

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, September 19 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr
Proverbs 3:27-34; Luke 8:16-18

Communion Service

Tuesday, September 20 – 7:00 a.m.

Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest and Paul Chong Ha-sang
and Companions, Martyrs
Proverbs 21:1-6, 10-13; Luke 8:19-21

Communion Service

Wednesday, September 21 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13

Communion Service

Thursday, September 22 – 7:00 a.m.

Ecclesiastes 1:2-11; Luke 9:7-9

Communion Service

Friday, September 23 – 8:30 a.m.

(School Mass)

St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest
Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; Luke 9:18-22

Amy Ormond Lucky
(By Bob & Judy Schenk & Family)

Saturday, September 24 – 5:30 p.m.

Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8; Luke 9:43b-45

Mary Agnes Patterson
(By Norma Hufnagel)

Sunday, September 25 – 8:00 a.m.

Amos 6:1a, 4-7; 1 Timothy 6:11-16; Luke 16:19-31

Parishioners of Holy Family & St. Thomas

St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

In Gratitude for Robin & Claudia
Coggeshall's 45th Wedding Anniversary

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

September 10-11, 2022

Holy Family: \$4,250.00
School Support: \$175.00
Sister Parish: \$285.00
ACSA: \$500.00

Mission Appeal: \$10.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

September 11, 2022

St. Thomas: \$1,896.00
Mission Appeal: \$25.00
Sister Parish: \$45.00
ACSA: \$50.00

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 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

From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time, and we are reminded to live a life full of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

English explorers Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon surveyed the boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland in 1767. The border has come to be known as the Mason-Dixon Line. During the American Civil War, a century later, it was the dividing line between the Union and the Confederacy.

Now, whether it's true or not, there is a story of a man whose property was right on top of this invisible line separating the states. During the war, he feared both sides would view him as a traitor, so he decided to wear a Confederate jacket and Union pants. When the fighting got too close to home, he was in big trouble. The Union muskets were fired at his chest, and the Confederacy shot at his knees, a grim reminder that we cannot serve two masters. Again, is the story true, I don't know, but it does make for a good lesson.

Such is the challenge between the pursuit of holiness versus the pursuit of wealth and power. This is the focus of today's First Reading from the Prophet Amos. Sometime around 750 B.C., the shepherd, Amos, was called to leave one flock in service of another. God sent Amos north into Israel to convict people for their sins against the Covenant - working on the Sabbath and cheating the poor out of their hard-earned money.

Amos, in the reading, knows that the merchants in the Temple are fixing their scales to cheat the pilgrims coming to Jerusalem for the feast. These wealthy men became rich and made themselves richer by taking advantage of the less fortunate.

Never will I forget a thing they have done, the prophet says, speaking for God. It is an announcement of God's judgment on those who are deaf to the cry of the

† 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
† Kendall Harper Passmore † Rick Kunkel
† Marissa Atteberry † Mark Ebbing

ST. THOMAS

St. Thomas PSR - Our PSR year kicked off September 14 with Mass at 6:30. Registration forms are in the back of church, or you can contact Laura Evans at levans@adams.net or 217-316-1734 for one!

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

September 25, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan:	Denise Taylor
Lector:	Laura Evans
Gift Bearers:	J. Herkert Family
Eucharistic Minister:	Kim Gronewold
Ushers:	John Brady Jerry Herkert

poor. They were in need of forgiveness but would only receive it if they humbled themselves to ask for it.

In writing to Timothy, St. Paul affirms God's desire that we all ask for and receive His mercy, and then share it with one another. Paul thought this important, especially for kings and all those in authority, that they might lead a quiet and tranquil life, one without anger or argument. It is God's great desire that everyone be saved and...come to knowledge of the truth.

Mercy and forgiveness are in the message of the parable of the steward that Jesus tells in today's Gospel. The steward is quite creative in dealing with the loss of his job. The steward was not forgiven his debt, but he does forgive the debt of one who owes him a large sum of wheat. Jesus compliments the man for his ability to look beyond earthly wealth to store up for himself treasure in heaven. This appears to be Jesus' way of getting our minds out of our pocketbook and into His Holy Book.

The Lord desires that we all show such industry in our pursuit of Eternal Life. Experience tells us that wealth may leave us or be taken away, but God is a firm anchor. The dollar in our pocket is here today and gone tomorrow, but the Lord is always there for us, and all around us.

We both give and receive as we recognize God as the source of every gift and blessing, and we remain mindful of what the prophet Amos tells us, that God never forgets a thing we have done. So, let us at least live a life worthy of remembering, a life full of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

And now just a few thoughts:

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

- Monday, September 19 - Optional Memorial of St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr. Januarius was Bishop of Benevento. According to stories about him, he was martyred around the year 305 under Diocletian by being thrown to bears at

Pozzuolo. His blood is known to liquefy on this day and other days each year. He is the patron of Naples. St. Januarius, Pray for us!

We celebrate several Martyrs this week. All of the saints are great examples and models to us. Martyrs, in particular, demonstrate to us the love of Truth which is so violently attacked at times. Their witness to the Faith through their martyrdom is extraordinary.

