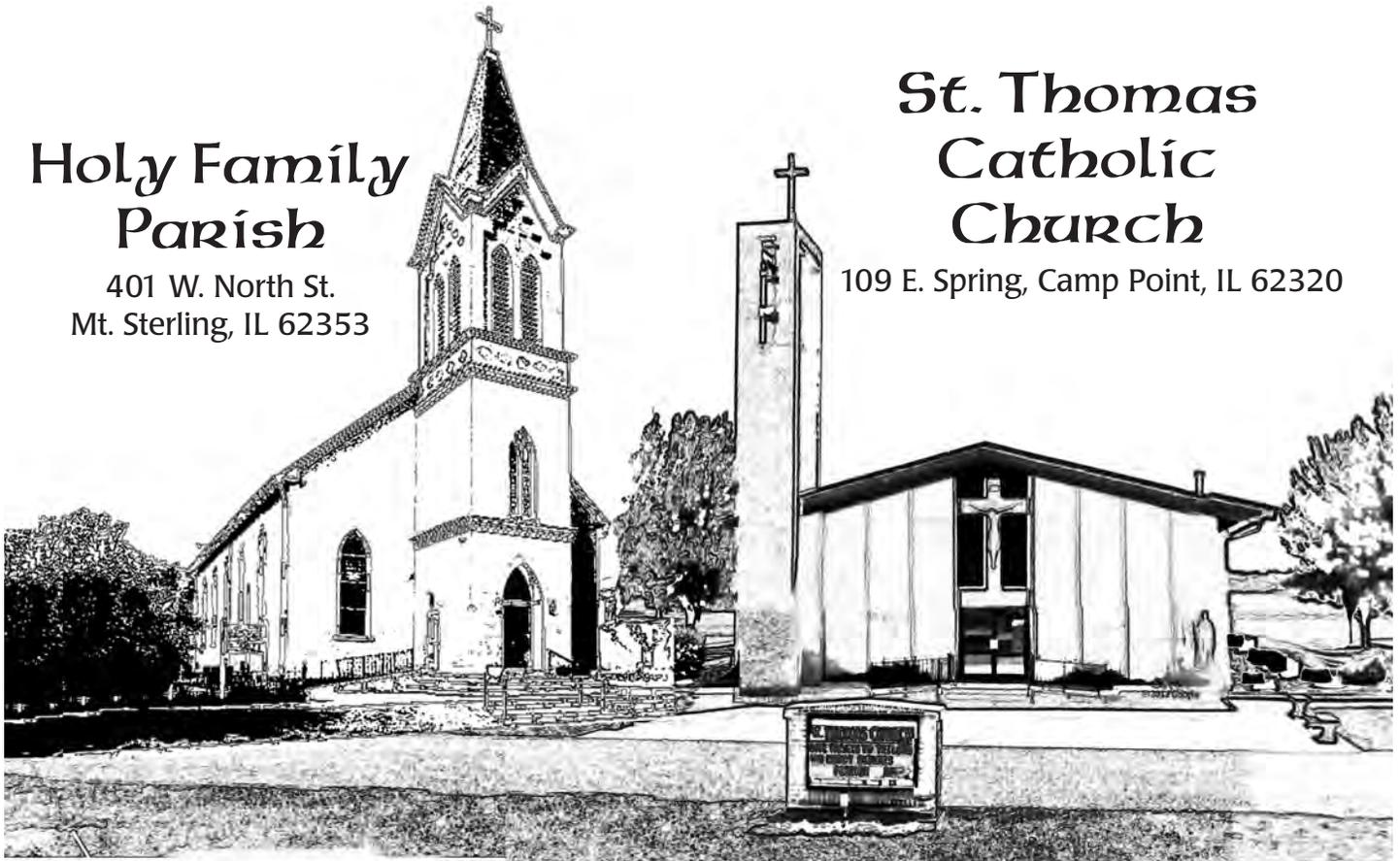


# Holy Family Parish

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, September 25 – 7:00 a.m.

