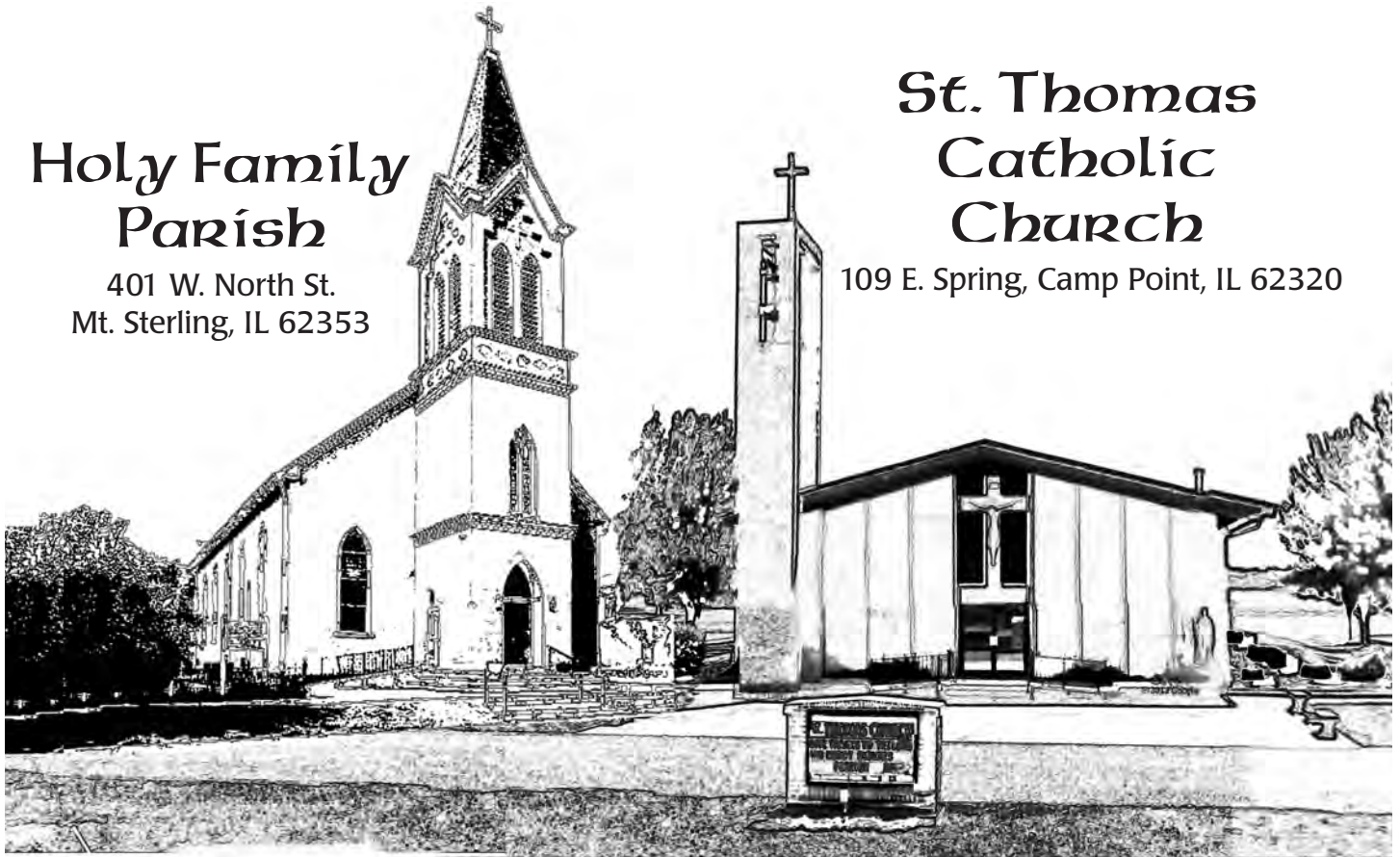


# Holy Family Parish

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, July 10 – 7:00 a.m.

