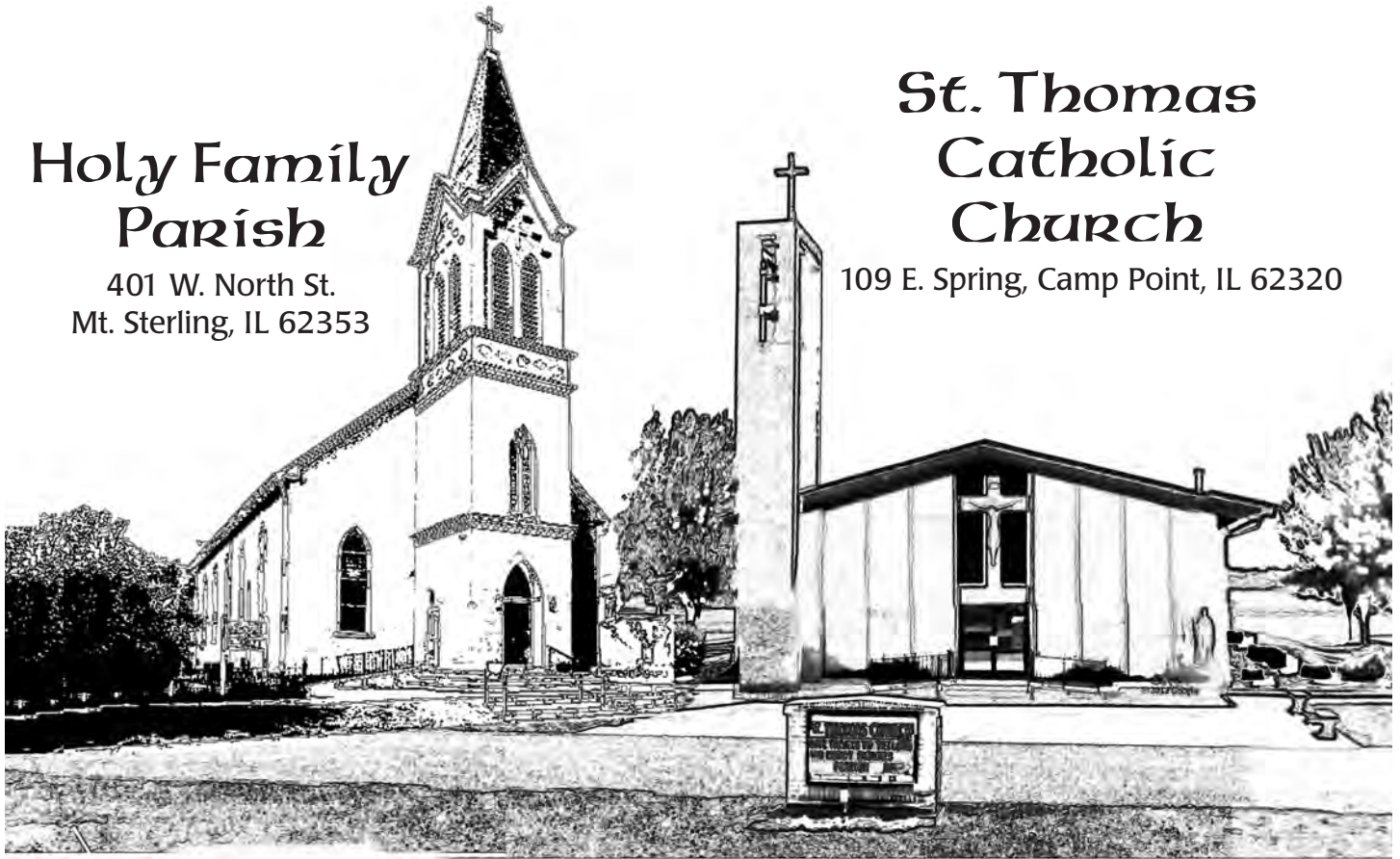


# Holy Family Parish

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 29 – 7:00 a.m.

