

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

<u>Monday, March 18 – 7:00 a.m.</u>

Isaiah 65:17-21; John 4:43-54

Communion Service

Tuesday, March 19 - 7:00 a.m.

Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; John 5:1-26

Brian Husted (By Martha Fluckey)

Wednesday, March 20 - 5:30 p.m.

Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30

Dr. Robert Henson (By Matt Heldt)

Thursday, March 21 - 7:00 a.m.

Exodus 32:7-14; John 5:31-47

James J. Wort (By Paul & Charlotte Koch)

Holy Family - 8:30 a.m. (School Mass)

Father Aaron's Intentions

St. Thomas - 5:30 p.m.

Barb Kuhn (By Collette Schwartz)

Friday, March 22 - 8:30 a.m. (School Mass)

Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22; John 7:1-2, 10:25-30

Janet Yakle (By Dan & Jo Geisler)

Saturday, March 23 - 5:30 p.m.

Jeremiah 11:18-20; John 7:40-53

Jennifer Volk (By the Family)

Sunday, March 24 - 8:00 a.m.

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-33

Parishioners of Holy Family and St. Thomas

St. Thomas - 10:00 a.m.

Josephine Simmons Wodall (By Chuck & Sally Simmons)

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

March 9-10, 2024

Holy Family: \$3,027.00 School Support: \$1,170.00 Sister Parish: \$275.00 Cemetery: \$20.00 ACSA/Parish Tithe: \$200.00 Catholic Relief Services: \$420.00 Easter: \$20.00 Good Friday: \$20.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

March 10, 2024

St. Thomas: \$2,409.00 Sister Parish: \$120.00 Catholic Charities: \$25.00 Catholic Relief Services: \$160.00 Flowers: \$406.00 Candles: \$41.00

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:

Jeff Kozak † Jim Duvendack † Marilyn Clark †
Dan Ray † Sheila Thompson † Luke Coggeshall†
Linda VanGiesen † Logan Wilson †

ST. THOMAS

Please join our choir practices to prepare for Easter. All are welcome. Practices are Wednesday March 20 and 27 at 5:30 p.m. at the church.

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

March 24, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Jonah Coggeshall Greeters: Maurice & Clara

Schmidt

Lector: David Leezer

Gift Bearers: Matt & Laura Evans

Family

Eucharistic Minister: Pat Sharow/Jerry

Herkert

Collection Counters: Robin Coggeshall Ushers: Jerel Mock, Alex Mock

From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Fifth Sunday of Lent and we are now just a week away from the start of Holy Week. For many of us, the Lenten season has probably seemed to be going rather quickly. We may even be planning our Easter celebrations already. And while it's good for us to look forward to our celebration of the Paschal Mystery and the joy of Easter we're also reminded that we remain in the season of Lent, we remain on our Lenten journey to the Paschal Mystery. We're reminded that we still have work to do, today, this week. And that work can't be neglected.

Our readings for today (those from Year B which will be heard on Sunday at our parishes, Year A will be heard at the Saturday Evening Vigil Mass with the celebration of the Third and final Scrutiny) remind us that the grain of wheat must die to produce fruit. Such dying must be cultivated by obedience and by our covenant with God, rooted in love and forgiveness.

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK – This week, outside of our regular Lenten weekday celebrations, we have only one other celebration which is a Solemnity.

-Tuesday, March 19 – Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Solemnities are the highest celebrations in the Church. St. Joseph is so significant to us that the Church also celebrates an optional memorial for him on May 1 as St. Joseph the Worker.

St. Joseph has been honored on March 19 since the end of the tenth century. He was declared Patron of the Universal Church in 1870 by Pope Pius IX and Guardian of the redeemer in 1989 by Pope John Paul II. He is the Patron of workers, carpenters, families, and of fathers as well as a number of countries. St. Joseph is mentioned in Eucharistic Prayers I-IV.

"The Bible pays Joseph the highest compliment: he was a 'just' man. The quality meant a lot more than faithfulness in paying debts.

When the Bible speaks of God 'justifying' someone, it means that God, the all-holy or 'righteous' one, so transforms a person that the individual shares somehow in God's own holiness, and hence it is really 'right' for God to love him or her. In other words, God is not playing games, acting as if we were lovable when we are not.

By saying Joseph was 'just,' the Bible means that he was one who was completely open to all that God wanted to do for him. He became holy by opening himself totally to God.

The rest we can easily surmise. Think of the kind of love with which he wooed and won Mary, and the depth of the love they shared during their marriage.

