

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

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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, February 27 - 7:00 a.m.

St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot & Doctor of the Church Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46

Communion Service

Tuesday, February 28 - 7:00 a.m.

Isaiah 55:10-11: Matthew 6:7-15

Tom L. Langan (By Kim Gronewold)

Wednesday, March 1 - 5:30 p.m.

Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32

Paul, Frances & Larry Schenk And Ruth James (By Bob & Judy Schenk & Family)

Thursday, March 2 - 7:00 a.m.

Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12

Eugene Zackey (By John & Linda Colgan)

St. Thomas - 5:30 p.m.

The Families of Carl & Dorothy Mast (By Ray & Teresa Bockhold)

<u>Friday, March 3 - 8:30 a.m.</u> (School Mass)

St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26

> Amy Ormond Lucky (By Larry Volk)

FIRST FRIDAY - ST. THOMAS - 6:00 p.m.

Cory Wilkey (By McKenzie, Dessy & Reese Wilkey)

Saturday, March 4 - 5:30 p.m.

St. Casimir

Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48

Glenn Stephenson & Brent Kindhart (By Donna Stephenson)

Sunday, March 5 - 8:00 a.m.

Genesis 12:1-4a; 2 Timothy 1:8b-10; Matthew 17:1-9

Edward (Rocky) Griffitts (By Joan Zurita)

St. Thomas - 10:00 a.m.

Parishioners of St. Thomas & Holy Family

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

February 18-19, 2023

Holy Family: \$2,539.00 School Support: \$50.00 Sister Parish: \$60.00 First Offering: \$10.00 Catholic Times: \$30.00 Parish Tithe: \$1,285.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

February 19, 2023

St. Thomas: \$1,617.00 Fish Fry: \$20.00 Parish Tithe: \$431.00 Sister Parish: \$100.00 Parish Improvement: \$5.00

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."
- ❖ SMS Trivia Night will be held on Saturday, March 11, 2023. Information and a registration form will be coming shortly

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 - 8:00 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 & Marie Hendren † Jolene Lawson † Sharon Johnson † Gavin McDaniel † Boyd Tenhouse † Janice Leverton † Margo Pool † Gary Shields † Abby Schuhardt † 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 & family † Sheila Roberts † Marilyn Clark † Jim Heaton † Vera Marie Rolf † 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 † Janice Hendricks † Kendall Atteberry † Mark Ebbing † Joan Weilbacher † Roger Lanz † Aaron Koch † Eleanor Logsdon † Lane Wiese † Carolyn DeWitt † Jim Duvendack † Leeann DeJaynes † Paul Koch † Joe Ray † Stan Obert † Joe Koch † Charlie Koch †

Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family of Kay Downey who passed away on February 14, 2023. 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

- **St. Thomas Fish Fry** Get ready for a delicious fish dinner! St. Thomas Fish Fry on Friday, March 3rd, 4:00-7:00. The menu is fish, potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, desserts, beverages. All you can eat. Dine in or carry outs. Prices: Adults: \$12; children 6-12: \$6; children 5 & under: free.
- **40 Days For Life prayer vigil** will be at the Walgreen's store. We need you to participate. Please see more information later in this bulletin or contact Claudia Coggeshall, Dorothy Obert or Colleen Maalouf or 40daysforlife.com/en/quincy.
- **St. Thomas Easter Choir** We are looking ahead to Easter. (Alleluia!) We would like to invite you to join us in singing for our Easter Sunday mass. No special talents required. Just a desire to share in Easter joy. We will have a few practices but they haven't been scheduled yet. If you have any questions, just ask any choir member or contact Pam at 242-2486.

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

March 5, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Brent Obert

Greeters: Mark & Amanda Obert

Family

Lector: Laura Evans
Gift Bearers: Maurice & Clara

Schmidt

Eucharistic Minister: Collection Counters:

Jim Clausius Jerel Mock Family

Ushers:

Jerel Mock, Alex Mock

From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the First Sunday of Lent. Through Christ, we are made righteous and have the hope of Eternal Life with the Father in Heaven. Through the first fall of Adam and Eve, sin entered the world and death comes to all. Yet God sent His Son to free us (from sin and death) and show us His power over satan.

Lent is a time of renewal, repentance, reconciliation and the Church invites all of us into this period of renewal, repentance, and reconciliation. Lent is a time for each of us to reflect on our own Baptismal promises to reject satan and turn away from sin.

