in the United States, this obligation is lifted this year since the Solemnity falls on a Monday. However, it remains a high celebration and so I would encourage everyone to participate in the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on that day. I will be offering two Masses at both parishes that day. Please see the information following for times.

- Tuesday, August 16 - Optional Memorial of St. Stephen of Hungary. As the first Christian King of Hungary, Stephen united and Christianized the Magyar people. He received the "holy crown" from Pope Sylvester II in the year 1000 and is renowned for his charity to beggars. He is referred to as the "Apostolic King and Apostle of Hungary." He died in 1038. St. Stephen of Hungary, Pray for us!

- Friday, August 19 - Optional Memorial of St. John Eudes, Priest. John Eudes founded the Congregation of Jesus and Mary (C.I.M.) in 1643 primarily for the training of clergy. Today, the Eudists number about five hundred Religious. He also founded the Sisters of the Good Shepherd to assist morally endangered women. He promoted devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary. He died in 1680. St. John Eudes, Pray for us!

- Saturday, August 20 - Obligatory Memorial of St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church. Bernard was a Cistercian abbot of Clairvaux, known as a reformer and Spiritual author. He preached against the Albigensians, founded sixty-eight monasteries, denounced injustice, and worked for peace. He is known as the Doctor of Mellifluous. He died in 1153 and is the patron of Gibraltar. St. Bernard, Pray for us!

As a side note, the Religious Order where I have recently been purchasing our Altar bread is a community of contemplative Roman Catholic nuns of the Cistercian Order. Their Altar bread website reads "we are privileged to make and sell Altar breads to support our life of contemplation and intercession on behalf of the world." Their monastery is the Valley of Our Lady Monastery in Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin. I am happy to support these Religious Sisters

in their work and am grateful for the prayers that they offer for us.

- ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM - As noted above, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is August 15. This year, that falls on a Monday. This Solemnity is normally a Holy Day of Obligation. However, since it falls on a Monday this year, the obligation is lifted. Still, this is a significant celebration in the Church and so I will be celebrating Mass at both parishes that day and I encourage you to make every attempt to participate.

On Monday, August 15, I will celebrate Mass at Holy Family at 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. I will try to arrange it to have both of these Masses in the church, but please be aware that I may need to move one or both.

At St. Thomas, I will celebrate Mass at 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

- SCHOOL RESUMES - It's hard to believe but another school year begins this week. We are happy to be starting another school year at St. Mary's on Wednesday, August 17. As I have said before, St. Mary School is a great gift and blessing to us...the parish and the community. Thank you for your continued support of St. Mary School.

- PSR/BOSCO KIDS/RCIA - PSR, Bosco Kids, and RCIA will be starting soon. Contact Ann O'Sullivan for Holy Family or Laura Evans for St. Thomas for more information.

- MISSION APPEAL - We will have a visiting missionary next weekend at each Mass at both parishes. Fr. Alwin Samy will be here with us. He is a priest of the Diocese of Sivagangai, Tamil Nadu, India. Fr. Samy currently serves as a pastor in the Diocese of Biloxi, Mississippi. His appeal is for the Diocese of Sivagangai, India and they have forwarded the following to us:

*Dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, the Diocese of Sivagangai, India profoundly thanks and appreciates every one for your great generosity and support in the Mission Cooperative program. This year's Mission Appeal will benefit the primary and higher education of the poor students and in particular the orphans and destitute children of this Diocese in India. Your support will definitely make a big difference in taking care*

*of their orphanages as they reopen all the institutions after being heavily affected by Covid-19. They are looking for help to finance the setting up of infrastructure and the operation of the schools and orphanages, particularly St. Mudiyyapper Boys Home at Thiruvarangam. They would like to make an appeal to your kindness and ask your generous financial support to educate the illiterate, to feed the hungry, to heal the sick, and to proclaim the Gospel. We appreciate your generosity.*

These Mission Appeals are set up through our Diocesan Missions Office. I will have specially marked envelopes for your contributions to the appeal in the pews next week. I encourage you to listen carefully to Fr. Samy and to prayerfully consider how you can help financially. Please keep their work in your prayers and the work of all missionaries.

If you are making a financial contribution, please place the contribution in the special envelopes marked "Mission Appeal" and put them in the regular collection basket or send them in to the Parish Office. Checks may be made payable to the parish as we will forward all funds collected to the Diocesan Missions Office who will then forward those funds to the appropriate location. No funds are given directly to the missionary who is present at the parish. Thank you for your support.

- ICE CREAM SOCIAL - Remember, St. Thomas' Ice Cream Social is next Sunday, August 21, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Parish Hall. Come and enjoy a sandwich, some homemade ice cream, and time spent visiting with folks. There's also a basket raffle and 50/50 drawing to get in on. Advance orders for homemade ice cream to take home can be made by calling the Parish Office number. Thank you to all who have helped with this and for everyone's support.

- MORAL ISSUES - Each of us face moral issues almost every day. Certain issues of morality have flared up in history and will continue to do so. Understanding the Truth of Christ and persevering in It will help us navigate these moral issues.

I was recently asked about same-sex civil unions, in particular, support of such. First, let me say this. Holy Matrimony is between one man and one woman. If it is something else, it is not Marriage regardless of civil law definitions



or declarations. Divine Law, which is always supreme, holds Marriage as a union between one man and one woman. A same-sex union is not a Marriage regardless of the liberties that civil law has attributed to the word.