Ezra 1:1-6; Luke 8:16-18

Communion Service

### Tuesday, September 26 – 7:00 a.m.

Sts. Cosmos & Damien, Martyrs  
Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Luke 8:19-21

Beth Clark

(By John & Linda Colgan)

### Wednesday, September 27 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Vincent de Paul, Priest  
Ezra 9:5-9; Luke 9:1-6

Cameron Francis  
(By Mary Koch)

### Thursday, September 28 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Wenceslaus, Martyr; St. Lawrence Ruiz  
& Companions, Martyrs  
Haggai 1:1-8; Luke 9:7-9

Mary Kleinlein  
(By Barb Lehne)

### St. Thomas – 5:30 p.m.

Danny Seals  
(By the Family)

### Friday, September 29 – 8:30 a.m.

Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels  
Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; John 1:47-51

Elinor Davis  
(By Joe Ray & Family)

### Saturday, September 30 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church  
Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a; Luke 9:43b-45

Joe Ray  
(By Jim Ray)

### Sunday, October 1 – 8:00 a.m.

Respect Life Sunday  
Ezekiel 18:25-28; Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 21:28-32

Parishioners of Holy Family  
and St. Thomas

### St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Martha Koettters  
(By St. Thomas Men & Women's Society)

## HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

September 16-17, 2023

Holy Family: \$3,031.50

School Support: \$105.00

Sister Parish: \$62.00

ACSA/Parish Tithe: \$250.00

Solidarity Fund – Africa: \$155.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

## ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

September 17, 2023

St. Thomas: \$1,903.00

Sister Parish: \$20.00

Candle Money: \$23.00

Solidarity Fund – Africa: \$110.00

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 † 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 † Katie Dunbar †

Alan Bowen †

## ST. THOMAS

40 Days for Life Prayer campaign will be from  
September 27 to November 5.

There will be a sign up for prayers each day in  
the back of St. Thomas Church.

Respect for Life Dinner is Thursday October 12,  
2023, Quincy. Steve Karlen, Campaign Director  
for 40 Days for Life, is this year's speaker.  
Father and Claudia Coggeshall are both  
sponsoring tables this year.

Please consider joining us for an evening of  
motivation and learning more about the  
Pro-Life movement.

Contact Father or Claudia 217-653-6716, if you  
are interested.

## ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

*October 1, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.*

<b>Sacristan:</b>	Jim Clausius
<b>Greeters:</b>	Andrew & Amanda Llewellyn Family
<b>Lector:</b>	Karen Janssen
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	Maurice & Clara Schmidt
<b>Eucharistic Minister:</b>	Jerry Herkert
<b>Collection Counters:</b>	Robin Coggeshall
<b>Ushers:</b>	Alex Mock and Jerel Mock

## From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time. Our Gospel for today is a very familiar one, probably because it is a difficult one for most of us to really embrace. It's not fair, many will say. Yet, as we come to know God's great love and also His great generosity, we can come to have an even greater appreciation for the parable in today's Gospel. Let us pray that we can exclude any jealousy or envy from our lives and fill them rather with gratitude to God for all that He gives...to us and to all others!

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Tuesday, September 26 - Optional memorial of Saints Cosmas and Damien, Martyrs. Cosmas and Damian were brother physicians known as "moneyless ones" for their gratuitous care of the sick. They are mentioned in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I). They were martyred around the year 300 at Cyrrhus in Syria and are the patrons of physicians, surgeons, druggists, barbers, and the blind. Saints Cosmas and Damian, Pray for us!

-Wednesday, September 27 – Obligatory Memorial of St. Vincent de Paul, Priest. Vincent de Paul was born in Pouy and is known to have reformed the clergy and defended the poor and the abandoned. He founded the Congregation of the Missions (Vincentians) which today number about three thousand eight hundred members. With St. Louise de Marillac, he also founded the Daughters of Charity. Vincent de Paul is also known to have preached against Jansenism. Vincent de Paul died in Paris in 1660 and is the patron of charities, hospitals, prisoners, and Madagascar.

“The deathbed confession of a dying servant opened Vincent de Paul’s eyes to the crying spiritual needs of the peasantry of France. This seems to have been a crucial moment in the life of the man from a small farm in Gascony, France, who had become a priest with little more ambition than to have a comfortable life.