It is no contradiction of Joseph's manly holiness that he decided to divorce Mary when she was found to be with child. The important words of the Bible are that he planned to do this 'quietly' because he was 'a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame' (Matthew 1:19).

The just man was simply, joyfully, wholeheartedly obedient to God—in marrying Mary, in naming Jesus, in shepherding the precious pair to Egypt, in bringing them to Nazareth, in the undetermined number of years of quiet faith and courage.

The Bible tells us nothing of Joseph in the years after the return to Nazareth except the incident of finding Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41–51). Perhaps this can be taken to mean that God wants us to realize that the holiest family was like every other family, that

the circumstances of life for the holiest family were like those of every family, so that when Jesus' mysterious nature began to appear, people couldn't believe that He came from such humble beginnings: 'Is he not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother named Mary...?' (Matthew 13:55a). It was almost as indignant as 'Can anything good come from Nazareth?' (John 1:46b). (Franciscan Media)

St. Joseph, Pray for us!

You might recall that in the past, I have had a St. Joseph Table in conjunction with the celebration. I am hoping to have a little something after the 7:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Family that day in the rectory so plan to join us if you can for this Solemnity and celebration. I am also planning to do something special in the school that day to emphasize the Solemnity.

-MONTH OF ST. JOSEPH - I failed to mention in the previous March bulletins that the Church traditionally dedicates the month of March to the special veneration of St. Joseph, whose feast day is March 19. "He was chosen by the eternal Father as the trustworthy guardian and protector of His greatest treasures, namely, His Divine Son and Mary, Joseph's wife," says St. Bernardine of Siena. "He carried out this vocation with complete fidelity until at last God called him, saying 'Good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord." Due to St. Joseph's leadership of the Holy Family, he has been declared the protector and patron of the universal Catholic Church.

-THIRD SCRUTINY - This weekend we celebrate the Third and final Scrutiny for those who will be receiving all three Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. I spoke more about the Scrutinies in previous bulletins. After the Third Scrutiny, the Elect are be presented with a copy of the Lord's Prayer. We continue to look forward to their Full Initiation into the Church at the Easter Vigil. Please keep the Elect and all those coming into the Church in your prayers.

As was the case last week, this week we have the option of using the readings from Year A or Year B. At the Mass with the Third Scrutiny we use the readings from Year A. For the other Masses, we use the readings from Year B. Again, I spoke more about that in previous bulletins.

-ST. PATRICK'S DAY – March 17 is traditionally celebrated as St. Patrick's Day. Since it falls on a Sunday this year, there is no Liturgical celebration of St. Patrick. Still, many will be celebrating their Irish Heritage...even those who aren't Irish. And who doesn't love some good corned beef and cabbage.

For those looking for some corned beef and cabbage, St. Rose in Quincy is serving their St. Patrick's Day Dinner this Sunday, March 17, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., drive through only.

-LENTEN REGULATIONS – The following are the very minimum we are obliged to follow for the Lenten Season and Paschal Triduum. While the following are strictly necessary, we should always strive to do more in our life of sacrifice and holiness.

- 1. ABSTINENCE Everyone 14 years of age and over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday.
- 2. FAST Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 is required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is permitted. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength may be taken according to each person's needs, but together these two should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids (including milk and fruit juices) are allowed.
- 3. TO DISREGARD COMPLETELY THE LAW OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE IS SERIOUSLY SINFUL.

-EVENING MASSES DURING LENT – Wednesday evenings, 5:30 p.m. at Holy Family (There will be no 7:00 a.m. Mass on Wednesdays during Lent). Thursday evenings, 5:30 p.m. at St. Thomas (this is all year at St. Thomas).

-ADDITIONAL CONFESSION TIMES – I will be offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation before each of the evening Masses during Lent...Wednesday evenings, 4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at Holy Family and Thursday evenings, 4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at St. Thomas. Please note the slight time adjustment in order to allow time for Benediction.

I am happy to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with you anytime by

appointment so please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

I can also celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with you during times of Adoration if I am present. If I am not already in the Confessional, just come to me and let me know you'd like to celebrate the Sacrament.

-STATIONS OF THE CROSS – Wednesday evenings after the 5:30 p.m. Mass at Holy Family. Friday evenings, 6:00 p.m. at St. Thomas.

-ANNIVERSARIES – As I mentioned in last week's bulletin, Tuesday, March 19 marks the Anniversary of the Installation of Pope Francis, Supreme Pontiff of the Universal Church in 2013.