Genesis 28:10-22a; Matthew 9:18-26

Communion Service

### Tuesday, July 11 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Benedict, Abbot

Genesis 32:23-33; Matthew 9:32-38

Eugene Zackey

(By Scott & Celeste Gillette)

### Wednesday, July 12 – 7:00 a.m.

Genesis 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a; Matthew 10:1-7

Becky Metzger & Mike Metzger  
(By the Metzger Family)

### Thursday, July 13 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Henry

Genesis 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Matthew 10:7-15

Roberta Young  
(By Friends)

### St. Thomas – 5:30 p.m.

Martha Koetters

(By Ray & Teresa Bockhold)

### Friday, July 14 – 8:30 a.m.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

Genesis 46:1-7, 28-30; Matthew 10:16-23

Kay Downey  
(By Carol Blentlinger & Family)

### Saturday, July 15 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor

Genesis 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Matthew 10:24-33

Bob & Sylva Dixon and Julie Link  
(By Cheryl Dillard)

### Sunday, July 16 – 8:00 a.m.

Isaiah 55:10-11; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-23

Jennifer Volk & Margie Dunn  
(By Their Families)

### St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Parishioners of Holy Family  
and St. Thomas

## HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

July 1-2, 2023

**Holy Family: \$3,778.70**

**School Support: \$807.00**

**Sister Parish: \$65.00**

**Peter's Pence: \$85.00**

**Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500**

## ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

July 2, 2023

**St. Thomas: \$2,408.00**

**Peter's Pence: \$20.00**

**Parish Improvement: \$290.00**

**Candle Money: \$28.00**

**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 - 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 † 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 †  
 Irene Norkus † Boone Holden † Sean Fink †  
 Dan Ray † Elijah Craig † Julie Ray Radel †  
 Joan Zurita †

**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!

**ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES**

*July 16, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.*

**Sacristan:** Jim Clausius  
**Greeters:** Justin & Emily Obert  
 Family  
**Lector:** Brenda Hoelscher  
**Gift Bearers:** Jerry & Marge Herkert  
**Eucharistic Minister:** Kim Gronewold  
**Collection Counters:** Greg & Elizabeth Likes  
**Ushers:** Jacob Schmidt, Maurice Schmidt

**From the Pastor’s Desk**

Today the Church celebrates the Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time. Our readings for today remind us that Jesus, who is gentle and humble of heart, came to bring peace to all people. We are called to live in His Spirit...to be gracious, merciful, and compassionate to all.

We have to be careful here in how we come to understand this. Real graciousness, mercy, and compassion DO NOT compromise Truth. Rather, these elements, when fully realized and properly lived, elevate the Truth, and make it more fully known. Real graciousness, mercy, and compassion do not call us to allow for anything or to tolerate without the demands of Christ but rather to live in the freedom of Christ according to His commands. It’s a tall order for us, but one we can carry out through the grace of God and by placing our complete faith and trust in Him.

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Tuesday, July 11 - Obligatory Memorial of St. Benedict, Abbot.

Benedict was born into a distinguished family in central Italy, studied at Rome, and early in life was drawn to monasticism. At first, he became a hermit, leaving a depressing world—pagan armies on the march, the Church torn by schism, people suffering from war, morality at a low ebb.

He soon realized that he could not live a hidden life in a small town any better than in a large city, so he withdrew to a cave high in the mountains for three years. Some monks chose Benedict as their leader for a while but found his strictness not to their taste. Still the shift from hermit to community life had begun for him. He had an idea of gathering various families of monks into one “Grand Monastery” to give them the benefit of unity, fraternity, and permanent worship in one house. Finally, he began to build what was to become one of the most famous monasteries in the world—Monte Cassino, commanding three narrow valleys running toward the mountains north of Naples.