The Countess de Gondi—whose servant he had helped—persuaded her husband to endow and support a group of able and zealous missionaries who would work among poor tenant farmers and country people in general. Vincent was too humble to accept leadership at first, but after working for some time in Paris among imprisoned galley slaves, he returned to be the leader of what is now known as the Congregation of the Mission, or the Vincentians. These priests, with vows of poverty, chastity, obedience, and stability, were to devote themselves entirely to the people in smaller towns and villages.

Later, Vincent established confraternities of charity for the spiritual and physical relief of the poor and sick of each parish. From these, with the help of Saint Louise de Marillac, came the Daughters of Charity, “whose convent is the sickroom, whose chapel is the parish church, whose cloister is the streets of the city.” He organized the rich women of Paris to collect funds for his missionary projects, founded several hospitals, collected relief funds for the victims of war, and ransomed over 1,200 galley slaves from North Africa. He was zealous in conducting retreats for clergy at a time when there was great laxity, abuse, and

ignorance among them. He was a pioneer in clerical training and was instrumental in establishing seminaries.

Most remarkably, Vincent was by temperament a very irascible person—even his friends admitted it. He said that except for the grace of God he would have been “hard and repulsive, rough and cross.” But he became a tender and affectionate man, very sensitive to the needs of others.

Pope Leo XIII made him the patron of all charitable societies. Outstanding among these, of course, is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, founded in 1833 by his admirer Blessed Frédéric Ozanam.

The Church is for all God’s children, rich and poor, peasants and scholars, the sophisticated and the simple. But obviously the greatest concern of the Church must be for those who need the most help—those made helpless by sickness, poverty, ignorance, or cruelty. Vincent de Paul is a particularly appropriate patron for all Christians today, when hunger has become starvation, and the high living of the rich stands in more and more glaring contrast to the physical and moral degradation in which many of God’s children are forced to live.” (Franciscan Media)

St. Vincent de Paul, Pray for us!

-Thursday, September 28 – Optional memorials of St. Wenceslaus, Martyr and St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs.

Wenceslaus was the duke of Bohemia and sought to bring the faith to his people. He was killed by his pagan brother, Boleslaus in 929 at the age of twenty-two. He is the patron of the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

“If saints have been falsely characterized as “other worldly,” the life of Wenceslaus stands as an example to the contrary: He stood for Christian values in the midst of the political intrigues which characterized 10th-century Bohemia.

Wenceslaus was born in 907 near Prague, son of the Duke of Bohemia. His saintly grandmother, Ludmilla, raised him and sought to promote him as ruler of Bohemia in place of his mother, who favored the anti-Christian factions. Ludmilla was eventually

murdered, but rival Christian forces enabled Wenceslaus to assume leadership of the government.

His rule was marked by efforts toward unification within Bohemia, support of the Church, and peace-making negotiations with Germany, a policy which caused him trouble with the anti-Christian opposition. His brother Boleslav joined in the plotting, and in September of 929 invited Wenceslaus to Alt Bunclou for the celebration of the feast of Saints Cosmas and Damian. On the way to Mass, Boleslav attacked his brother, and in the struggle, Wenceslaus was killed by supporters of Boleslav.

“Good King Wenceslaus” was able to incarnate his Christianity in a world filled with political unrest. While we are often victims of violence of a different sort, we can easily identify with his struggle to bring harmony to society. The call to become involved in social change and in political activity is addressed to Christians; the values of the Gospel are sorely needed today.”  
(Franciscan Media)

St. Wenceslaus, Pray for us!

St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions were martyred between 1633 and 1637 in Nagasaki, Japan. After enduring horrible tortures, their bodies were burned and their ashes scattered by order of the ruler, Tokugawa Yemitsu. Lawrence and his companions were canonized October 18, 1987.

“Lorenzo [Lawrence] was born in Manila of a Chinese father and a Filipino mother, both Christians. Thus, he learned Chinese and Tagalog from them, and Spanish from the Dominicans whom he served as altar boy and sacristan. He became a professional calligrapher, transcribing documents in beautiful penmanship. He was a full member of the Confraternity of the Holy Rosary under Dominican auspices. He married and had two sons and a daughter.

Lorenzo’s life took an abrupt turn when he was accused of murder. Nothing further is known except the statement of two Dominicans that “he was sought by the authorities on account of a homicide to which he was present, or which was attributed to him.”