"Prayer is good when accompanied by fasting, almsgiving, and righteousness. A little with righteousness is better than much with wrongdoing. It is better to give alms than to treasure up gold." (Tobit 12:8) This admonition is the foundation of Lenten practices that characterize Catholics seeking to strengthen their walk with God and deepen their relationship with Him.

In this Season of Lent, may we know and enter into more fully that renewal, repentance, and reconciliation.

And now just a few notes:

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Monday, February 27 – Optional memorial of St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church.

Gregory of Narek who lived around the year 1000 was an Armenian mystical and lyrical poet, abbot, and theologian. He is venerated as a saint in the Armenian Apostolic and Catholic Churches and was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Francis in 2015 and added to the General Roman Calendar in 2021 as an optional memorial. He is best known for his "Book of Lamentations," a major work of mystical literature (this, of course, is not to be confused with the Book of Lamentations found in Sacred Scripture). St. Gregory of Narek, Pray for us!

-Friday, March 3 – In the United States, optional memorial of St. Katherine Drexel, Virgin. Katherine Drexel was a Philadelphia heiress and Foundress of the Missionary Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. She established some forty-nine foundations. She died on March 3, 1955 at the age of ninety-seven and was canonized by Pope John Paul II on October 1, 2000. St. Katherine Drexel, Pray for us!

-Saturday, March 4 – Optional memorial of St. Casimir. St. Casimir was a Polish prince known as the "brother and defender of the poor." He is well known for the austere life that he led. He died in 1484 and is patron of Poland and Lithuania. St. Casimir, Pray for us!

-FIRST FRIDAY – Friday, March 3 is First Friday and so we will be having our First Friday Devotions at St. Thomas. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be at Noon and Adoration will go until 5:45 p.m. Benediction will be at 5:45 p.m. followed by Mass at 6:00 p.m. Confessions will be available from 5:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. As always, I encourage you to come and spend some time in prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

Just a side note concerning the First Friday Devotion that I also mentioned last year... Often times for First Friday Devotions, the Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart is used. Currently, I do not use that (although I am still considering to do so). I use the Mass for the day. I say this here because the First Friday Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart is forbidden during Lent. Thus, the Mass of the day is to be used which is what I currently do anyway.

-NOCTURNAL ADORATION – Saturday, March 4 is also the first Saturday of the month and so we will have Nocturnal Adoration at Holy Family. Exposition and Adoration begins at 10:00pm and goes through 7:45 a.m. Sunday morning. Benediction is at 7:45 a.m. followed by our regularly scheduled 8:00am Mass.

-LENT – The Liturgical Season of Lent began this past week on Ash Wednesday. As we have now entered into the Season of Lent, we remain mindful of its marked characteristics, Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving.

For your reference, the following are the Lenten Regulations:

- 1. ABSTINENCE Everyone 14 years of age and over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.
- 2. FAST Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 is required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is permitted. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength may be taken according to each person's needs, but together these two should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids (including milk and fruit juices) are allowed.
- 3. TO DISREGARD COMPLETELY THE LAW OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE IS SERIOUSLY SINFUL.

-SCHEDULE CHANGES – There are a few changes to Mass times and Exposition times for Lent. Wednesday Masses during Lent at Holy Family will be at 5:30pm only. There will be no 7:00am Mass beginning this Wednesday, March 1. This will be through Lent only.

The above change will affect Wednesday Exposition and Adoration as well. During Lent, Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be from 4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. at Holy Family.

At St. Thomas, I will be moving the time for Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursdays to 4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. with Mass remaining at 5:30pm. There will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the Thursday evening Mass.

-EVENING MASSES DURING LENT – Wednesday evenings, 5:30 p.m. at Holy Family. Thursday evenings, 5:30 p.m. at St. Thomas.

-ADDITIONAL CONFESSION TIMES – I will be offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation before each of the evening Masses during Lent...Wednesday evenings, 4:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. at Holy Family and Thursday evenings, 4:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. at St. Thomas.

-STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Wednesday evenings after the 5:30 p.m. Mass at Holy Family. Friday evenings, 6:00 p.m. at St. Thomas. Praying the Stations of the Cross, especially during Lent, is a powerful tradition of the Church dating back many years. I encourage everyone to participate.

-40 DAYS FOR LIFE – St. Thomas will have the 40 Days for Life Calendar in the Back of Church. Please sign-up for one or more days to pray for life during Lent.

There are also 40 days for Life flyers/information sheets in the back of both churches which has both general information as well as contact information for the local 40 Days for Life.

