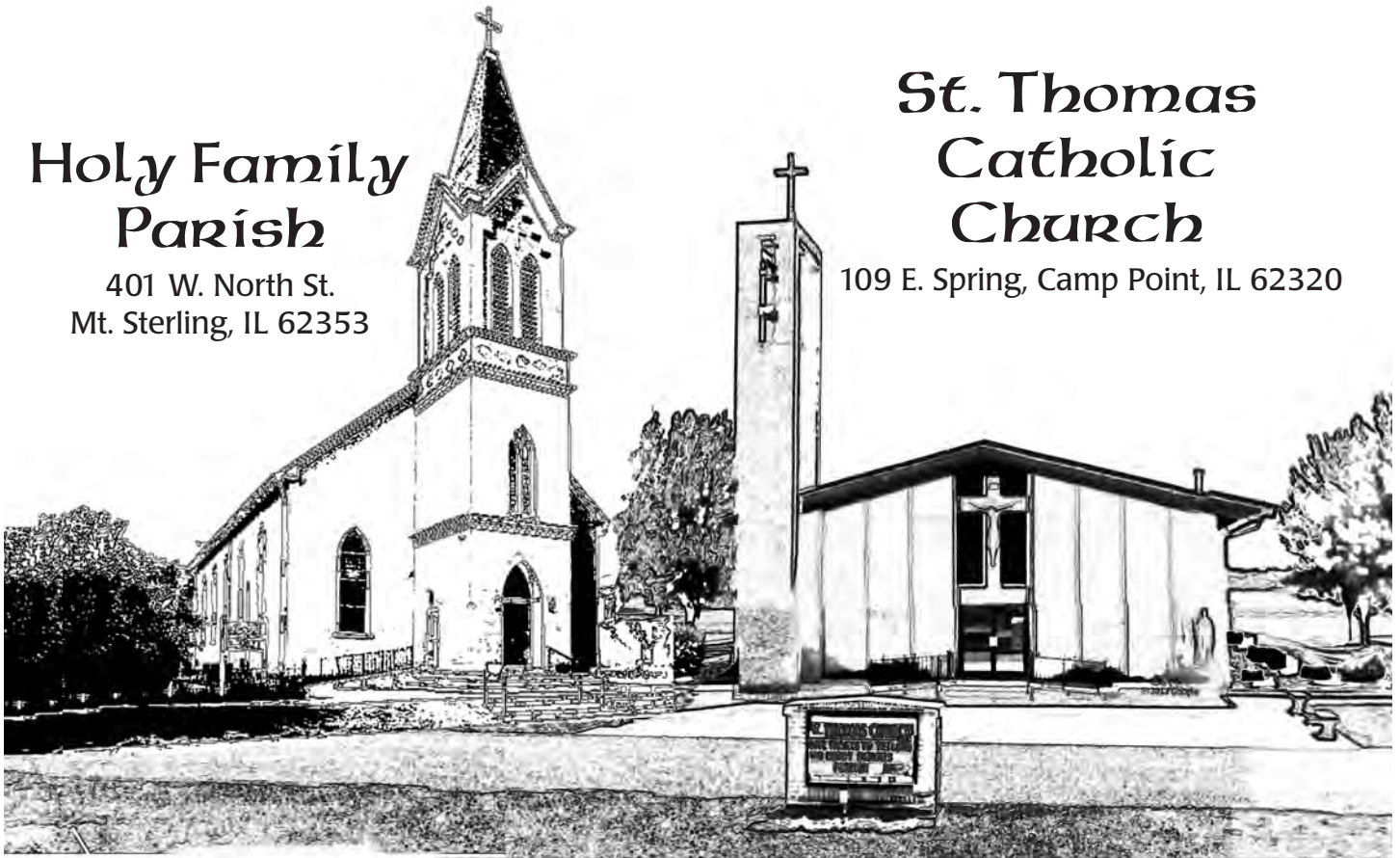


Holy Family Parish

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, June 19 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Romuald, Abbott
2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Matthew 5:38-43

Communion Service

Tuesday, June 20 – 7:00 a.m.

