

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, March 27 – 7:00 a.m.

Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; John 8:1-11

Communion Service

Tuesday, March 28 – 7:00 a.m.

Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30

John Yeakel

(By Legion of Mary)

Wednesday, March 29 - 5:30 p.m.

Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8:31-42

Pat Parker

(By Bob & Judy Schenk)

Thursday, March 30 – 7:00 a.m.

Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59

Elinor Davis

(By The James Busen Family)

St. Thomas – 5:30 p.m.

Gary Woodworth

(By Gary & Gail Mast)

Friday, March 31 – 8:30 a.m.

(School Mass)

Jeremiah 30:10-13; John 10:31-42

Mary Louise Moorman

(By Tammy)

Saturday, April 1 – 5:30 p.m.

Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56

Terry Henrick

(By Norma Hufnagel)

Sunday, April 2 – 8:00 a.m.

Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66

Randy Rigg

(By Kathy Rigg)

St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Parishioners of St. Thomas & Holy Family

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

March 18-19, 2023

Holy Family: \$2,887.00

School Support: \$270.00

Sister Parish: \$45.00

Catholic Charities: \$65.00

Parish Tithe/ACSA: \$150.00

Catholic Relief Services: \$203.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

March 19, 2023

St. Thomas: \$1,879.00

Catholic Charities: \$185.00

Rice Bowl: \$230.00

Easter Flowers: \$85.00

Catholic Relief Services: \$230.00

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, April 1 beginning at 10:00 p.m. and concluding on April 2 at 7:45 a.m.

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 † 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 † Charlie Koch † Megan Miller †
Irene Norkus †

Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family of Joe Ray who passed away on March 16, 2023. May God keep you in His care! Eternal Rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let Perpetual Light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

ST. THOMAS

St. Thomas Easter Choir - Practices for our Easter choir will begin Monday, March 20 at 6:00 p.m. at church. Even if you think you can't sing, don't let that stop you. We'll be making a "joyful noise to the Lord" along with a few alleluias. Come join us!

SAVE THE DATE - JULY 6-8 - Stellar VBS will launch kids on a cosmic quest as they have a blast learning how to shine Jesus' light everywhere! It will be an out-of-this-world adventure filled with light years of faith-building fun. We'll help Jesus' light shine in and through the heart of every child at Stellar VBS! We will have a star-studded time Thursday and Friday evenings and Saturday all day.

Children entering preschool - 5th grade are welcome to attend VBS. Children entering 6th - 12th grade are welcome as Crew Leaders. Adults are welcome to volunteer. Please contact Alicia Schmidt at 217-257-3210 ASAP if you'd like to volunteer.

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

April 2, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan:	Dawn Peters
Greeters:	Denny & Cathy Wagner
Lector:	David Leezer
Gift Bearers:	Brent & Jenni Obert Family
Eucharistic Minister:	Alicia Schmidt
Collection Counters:	Jerel Mock Family
Ushers:	Jerry Herkert, Andrew Llewellyn

From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Fifth Sunday of Lent and we hear the Gospel pertaining to Lazarus. We are reminded of the courage that is needed to truly believe in God's promises.

In the Gospel, we hear Jesus telling Martha (and each one of us) "I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live." Then Jesus goes on to ask Martha (and again, each one of us) "Do you believe this?"

Each of us has to answer Jesus' question, with deliberation and sincerity. The answer defines the life and faith of every believer. We come to understand that faith (in Jesus Christ and the fullness of Truth that He alone offers) is stronger than death. And once we come to that understanding, we have nothing to fear...nothing to fear because of Jesus Christ Himself who alone is the Salvation of the world and who comes to offer us that Salvation.

As we continue our Lenten Season, I once again encourage you to reflect on your own Lenten practices and observances as well as your call and response to repentance and conversion. Bishop Joseph Strickland of Tyler, Texas recently reminded the faithful that prayer and fasting, along with regular Confession, help us to become more sensitized to blessings and goodness. What an important message for each of us!

And now just a few notes:

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK - Aside from the regular Lenten Weekday celebrations, there are no other memorials, feasts, or solemnities celebrated this week.

-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.**

-THIRD SCRUTINY - This weekend we celebrate the Third and final Scrutiny for those who will be receiving all three Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. I spoke more about the Scrutinies in a previous bulletin. After the Third Scrutiny this week, the Elect will be presented with a copy of the Lord's Prayer. We continue to look forward to when they and the other Candidates will come into full Communion with the Church. Please keep the Elect and all those coming into the Church in your prayers.