One important initiative is the Prayer Vigil in front of Walgreens during Lent that began on Ash Wednesday. Why? Because Walgreens and CVS have applied for certification to dispense the chemical abortion pills mifepristone and misoprostol. Make no doubt about it, besides carrying significant risks for women who take them, these abortion drugs are not healthcare nor are they used to prevent pregnancy. They are used to "end a pregnancy" also called abortion which is nothing less than murder of a child.

This Prayer Vigil is just that, a Prayer Vigil, not a protest, but a Prayer Vigil for expectant mothers and fathers, for healthcare workers, for legislators, for unborn babies, for life. Never underestimate the need for and the power of the prayer you offer and never doubt God's Providence.

-RICE BOWLS – In the back of each church. Consider taking one and using it as part of the Lenten Season and your own Lenten practices. Rice bowls should be returned (with the contributions) to the church during Holy Week.

-UPCOMING EVENTS:

-Friday, March 3 – St. Thomas Fish Fry served in the parish hall.

-Friday, March 10 – Mt. Sterling Knights of Columbus Fish Fry at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Mt. Sterling.

-Saturday, March 11 – St. Mary School Trivia Night in the gym. See the flyer in the back of church for more information. To register, go to the school website, e-mail Karla Metz (karla.metz@bcsb.com) or call the school office (217-773-2825).

-Friday, March 31 - Mt. Sterling Knights of Columbus Annual Raffle Drawing at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Mt. Sterling.

DCCW Meeting – The next Quincy Deanery meeting of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Quincy. I encourage all women of the parishes to attend.

The Deanery meetings are held three times per year and are meant to educate and equip the women of the Deanery with spiritual renewal and information which can be shared with parishes, communities, and those we meet as we strive to serve Christ. The day is also meant to be enjoyed with other ladies across the Deanery.

Founded many years ago by the United States Catholic Bishops for unity in the women serving the church, the Council of Catholic Women principles and goals are spirituality, leadership, and service for Christ. The Council's spiritual guide is Our Lady of Good Counsel-the Blessed Mother herself! The National CCW is tied to the Diocesan one, which links all of the Deanery women of the Diocese together and the Deanery serves the Parish Women's Groups.

This day's theme is "Spiritual Warfare/Spiritual Tools," with much needed information from a well-known and knowledgeable speaker. The day begins with Mass at 8:00 a.m. and finishes around 2:00 p.m. Lunch is served by the host parish.

There should be a sign-up in the churches soon to help plan for lunch. Again, I encourage all women of the parishes to attend. I serve as the Spiritual Advisor for the Quincy Deanery Council of Catholic Women. The meetings are always an enjoyable day.

-WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT – Tuesday and Wednesday, March 28 & 29 at the Villa Maria in Springfield. Sponsored by the Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. The speaker for the retreat is Kim Padan, Chair of the Spirituality Commission for the National Council of Catholic Women. The retreat will include presentations, prayer, Mass, Rosary, Confession, and fellowship.

Registration forms are in the back of each church and include more information. Registrations are due by March 21.

-MOWING – Before long, we will need to resume mowing at both parishes. Our volunteers for this have a done a remarkable job. Please know of my sincere appreciation.

If you would like to help with mowing and trimming at St. Thomas, please contact Maurice Schmidt (217-257-0668). Maurice will be putting together the schedule very soon.

If you would like to help with mowing and trimming at Holy Family, please contact Tammy at the school number (217)-773-2825. Tammy will be putting the schedule together for Holy Family.

Please reach out to Maurice or Tammy as soon as possible so they can get the schedule together.

-SUFFERING – The last few weeks I have included some information regarding the Christian meaning of Suffering. Last week I wrote about spiritual sacrifices and continue this week with suffering as self-denial.

To grow in Christian holiness, it is necessary that we practice self-denial. Denying ourselves does not come naturally to us. It can be painful. Why? We have a fallen human nature. Sacred Scripture tells us to "walk by the Spirit, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh; for these are opposed to each other (Galatians 5:16-17).

The term flesh simply refers to our fallen human nature. In other words, the lower part of us that tends toward selfishness and is attracted to sin. The practice of self-denial is essential to mastering our flesh and growing in holiness. It is a key way in which we carry the cross. Jesus says, If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me (Matthew 16:24). There are many forms of self-denial. We do not have to do anything complicated. Simple acts of self-denial done consistently can be quite effective. Fasting, prayer, and almsgiving are traditional forms of self-denial.

We can also do other things. We can give up television for a day or give up desserts on certain days. We can simply accept and perform our daily responsibilities without complaining and offer them to God as a form of self-denial. The particular form of self-denial, while important, is not so much the point, but rather that we do simple acts of self-denial and penance out of love for God and the desire to grow in Christian holiness.

