

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, July 24 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Sharbel Makhluf, Priest
Exodus 14:5-18; Matthew 12:38-42

Communion Service

Tuesday, July 25 – 7:00 a.m.

St. James, Apostle
2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Matthew 20:20-28

Verna Veith
(By her Daughters)

Wednesday, July 26 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Joachim & Anne, Parents of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15; Matthew 13:1-9

Tom & Barb Kuhn
(By Barb Lehne)

Thursday, July 27 – 7:00 a.m.

Exodus 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b; Matthew 13:10-17

John Yeakel
(By Doug & Crissy Yeakel)

St. Thomas – 5:30 p.m.

Anne Norkus
(By Pat Sharow)

Friday, July 28 – 8:30 a.m.

Exodus 10:1-17; Matthew 13:18-23

Mary Kleinlein
(By Ray & Mary Gregory)

Saturday, July 29 – 5:30 p.m.

Sts. Martha, Mary & Lazarus
Exodus 24:2-8; John 11:19-27

Michael Volk
(By Renee Volk & Family)

Sunday, July 30 – 8:00 a.m.

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:44-52

Parishioners of Holy Family
and St. Thomas

St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Leslie & Ruth Harper and
John & Millie Harper
(By Jim & Fritzie Harper)

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

July 15-16, 2023

Holy Family: \$3,576.00
School Support: \$420.00
Sister Parish: \$35.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

July 16, 2023

St. Thomas: \$2,924.00

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 – Tuesday – 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 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 † 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 † Irene Norkus † Boone Holden †
 Sean Fink † Dan Ray † Elijah Craig † Joan Zurita †
 Kathy Cramblitt † Steve and Bonnie Sorrells †

ST. THOMAS

Gallon Ice Cream Containers Needed - Please save any gallon ice cream containers that you have. We need them for our ice cream social on August 20. If you can donate them, please bring them to the back of church (cloak room) or to the parish hall. We appreciate your help. Thank you!

Birthright will again have a booth at the KC BBQ picnic in Quincy. All the churches in the area will be invited to bring home made baked goods for the bake sale. We will also sell chances for a beautiful handmade quilt and a \$200 dining package. The picnic will be August 11-13

We will need volunteers to sell chances, work at the bake sale and to help in the kid's games.

This event and "trivia" in November are the largest source of income to help our clients with their crisis pregnancy.

Contact Butch & Dorothy with questions.
 217-257-6825.

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

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

Sacristan:	Denise Taylor
Greeters:	Tod Perry Family
Lector:	David Leezer
Gift Bearers:	Greg & Elizabeth Likes
Eucharistic Minister:	Jerry Herkert
Collection Counters:	Dale & Sindy DeRousse
Ushers:	Jacob Schmidt, Maurice Schmidt

From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time. Our readings today remind us that in His patience, the Lord allows both weeds and wheat to grow together, both saints and sinners to respond to salvation in the Kingdom. The Lord is good and forgiving, lenient to all, and desires repentance for our sins. We pray that the Holy Spirit may assist us in our weakness and that we may live in the fullness of Truth as we embrace and strive to turn away from sin and live a holy life.

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Monday, July 24 - Optional memorial of St. Sharbel Makhluf, Priest.

St. Sharbel Makhluf was born in north Lebanon in 1828, became a monk of the Maronite Rite, and ordained a priest in 1859. Devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary, he spent the last twenty-three years of his life as a hermit. Despite temptations to wealth and comfort, St. Sharbel taught the value of poverty, self-sacrifice, and prayer by the life he lived. He possessed the gift of performing miracles even during his lifetime. St. Sharbel Makhluf died in 1898 at the age of 70 and was canonized in 1977 by Pope Paul VI.

"Although this saint never traveled far from the Lebanese village of Beka-Kafra where he was born, his influence has spread widely.