The Passion of St. John the Baptist  
1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Mark 6:17-29

Communion Service

### Tuesday, August 30 – 7:00 a.m.

1 Corinthians 2:10b-16; Luke 4:31-37

Vera Marie Rolf

(By Marilyn & Pat Veith and Edna Ford)

### Wednesday, August 31 – 7:00 a.m.

1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Luke 4:38-44

Mike Metzger

(By Marilyn Clark)

### Thursday, September 1 – 7:00 a.m.

1 Corinthians 3:18-23; Luke 5:1-11

Beth Clark

(By Elizabeth Parker)

### Friday, September 2 – 8:30 a.m.

**(School Mass)**

1 Corinthians 4:1-5; Luke 5:33-39

Jack Logsdon

(By the Family)

### FIRST FRIDAY – ST. THOMAS – 6:00 p.m.

Juanita Thompson

(By Pat Sharow)

### Saturday, September 3 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Gregory the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church  
1 Corinthians 4:6b-15; Luke 6:1-5

Parishioners of Holy Family & St. Thomas

### Sunday, September 4 – 8:00 a.m.

Wisdom 9:13-18b; Philemon 9:10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33

Deceased Members of the Dwight

Armstrong Family

(By Cathy & Rita)

### St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

John & Anne Norbus

(By Pat Sharow)

## HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

August 20-21, 2022

Holy Family: \$4,110.50

School Support: \$5.00

Sister Parish: \$25.00  
Assumption: \$195.00  
Mission Appeal: \$1,917.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

## ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

August 21, 2022

St. Thomas: \$2,577.00

Assumption: \$120.00

Mission Appeal: \$484.00

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."
- ❖ **Nocturnal Adoration:** Saturday, September 3, beginning at 10:00 p.m. and concluding on September 4 at 7:45 a.m.

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 Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 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 † 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  
 † Kay Downey † Marilyn Clark † Jim Heaton  
 † Vera Marie Rolf † Nancy Salrin † Christine  
 Colgan Moore † Maddy Perry † Dwayne  
 Koch † Lori Bradshaw † Susie Parker  
 Campbell † Debra Parker Baker † Jeanette  
 Shields † Connie Johnson † Tom Langan  
 † Oakley Ham † Cameron Francis † Norma  
 Herbster † Fritzi Harper † Rick Flatt  
 † Elizabeth “Libby” Tichy † Mark Carlock  
 † Jeff Kozak † Carol Likes † Rob Dresden  
 † Jennie Neisen † Roger Busen † Carol  
 Walker † Sandy Smith † Janice Hendricks

## ST. THOMAS

**St. Thomas Youth Group** – Come join the fun and bring a friend or two. Our next youth group night will be September 18 at St. Thomas Hall at 6 to 8 p.m. All youth Junior High, High School, and recent grads invited (parents are welcome too).

For more information, contact Kailyn Mast, 217-617-0282, or Gail Mast, 217-617-1731.

## From the Pastor’s Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Twenty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time,

and our readings today speak clearly about humility and its role in the Kingdom.

Humility is another one of those words that is sometimes misunderstood or misused which does little for our growth in holiness when that happens. First off, humility is not denial of one’s God-given abilities, talents and gifts. In fact, that would perhaps be some kind of false humility, or worse yet, a lack of gratitude for the gifts God has given you. Rather, humility is knowing our need for God, having a realistic view of our abilities, and knowing when our abilities and gifts are needed and when they’re not.

The fact of the matter is, each of us has wonderful gifts from God, but they may not be needed at a particular time. Part of humility is knowing this and recognizing this. Part of humility is knowing that other folks have gifts and abilities from God. Now, this isn’t an escape to sit back and say to ourselves, “I can do that but I’ll let someone else do it,” or “I don’t think God wants me to do that,” when that is really only code for I don’t want to do it or I’ll show them, I just won’t help. Actually, that’s just silly. That’s not humility at all, far from it.

The first reading from the Book of Sirach speaks to all of this when it talks about conducting your affairs with humility and humbling yourself all the more the greater you are, and not searching for things beyond your strength. Rather, do well what you can do.

Jesus also speaks of the necessity of humility in our lives in today’s Gospel. Imagine that Gospel scene if you can. Luke tells us that Jesus is at the home of one of the leading Pharisees to have dinner and the people there were observing Him carefully. Sounds nice, doesn’t it?

First off, two things right off the bat that are important but easy to overlook. One, Jesus is accessible to all people. We recall that Jesus ate with sinners and tax collectors and He eats with the rich and

the powerful. He shows no partiality. Status means nothing to Him, nor does it play a role in the Kingdom of God.

Two, make no doubt about it, this was no casual, relaxed dinner. The guests weren't observing Jesus in a friendly manner, trying to learn from Him. We lose a little bit of what was really going on through translation. When Luke says that the dinner guests were watching Jesus closely, he uses a Greek word that has a hostile intent, one that means the guests were watching Jesus and looking for an opportunity to entrap Him. You know what it's like...hmmm, hmmm, hmmm...la da da, keep an eye on Him...and then...pounce...AH HA, GOT HIM! We might reflect on this ourselves and ask if this same kind of behavior is ever present in your own life?