2 Corinthians 8:1-9; Matthew 5:43-48

Barb Kuhn
(By Sharon Lauer)

Wednesday, June 21 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious
2 Corinthians 9:6-11; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Kay Downey
(By Teresa Logsdon)

Thursday, June 22 – 7:00 a.m.

ST. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop; Sts. John Fisher, Bishop, and
Thomas More, Martyrs
2 Corinthians 11:1-11; Matthew 6:7-15

Mary Franklin Brahler
(By Maureen Norvell)

St. Thomas – 5:30 p.m.

Communion Service

Friday, June 23 – 8:30 a.m.

2 Corinthians 11:18, 21-30; Matthew 6:19-23

Communion Service

Saturday, June 24 – 8:00 a.m.

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
Isaiah 49:1-6; Acts of the Apostles 13:22-26;
Luke 1:57-66, 80

Communion Service

Holy Family – 5:30 p.m.

Ramon Hufnagel
(By Norma Hufnagel & Family)

Sunday, June 25 – 8:00 a.m.

Jeremiah 20:10-13; Romans 5:12-15; Matthew 10:26-33

Joe Ray
(By Tom & Nancy Schneider)

St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Martha Koetters
(By Barbara Duesterhaus)

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

June 10-11, 2023

Holy Family: \$2,872.00

School Support: \$120.00

Sister Parish: \$282.00

Cemetery Support: \$225.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

June 11, 2023

St. Thomas: \$1,650.00

Sister Parish: \$200.00

Retired Diocesan Priests: \$20.00

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 - 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 †
 Dave Wear † Dan Ray †

ST. THOMAS

Seven Sister's Apostolate Recommitment Ceremony was held after 5:30 mass June 16 at St. Thomas. Any women from St. Thomas/Holy Family Parishes may still join us. Praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament in conjunction with our Apostolate for our parish priest is a unifier for us all. Go to www.sevensistersapostolate.org or contact Claudia Coggeshall, 217-653-6716 or ccogg@adams.net.

Bottles for the Baby Bottle Blitz for CareNet of Quincy, which ends Father's Day June 18, can be turned in at the back of church.

I scream for ice cream—you scream for ice cream—we all scream for ice cream

Ice cream for the 4th of July.

We have again been invited to have our ice cream and pie stand at the 4th of July

celebration. We will be freezing the ice cream on July 1.

Lots of help will be needed that day and also on the 4th. Please be generous with your time.



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! Register TODAY!

Vacation Bible School at St. Thomas will be held the July 6-8. On July 6 and July 7, VBS will be from 5:30-7:30. We will serve the participants dinner at 5:30. On July 8, VBS will be from 9:00-4:00. Lunch and snacks will be provided. A mass will follow at 4 p.m. for all families of VBS and the parish. After mass, we will have a cookout, and the VBS kids will sing some of the songs they learned.

Children entering preschool - 5th grade are welcome to attend VBS. Children entering 6th - 12th grade are welcome as Crew Leaders. Please register both campers and crew leaders.

A \$10 donation for each child to cover some of the cost of VBS is suggested. It is only a suggestion and not required.

Please consider serving in one of the many volunteer roles. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Alicia Schmidt at 217-257-3210.

Please direct questions or concerns to Alicia Schmidt, 217-257-3210 or a_ordner@hotmail.com.

Register at: <https://forms.gle/yY4yzQa591Uxovdv9>.

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

June 25, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan:	Brent Obert
Greeters:	Maurice & Clara Schmidt
Lector:	Denise Taylor
Gift Bearers:	John & Janice Brady
Eucharistic Minister:	Teresa Bockhold
Collection Counters:	Dale & Sindy DeRousse
Ushers:	Elijah Perry, Tod Perry

From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time. Our readings remind us that we are reconciled to God through the Blood of Christ and that we are a chosen people, a holy "nation," the sheep of God's flock. We are called, as were the Twelve to go forth and bear witness to the reign of God.