Joseph Zaroun Maklouf was raised by an uncle because his father, a mule driver, died when Joseph was only three. At the age of 23, Joseph joined the Monastery of St. Maron at Annaya, Lebanon, and took the name Sharbel in honor of a second-century martyr. He professed his final vows in 1853, and was ordained six years later.

Following the example of the fifth-century Saint Maron, Sharbel lived as a hermit from 1875, until his death. His reputation for holiness prompted people to seek him to receive a blessing and to be remembered in his prayers. He followed a strict fast and was very devoted to the Blessed Sacrament. When his superiors occasionally asked him to administer the sacraments to nearby villages, Sharbel did so gladly.

He died in the late afternoon on Christmas Eve. Christians and non-Christians soon made his tomb a place of pilgrimage and of cures. Pope Paul VI beatified Sharbel in 1965, and canonized him 12 years later.

John Paul II often said that the Church has two lungs—East and West—and it must learn to breathe using both of them. Remembering saints like Sharbel helps the Church to appreciate both the diversity and unity present in the Catholic Church. Like all the saints, Sharbel points us to God and invites us to cooperate generously with God's grace, no matter what our situation in life may be. As our prayer life becomes deeper and more honest, we become more ready to make that generous response." (Franciscan Media)

St. Sharbel Makhluf, Pray for us!

-Tuesday, July 25 - Feast of St. James, Apostle. James, the brother of John, is called "the Greater" because he followed Christ before the other Apostle of the same name. James was the first of the Twelve to be martyred, decapitated by order of Herod Agrippa I around the year 44. St. James is named in the Roman Canon

(Eucharistic Prayer I) and is patron of pilgrims, Spain, Guatemala, and Nicaragua.

"This James is the brother of John the Evangelist. The two were called by Jesus as they worked with their father in a fishing boat on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus had already called another pair of brothers from a similar occupation: Peter and Andrew. "He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him" (Mark 1:19-20).

James was one of the favored three who had the privilege of witnessing the Transfiguration, the raising to life of the daughter of Jairus, and the agony in Gethsemani. Two incidents in the Gospels describe the temperament of this man and his brother. Saint Matthew tells that their mother came—Mark says it was the brothers themselves—to ask that they have the seats of honor in the kingdom. "Jesus said in reply, 'You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I am going to drink?' They said to him, 'We can'" (Matthew 20:22). Jesus then told them they would indeed drink the cup and share his baptism of pain and death, but that sitting at his right hand or left was not his to give—it "is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father" (Matthew 20:23b). It remained to be seen how long it would take to realize the implications of their confident "We can!"

The other disciples became indignant at the ambition of James and John. Then Jesus taught them all the lesson of humble service: The purpose of authority is to serve. They are not to impose their will on others, or lord it over them. This is the position of Jesus himself. He was the servant of all; the service imposed on him was the supreme sacrifice of his own life.

On another occasion, James and John gave evidence that the nickname Jesus gave them—"sons of thunder"—was an apt

one. The Samaritans would not welcome Jesus because he was on his way to hated Jerusalem. “When the disciples James and John saw this they asked, ‘Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?’ Jesus turned and rebuked them...” (Luke 9:54-55).

James was apparently the first of the apostles to be martyred. “About that time King Herod laid hands upon some members of the church to harm them. He had James, the brother of John, killed by the sword, and when he saw that this was pleasing to the Jews he proceeded to arrest Peter also” (Acts 12:1-3a).

This James, sometimes called James the Greater, is not to be confused with James the Lesser or with the author of the *Letter of James* and the leader of the Jerusalem community.

The way the Gospels treat the apostles is a good reminder of what holiness is all about. There is very little about their virtues as static possessions, entitling them to heavenly reward. Rather, the great emphasis is on the Kingdom, on God’s giving them the power to proclaim the Good News. As far as their personal lives are concerned, there is much about Jesus’ purifying them of narrowness, pettiness, fickleness.” (Franciscan Media)

St. James, Pray for us!

