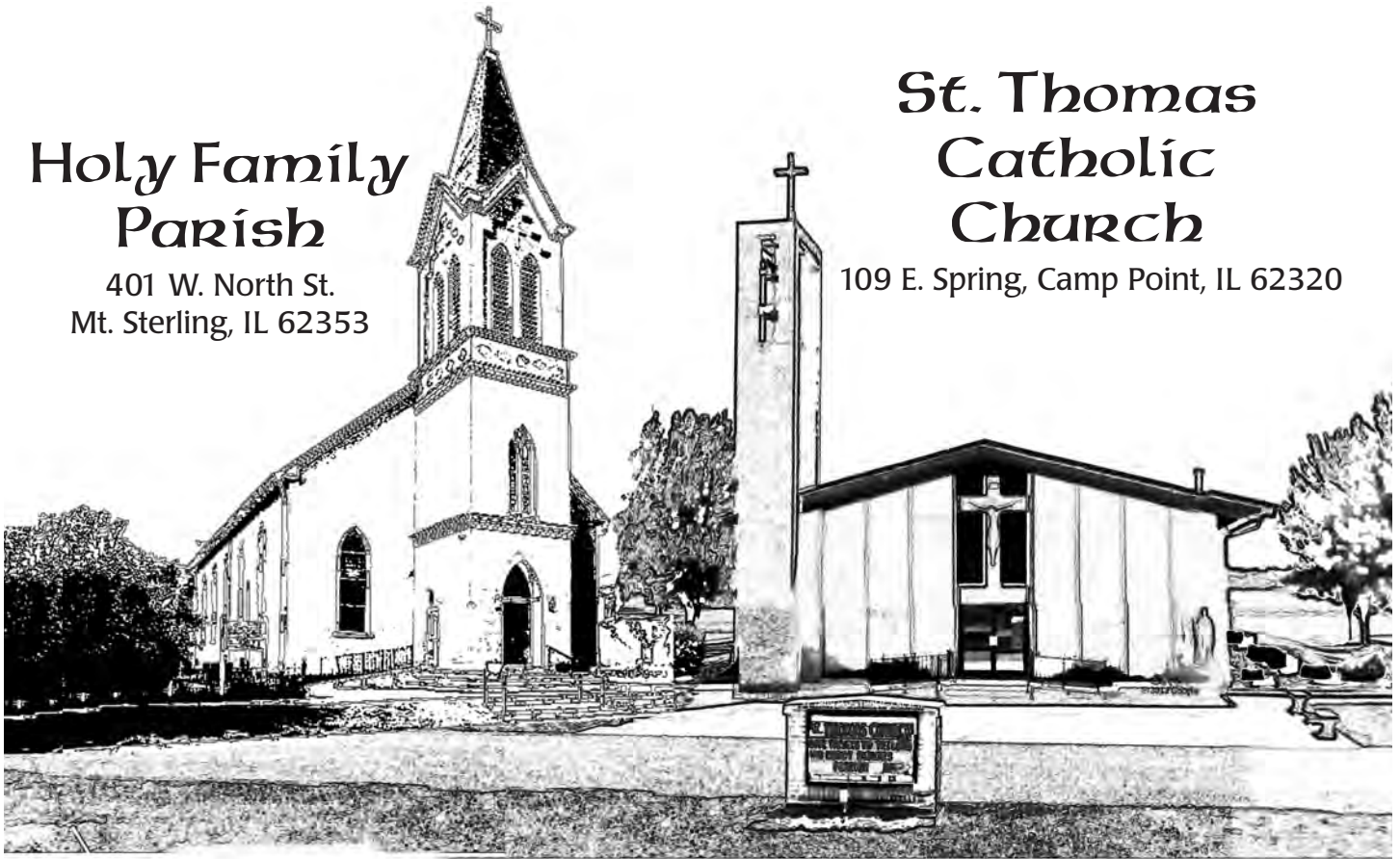


# Holy Family Parish

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, May 8 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 14:5-18; John 14:21-26

Communion Service

### Tuesday, May 9 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a

Carroll Hedden

(By Donnie & Linda Howard)

### Wednesday, May 10 – 7:00 a.m.

St. John of Avila, Priest & Doctor of the Church

Acts of the Apostles 15:1-6; John 15:1-8

Aaron Koch

(By Mary Koch)

### Thursday, May 11 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 15:7-21; John 15:9-11

Steve & Sarah Kemper and Cael Welty

(By Bob & Sandy Kemper)