Same-sex unions and the attempt to call those unions Marriage is a grave offense against God, His Divine Law, and Marriage itself. Grave offenses against God, to be redundant, are very serious, and certainly can be found in acts beyond what I am discussing here. Sadly, with the issue of same-sex unions, some Christians, including Catholic Christians, seem to think that it is no big deal or that it does not affect them. Perhaps even more shocking, disturbing, and dangerous to one's Eternal Salvation is the support of such unions and lifestyles.

As Catholics, and frankly, as human beings created in the image and likeness of God, we cannot enter into a same-sex union or show support for such an attack and mockery against God's holy gift of Marriage. It is not compatible with Divine Law or Moral Theology. Besides the very act itself, support of such runs the real risk of scandal.

"But Father, what am I to do?...I've known so-and-so for years! And what does it hurt to congratulate someone anyway if I'm not the one actually engaging in the act?" Well, where do I begin except that what it hurts, and not only hurts but threatens, is the Eternal Salvation of not only the souls of those two people but the Eternal Salvation of your own soul. That in itself is our primary concern and should be enough to cause us to run swiftly towards the Truth, not flee from It. The greatest act of Charity (or Love) is Truth. The fullness of Truth is Christ, and that fullness is found in the Church that He established to aid in our salvation...the Holy Catholic Church. Why would we want to betray the Truth and put our Eternal Salvation at risk?!

Why there is such little concern by some folks over Eternal Salvation for one's soul, I do not know except that the works of the devil and our self-centered desires that we fall victim to are certainly at play.

So what are we to do? Well, first off, know the Truth and then witness to it. Be faithful to the Truth, not some hybrid that you or

someone else has created and led you to believe, but the Truth of Jesus Christ.

Pray! Pray for those who do not know the Truth or who do not follow the Truth. Pray for the salvation of souls and the world.

Do not engage in speech or behavior that is accepting of such grave offenses against God. In fact, speak out against it. To keep one in the dark and away from the Truth because it's easier, nicer, or makes us or someone else feel good is unacceptable. May each of us always have the strength to persevere in Truth.

There is certainly much more to know and understand and that is why we strive to live in the fullness of Truth. Hopefully, this helps to shed some light on some current issues. I am sure that for some this will not be received with resounding applause and approval, but the readings for today remind us that we must speak the Truth even when we know there will be pushback. For example, parents know they must challenge the wrong behavior of their children even if the response is a door slammed or a foot stomped. Can parents claim to truly love their children if they don't discipline them when necessary? The same goes for pastors, teachers, coaches, and anyone charged with leading others. If we care about the ultimate welfare of those for whom we are responsible, can we claim to love them if we do not challenge their wrong behaviors and attitudes?

As God gave to the ancient prophets strength and perseverance to proclaim His message, may He also give us strength and perseverance to know and witness to the Truth!

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for me, one another, the parishes and school, and the Universal Church. Please be assured of my continued prayers for each of you every day. May you have a most blessed week.

- Fr. Aaron

**Bulletin Short for**  
**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**August 14, 2022**

**Why Does Jesus Jar the Crowds?** He startles us today by announcing His baptism by fire (His coming Passion and Death). And He further reminds us that our own Baptism empowers us to undertake something new:

discipleship. It is constantly learning anew how to live in this world as preparation for living forever in the next. But we do this not alone. The writer of Hebrews reminds us we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses.

- What surprise does Jesus present?
- Whom will I want to surround me? Why?
- What discipleship work does Baptism empower me to do today?

**Announcements from the Holy Family Parish  
Coordinator of Religious Education (Ann  
O'Sullivan, [aosullivan2031@gmail.com](mailto:aosullivan2031@gmail.com) or  
217-257-2516)**

### **Bosco Kids**

Can you believe the start of the school year is coming up very quickly?? Bosco Kids (the Holy Family Parish School of Religion [PSR]) will start classes on Wednesday night, September 7, at 6:15-7:30. We will start the school year with a Mass and registration. Classes are held every Wednesday night in the school cafeteria and classrooms for grades K-8. We received a grant from the diocese to start a new program on Bible study, *God's Plan in Salvation*, for students and their parents this year. We're very excited to have this program and we will share more information at our opening night on September 7. We are getting ready to order books for the year and need to know how many students we will have in each class. If you have not already done so, please let me know if your children are coming to class this year. Just a reminder that 2nd grade students receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and 3rd grade students receive the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Please let me know if you have any questions.

### **RCIA**

We will start Right of Christian Initiation (RCIA) classes on September 28 from 6:30-7:45 weekly. These are classes for those interested in learning more about the Catholic religion and/or coming into the Catholic Church. Please let me or Father Aaron know if you are interested in attending these classes or have any questions about the classes.

### **Youth Group**

We are in the beginning stages of forming a youth group for our teens. Please let me know if you have any suggestions or ideas for this group or would like to help. We will keep you informed as we firm up the plans.

### **Adult Faith Formation**

We also received a grant from the diocese for a program called *Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible*. We will start these sessions and share more information about this program later in the fall.

Blessings to you all as we finish these last few weeks of summer break.



## **ST. THOMAS CHURCH**

Ohio & Spring Street Camp Point, IL

**SUNDAY,**

**August 21, 2022**

**4:00-7:00 p.m.**

### **MENU**

Homemade Ice Cream

Maid Rites, Hot Dogs, Chips, Desserts, Drinks

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