-Wednesday, July 26 - Obligatory Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St. Joachim is the patron of fathers and grandparents, St. Anne the patroness of childless women and miners.

The heroism and holiness of Saints Joachim and Anne is inferred from the whole family atmosphere around Mary in the Scriptures. We see in Mary a fulfillment of many generations of prayerful persons, herself steeped in the religious traditions of her people. The strong character of Mary in making decisions, her continuous practice of prayer, her devotion to the laws of her faith, her steadiness at moments of crisis,

and her devotion to her relatives—all indicate a close-knit, loving family that looked forward to the next generation even while retaining the best of the past.

Joachim and Anne represent that entire quiet series of generations who faithfully perform their duties, practice their faith, and establish an atmosphere for the coming of the Messiah, but remain obscure.

This memorial reminds grandparents of their responsibility to establish a tone for generations to come: They must make the traditions live and offer them as a promise to little children. But the memorial has a message for the younger generation as well. It reminds the young that older people’s greater perspective, depth of experience, and appreciation of life’s profound rhythms are all part of a wisdom not to be taken lightly or ignored.” (Franciscan Media)

Saints Joachim and Anne, Pray for us!

-Saturday, July 29 - Obligatory Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. For many years, this day was celebrated as the Obligatory Memorial of St. Martha. Pope Francis added Saints Mary and Lazarus to the Obligatory Memorial of St. Martha in 2021. St. Martha is the patroness of housewives, waiters, and waitresses. Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus are patron saints of siblings.

Martha, Mary, and their brother Lazarus were evidently close friends of Jesus. He came to their home simply as a welcomed guest, rather than as one celebrating the conversion of a sinner like Zacchaeus or one unceremoniously received by a suspicious Pharisee. The sisters felt free to call on Jesus at their brother’s death, even though a return to Judea at that time seemed to spell almost certain death.

Martha’s great glory is her simple and strong statement of faith in Jesus after her brother’s death. “Jesus told her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and

everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world'" (John 11:25-27).

No doubt Martha was an active sort of person. On one occasion, she prepares the meal for Jesus and possibly his fellow guests and forthrightly states the obvious: All hands should pitch in to help with the dinner. The Lord recognizes that Martha is "worried about many things," also noting that Mary, who has spent the preparation time at Jesus' feet listening to his words "has chosen the better part." John 12:1-8 describes Mary's anointing of Jesus' feet at Bethany, an act which he praised highly.

Immediately after we are told that the chief priests plotted to kill Lazarus "because many of the Jews were turning away and believing in Jesus because of him." Lazarus was the one of whom the Jews said, "See how much he loved him." In their sight Jesus raised his friend Lazarus from the dead.

Legends abound about the life of Lazarus after the death and resurrection of Jesus. He is supposed to have left a written account of what he saw in the next world before he was called back to life. Some say he followed Peter into Syria. Another story is that despite being put into a leaking boat by the Jews at Jaffa, he, his sisters, and others landed safely in Cyprus. There he died peacefully after serving as bishop for 30 years.

It is certain there was early devotion to the saint. Around the year 390, the pilgrim lady Etheria talks of the procession that took place on the Saturday before Palm Sunday at the tomb where Lazarus had been raised from the dead. In the West, Passion Sunday was called *Dominica de Lazaro*, and Augustine tells us that in Africa the Gospel of the raising of Lazarus was read at the office of Palm Sunday.

In its 2021 decree on combining veneration of Mary and Lazarus with

Martha, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments said, "In the household of Bethany, the Lord Jesus experienced the family spirit and friendship of Martha, Mary and Lazarus, and for this reason the Gospel of John states that He loved them. Martha generously offered Him hospitality, Mary listened attentively to His Words and Lazarus promptly emerged from the tomb at the command of the one who humiliated death." (Franciscan Media)

Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, Pray for us!

-EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS – Saturday, October 28 at the BOS Center in Springfield. If you'd like to go, please let me know as you will need a ticket through the parish. These must be requested BEFORE August 1. More information to follow but you can also refer to the Diocesan website and the Catholic Times. Please note that there will be no Saturday evening Vigil Mass at Holy Family on that day. No Vigil Masses are allowed that day at parishes in the Diocese. Also, no funerals or weddings are allowed that day.

-THANK YOU – to the Quincy Council Knights of Columbus for a generous monetary donation made to St. Thomas Parish. These monies were part of the proceeds from recent fundraising by the Council.

-FOOD PANTRY – Holy Family is collecting items for the food pantry once again over the next several weeks. This week was canned fruit. Next week we will be collecting cereal. If you'd like to contribute, please bring the items to Holy Family Church and place them in the totes that will be out. Thank you for your support.

-ICE CREAM - A reminder that the St. Thomas Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Sunday, August 20. Mark your calendars to join us.

If you have gallon ice cream containers with lids, St. Thomas is still collecting them. You can bring them to either church

and place them neatly in the back of church and someone will get them from there.

-MISSION APPEAL - Our Annual Missionary Appeal will take place the weekend of August 19 and 20. We will be hosting Fr. Bibin Parekunnel with the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette.

Fr. Bibin Parekunnel is a La Salette priest from India. He has been a priest for seven years, worked as a vocation promoter of La Salette province, and a retreat preacher in India. After completing his higher studies in Canon Law, he continues his evangelization mission. Fr. Bibin is very much interested in spreading the joy of the Gospel and reinstalling spirituality in the minds of people, especially those who do not yet fully know Christ, the real Master of Love.

LIFE - A new, grassroots, effort is being attempted to end abortion, at least on a local level. A federal law, the Comstock Act, prohibits the mailing and the receiving of abortion-inducing drugs and abortion paraphernalia. Local city council passage of an ordinance would ensure enforcement of the Comstock Act. Quincy is in the beginning stages of attempting to have an ordinance passed to enforce the Comstock Act and make Quincy a Sanctuary City for the Unborn. Though this is an effort in Quincy right now, the information is valuable to all of us.

Organizers of this initiative are hoping that people will sign a petition showing their support of the ordinance and also contact their city council representative asking them to support the ordinance. Susan Asher has been spearheading the effort in Quincy. Her contact information is asherte@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

Because of the city's location on the Missouri border, Quincy is a prime location for the abortion industry to establish a clinic or set up a mobile abortion van. Yes, that's right, a mobile abortion van...the absurdity never ceases!

At a recent meeting in Quincy, folks learned how 67 cities and two counties

across seven different states had passed ordinances seeking to keep abortion out of their communities. It was also discussed how a "de facto" abortion ban ordinance, based on the Comstock Act of 1873, could be drafted for the City of Quincy. Such an ordinance would require compliance with federal abortion laws prohibiting the mailing and the receiving of abortion-inducing drugs and abortion paraphernalia.

Everyone who wishes to see Quincy, IL be a Sanctuary City for the Unborn is encouraged to sign the online petition at sanctuarycitiesfortheunborn.com. The petition gauges the interest our community has for this initiative. The petition information will only go to The Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn Initiative and will not be subject to Freedom of Information Act. Also, contact your council member directly to express your support for this initiative.

More information is on on the Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn website.

Most importantly, continue your prayers for all human life, its protection and respect in all stages from conception until natural death!

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

-Fr. Aaron

Quincy Deanery

To All Catholic Women:

It will soon be time for our Catholic women of the Quincy Deanery area to get together again! This meeting will be held Wednesday, August 30 at the Knights of Columbus hall in Mt. Sterling and hosted by the women of Holy Family Catholic Church. This will be our first time at Holy Family since the re-institution of the Quincy Deanery and we are excited they are having us! Please plan to attend and support their efforts to host this! More information on this day will be forth-coming soon so please keep watch for it in your bulletin and please mark your calendars!

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