### St. Thomas – 5:30 p.m.

Henry & Rita Bockhold

(By Ray & Teresa Bockhold)

### Friday, May 12 – 8:30 a.m.

#### (School Mass)

Sts. Nereus & Achilleus, Martyrs; St. Pancras, Martyr

Acts of the Apostles 15:22-31; John 15:12-17

John & Mary Louise Moorman

(By Tammy)

### Saturday, May 13 – 5:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Fatima

Acts of the Apostles 16:1-10; John 15:18-21

Ramona Lehne

(By Catherine Black)

### Sunday, May 14 – 8:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Peter 3:15-18;

John 14:15-21

Barb Kuhn

(By Diane Lagoski)

### St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Parishioners of St. Thomas

And Holy Family

## HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

April 29-30, 2023

Holy Family: \$4,359.00

School Support: \$295.00

Sister Parish: \$20.00

ACSA: \$250.00

Rice Bowl: \$35.00

Catholic Home Mission Appeal: \$105.00

Catholic Communication: \$30.00

Easter Holyday: \$400.00

Retired Diocesan Priests: \$30.00

Cemetery Support: \$20.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

## ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

April 30, 2023

St. Thomas: \$2,446.50

Mission Appeal: \$255.00

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."

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 † 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 † Jeff Kozak † Carol Likes † Janice Hendricks † Kendall Atteberry † Mark Ebbing † Eleanor Logsdon † Lane Wiese † Carolyn DeWitt † Jim Duvendack † Leeann DeJaynes † Megan Miller † Irene Norkus † Boone Holden † Sean Fink †

## 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.

### **Meditation for the Seven Sisters**

**Apostolate** "If someone wants to destroy religion, he begins by attacking priests, for wherever there are no priests, there is no sacrifice, either, and where there is no longer a sacrifice, there is no religion, either." St. John Vianney (1786-1859)

## ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

*May 14, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.*

<b>Sacristan:</b>	Brent Obert
<b>Greeters:</b>	Tod Perry Family
<b>Lector:</b>	Brenda Hoelscher
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	Justin & Emily Obert Family
<b>Eucharistic Minister:</b>	Clara Schmidt
<b>Collection Counters:</b>	Robin Coggeshall
<b>Ushers:</b>	Denny Campbell, John Brady

## From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Fifth Sunday of Easter. Our readings for today remind us that we are a "chosen race, a royal priesthood," called to place our faith and trust in the Spirit of Jesus who guides the community of faith.

Jesus says "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." These words make it very clear that He is the ONLY Redeemer of the world. Our salvation comes from Jesus Christ alone.

Jesus is the King of Heaven and to live in the joy of Heaven, we must submit ourselves to the Lordship of Jesus. We also work and pray to help all people find Jesus present in the Holy Eucharist so that they might be united to Him forever in Heaven. From a worldly point of view, submission seeks to be avoided

yet we know through our faith in Jesus Christ that, again, we must submit ourselves completely to Him. Let us pray that we may always strive to be able to do just that.

And now just a few notes:

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK-

-Wednesday, May 10 – Optional memorials of St. John of Avila, Priest and Doctor of the Church and, in the United States of America, St. Damien de Veuster, Priest.

St. John of Avila, born in 1499, was a Spanish priest, preacher, scholastic author, and religious mystic. He is called the “Apostle of Andulasia” for his extensive ministry in that region of Spain. He died in 1569, was Beatified in 1894, Canonized in 1970, and declared a Doctor of the Church in 2012. His optional memorial was added to the general Roman Calendar by Pope Francis in 2021. St. John of Avila, Pray for us!

St. Damien de Veuster was born in 1840 in Belgium and joined the Fathers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary. He arrived in Honolulu on March 19, 1864 and in 1873 began his work on Moloka’I, known as “Devil’s Island,” used as a colony for over 800 lepers. He himself was later diagnosed with leprosy in 1885. He was known as a man of intense interior life and deep simplicity. He is known to have said “I make myself a leper with the lepers, to gain all for Jesus Christ.” What an incredible statement for each of us to reflect on as we seek to do God’s Will and glorify Him. St. Damien de Veuster died on April 15, 1889 and was Canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 11, 2009. St. Damien de Veuster, Pray for us!

-Friday, May 12 – Optional memorials of Saints Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs and St. Pancras, Martyr.