Tuesday, March 19 also marks the Anniversary of the Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Paprocki in 2003. This is not when he was named Bishop of our Diocese but rather when he was Ordained Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago. Bishop Paprocki was named Bishop of our Diocese in 2010. In June of that year, he was installed as Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois. He was not ordained that year since Episcopal (meaning the Order of Bishop) Ordination (like Diaconate or Priestly Ordination) can only happen once.

Please keep Pope Francis and Bishop Paprocki and all Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Seminarians and Diaconate Aspirants and Candidates in your prayers.

-SACRED TRIDUUM & EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE – Following is the anticipated schedule for the Sacred Triduum and Easter Sunday at both parishes:

At Holy Family:

- -Holy Thursday 7:00 p.m.
- -Good Friday 11:00 a.m. Stations of the Cross; 5:30 p.m. Services
- -Holy Saturday 7:30 p.m. Vigil
- -Easter Sunday 6:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.

At St. Thomas:

- -Holy Thursday 5:15 p.m.
- -Good Friday 3:00 p.m.
- -No Easter Vigil at St. Thomas
- -Easter Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Please consider keeping this schedule handy somewhere for your reference. I will try to get small cards printed with this information once again to have in the back of each church with the schedule so that you can take them for yourself or hand out to others.

The times are varied, I know, as I try to accommodate both parishes while keeping in mind what the Church intends.

-HOLY THURSDAY - I need to have at least 2 people (or 2 couples/families) sign up to be present with the Blessed Sacrament after the Masses at both parishes on Holy Thursday night. Of course, anyone is both welcome and encouraged to spend some time in prayer that evening in the Church but since I will be having Mass at both parishes, it will be necessary to make sure there is someone always present with the Blessed Sacrament as I cannot be at both places the entire time. I will put a sign-up sheet in the back of each Church. For St. Thomas. I will need folks starting at about 6:30 p.m. through 11 p.m.. At Holy Family, I will need folks from about 8:00 p.m. through Midnight. Again, I encourage everyone to spend some time that evening in prayer with the Blessed Sacrament but am asking that I have at least 2 people at all times who can sign up for an hour and commit to being present. If you miss the sign-up sheet, just give me a call at the rectory (217)-773-3233.

-CCW MEETING – All ladies of the parishes, mark your calendars and plan to attend the next Quincy Deanery Council of Catholic Women meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 3 at St. Mary Parish in Pittsfield. The day will begin with Mass at 8:30 a.m. with opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration, Praying of the Holy Rosary, and Confession. There will, of course, be the regular meeting and a luncheon provided. Sign-up sheets are now in the back of each Church. Please sign up to help plan for the luncheon and set-up.

Again, I want to encourage all ladies to attend and participate. It's always a good day with good information shared and an opportunity to deepen your own Spiritual life. It's also a great opportunity to spend time and get to know other ladies in the Deanery. This next meeting will have focus on the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Any questions, contact myself or Claudia Coggeshall, current President of the Quincy Deanery Council of catholic Women.

-VOCATIONS – At our Spring Priest Meeting that our Diocese recently had, there was an emphasis on Vocations, deliberately praying for and promoting good, holy, and authentic Vocations. This is so important to each one of us and each of us is responsible for Vocations in some way or another.

Sometimes we think of Vocations only to the Priesthood or Religious Life. These, of course, are important. Sometimes folks will associate Vocations with careers. One's career is also important and generally good but it is not a Vocation, not in the sense of how the Church speaks of Vocation.

Vocation involves how God calls a person to a particular state in life, in particular, Priesthood, Diaconate, Religious Life (Religious Brother or Sister), Sacramental Marriage, and Single Life. Within that call, God then calls us to work in various ways to live that out faithfully.

The only way one can find true joy and happiness and fullness of life here on this earth is by conforming his or her will to the Will of God. That includes first of all knowing and following one's Vocation.

Make no doubt about it, God continues to call men and women to these Vocations. Many are called to Sacramental Marriage, a few to Single Life, and some to the Clerical State (Priest or Deacon) or Religious Life (Religious Brother of Sister). Our culture is aggressively against and even hostile toward these authentic Vocations and this must be recovered.

Again, Vocations is everyone's responsibility. All too often we think it is for someone else to worry about. As a parish, we will begin to, in a very deliberate way, to pray for and promote Vocations. As we do so, I ask you to certainly pray for good and holy Vocations and to also consider how you might be able to encourage and cultivate Vocations.