The Rule that gradually developed prescribed a life of liturgical prayer, study, manual labor, and living together in community under a common abbot. Benedictine asceticism is known for its moderation, and Benedictine charity has always shown concern for the people in the

surrounding countryside. In the course of the Middle Ages, all monasticism in the West was gradually brought under the Rule of St. Benedict.

Today the Benedictine family is represented by two branches: the Benedictine Federation encompassing the men and women of the Order of St. Benedict; and the Cistercians, men and women of the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance. I note here that for a couple of years now, the Altar breads that we use at both parishes are made by Religious Sisters at Our Lady of the Valley Monastery in Wisconsin, a cloistered contemplative community of Cistercian nuns. I am quite happy to support their work and their community through the use of their Altar breads and with each order and communication received, the Sisters assure me of their prayers for us.

The Church has been blessed through Benedictine devotion to the liturgy, not only in its actual celebration with rich and proper ceremony in the great abbeys, but also through the scholarly studies of many of its members. We should be grateful to those who both preserve and adapt the genuine tradition of worship in the Church.

St. Benedict died in 547 and is a patron of Europe, Kidney Disease, Monastics, Poisoning, and Schoolchildren.  
St. Benedict, Pray for us!

-Thursday, July 13 - Optional memorial of St. Henry. As German king and Holy Roman Emperor, Henry was a practical man of affairs. He was energetic in consolidating his rule. He crushed rebellions and feuds. On all sides he had to deal with drawn-out disputes so as to protect his frontiers. This involved him in a number of battles, especially in the south in Italy; he also helped Pope Benedict VIII quell disturbances in Rome. His ultimate purpose was always to establish a stable peace in Europe.

All in all, this saint was a man of his times. From our standpoint, he may have been too quick to do battle and too ready

to use power to accomplish reforms. But granted such limitations, he shows that holiness is possible in a busy secular life. It is in doing our job that we become saints.

Henry died in 1024 and was canonized in 1146. He is the patron of the Benedictine oblates. St. Henry, Pray for us!

-Friday, July 14 - In the United States of America, Obligatory Memorial of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin. Kateri Tekakwitha led a life of great austerity and love in spite of ridicule and abuse. Called the Lily of the Mohawks, she was the first Native American to be declared Blessed (in 1980). She died in 1680 at the age of twenty-four and was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 21, 2012.

As a side note, in the United States of America, the optional memorial of St. Camillus de Lellis, priest, is perpetually transferred from this day to July 18.

The blood of martyrs is the seed of saints. Nine years after the Jesuits, Isaac Jogues and Jean de Lelande, were tomahawked by Iroquois warriors, a baby girl was born near the place of their martyrdom, Auriesville, New York.

Her mother was a Christian Algonquin, taken captive by the Iroquois and given as wife to the chief of the Mohawk clan, the boldest and fiercest of the Five Nations. When she was four, Tekakwitha lost her parents and little brother in a smallpox epidemic that left her disfigured and half blind. She was adopted by an uncle, who succeeded her father as chief. He hated the coming of the Blackrobes—Jesuit missionaries—but could do nothing to them because a peace treaty with the French required their presence in villages with Christian captives. She was moved by the words of three Blackrobes who lodged with her uncle, but fear of him kept her from seeking instruction. Tekakwitha refused to marry a Mohawk brave, and at 19 finally got the courage to take the step of converting. She was baptized with the name Kateri-Catherine—on Easter Sunday.

Now she would be treated as a slave. Because she would not work on Sunday, Kateri received no food that day. Her life in grace grew rapidly. She told a missionary that she often meditated on the great dignity of being baptized. She was powerfully moved by God's love for human beings and saw the dignity of each of her people.

She was always in danger, for her conversion and holy life created great opposition. On the advice of a priest, Kateri stole away one night and began a 200-mile walking journey to a Christian Indian village at Sault St. Louis, near Montreal.