-NOCTURNAL ADORATION - Saturday, April 1 is the First Saturday of the month and we will have Nocturnal Adoration at Holy Family. Exposition and Adoration begins at 10:00 p.m. and goes through 7:45 a.m. Sunday morning. Benediction is at 7:45 a.m. followed by our regularly scheduled 8:00 a.m. Mass.

-FIRST FRIDAY - Looking ahead, the First Friday of April is April 7 which is also Good Friday this year. Because of this, there will be no First Friday Devotions at St. Thomas for the month of April. The days of Holy Week and especially the Sacred Triduum take precedence over almost everything else.

There are no Masses celebrated anywhere in the world on Good Friday. I do, however, highly encourage everyone to join us for the celebrations of the Sacred Triduum...Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. The times for these celebrations follow.

-SACRED TRIDUUM & EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE - Following is the anticipated schedule for the Sacred Triduum and Easter Sunday at both parishes:

At Holy Family:

- Holy Thursday - 7:00 p.m.
- Good Friday - 5:30 p.m.
- Holy Saturday - 8:00 p.m. Vigil
- Easter Sunday - 6:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.

At St. Thomas:

- Holy Thursday - 5:15 p.m.
- Good Friday - 3:00 p.m.
- No Easter Vigil at St. Thomas
- Easter Sunday - 10:00 a.m.

Please consider keeping this schedule handy somewhere for your reference. I may even print out small cards to have in the back of each church with the schedule so that you can take them for yourself or hand out to others.

The times are varied, I know, as I try to accommodate both parishes while keeping in mind what the Church intends. I will also try to offer Stations of the Cross on Good Friday...time and location still to come.

-POPE'S INTENTION - The Pope's Intention for April is for a culture of peace and non-violence.

-HOLY WEEK - Next Sunday is Palm or Passion Sunday and marks the beginning of Holy Week. Palms will be blessed and distributed at each Mass. I encourage you to consider now how you will enter into Holy Week this year.

-PENANCE SERVICE - There is an area-wide Penance Service scheduled next Sunday, April 2 at St. Peter Parish in Quincy, 2600 Maine beginning at 2:00 p.m. There will be a number of Confessors available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, including myself. This would be a great opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation as we begin Holy Week.

After the Penance Service is finished and around 3:30 p.m., you are also invited to join us at St. Peter's for the praying of the Stations of the Cross using "Mary's Way of the Cross." Some of you are already familiar with "Mary's Way of the Cross" since we have used it in both parishes.

-CHRISM MASS - Our Diocesan Chrism Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday evening, April 4 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield. This Mass is properly celebrated by the Bishop with his clergy. It is a sign of unity and communion of the priests with their bishop. At this Mass, the priests renew their ordination promises. Also at this Mass, the Sacred Oils to be used in the parishes the coming year are blessed by the Bishop. The Sacred Oils are the Oil of

the Sick, the Oil of Catechumens, and the Sacred Chrism. I am planning to concelebrate this Mass with the Bishop. Please keep me and all our priests and our Bishop in your prayers.

You are also welcome to attend the Chrism Mass and I would encourage you to do so. It is a most beautiful celebration. The Mass begins at 6:30 p.m.

-HOLY THURSDAY - I need to have at least two people (or two couples) sign up to be present with the Blessed Sacrament after the Masses at both parishes on Holy Thursday night. Of course, anyone is both welcome and encouraged to spend some time in prayer that evening in front of the Blessed Sacrament but since I will be having Mass at both parishes, it will be necessary to make sure there is someone always present with the Blessed Sacrament as I cannot be at both places the entire time. I will put a sign-up sheet in the back of each Church. For St. Thomas, I will need folks starting at 6:30 p.m. through 11 p.m.. At Holy Family, I will need folks from 8:00 p.m. through Midnight. Again, I encourage everyone to spend some time that evening in prayer with the Blessed Sacrament but am asking that I have at least two people at all times who can sign up for an hour and commit to being present. If you miss the sign-up sheet, just give me a call at the rectory (217)-773-3233.

-WASHING OF FEET - I will be doing the washing of feet during the Holy Thursday Liturgy at both parishes. If you are planning to be present I'd ask you to consider having me wash your feet. Please let me know or be open to accepting when I ask.

-BULLETIN ADVERTISERS - Once again I would like to thank those folks and businesses who advertise on the back of our bulletin and to draw attention to their support. These advertisers help to pay for our bulletins each week. Please support these businesses and thank them for their support through their advertising.

If you have a business or know someone that does who would like to

advertise on the back of our bulletins, or are an individual who would like to support the parishes in this way, please let me know. I would like to fill each available spot.

I'll say this about bulletin advertising...I personally have used bulletins several times in the past to find services in areas that I am not familiar with. Not only does the advertising help support the parishes, it also helps promote local businesses.

