

# 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, April 24 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr  
Acts of the Apostles 6:8-15; John 6:22-29

Communion Service

### Tuesday, April 25 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Mark, Evangelist  
1 Peter 5:5b-14; Mark 16:15-20

Kay Downey  
(By Tom & Nancy Schneider)

### Wednesday, April 26 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 8:1b-8; John 6:35-40

Carroll Hedden  
(By John & Linda Colgan)

### Thursday, April 27 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 8:26-40; John 6:44-51

James A. Volk  
(By Kathy Rigg)

### St. Thomas – 5:30 p.m.

Kathy Mowen

### Friday, April 28 – 8:30 a.m. (School Mass)

St. Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr;  
St. Louis Grignon de Montfort, Priest  
Acts of the Apostles 9:1-20; John 6:52-59

Mary Franklin Brahler  
(By Maureen Norvell)

### Saturday, April 29 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doctor of the Church  
Acts of the Apostles 9:31-42; John 6:60-69

Parishioners of Holy Family  
and St. Thomas

### Sunday, April 30 – 8:00 a.m.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations  
Acts of the Apostles 2:14a, 36-41, 1 Peter 2:20b-25;  
John 10:1-10

Merle & Mary Childs  
(By Marilee and Mary Lyn)

### St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Larry Balzer  
(By Greg & Elizabeth Likes)

## HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

April 15-16, 2023

Holy Family: \$2,799.00  
School Support: \$390.00  
Sister Parish: \$55.00  
Easter: \$270.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

## ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

April 16, 2023

St. Thomas: \$1,894.00  
Holy Land: \$150.00  
Easter: \$150.00

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.”
- ❖ **Red Cross Blood Drive:** The need for blood by patients being treated for accidents, routine surgeries, cancer, heart disease, and hemophilia is ongoing and must be met every day. The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be located at the **Legion Hall** on **Wednesday, April 26th, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.** Appointments are recommended but walk-ins are welcome.

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 - 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 † 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 † Janice Hendricks † Kendall Atteberry † Mark Ebbing † Eleanor Logsdon † Lane Wiese † Carolyn DeWitt † Jim Duvendack † Leeann DeJaynes † Megan Miller † Irene Norkus †

*Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family of Charlie Koch who passed away on April 18, 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

**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 30, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.**

<b>Sacristan:</b>	Jonah Coggeshall
<b>Greeters:</b>	Brent & Jenni Obert Family
<b>Lector:</b>	Kim Gronewold
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	Butch & Dorothy Obert
<b>Eucharistic Minister:</b>	Jerry Herkert
<b>Collection Counters:</b>	Jerel Mock Family
<b>Ushers:</b>	Jerry Herkert, Andrew Llewellyn

## From the Pastor's Desk

Once again, A Happy and Blessed Easter to each of you. The Church remains in this joyous Season of Easter for fifty days.

Today the Church celebrates the Third Sunday of Easter. We are reminded that Christ fulfills God's plan of salvation for us. In the Gospel for today, we hear the account of the Disciples on the road to Emmaus and how Jesus, whom they did not recognize at first, was made known to them in the Breaking of Bread.

Salvation through Christ's sacrificial love poured forth was always God's plan. The world was founded on it, the Disciples witnessed it, and we are redeemed by it. But this also calls us to follow Christ, fully and completely. How is the Lord calling you to follow Him more fully, more completely? What is He calling you from in this world so that you might have fullness of life in and through Him? These are questions we always have to ask ourselves and we have to respond.

Let us indeed be glad and rejoice over the love and mercy of God set forth from the foundation of the world through Christ as we respond to His call to deeper holiness each day. May your Easter Season continue to be one filled with great joy!

And now just a few notes:

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS  
THIS WEEK:

-Sunday, April 23 - April 23 is normally celebrated as the optional memorial of St. George. It is eliminated this year since April 23 falls on a Sunday. Still, we remain mindful that the optional memorial of the Martyr St. George is the Patronal Feast of His Holiness, Pope Francis and so, prayers for the Pope are very fitting for this day. I encourage you to pray for the Pope each and every day as we do at every celebration of the Mass and on this day especially to offer special prayers for Pope Francis.