There is not a lot know about Saints Nereus and Achilleus. They were Praetorian soldiers who converted to Christianity and beheaded during the reign of Trajan on the island of Terracina at the end of the First Century. Though little else is known, we know the most important things...they lived, they converted, and they chose to not continue living rather than to deny their belief in Christ. We know these things and that is enough. Saints Nereus and Achilleus, Pray for us!

There is also little known about St. Pancras but again, what we know is sufficient. He was a Syrian or Phrygian orphan who came to Rome where he converted to Christianity. He was beheaded under Diocletian around the year 304 and buried on the Via Aurelia, a Roman road in Italy constructed around the year 241BC. St. Pancras, Pray for us!

-Saturday, May 13 – Optional memorial of Our Lady of Fatima. The Blessed Mother is venerated under the title Our Lady of Fatima following apparitions to three shepherd children in Portugal in 1917. The message of Fatima includes a call to conversion of heart, repentance from sin, and prayer, especially the Holy Rosary.

Between May 13 and October 13, 1917, three Portuguese children—Francisco and Jacinta Marto and their cousin Lucia dos Santos—received apparitions of Our Lady at Cova da Iria near Fatima, a city 110 miles north of Lisbon. Mary asked the children to pray the Rosary for world peace, for the end of World War I, for sinners, and for the conversion of Russia.

Mary gave the children three secrets. Following the deaths of Francisco and Jacinta in 1919 and 1920 respectively, Lucia revealed the first secret in 1927. It concerned devotion to the Immaculate

Heart of Mary. The second secret was a vision of hell. When Lucia grew up she became a Carmelite nun and died in 2005 at the age of 97.

Pope St. John Paul II directed the Holy See's Secretary of State to reveal the third secret in 2000; it spoke of a "bishop in white" who was shot by a group of soldiers who fired bullets and arrows into him. Many people linked this vision to the assassination attempt against Pope St. John Paul II in St. Peter's Square on May 13, 1981 although it is important to remember that the Church has never said this Herself.

The memorial of Our Lady of Fatima was approved by the local bishop in 1930; it was added to the Church's worldwide calendar in 2002.

The message of Fatima is simple...Pray! Mary is perfectly honored when people generously imitate her response "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Mary can never be seen as a rival to Jesus or to the Church's teaching authority, as exercised by the college of bishops united with the bishop of Rome. Mary, of course is a great intercessor and model for us and leads people to Christ. Mary, Our Lady of Fatima, Pray for us!

I want to mention that the Legion of Mary is planning to lead the Rosary on Saturday evening, May 13, beginning around 4:30 p.m. I encourage you to be there to pray the Rosary with them as you spend some time in front of the Blessed Sacrament that will be exposed.

-DEATH NOTICE - I ask you to pray for the repose of the soul of Fr. Ben Meyer who died on Wednesday, April 26. Fr. Meyer was one of our more senior priest of the Diocese. 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.

-MASS INTENTIONS - Masses are generally offered for an intention requested by someone. The intention is often for the repose of the soul of someone who has died although it can be for other appropriate intentions as well. You see the intentions for each Mass published in our bulletin. A Pastor is required to offer a Sunday Mass (or a Saturday Vigil Mass in anticipation of Sunday) for the people of his parish(es). Thus, you will normally see one of the Masses for the weekend for the People of the Parishes. If this is impossible for some reason, the Pastor must celebrate a Mass for the People as soon as possible. Even if a Pastor is away from the parish(es) on a particular weekend, he should offer the Sunday Mass he celebrates for the people of his parishes.

Having said that, Mass intentions are important and I encourage you to have Masses celebrated for those who have died. Our prayers for the dead and the repose of their souls are so very important and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the most perfect prayer. Offered for one who has died, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass aids the soul of the deceased that may be in the cleansing fires of Purgatory. If you have questions about Mass intentions, please do not hesitate to ask me. The normal offering for a Mass intention is ten dollars. If you would like to schedule a Mass intention, please contact Tammy or Pat.

-CEMETERY ENVELOPE - In the most recent packet of collection envelopes, there is a "Cemetery Support" Envelope for the end of May. I had these envelopes added and they will come in your packets twice a year...around Memorial Day (the end of May) and around All Souls Day (the first part of

November). These contributions will go to help support the upkeep of our Catholic Cemetery in Mt. Sterling. I am also going to try to have envelopes in the back of each Church marked "Cemetery Support" if you would like to use them throughout the year or if you did not receive a packet of envelopes.

-FINANCIAL REPORT - The third quarter year-to-date financial report for St. Thomas was available in the back of Church at St. Thomas last week. There were still copies available the last time I checked. Please take one if you would like. If we run out, let me know and I will be happy to get you a copy.