-CATHOLIC TIMES - The Catholic Times is the official publication of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois. It is generally published bi-weekly. It contains excellent articles and information, including timely articles from Bishop Paprocki. Every Catholic family should receive a copy of the Catholic Times. If you do not receive a copy of the Catholic Times in the mail and would like to, please let me know.

In recent years, the Catholic Times was made available for viewing online. I know some folks have chosen this option over the print version. Still, if you would like a print version or know someone that does, do not hesitate to let me know. Whether it's in print or online, I encourage you to read each edition of the Catholic Times.

-CEMETERY - In 2010, the State of Illinois passed the Cemetery Oversight Act. Without getting into details of the Act, it was brought about because of some serious issues going on in some cemeteries in Illinois. Every cemetery in Illinois then became bound by the Act although some now have partial and full exemption. Except for some changes in reporting, we really faced no significant changes for our Catholic Cemetery in Mt. Sterling. I tell you this just as a brief background.

A few weeks ago, we had an inspection by the State of our Catholic Cemetery in Mt. Sterling in relation to the 2010 Cemetery Oversight Act. I am happy to tell you that we received a perfect score on this inspection.

Since I am speaking about the cemetery, I am aware of the newsletter and

report that had been published each year for the cemetery. Although I was not immediately aware of the annual newsletter and report when I first came to the parishes, please know that I am working on getting a newsletter put together once again and then maintaining its annual distribution. Thank you for your patience and for your continued support of our cemetery.

Concerning the cemetery, I want to also mention that we had four large trees that were blown down or uprooted in the cemetery a few weeks ago in the overnight storm carrying significant wind. This was more clean-up than we could have possibly handled by ourselves. We were able to get a professional tree service in fairly quick to remove the trees and do the clean-up.

-MATCHING SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS - A matching gift program for select schools in our diocese, including St. Mary School, is happening right now thanks to a generous donor who is offering a 1:1 donation match toward the 2023-2024 tax credit scholarships that help students in need. Gifts made through Empower Illinois for the Invest in Kids Tax Credit Scholarship Program at St. Mary School will be doubled up to \$10,000.

This program provides need-based scholarships to kids from low-income and working-class families. Donors earn a 75% state tax credit on their gift. Donors can direct their donations to the school of their choice, including St. Mary School.

Donations must be made before April 15 for St. Mary School to be eligible for the match. For more information on how to donate visit empowerillinois.org/donate or contact myself or our Principal, Melissa Obert.

I encourage you to seriously consider this opportunity. Let's try to reach the matching cap of \$10,000. Remember, in order to be matched, the gift must be made by April 15.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for me, one another, our parishes and school, and the Universal Church. You remain in my prayers each

day. Our prayers each day are so very important. 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 or
217-257-2516)**

Bosco Kids and RCIA will meet Wednesday, 3/29 after Stations of the Cross, around 6:30-7:30.

Adult Faith Formation Bible study will continue every Tuesday night until 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 26- Kent & Leigh Ann's House

April 16- Colton Dixon Concert- We have a select amount of tickets ordered. If you are interested in going, please notify Leigh Ann by March 31 so she can assure we have enough tickets. Leigh Ann's number 217-257-6415.

April 30- Kent & Leigh Ann's House

HOLY FAMILY CHOIR PRACTICE

Interested singers? Please join our choir practices to prepare for Easter. All are welcome.

Final practice will be **Wednesday, March 29**, after Mass and stations.

**Fathers, Sons, and Young Men's
Prayer Breakfast
Saturday, April 29**

Mass and Breakfast to be held at St. Anthony Church and Hall 8:00 a.m.

Following the Mass, Complete Buffet Breakfast \$15 per person

Keynote Speaker, Father Mark Schulte: Men of Faith

Reservations needed by April 22

Make checks payable to K of C Council 583

Mail to 700 So. 36th. St. Quincy, IL 62301

Roch Schulte, roch@richardselectricmotor.com



Preschool Open House at St. Mary School

**Monday, March 27th
5:30-7:00 p.m.**

Enter through Door A on the south side of the school, just off the parking lot.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ANNUAL FUNDRAISER DRAWING**

March 31st

**K of C Hall
Quincy Rd
Mt. Sterling, IL 62353**



Tickets \$50 Each

Ticket includes fried fish dinner and drinks.

Doors open at 6PM • Dinner at 6:30PM

Cash Prizes to be given away!

\$2,500 • \$1,000 • \$500 • \$250 • (3x's) \$100

**Tickets are available at Ray Insurance Agency,
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