-Monday, April 24 - Optional memorial of St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr. St. Fidelis, from Swabia, was known as the "lawyer of the poor" before becoming a Capuchin. Born Mark Rey in 1577, Fidelis was his Religious name. Having become more

and more disturbed with the corruption and injustice he saw among his colleagues, he left his successful law career to become a priest with the Capuchin Order with whom his brother, George, was also a member. Fidelis was appointed the head of the Capuchins sent to Switzerland to preach against Calvinists and Zwinglians. This mission was filled with threats of violence. Those who observed the mission, however, noted that the success of the mission was due more to Fidelis' prayer during the night than his sermons and instructions. Fidelis was killed in 1622 in Switzerland. He was canonized in 1746 and fifteen years later was declared a martyr. Fidelis' constant prayer of being kept completely faithful to God and not giving into any lukewarmness or apathy is a great and much-needed example for us today. St. Fidelis, Pray for us!

-Tuesday, April 25 - Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist. Mark was the cousin of Barnabas and associated with Saints Peter and Paul. The Gospel ascribed to him is the shortest and also the oldest, likely written prior to the fall of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. The Gospel according to Mark is largely a collection of narratives that depict Jesus as being almost constantly active. It presents Jesus as the Son of God whose ministry was marked by a series of might works, signs of God's power and Kingdom. Tradition holds that Mark was the first Bishop of Alexandria. He is portrayed as a winged lion. He died in the first century and is the patron of notaries, Egypt, and Venice. St. Mark, Pray for us.

On the Feast of St. Mark, the Greater Litanies were formerly celebrated. These public prayers implored God to

preserve us from calamities and to bless the crops. As such, I will be celebrating the order of Blessing of Fields and Flocks on this day immediately following the 7:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Family. More information is below.

-Friday, April 28 - Optional memorials of St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr and St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest.

Peter Mary Chanel was a French Marist missionary on the Pacific islands of Wallis and Futana where he was martyred. Known to have “destroyed the cult of evil spirits.” Peter Chanel’s “success” seemed minimal yet within two years after his death in 1841, nearly the whole island where he evangelized became Catholic and remained so. Peter Chanel was canonized in 1954 by Pope Pius XII and is the patron of Oceania.

Louis Grignion de Montfort was from Brittany and studied at Saint Sulpice. He was hospital chaplain and founded the Congregation of the Daughters of Wisdom. An apostolic missionary, his preaching led to a spiritual revival in his native Brittany. He established numerous confraternities for the recitation of the Holy Rosary and in 1705 founded the Missionaries of the Company of Mary (S.M.M.) which today numbers about 860 Religious. His primary work is titled “True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin.” Louis de Montfort died in 1716 and was canonized in 1947. St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Pray for us!

-BLESSING OF FIELDS AND FLOCKS - As I mentioned above, Tuesday, April 25 is the Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist. On this day, the Greater Litanies were formerly celebrated.

These public prayers implored God to preserve us from calamities and to bless the crops.

Immediately following the 7:00 a.m. at Holy Family on this day, I will celebrate the Blessing of Fields and Flocks and the Blessing of Seeds at Planting Time. Through this Rite, the faithful express their grateful recognition of the blessings of God, who created the universe out of His inexpressible love and entrusted its care to human labor as the way of providing for common human needs. This Rite is used to sanctify the work of the farm through prayer and to mark through God’s blessing the changes of the seasons and the labor each season brings. Additionally, at the beginning of the planting season, it should be customary for farmers to seek God’s blessing on their crops. As the seeds are planted, God is asked to protect them from disease and destruction and to bring forth from them an abundant yield.

I encourage everyone to participate in this blessing if you are able to. This is so very significant as farming is such a significant part of our parishes. I know many have already been planting but I encourage you to bring seed for this blessing and even young plants and seeds that will be planted in gardens. I will have a table set up near the Sanctuary for you to place the items. God must be at the center of everything we do. Please join us if you can for this blessing. I am most happy to offer it for your works and labor. Again, the blessing will be immediately after the 7:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Family on Tuesday, April 25 and will only take a short time.

-BAPTISM - I recently celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism for Eli Scott Stamerjohn at Holy Family. Eli is the son of Drew and Kendra Stamerjohn. Congratulations to Eli and also to Drew and Kendra. What a joyous occasion!

If you have a child who needs to be Baptized or are expecting a child, please contact me so that we can get the Baptism arranged. Baptism is so very important and should take place as soon as possible after birth.