I am hoping to meet with the Holy Family Finance Council sometime soon and provide a year-to-date report for Holy Family as well.

Thank you for your continued support of the parishes and school.

-ST. MARY SCHOOL - If you are interested in learning more about St. Mary School or enrolling your children, please contact our Principal, Melissa Obert, at the school, (217)-773-2825.

-SACRAMENTS - The Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion will be celebrated for our parishes on Saturday, June 3 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield with Bishop Paprocki. Please keep those preparing for these Sacraments in your prayers.

-FULL RECEPTION - Recently I brought a number of folks into the Church through Profession of Faith. Most of them also received the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion. These folks are Kara Jarboe, Mercedes Kemper, Adam Llewellyn, Lillian Schurfeld, and Megan Woodward. Lillian made her Profession of Faith and will receive the

Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion on June 3 at the Cathedral in Springfield with her class. The other folks received the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion after making their Profession of Faith. Please keep these folks and all those who have recently joined the Church in your prayers.

-MAY - Just a reminder, the month of May has traditionally been known as the month of Mary. I'm hoping to have Marian hymns at each Mass during the month of May. May Altars are also very much a tradition, especially in individual homes. I would encourage you to "build" your own May Altar at home for the month of May if you have not done so already...a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary along with flowers and perhaps a Rosary and whatever else to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. Be sure to pray together as a family as well, perhaps the Holy Rosary each evening, and to talk about Mary's great role in salvation history and how she is both a perfect example for us in living our Christian lives and a great intercessor.

-MORNING OFFERING - A morning offering when we first arise is so very important. The following is one such offering, easily prayed at the start of each morning. There are others, but if you are not already doing so, consider making this morning offering each day: "O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, for the salvation of souls, the reparation of sins, the reunion of all Christians, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father this month. Amen."

-ACT OF CONTRITION - Like the Morning Offering mentioned above, a

recollection of our day and the praying of an Act of Contrition at the end of the day is so very important. Again, I encourage you, if you do not already, to make this a daily practice. There are several versions of the Act of Contrition. Pray the one you normally use or, if needed, you can use the following: "O My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good I have sinned against You whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with Your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior, Jesus Christ, suffered and died for us. In His Name, my God, have mercy."

-FROM THE SAINTS - St. Catherine of Siena: "To join two things together there must be nothing between them or there cannot be a perfect fusion. Now realize that this is how God wants our soul to be, without any selfish love of ourselves or of others in between, just as God loves us without anything in between."

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. 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](mailto:aosullivan2031@gmail.com) or 217-257-2516)**

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.

## **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 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!

## **FEAST OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA**

Everyone is invited to pray the rosary with Legion of Mary on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, Saturday May 13 at 4:30 P.M. at Holy Family.

## **POT OF GOLD**

May Pot of Gold winners are:

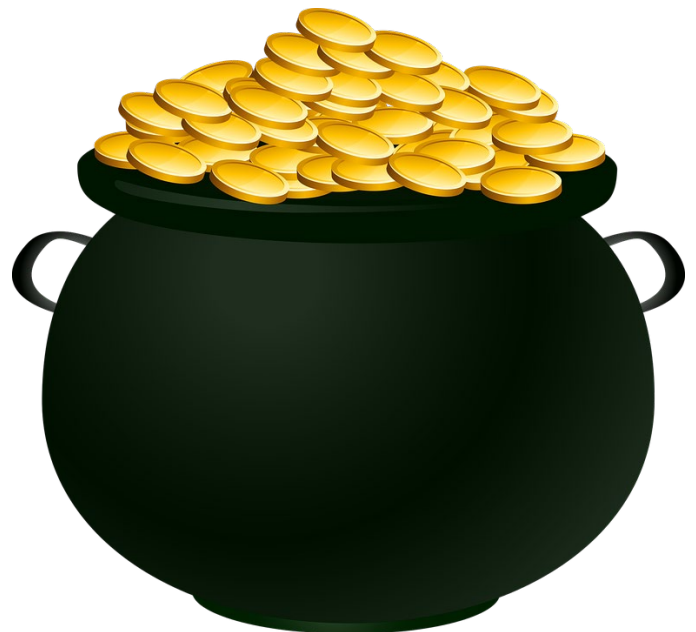
\$250.00 - Edward Moorman

\$100.00 - Matt Roberts

\$50.00 - Jeannie Lichtsinn

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