Anyway, Jesus doesn't fall into their trap, of course. Rather, Jesus is also observing the guests and how they are choosing places of honor at the table. Can't you just imagine how Jesus is just kind of quietly watching things, kind of people watching.

And then Jesus tells that parable. He had perceived the guests' priorities in the seats they had taken...to be seen, to be honored, to be important. But these are not the priorities of the Kingdom of God, which is hopefully what each one of us is striving for, the Kingdom of God. Nor is it the criteria for who will be invited.

The Kingdom of God is for those who truly know their need for God and who live in the knowledge of their inability to repay Him. Sounds a lot like humility. In times of need, this can be easier for us. The challenge, often times, is in the ordinary events of our daily lives. Jesus Himself shows us the role of humility in the Kingdom of God which comes about through our own growth in holiness that we've got to commit to each and every day. It comes about through the ordering of our priorities and how our faith informs

our lives no matter who we are or our state in life...married couples, parents, single people, teenagers, children, priests, religious, whoever we are.

And the status that matters for the Kingdom of God is not some passing status created by an ever-changing society (wealth, power, importance). Rather, it is one's relationship with God and in turn with other people, regardless of profession or socio-economic class or whatever it might be. Real status is measured not by rank or occupation but by the level of love and service offered to God through our relationships.

What counts is certainly not how we are looked on by others but the degree of care and compassion with which we look upon them. This calls for strong inner security and true humility. When we look around and we say "What is wrong" or "How could this happen" or something similar, we likely need to look no further than our relationship with God.

Through Baptism, we've been given a role in the building of the Kingdom. Make no doubt about that and take it seriously, but also know how and what it is that God is calling you to. It is so easy for the devil to deceive us, in this especially.

We are people in need of God's mercy and people who need to experience His love and joy and fullness of Truth. When we accept the Lord's invitation to join Him in the foretaste of the Heavenly Banquet, that is, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, we come not as a reward for what we've done but so that we may be changed and that we might give praise and glory to God who is the Giver of all that is good.

Christ is the who one invites us to share in God's mercy and love and Truth. May each of us always be good stewards of the gifts that God has given us, humbling offering them for no other reason except for the glory of God and the edification of all people.

And now just a few notes:

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

- Monday, August 29 - Obligatory Memorial of the Passion of St. John the Baptist. This Memorial originates in the celebration of the dedication of the Church of St. John at Sebaste (Samaria) where, according to tradition, John the Baptist was buried by his disciples. St. John the Baptist, Pray for us!

- Saturday, September 3 - Obligatory Memorial of St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church. St. Gregory the Great is one of the four great Doctors of the Latin Church, writing on many moral and theological subjects. As Pope, he is particularly noted for liturgical reform and chant and for sending missionaries to England. He died on March 12, 604, and is the patron saint of music. St. Gregory the Great, Pray for us!

- THANK YOU - Last Sunday's ice cream social at St. Thomas was a great evening and enjoyed by many. Thank you to all who helped with the ice cream social in any way and for your support.

- MISSION APPEAL - It was good to have Fr. Alwin here with us last weekend. Thank you to those who have already been so generous in making a contribution toward the Mission Appeal. If you were unable to make a contribution last week and still would like to, envelopes remain in the pews this week and in the back of church. Please put contributions to the Mission Appeal in these envelopes so we know that is what they are designated for. Checks should be made payable to the parish as we will forward the monies collected. The envelopes can be placed in the collection basket or mailed into the office.

- FIRST FRIDAY - Friday, September 2, is First Friday and we will be having our First Friday Devotion at St. Thomas with Eucharistic Adoration from Noon until 5:45 p.m., Benediction at 5:45, and Mass at 6:00 p.m. Confessions will be available from 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Please plan to

join us and spend some time in prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

- NOCTURNAL ADORATION - Nocturnal Adoration at Holy Family is next weekend beginning at 10:00 p.m. on Saturday night, September 3, and goes through Sunday morning, September 4, at 7:45 a.m. Benediction is at 7:45 a.m. followed by our regular Sunday Mass at 8:00 a.m.

- FINANCIAL REPORTS - As of this writing, I am planning to have the end-of-year financial reports available this weekend in both parishes. The reports have been completed for a few weeks...I have just been a little delayed in getting the cover letters written.

- PRAYERS - I encourage all of us to keep in our daily prayers the many needs of our parishes and our parishioners, our communities, our Church, and the world, and those needs known and unknown to us.