At that time, three Dominican priests, Antonio Gonzalez, Guillermo Courtet, and Miguel de Aozaraza, were about to sail to Japan in spite of a violent persecution there. With them was a Japanese priest, Vicente Shiwozuka de la Cruz, and a layman named Lazaro, a leper. Lorenzo, having taken asylum with them, was allowed to accompany them. But only when they were at sea did he learn that they were going to Japan.

They landed in Okinawa. In Japan they were soon found out, arrested, and taken to Nagasaki. The site of wholesale bloodshed when the atomic bomb was dropped had known tragedy before. The 50,000 Catholics who once lived there were dispersed or killed by persecution.

They were subjected to an unspeakable kind of torture: After huge quantities of water were forced down their throats, they were made to lie down. Long boards were placed on their stomachs and guards then stepped on the ends of the boards, forcing the water to spurt violently from mouth, nose and ears.

The superior, Fr. Gonzalez, died after some days. Both Fr. Shiwozuka and Lazaro broke under torture, which included the insertion of bamboo needles under their fingernails. But both were brought back to courage by their companions.

In Lorenzo’s moment of crisis, he asked the interpreter, “I would like to know if, by apostatizing, they will spare my life.” The interpreter was noncommittal, but in the ensuing hours Lorenzo felt his faith grow strong. He became bold, even audacious, with his interrogators.

The five were put to death by being hanged upside down in pits. Boards fitted with semi-circular holes were fitted around their waists and stones put on top to increase the pressure. They were tightly bound, to slow circulation and prevent a speedy death. They were allowed to hang for three days. By that time Lorenzo and Lazaro were dead. Still alive, the three priests were then beheaded.

In 1987, Pope John Paul II canonized these six and 10 others: Asians and Europeans, men and women, who spread the

faith in the Philippines, Formosa, and Japan. Lorenzo Ruiz is the first canonized Filipino martyr.

We ordinary Christians of today—how would we stand up in the circumstances these martyrs faced? We sympathize with the two who temporarily denied the faith. We understand Lorenzo’s terrible moment of temptation. But we see also the courage—unexplainable in human terms—which surged from their store of faith. Martyrdom, like ordinary life, is a miracle of grace.” (Franciscan Media)

St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Pray for us!

-Friday, September 29 - Feast of Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels. These Biblical messengers signify God’s transcendence and loving care. Michael means “Who is like God?” and is patron of security forces and the sick. Gabriel means “God’s Strength” and is patron of telecommunications and the postal service. Raphael means “God’s Remedy” and is patron of travelers and the blind.

“Each of the archangels performs a different mission in Scripture: Michael protects; Gabriel announces; Raphael guides. Earlier belief that inexplicable events were due to the actions of spiritual beings has given way to a scientific worldview and a different sense of cause and effect. Yet believers still experience God’s protection, communication, and guidance in ways which defy description. We cannot dismiss angels too lightly.” (Franciscan Media)

Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels, Pray for us!

-Saturday, September 30 - Obligatory Memorial of St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church. Jerome was a devoted monk and ascetic from Dalmatia. He authored the Latin translation of the Bible and wrote numerous commentaries on it. He is one of the Four Great Doctors of the church. Jerome died in 420 in Bethlehem and is patron of Scripture Scholars.

“Most of the saints are remembered for some outstanding virtue or devotion which they practiced, but Jerome is frequently

remembered for his bad temper! It is true that he had a very bad temper and could use a vitriolic pen, but his love for God and his son Jesus Christ was extraordinarily intense; anyone who taught error was an enemy of God and truth, and Saint Jerome went after him or her with his mighty and sometimes sarcastic pen.

He was, above all, a Scripture scholar, translating most of the Old Testament from the Hebrew. Jerome also wrote commentaries which are a great source of scriptural inspiration for us today. He was an avid student, a thorough scholar, a prodigious letter-writer and a consultant to monk, bishop, and pope. Saint Augustine said of him, “What Jerome is ignorant of, no mortal has ever known.”

Saint Jerome is particularly important for having made a translation of the Bible which came to be called the Vulgate. It is not the most critical edition of the Bible, but its acceptance by the Church was fortunate. As a modern scholar says, “No man before Jerome or among his contemporaries and very few men for many centuries afterwards were so well qualified to do the work.” The Council of Trent called for a new and corrected edition of the Vulgate and declared it the authentic text to be used in the Church.