- Tuesday, September 20 - Obligatory Memorial of Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang, and companions, Martyrs. Andrew, born in Seoul, Korea, was a convert to the faith and was ordained Korea's first native priest. His father was a martyr. In 1846, Andrew was tortured and beheaded along with his lay associate, seminarian Paul Chong Ha-sang. Between 1839 and 1867, one hundred and three martyrs gave their lives for the faith in Korea. Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon and Paul Chong Ha-sang and companions, Pray for us!

- Wednesday, September 21 - Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist. St. Matthew is one of the four Gospel writers. His Gospel was written around the year 85 and is generally arranged in an alternating pattern of narrative and discourse. Intended for a largely Jewish-Christian audience, St. Matthew's Gospel seeks to portray Christianity as consistent with the Jewish tradition and a continuation of it. Tradition holds that St. Matthew preached in Judea and Ethiopia where he was martyred. He is symbolized by the winged human being (Ezekiel 1) and is mentioned in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer 1). He is the patron of accountants and customs officers. St. Matthew, Pray for us!

- Friday, September 23 - Obligatory Memorial of St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest. Commonly known as St. Padre Pio, he was a Capuchin priest who received the Stigmata (the wounds of Christ). In his life here on earth, he was much sought after

as a spiritual advisor, confessor, and intercessor. Despite such notoriety, he would often say, "I only want to be a poor friar who prays." His life was devoted to the Eucharist and to prayer. St. Padre Pio is a more contemporary saint, born in 1887. He died in 1968. He was canonized in 2002 by Pope St. John Paul II. He is considered the patron of civil defense volunteers and Catholic adolescents. St. Padre Pio, Pray for us!

As a side note, a movie about Padre Pio is scheduled to be released this month. I don't watch a lot of movies, but I am looking forward to hopefully viewing this movie at some point. I don't know what it will be like, of course, but I do hope that it accurately portrays the beauty and holiness of St. Padre Pio.

- HOG ROAST - Don't miss out on the St. Mary School Hog Roast this Sunday, September 18, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., served drive-thru at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Mt. Sterling. You'll also want to be sure and get your tickets for the pellet grill and beef bundle drawing. As I mentioned last week, along with the great meal, our Hog Roast has become famous for its high-end raffle prize. Come and get a great meal, your chance at the grill and beef bundle, and support St. Mary School. Thank you for your continued support and thank you to all who make this great event possible.

- CONVOCATION - Our Diocesan Priest Convocation is this week. It begins Monday evening and runs through Thursday afternoon. With few exceptions, all active Diocesan priests are expected to be present. I will be attending the Convocation with my other brother priests. We will be meeting in Collinsville this year. Please keep me and all the priests and Bishop Paprocki in your prayers.

Because of the Convocation, there will be no Mass Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. Deacon Mike will offer a Communion Service each of those days in addition to the regular Communion Service

on Monday. While it is always good to be with the other priests, I will certainly look forward to being back at the parishes with all of you.

In the event of an emergency while I am away, please try to contact Tammy in the School Office, 217-773-2825. If you are unable to reach her, you can call my cell phone and leave a message which I will check as soon as I can. I will try to check office voicemail messages and e-mail messages as often as I can while I am away and respond as I am able.

- CATECHETICAL SUNDAY - This weekend is Catechetical Sunday. Thank you to those in our parishes who formally act as catechists. There will be a special blessing at the Saturday evening Vigil Mass at Holy Family and at the Sunday morning Mass at St. Thomas for our catechists. Our catechists play an important role in helping to teach the Faith. As a reminder, it is our responsibility to continue to grow in our faith and learn the Faith, and it is the primary responsibility of parents to teach their children the Faith in the family.

- PSR - St. Thomas PSR kicked off another year with Mass last Wednesday evening. It was also an opportunity to meet the catechists and to register. May our PSR teachers, students, and families be blessed with a fruitful year.

- HAPPY BIRTHDAY - Our Principal, Mrs. Melissa Obert, celebrates a birthday on Friday, September 23. I suspect I will be in trouble for putting it in the bulletin. Please keep Melissa and all the school teachers and staff in your prayers. Melissa does an excellent job in leading our school and I can attest to the many things she does that go unnoticed and unknown by most folks. I appreciate Melissa's leadership and commitment to St. Mary School.

- COATS FOR KIDS - One of the programs sponsored by the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus is Coats for Kids. The intent of the program is to provide warmth for children in need

during cold winter months. The goal of the Coats for Kids program is to ensure that no child in North America goes without a coat during the winter season. Through the dedication of councils across the United States and Canada, hundreds of thousands of new winter coats have been distributed to children since program inception.

The Mt. Sterling Knights of Columbus is participating in this program. As I mentioned last week at all the Masses, the Council is seeking monetary donations. Envelopes are in the back of each church. I encourage you to consider making a contribution for this. You may place your contribution in one of the marked envelopes and drop it in the collection basket for your convenience. If you are writing a check, please make the check payable to Knights of Columbus. You may also give the envelope to me or mail it in to the office and I will make sure the Council gets it. Thank you for your kind consideration in supporting Coats for Kids.