Isn't it interesting how we are now at the First Sunday of Lent and how this "portion" on the Christian Meaning of Suffering seems to echo the Season of Lent. It is, of course, no accident, as the elements of our Christian lives are all connected.

Once again, I will try to continue with a bit more on the Meaning of Christian Suffering in next week's bulletin as we look at how, through Christ, suffering is redemptive.

Thank you for your continued 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

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

Bosco Kids and RCIA will meet Wednesday, 2/29 after Stations of the Cross, around 6:30-7:30.

Adult Faith Formation Bible study will continue starting this Tuesday night 2/28-3/28 from 7-8:30 in the school cafeteria. All are welcome--even if you did not attend during the Advent session. Please let me know if you would like to attend.

Youth Group:

March 12: Next meeting at St. Mary's Gym

March 26: Kent and LeighAnn's House

April 16: Colton Dixon Concert @ Morrison Theater, QCY @ 7. Leave at 5:30 from KC Hall. Cost to attend will be \$20, transportation will be provided.

PRAYER VIGIL

Walgreens and CVS Pharmacies have applied for certification to dispense the abortion pills, mifepristone and misoprostol. 40 Days for Life in Quincy is planning a PRAYER VIGIL NOT A PROTEST for February 22- April 2.

You can go to the following sites to sign up for an hour prayer in front of Walgreen's and for more information what this would entail at 40daysforlife@gmail.com/quincy and www.40daysforlife.com/en/quincy.

40 Days for Life will be having a Kick Off Rally Spaghetti Supper Sunday February 19, 2023 5:30-7:30 at Blessed Sacrament church in Quincy.

There will again be a sign up in back of church for parishioners to pray to end abortion Feb. 22- April 2.

Starting in 2023, the March for Life Chicago has moved to Illinois' state capital, Springfield Tuesday March 21 at 12 p.m. https://illinoismarchforlife.org

There will be a flyer in back of church for both St. Thomas and Holy Family and a contact person listed.

Let's Have Our BEST LENT EVER

Are you satisfied with your life?
Are you satisfied with the direction of the world?

Listen to your dissatisfaction and dare to be bold to explore new holy possibilities this Lent. It's time to awaken the greatness of the human spirit within you! This Lent you are invited to join us on a journey to discover the real you and make this your BEST LENT EVER!

What would happen if you spent the next 40 days creating as many Holy Moments as possible? *Join us this Lent to find out!*

In fact, let's find out what would happen if our entire diocese spent the 40 days of Lent collaborating with God to create moments of kindness, goodness, and compassion wherever we go.

I'm delighted to announce that **our diocese will be participating in BEST LENT EVER**, a powerful program from Dynamic Catholic. It's incredibly simple and completely free.



Every day of Lent, you'll receive short videos right to your inbox.

They'll help focus your day, inspire you to explore your potential, and show you how to create Holy Moments all across your life.

We encourage you to sign yourself up and then share the program with your family and friends. There's no doubt that if we spend this Lent creating Holy Moments we will become more open to God and find greater meaning and purpose in our lives.

But if we do it all together, each of us doing our part to unleash a domino effect of goodness throughout our community...there's no telling how much impact it could have.

We can't wait to see what's possible this Lent when we strive to live one Holy Moment at a time. We hope you will join us on this journey to unleash the power of Holy Moments and discover the incredible potential inside each of us. Get ready to collaborate with God!

Sign up at:

https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/lent.html.

St. Mary School TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday, March 11th

Pre-game 6:30pm/Game 7:00pm St. Mary School Gym

BACK TO IN-PERSON PLAYING!!!!

INSTANT SCORING – JUST LIKE A GAME SHOW!

OTHER FUN GAMES TO PLAY THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT!

Bring some extra \$\$ to try and help those scores!

MAX 8 PLAYERS PER TEAM
REGISTRATION FEE- \$160 PER TEAM
REGISTER BY MARCH 6TH - WALK-INS WELCOME

** BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND SNACKS **
(PLEASE DO NOT BRING SNACKS THAT CONTAIN NUT PRODUCTS)

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ST. MARY SCHOOL, MT. STERLING, IL
'O REGISTER GO TO: www.smseagle.org /PHONE SMS 217-773-2825/ E-MAIL karla.metz@bo



CATHOLIC CHARITIES COLLECTION

During the weekend of March 4/5, 2023, the annual collection for Catholic Charities will be held again. If you would like to give online this year, simply scan the QR code and select your area office of choice under location and select Parish Annual Collection under program. Thank you for your

continued support