For three years she grew in holiness under the direction of a priest and an older Iroquois woman, giving herself totally to God in long hours of prayer, in charity, and in strenuous penance. At 23, Kateri took a vow of virginity, an unprecedented act for an Indian woman whose future depended on being married. She found a place in the woods where she could pray an hour a day—and was accused of meeting a man there!

Her dedication to virginity was instinctive: Kateri did not know about religious life for women until she visited Montreal. Inspired by this, she and two friends wanted to start a community, but the local priest dissuaded her. She humbly accepted an "ordinary" life. She practiced extremely severe fasting as penance for the conversion of her nation. Kateri Tekakwitha died the afternoon before Holy Thursday. Witnesses said that her emaciated face changed color and became like that of a healthy child. The lines of suffering, even the pockmarks, disappeared and the touch of a smile came upon her lips.

We like to think that our proposed holiness is thwarted by our situation. If only we could have more solitude, less opposition, better health. Kateri Tekakwitha repeats the example of the saints: Holiness thrives on the cross,

anywhere. Yet she did have what Christians—all people—need: the support of a community. She had a good mother, helpful priests, Christian friends. These were present in what we call primitive conditions, and blossomed in the age-old Christian triad of prayer, fasting and almsgiving: union with God in Jesus and the Spirit, self-discipline and often suffering, and charity for her brothers and sisters. St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Pray for us!

-Saturday, July 15 – Obligatory Memorial of St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church. Perhaps not a household name for most people, Saint Bonaventure, nevertheless, played an important role in both the medieval Church and the history of the Franciscan Order. A senior faculty member at the University of Paris, Saint Bonaventure certainly captured the hearts of his students through his academic skills and insights. But more importantly, he captured their hearts through his Franciscan love for Jesus and the Church. Like his model, Saint Francis, Jesus was the center of everything—his teaching, his administration, his writing, and his life.

Born in Bagnoregio in 1221, Saint Bonaventure was baptized John, but received the name Bonaventure when he became a Franciscan at the age of 22. Little is known about his childhood, but we do know that his parents were Giovanni di Fidanza and Maria Ritell. It seems that his father was a physician and a man of means. While Saint Francis died about five years after the saint's birth, he is credited with healing Bonaventure as a boy of a serious illness.

Saint Bonaventure's teaching career came to a halt when the Friars elected him to serve as their General Minister. His 17 years of service were not easy as the Order was embroiled in conflicts over the interpretation of poverty. Some friars even ended up in heresy saying that Saint Francis and his community were inaugurating the era of the Holy Spirit which was to replace Jesus, the Church,

and Scripture. But because he was a man of prayer and a good administrator, Saint Bonaventure managed to structure the Order through effective legislation. But more importantly, he offered the Friars an organized spirituality based on the vision and insights of Saint Francis. Always a Franciscan at heart and a mystical writer, Bonaventure managed to unite the pastoral, practical aspects of life with the doctrines of the Church. Thus, there is a noticeable warmth to his teachings and writings that make him very appealing.

Shortly before he ended his service as General Minister, Pope Gregory X created him a Cardinal and appointed him bishop of Albano. But a little over a year later, while participating in the Second Council of Lyon, Saint Bonaventure died suddenly on July 15, 1274. There is a theory that he was poisoned.

Saint Bonaventure left behind a structured and renewed Franciscan Order and a body of work all of which glorifies his major love—Jesus.

Bonaventure so united holiness and theological knowledge that he rose to the heights of mysticism while remaining a very active preacher and teacher, one beloved by all who met him. To know him was to love him; to read him is still for us today to meet a true Franciscan and a gentleman. St. Bonaventure, Pray for us!

Much of the information on the Saints given here is from the Ordo published by Paulist Press and from Franciscan Media publications.

-PILGRIMAGE PROCESSION - To Fr. Tolton's Grave, Sunday, July 9; 4:00 p.m. at St. Peter's in Quincy; 4:30 p.m. at St. Peter's Cemetery in Quincy.