- VOCATIONS RAFFLE - The Illinois Knights of Columbus is also once again sponsoring the drawing to support the Illinois Vocations Support Program. There are twenty cash prizes, top prize is \$10,000. Tickets are in a book of 15 for \$15.00. The Mt. Sterling Council has a limited number of books on hand, but we can get more. I have a few books myself. If you would like some tickets, you can let me know or get in contact with one of the other members. We are also hoping to have a member with tickets available after Masses one weekend in October at Holy Family.

The drawing is scheduled for December 3, and we need to have tickets turned in by mid-November. I know it seems like a long time off, but it will be here before we know it. I encourage you to take part in this as it directly supports vocations in the State of Illinois.

- CHURCH A/C AT ST. THOMAS - I have forgotten to mention that several weeks ago, we discovered that both air

conditioning units for the main part of the church at St. Thomas had failed. One was an issue with the blower and the other with the condenser. Fortunately, both parts were under warranty. There was, of course, labor involved, and a few other costs to get everything in working order once again. I believe that both units are now functioning as they should. Although the weather may have cooled down some now, I am grateful that this was able to be completed in a timely fashion.

- RESTORATION UPDATE - Just a quick note to let you know that work continues to progress on the exterior restoration of Holy Family Church. Additional scaffolding has been put up around the bell tower (as you can see) with some work done there. There has been a lot of masonry work being done and also some painting started. It is hard to see some of the progress, but it is happening, and it is good to see. Just as I am writing this, I spoke with the foreman and operations manager (who thus far, I must say, have been excellent to work with). They tell me that they are waiting on the new slate to arrive and are looking at a week or so for its arrival. With its arrival, I'm sure we will then see some additional work on the roof.

Again, it is so good to see the work being done, work that was very much needed. I appreciate everyone's patience and support of the work. I want to remind you that we are still raising funds for the restoration work. Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to offer additional financial help. If you would like to make a contribution, designated envelopes are in the back of Holy Family and may be placed in the collection basket. If you want to speak to me directly about a gift or know someone, or perhaps even a business who would like to support the work, please let me know. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for this project.

Thank you also for your prayers 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
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 18, 2022**

How to Use Material Possessions? This is a tough gospel today. An employee squanders the boss' property. That same employee, on firing, gives away even more. What is the point? Don't let possessions possess. In the words of Amos, the prophet, do not trample the needy or destroy the poor.

- What do I own that controls my life?
- How can I trust more in God than in the things I have?
- How will I tend to the poor and needy with this merciful behavior: _____?

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

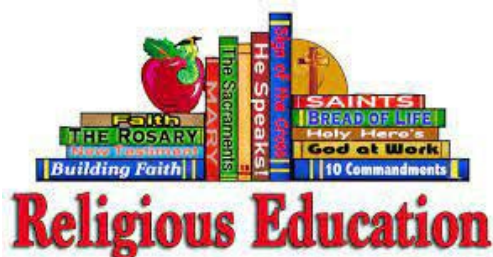
Bosco Kids

Classes are held every Wednesday night in the school cafeteria and classrooms for grades K-6.

Important September activities:

Wednesday, 9/21 - Regular class

Wednesday, 9/28 - Family Night - God's Plan in Scripture - SMS and Bosco Kids students and families. 6:15-7:30



RCIA

RCIA classes are 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 Catholic Faith.

Youth Group

Youth Group will start on Sunday night, September 25, for grades 7-12 and meet every other week. Our first meeting will be from 6-7:30 p.m. with a cookout at the K of C Hall. We look forward to seeing all of our youth at this first meeting.

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation sessions on *Unlocking the Mysteries of the Bible* will start on Tuesday, November 29, and run for 3 weeks during Advent. More details and sign up information will be posted in early November.

Blessings to you all this week.

YMCA COMMUNITY BAND AND CHOIR

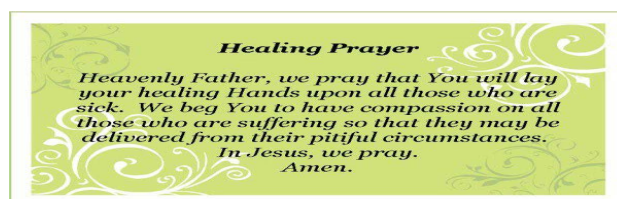
Great news, the YMCA Community band and choir are back!

The choir meets on Mondays, starting September 12, and the band meets on Thursdays, starting September 15.

Both groups start practice at 7 p.m. in the high school band room.

There is no cost to participate and you do not need to be a Y member. Anyone 14 and older can join.

Their joint concert will be Sunday, November 20.



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94TH DISTRICT
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Camp Point, Illinois


Benjamin Drebes
Financial Advisor
4531 Maine St. • Suite C
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217.223.9313
benjamin.drebes@edwardjones.com
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