Remember that Baptism is a Sacrament, given to us by Christ Himself and entrusted to the Church. While it is a joyous occasion for sure, it is not about sentimentality. Baptism frees one from Original Sin and bestows upon the person God's grace and the gifts of the Holy Spirit (at Confirmation, one is sealed with those gifts of the Holy Spirit). The Rite of Baptism prepares one for eternal salvation and the person is aided in the fight against evil.

It is important to remember the great responsibility that parents and Godparents have in presenting a child for Baptism...to bring the child up in the faith. The faith community also shares in this responsibility through prayer, example, and teaching.

-PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD - Please continue to pray for all those who have died and for their families in their grief and as they mourn. Most recently, I have celebrated Funeral Liturgies or Services for Charlie Koch, Aaron Koch, Randall Hester, Joe Ray, Cameron Francis, and Kay Downey.

Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let Perpetual Light shine upon them. May their souls and the

souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

-MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST - Just a reminder of the men's Prayer Breakfast on Saturday morning, April 29 sponsored by the Quincy Council Knights of Columbus. It begins with Mass at 8:00 a.m. at St. Anthony in Quincy followed by breakfast. Reservations should have been made by April 22 to Roch Schulte. If you'd like to go and didn't get a reservation made, let me know right away and I will try to contact Roch for you. Cost is \$15. I have attended these types of prayer breakfasts before and I encourage you to try to go if you are able.

-FROM THE SAINTS - St. Vincent de Paul: "Let each of us accept the truth of the following statement and try to make it our most fundamental principle: Christ's teaching will never let us down, while worldly wisdom always will. Christ Himself said that this sort of wisdom was like a house with nothing but sand as its foundation, while His own was like a building with solid rock as its foundation."

St. Angela Merici: "You must make a sound and firm resolution to submit yourselves totally to His will and, with a lively and steadfast faith, to receive from Him what you have to do for love of Him. And in this (whatever may happen) to persevere with constancy to the very end."

St. Gemma Galgani: "Oh, my soul, how much longer do you wish to be so stingy with Jesus? Why so negligent towards Jesus who made You? Why so lazy towards Jesus who redeemed you? Who do you want to love, if you do not want to love Jesus?"



Once again, I thank you for your continued prayers for me, one another, our parishes and school, and the Universal Church. Our prayers remain so very powerful especially when offered in the most selfless way. Please be assured of my prayers for you each day as well. May you have a most blessed and joy-filled week.

-Fr. Aaron

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

We are approaching the end of the year for our Bosco Kids and RCIA classes.

Our 3rd graders are all ready for their First Communion and Confirmation with the Bishop in Springfield on June 3. Our RCIA Candidates came into Full Communion with the Catholic Church on April 15 and 22. Please welcome Adam Llewelyn, Kara Jarboe, Megan Woodward and Mercedes Kemper. Please continue to pray for all of them.

We are planning to have a May Crowning with SMS students on May 6 at the 5:30 Mass.

RCIA will start again in the fall. If you are interested in learning about or coming into the Catholic faith, please let Father Aaron or myself know.

We will have Adult Faith Formation sessions next Advent and Lent on the subject of Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother. More information will be out in the Fall.

Blessings to you all.

## **Youth Group:**

April 30- Kent & Leigh Ann's House

### **POT OF GOLD**

April Pot of Gold winners are:

\$250.00 - Carolyn Ormond  
\$100.00 - Kelly Easley  
\$50.00 - Joe Luthy  
\$50.00 - Madison Ebbing  
\$50.00 - Myron Kuhn

### **2023 POPPY POSTER WINNERS**

St. Mary School had several Poppy Poster winners. They are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Place - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Sydnee Kassing

1<sup>st</sup> Place - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Will Metz

2<sup>nd</sup> Place - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Marlee Kassing

1<sup>st</sup> Place - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Bo Schenk

3<sup>rd</sup> Place - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Ella Behymer

1<sup>st</sup> Place - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Ann Schenk

3<sup>rd</sup> Place - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: MacKenzie Kassing

Grand Prize Winner: Bo Schenk

Congratulations to all the winners!

### **ST. MARY SCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER**

We are nearing the end of the school year! Below are some dates in May that you may want to make a note of:

May 5: Grandparents/Special Friends Day

May 10: Awards assembly

May 20: All Graduates Mass - 5:30 p.m.

May 24: SMS graduation - 7:00 p.m.

The last day of school will be May 17!

Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

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