- DAILY PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS - Again, I want to encourage you to join folks around the Diocese at 4:40 p.m. each day in praying one Hail Mary for our Diocese to have 40 seminarians. This was begun some time ago and I hope that you will join us in this. Our need for good and holy vocations remains. Thank you for supporting all vocations in the Church, especially to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

- FRIDAY PRAYER AND FASTING - Fridays have been a day of fasting and sacrifice for years and continue to be. Some folks incorrectly say something like, "Oh, you don't have to do that anymore." While it is true that abstaining from meat on all Fridays is no longer an obligation outside of Lent, Friday remains a day of sacrifice and fasting. Some choose to not eat meat on Fridays, others offer sacrifice in other ways. We should not be misled to believe that Fridays, in particular, are not days of sacrifice and fasting "anymore." That is not true.

With that, as noted in a recent edition of the *Catholic Times*, a couple of ladies in the Diocese of Peoria, recognizing the

massive evil of abortion that is being promoted in the State of Illinois, began an effort to Pray and Fast every Friday on Bread and Water for the State of Illinois and to stop Illinois from becoming known as the “abortion hub of the Midwest.” More information will be forthcoming, and we will have prayer cards available in both parishes sometime soon.

The ladies who began this effort are working to encourage it throughout the state. I encourage you to take this up as you are able. We recognize, of course, that some may be medically unable to do the fasting portion, but we can all certainly pray and offer sacrifice in some way for this effort.

- HOG ROAST - The annual St. Mary School Hog Roast is scheduled for Sunday, September 18. Mark your calendars and plan to join us!

- ST. MICHAEL PRAYER - While we pray the Prayer to St. Michael at the end of each Mass in both parishes, I encourage you to pray it each day. You may or may not know how the prayer came about. The following is taken from [aleteia.org](http://aleteia.org):

In 1886 Pope Leo XIII instituted what would later be known as the “Leonine Prayers” after Mass. These prayers include the well-known Prayer to St. Michael. Not much is known for certain about the origin of this prayer, but it is believed by many historians that Pope Leo XIII had a profound vision that sparked its creation.

It is thought that the vision took place during or immediately after the celebration of Mass. Several different reports relate that Pope Leo XIII had a visible change come over his face during the vision and one claims that his face was “pale and fearful.”

A cardinal at the time who knew the pope’s private secretary explains that “Pope Leo XIII truly had a vision of demonic spirits, who were gathering on the Eternal City (Rome). From that experience...comes the prayer which he wanted the whole Church to recite.”

Whatever happened during Pope Leo’s vision, it appears certain that he did have a vision and what he saw was not pleasant. It prompted him to quickly compose the Prayer to St. Michael, and to request its use at the end of Low Masses. The pope lived during particularly turbulent times, and he believed prayer was needed to dispel the darkness that hung over the world.

St. Michael the Archangel has always been known to be a powerful intercessor against evil, especially since he is recorded in the Book of Revelation as, “fighting against the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they were defeated and there was no longer any place for them in heaven” (Revelation 12:7-9). Based on this episode in scripture, St. Michael is frequently depicted in art thrusting a lance, spear, or sword into Satan, who is often depicted as a serpent or dragon.

Ever since Pope Leo XIII composed it, the St. Michael Prayer has continued to be a staple of Catholic prayer and is a prayer many exorcists recommend to anyone who needs to combat the presence of evil in their lives.

Several years ago, Bishop Paprocki asked that parishes pray the St. Michael Prayer after Masses. With the evil that surrounds us and continually tries to pull us away from God, praying this prayer is a good and powerful practice.

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; may God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

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

- Fr. Aaron

**Bulletin Short for  
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
August 28, 2022**

**Who Is Being Carefully Watched?** We all know what it is like to be scrutinized by prying eyes and nosey noses. We might be tempted to bloat ourselves up to look better, to garner the praise and esteem of others. Jesus preaches some different behavior today. Don't seek the exalted places. Care for the poor, the cripple, the lame, the blind.

- What tempts me to feed my ego?
- What can I learn by watching those who are humble?
- What mercy work will I do to care for the sick and poor this week?

**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 to 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.

**Men's Cursillo Set for September 15 to 18**

Does your life need a spiritual recharge? Are you ready to charge up your faith? How about spending quality time learning, growing, and contemplating on what God is calling you to do in your life. The Quincy Cursillo is hosting its next Men's Cursillo September 15 to 18 at the Franciscan Retreat Center located on Quincy University's North Campus. Imagine spending a few days in spiritual renewal with other Catholic men eager to deepen their relationship with Jesus.

For more information, contact:

Gary Mast, 217-617-1730, or Gail Mast, 217-617-1731, or by email at: [gailandgary92@gmail.com](mailto:gailandgary92@gmail.com)

Ann O'Sullivan, 217-257-2516, or by email at: [aosullivan2031@gmail.com](mailto:aosullivan2031@gmail.com).

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