In order to be able to do such work, Jerome prepared himself well. He was a master of Latin, Greek, Hebrew, and Chaldaic. He began his studies at his birthplace, Stridon in Dalmatia. After his preliminary education, he went to Rome, the center of learning at that time, and thence to Trier, Germany, where the scholar was very much in evidence. He spent several years in each place, always trying to find the very best teachers. He once served as private secretary to Pope Damasus.

After these preparatory studies, he traveled extensively in Palestine, marking each spot of Christ’s life with an outpouring of devotion. Mystic that he was, he spent five years in the desert of Chalcis so that he might give himself up to prayer, penance, and study. Finally, he settled in Bethlehem, where he lived in the cave believed to have been the birthplace of Christ. Jerome died in Bethlehem, and the remains of his body

now lie buried in the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome.

Jerome was a strong, outspoken man. He had the virtues and the unpleasant fruits of being a fearless critic and all the usual moral problems of a man. He was, as someone has said, no admirer of moderation whether in virtue or against evil. He was swift to anger, but also swift to feel remorse, even more severe on his own shortcomings than on those of others. A pope is said to have remarked on seeing a picture of Jerome striking his breast with a stone, "You do well to carry that stone, for without it the Church would never have canonized you" (Butler's Lives of the Saints)." (Franciscan Media)

St. Jerome, Pray for us!

-AREA WIDE MASS - The Area Wide Mass with Bishop Paprocki is this Tuesday, September 26, 9:30 a.m. at Quincy Notre Dame High School. Many of our St. Mary School students will be there, I will be there and concelebrate the Mass, and everyone is invited. I encourage you to join us if you can.

-DCCW CONVENTION - Wednesday, September 27, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Griffin High School's West Campus in Springfield.

-BAPTISM - Last Saturday evening, September 16, at the Vigil Mass at Holy Family, I celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism for Lillian Margaret Shoopman, daughter of Bret and Victoria Shoopman. Congratulations to Lillian and her family. It is a great joy to have celebrated the Baptism and to bring Lillian into the Church.

-SCHOOL COOK SUB - We are looking for a school cook sub at St. Mary School. If you are interested or know someone who might be and to find out more, contact our School Principal, Mrs. Melissa Obert (217)-773-2825 or [mobert@smseagle.org](mailto:mobert@smseagle.org). I appreciate your consideration for this.

-RESPECT LIFE DINNER - The annual Right to Life of Adams County Respect Life Dinner is Thursday, October 12 at the Holiday Inn in Quincy. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

I am planning to attend. Therefore, there will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament or Mass that evening at St. Thomas. I am also considering purchasing a table for this event. If you are interested in going, please let me know.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. You remain in my daily prayers. May you have a blessed week!

-Fr. Aaron

### HOLY FAMILY BOSCO KIDS AND RCIA

**Bosco Kids** - Bosco Kids meets on Wednesday nights from 6:15 -7:30.

Linda Howard is teaching 3rd grade and Hannah Howard is teaching 2nd grade. The class schedule may vary each week

Ann O'Sullivan and Kriss Johnson are teaching 4th-6th grades on Monday nights from 6-7 p.m.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

**RCIA** - RCIA classes are for those interested in learning more about the Catholic religion and/or coming into the Catholic Church. Please let me or Father Aaron know if you are interested in attending these classes or have any questions about the Catholic Faith.

Blessings to you all this week.

### HOLY FAMILY YOUTH GROUP

Thanks for all that attended the Comedian with us on Sunday, September 17. It was a great time!

#### Next Meetings:

October 1- Youth Group at KC Hall- 6 p.m-7:30 p.m.

October 29- Fall Party- Hayrack ride, bonfire and fun! Event will be held at Kent and Leigh Ann's House. More details as we get closer.

November 5- Service at Holy Family Turkey Dinner



If you are interested in attending Catholic Heart Work Camp this upcoming summer, please email Melissa at [mobert@smseagle.org](mailto:mobert@smseagle.org) or call 217-773-2825. CHWC is for students entering 8th grade or older. The location for next summer and the number of students attending must be decided by the beginning of October!! Contact Melissa TODAY!!!

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