And now just a few notes:

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK-

-Monday, June 19 - Optional memorial of St. Romuald, Abbot. Romuald founded the Camaldolese hermits (O.S.B. Cam) in 980 which today still numbers about 95 members. He urged contemplative prayer, through solitude, silence, and fasting. He died in 1027.

Christ is a gentle leader, but he calls us to total holiness. Now and then, men and women are raised up to challenge us by the absoluteness of their dedication, the vigor of their spirit, the depth of their conversion. St. Romuald is one such person. The fact that we cannot duplicate their lives does not change the call to us to be totally open to God in our own particular circumstances. St. Romuald, Pray for us!

-Wednesday, June 21 - Obligatory Memorial of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious. As a son of a princely family, he grew up in royal courts and army camps. His father wanted Aloysius to be a military hero.

At age 7 Aloysius experienced a profound spiritual quickening and by age 11 was teaching catechism to poor children, fasting three days a week, and practicing great austerities. The more Aloysius saw of court life, the more disillusioned he became, seeking relief in learning about the lives of saints. He was eventually received into the Jesuit novitiate.

In 1591, a plague struck Rome. The Jesuits opened a hospital and because he nursed patients, washing them and making their beds, Aloysius caught the disease. He became very weak but maintained his great discipline of prayer, knowing that he would die three months later within the octave of Corpus Christi, at the age of 23.

As a saint who fasted, scourged himself, sought solitude and prayer, and did not look on the faces of women, Aloysius seems an unlikely patron of youth in a society where asceticism is confined to training camps of football teams and boxers, and sexual permissiveness has little left to permit. Can our society of consumption deprive itself of anything? It will when it discovers a reason, as Aloysius did. The motivation for letting God purify us is the experience of God loving us in prayer.

St. Aloysius is the patron of youth and of students in Jesuit colleges and universities. St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Pray for us!

-Thursday, June 22 - Optional memorials of St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop and Saints John Fisher, Bishop and Thomas More, Martyrs.

St. Paulinus was a dedicated Bishop and is known for giving his possessions to the poor. He died in 431. St. Paulinus, Pray for us!

St. John Fisher was Chancellor of Cambridge University, Bishop of Rochester, and dedicated Pastor of souls. He was renowned for his preaching and educational reforms. He was a great defender of Church Tradition against Luther and of the Roman Primacy against Henry VIII. He was martyred by beheading on June 22, 1535.

Today questions are raised about Christians' and priests' active involvement in social issues. John Fisher remained faithful to his calling as a priest and bishop. He strongly upheld the teachings

of the Church; the very cause of his martyrdom was his loyalty to Rome. He was involved in the cultural enrichment circles as well as in the political struggles of his time. This involvement caused him to question the moral conduct of the leadership of his country.

“The Church has the right, indeed the duty, to proclaim justice on the social, national and international level, and to denounce instances of injustice, when the fundamental rights of man and his very salvation demand it” (Justice in the World, 1971 Synod of Bishops). St. John Fisher, Pray for us!

St. Thomas More was Chancellor of England. He refused to support Henry VIII's divorce from Queen Catherine and his Act of Supremacy. He was also martyred by beheading on July 6, 1535. He is the patron of lawyers, statesmen, and politicians.

The supreme diplomat and counselor, Thomas More did not compromise his own moral values in order to please the king, knowing that true allegiance to authority is not blind acceptance of everything that authority wants. King Henry himself realized this and tried desperately to win his chancellor to his side because he knew More was a man whose personal integrity no one questioned. But when Thomas More resigned as chancellor, unable to approve the two matters that meant most to Henry, the king had to get rid of him. His belief that no lay ruler has jurisdiction over the Church of Christ cost Thomas More his life. St. Thomas More, Pray for us!