Also consider how you might be an obstacle to Vocations. None of us really want to do that or admit to it but if a young man expresses interest in the Priesthood or a young woman wanting to be a Religious Sister, do we encourage that or do we remain obstinate toward it? What about your own son or

daughter or grandchildren...is that Vocation a possibility for them or only for "someone else?" Do you let the passing things of this world stand in the way of authentic Vocations?

As parents, do you teach your children about the Sanctity of Marriage and insist on Sacramental Marriage in the Church? Does your own Marriage reflect that holiness?

Do you encourage and cultivate Vocations in your family? Families are the seedbed of Vocations. It is from families that Vocations are born and must be nurtured or else they die.

Ways to cultivate those Vocations in your family include prayer as a family, every single day...meal prayers, of course, but how about praying the Rosary every day and/or the Divine Mercy Chaplet, praying a Morning Offering every morning as a family?

Cultivate Vocations also by participating in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation as we are called to do and which is seriously sinful to purposely not. Our actions here speak volumes...going to Mass without exception every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation tells your children and others that no matter what, this is both important and necessary. Going to Mass only occasionally or when we feel like it or when we have time tells your children and others that it isn't really important, that God can come second (or third or fourth), that what God calls us to we don't have to pay attention to, and that serious sin is not so threatening to our salvation. It may sound crazy when we actually verbalize it that way because indeed it is.

Cultivate Vocations also by spending some time in Eucharistic Adoration with your family and by placing God first and foremost among everything else in our lives.

Some may say this sounds good but it's just not possible, Father...you don't understand. It's hard.

Of course it's hard! And I do understand the struggles of the Spiritual Life...it is a battle for sure, often a difficult battle...a battle against evil and one where our eternal salvation is at stake. The question is why wouldn't we do all that the Lord has called us to do so that we can persevere? Why wouldn't we engage in those things that strengthen our Spiritual Life and aid us in the battle?

And I also understand that God never calls us to do what is impossible for us to do. He gives us all that we need to do it. We make excuses, we make gods out of other things in our lives, we blame others. But God never calls us to that which is impossible for us and gives us all that we need to conform our will to His.

-DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - Divine Mercy Sunday is always the Sunday after Easter. This year it will be celebrated on April 7. Please mark your calendars for the Divine Mercy Sunday celebration that is being planned at Holy Family that Sunday afternoon. We will have Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a talk on Divine Mercy, praying of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and a brief overview on celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation and an Examination of Conscience. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available.

Since the promises of Divine Mercy involve Sacramental Confession and the reception of Holy Communion that day, I am looking at the possibility of also celebrating Mass at the conclusion. More details on the afternoon and on Divine Mercy to follow but please plan now to join us. We are also looking to have a little something in the school cafeteria, perhaps light refreshments, when we finish.

As I continue to keep you in my prayers each day, I thank you for your continued prayers for me, one another, our parishes and school, and the Universal Church. May you have a most blessed week!

Fr. Aaron

HOLY FAMILY CHOIR PRACTICE

Please join our choir practices to prepare for Easter. All are welcome. Practices are Wednesdays after Mass and stations.

Quincy Deanery DCCW

For All Women: The flyer and sign-up sheet for the next Quincy Deanery DCCW for our Spring gathering Wednesday, April 3, 2024, in Pittsfield can be found in your church lobby.

Our theme for this gathering is Confession: Mercy, Justice, and Forgiveness. We learn, pray, and gather new information and ideas to take back to our parishes and families and in the process make new friends and further our Faith. Bring along a friend to spend the day with us in Historic Pittsfield. The sign-up sheet gives our host church an idea on how many to plan for lunch.

Our Lady of Good Counsel is our Spiritual Director and has led us in all our gatherings. Please come and find out what Our Lady is calling you to. Please call 217-653-6716 with any questions you might have.

Claudia Coggeshall

-President of Quincy DCCW

EASTER FLOWERS

Holy Family Women's Guild is accepting donations for Easter flowers in memory of loved ones. Donations may be placed in the collection (checks should be made payable to Holy Family Women's Guild). Please include a note with the name of your loved ones.

POT OF GOLD

March Pot of Gold winners are:

\$200.00 - Pat & Jane Tracy

\$100.00 - Bob Blentlinger

\$50.00 - Erin Sinnett

\$50.00 - Jeff Kassing

\$50.00 - Patty Koch

\$50.00 - Mary Hill

REPORTING ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

To report allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by clergy or other church personnel -- even if it is in the past -- individuals are encouraged to call the Diocese's Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation number at 217.321.1155. Individuals may also contact Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.25.ABUSE."



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