-FR. SOHM - As I mentioned at the Masses last weekend, Fr. John Sohm, who served as Pastor at Holy Family for a few years, recently died. There is a Memorial Mass planned at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield on Wednesday, July 12, 11:00 a.m.

Additionally, it is customary that each priest in the Diocese offer at least three Masses for a priest of our Diocese who has died. I often offer these Masses on Mondays or on Saturday mornings. I will try to have at least one of them scheduled in our regular schedule of Masses sometime soon.

Prayers for the dead are so very important and offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for a departed soul is the best way to offer such prayer. If you would like to schedule a Mass for someone who has died, please contact Tammy in the office.

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.

-60th ANNIVERSARY - Congratulations to Sister JoAnn Volk, SSND, on her 60th anniversary of Religious Profession. Sister JoAnn is one of several Religious Vocations from Holy Family. What a blessing!

I've known Sister JoAnn for many years. It is always good to see her when she is back visiting but I always have to be careful when she's here since Sister JoAnn was my sixth-grade teacher for at least half a year. She might have stories about me that are best left in sixth grade!

Please continue to pray for those who are in the Priesthood, Diaconate, and Religious Life, those in Formation, and for good and holy vocations.

-FOOD PANTRY - Marilyn Veith would like to collect items for the food pantry once again over the next several weeks. Next week we will be collecting boxed meals. If you'd like to contribute, please bring the items to the Holy Family Church and place them in the totes that will be out.

-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. Also, no funerals or weddings are allowed that day.

-SCHOOL REGISTRATION - It is hard to believe but we are quickly approaching Registration Day at St. Mary School. It is scheduled for Tuesday, July 18. If you have any questions, please contact the school office at (217)-773-2825. If your family is interested in learning more about St. Mary School and enrollment into the school, please reach out to our Principal, Mrs. Melissa Obert, at the same number.

-REMINDERS - The Holy Rosary is prayed each Sunday morning at St. Thomas starting at 9:30 a.m.

-Solemn Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction is normally 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. on most Sundays at St. Thomas.

-Simple Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Holy Family is on Wednesday mornings from 6:15 a.m. - 6:45 a.m. and then again after the 7:00 a.m. Mass until 8:00 a.m.; on Saturday evenings from 4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.; on Sunday mornings from 6:45 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.

-There is a weekday Mass at St. Thomas each Thursday evening at 5:30 p.m. Solemn Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction is from 4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

-Mass on Fridays at Holy Family are at 8:30 a.m. even when school is not in session.

-I normally celebrate a Saturday morning Mass at Holy Family at 8:00 a.m.

-First Friday Devotions at St. Thomas each month... Solemn Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction beginning at noon until 5:45 p.m. Confessions from 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Mass at 6:00 p.m.

-Nocturnal Adoration at Holy Family begins at 10:00 p.m. on the First Saturday

of each month and goes overnight until Sunday morning at 7:45 a.m., followed by Benediction and then our regularly scheduled 8:00 a.m. Mass.

-Regular Confession times are on Saturday evenings from 4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at Holy Family and on First Fridays at St. Thomas from 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. You can contact me for the Sacrament of Reconciliation at any time, of course. Please do not hesitate to do so. I am hopeful that I will be able to offer some additional regular times for the Sacrament each week at both parishes sometime in the near future.

-RESTORATION - You can see that the exterior restoration at Holy Family is moving right along. There is still a little work to do, and I hope to share a few more updates in the next week or two as space permits. Until the work is completed, I am continuing the Capital Campaign for the project. We are short about \$250,000 in designated funds to cover the entire project. We do have enough operating funds to cover the project, but I would like to make a final push for the Campaign and perhaps bring in most, if not all of the additional funds needed, designated for this purpose. Thank you for your prayers for and support of this large and much-needed undertaking. If you'd like to speak with me about any additional contribution to the fund, please let me know or you may use the envelopes in the back of church to make a contribution and place it in the regular collection basket.

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

-Fr. Aaron

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94TH DISTRICT  
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