-Saturday, June 24 - Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. This Solemnity came to be celebrated in accord with Luke 1:36, six months before the Lord's birth. Quoting John 3:30, St. Augustine found this date appropriate since, after the birth of John, daylight begins to grow shorter, whereas after Jesus' birth, it begins to increase.

St. John the Baptist challenges us to a fundamental attitude - total dependence

on the Father, in Christ. His austerity, attractiveness, and fierce courage in denouncing evil all stem from his fundamental and total placing of his life within the will of God. St. John the Baptist, Pray for us!

The celebration of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist is elevated to a Solemnity, the highest celebration in the Church. I will be away from the parishes on this day. However, there will be a Communion Service at 8:00 a.m. at Holy Family on Saturday, June 24 as we celebrate this Solemnity. I encourage you to come if you are able. The Vigil Mass that evening, of course, is celebrated as the Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time.

-ANNIVERSARY - Wednesday, June 22 marks the Anniversary of the Installation of our Diocesan Bishop, Thomas John Paprocki in 2010. Please continue to keep Bishop Paprocki and all Bishops in your prayers.

-FATHER'S DAY - Happy Father's Day to all fathers. Though a secular holiday, we recognize the importance and necessity of fathers in the lives of their children, in married and family life, and in the life of the Church. As I keep all fathers in my prayer, I ask you to do the same.

-BABY BOTTLES - If you forgot your baby bottle this weekend, please bring it next weekend.

-POWER - At the time of my writing this, we are expecting the power to be off at Holy Family all day on Wednesday, June 21. I will still have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Mass as usual Wednesday morning but please be aware of this. The power should be restored by Thursday.

-AWAY FROM THE PARISHES - I am planning to be away from the parishes Thursday evening, June 22 through Sunday evening June 25. A visiting priest will celebrate Masses Saturday evening and Sunday morning. There will be Communion Services Thursday evening at St. Thomas (5:30 p.m.) and Friday (8:30 a.m.)

and Saturday (8:00 a.m.) mornings at Holy Family.

-REFRIGERATOR - I am looking for a small “dorm size” refrigerator for the Sacristy at St. Thomas. If you have one that you’ve been looking to get rid of that is in good condition and running order, please let me know. I may also be interested in a full size refrigerator or cooler for another purpose so if you have one of those (again in good working order) that you are looking to get rid of, let me know.

-VIRTUE AND THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT- I have been including a series of articles in the bulletin the last few weeks written by a priest for Catholic Answers concerning the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and how they relate to the Virtues...good articles, easy to read and understand. This week’s article is titled “What is the Gift of Knowledge?” Again, I’ve taken the entirety of the article and present it here as it was originally written.

“Having reflected on the gifts of fear of the Lord and of piety, we move onto the gift of knowledge. Remember the foundation: The gift of fear of the Lord moves a person to have a profound reverence for God; to remember his creatureliness and dependency upon God; to have a vibrant sense of adoration and reverence for God; and to have a sense of horror for sin. The gift of fear of the Lord gives rise to the gift of piety, whereby a person has a filial relationship with God, as expressed so beautifully in the Lord’s Prayer. Such a relationship enables us to look upon others as children of God. Now we move onto the gift of knowledge.

Knowledge here is not simply knowledge that is acquired by reason (e.g., through science) or by faith (e.g., revealed truths). However, such knowledge, especially knowledge of our faith, is important for the actualization of this gift of the Holy Spirit.

Several definitions are helpful. Father Jordan Aumann defined the gift of

knowledge as the gift that enables a person “to judge rightly concerning the truths of faith in accordance with their proper causes and the principles of revealed truth.” The Baltimore Catechism defined it as “a gift of the Holy Ghost which enables us to see God reflected in all creatures and to praise Him in them, but yet to see the nothingness of creatures in themselves so that we will desire God alone.” Lastly, Father Adolphe Tanquerey defined it as “a gift which, by the illuminating action of the Holy Ghost, perfects the virtue of faith, and thereby gives us a knowledge of created things in their relations to God.”

Given these definitions, one could say that the gift of knowledge helps a person to embrace the truths of faith. Then, formed by these truths and guided by the Holy Spirit, the person makes correct judgments regarding earthly things and how they are related to eternal life and Christian perfection. As such, the knowledge of these created things leads one to the Creator. The created things are not seen as ends in themselves and held onto tightly, so that they become idols or obstacles to union with God; rather, they are instruments that help us appreciate the majesty of God and over which we must be good stewards. Also, while things of this world perish, God is eternal. As Pope Francis stated (May 21, 2014), “When our eyes are illumined by the Spirit, they open to contemplate God, in the beauty of nature and in the grandeur of the cosmos, and they lead us to discover how everything speaks to us about Him and His love. All of this arouses in us great wonder and a profound sense of gratitude.”

Considering our society today, the gift of knowledge provides the following direction: While a person may be intrigued with the pursuit of science and technology, that pursuit must not be an end in itself but one that leads to God. Albert Einstein said, “There are two ways to live your life, one is as though nothing is a miracle, the

other is as though everything is a miracle,” and like him, we know the latter is the correct position. For example, while a person may love an animal, the beloved family pet, we know that respect for the human person supercedes that given to animals; we know only man is made in God’s image and likeness, and human life is sacred from conception until natural death. Or, while we may use the resources of the earth wisely, we know to avoid wasting, polluting, or wantonly destroying the environment. While we may accumulate many material things, e.g., wealth and possessions, we know these things deteriorate, perish, or are simply left behind at death. Therefore, we know they are blessings to be used wisely for the glory of God and the good of others.

Moreover, this gift gives to the person spiritual knowledge. First, a person knows that God loves us and will never abandon us. Only He is worthy of all of our love. He must be the first priority of our lives.

Second, the gift of knowledge assists in the sanctification of the soul in three ways: first, a knowledge of introspection, enabling the person to see the state of his soul; second, a knowledge of detachment from material things; and a knowledge of repentance for sins from the misuse of material things or when they have become obstacles to God.

Third, a person has a sense of faith, *sensus fidei*, meaning that the person has a divine instinct about whether or not something, like a devotion, is in accord with the faith. A person knows whether something is of God or not. St. John speaks of a “discernment of spirits”: “Do not trust every spirit, but put the spirits to a test to see if they belong to God,” but “anyone who has knowledge of God gives us a hearing,” (1 Jn 4:1-6).

Finally, it gives us “knowledge” of how to help others, particularly in spiritual ways. For example, the Holy Spirit guides a priest to know what to say to a penitent in the confessional or to know what to

preach to his congregation. Moreover, some of the saints, like St. Padre Pio, could even read souls, knowing the true spiritual disposition of a penitent.

For good reason, St. Thomas Aquinas taught that the gift of knowledge brings to perfection the supernatural virtue of faith, but it is also linked to the perfection of the cardinal virtues of prudence, justice, and temperance. The way to cultivate the gift of knowledge is to continue to study our faith: Take time to read sacred Scripture, perhaps one chapter of the New Testament each day. In this manner, one would cover the whole New Testament in less than a year. Read a section of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, just a section. Besides praying each day, 15 minutes devoted to such spiritual reading fuels the soul so that the Holy Spirit can set afire the great gift of knowledge; thereby, we can know the Lord and know His ways. Saint Paul well captured this gift: “I have come to rate all as loss in the light of the surpassing knowledge of my Lord Jesus Christ. For His sake, I have forfeited everything; I have accounted all else rubbish so that Christ may be my wealth,” (Phil 3:8-9).”

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for me, one another, our parishes and school, and the Universal Church. Please be assured of my continued prayers for you and may you have a most blessed week.

-Fr. Aaron

POT OF GOLD

June Pot of Gold winners are:
\$250.00 – Rosemary Holler
\$100.00 – Marvin Kuhn
\$50.00 – John & Linda Colgan
\$50.00 – Richard Veith
\$50.00 – Mike Ellerman

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