

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 Paul Koch 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, April 29 - 7:00 a.m.

St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doctor of the Church Acts of the Apostles 14:5-18; John 14:21-26

### Communion Service

# Tuesday, April 30 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a

John Yeakel (By Jim & Carolyn Chaney)

Wednesday, May 1 – 7:00 a.m.

Acts of the Apostles 15:1-6; John 15:1-8

Pat Parker (By John & Carolyn Ormond)

## Thursday, May 2 - 7:00 a.m.

St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church Acts of the Apostles 15:7-21; John 15:9-11

> Barb Kuhn (By Jo Whewell)

# <u>St. Thomas – 5:30 p.m.</u>

Parishioners of Holy Family and St. Thomas

Friday, May 3 - 8:30 a.m. (School Mass)

Sts. Philip & James, Apostles 1 Corinthians 15:1-8; John 14:6-14

Floyd "Scottie" Blentlinger (By Jason, Adam & Rachel Volk)

**Saturday, May 4 – 5:30 p.m.** Acts of the Apostles 16:1-10; John 15:18-21

Parishioners of Holy Family and St. Thomas

## <u>Sunday, May 5 - 8:00 a.m.</u>

Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17

Jennifer Volk & Margie Dunn (By Doug & Dawn Dunn)

# <u>St. Thomas - 10:00 a.m.</u>

Curtis Boone (By Marvin Kuhn)

# HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

<u>April 20-21, 2024</u>

Holy Family: \$2,929.00 School Support: \$650.00 Sister Parish: \$55.00 Rice Bowl: \$10.00 Catholic Home Mission: \$25.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

<u>April 21, 2024</u>

St. Thomas: \$2,571.00

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 <u>tmckeown@smseagle.org</u> 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

## <u>Please keep the following in your prayers:</u>

Jeff Kozak † Jim Duvendack † Marilyn Clark † Sheila Thompson † Linda VanGiesen † Logan Wilson †

### ST. THOMAS

#### We will celebrate our parishioners who are graduating (8th grade, high school or college) at Mass SUNDAY-May 19 at 10:00 a.m.

If this is you, please reach out to Laura Evans either on Facebook or email (<u>levans@adams.net</u>) so we can include you in the bulletin! Also, if you would like to be a reader during mass or a gift bearer, please let her know as well! All graduates will serve as greeters so our parish family can congratulate you!!

Wear your cap and gown!!! You earned it!!

### ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

<u>May 5, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.</u>

Sacristan:	Jim Clausius
Greeters:	PSR
Lector:	PSR
Gift Bearers:	PSR
Eucharistic Minister:	Jim Clausius/
	Laura Evans
<b>Collection Counters:</b>	Jerel Mock Family
Ushers:	Elijah Perry, Tod Perry

#### From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Fifth Sunday of Easter. In our readings for today, Saul witnesses the Risen Jesus and boldly proclaims His Lordship. We too proclaim our belief in Jesus by our love for one another. He is the vine, and we are the branches. Together, let us praise His name!

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Monday, April 29 – Obligatory Memorial of St. Catherine of Sienna, Virgin and Doctor of the Church.

Catherine was an O.P. tertiary (Third Order of the Order of Preachers also known as the Dominicans), a mystic, and an author. She has come to be known as a peacemaker in the Church and one who renewed Religious Life. She died in 1380 and is patroness of Italy and, along with St. Bridget of Sweden and St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), is copatroness of Europe. She was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970. "The value Catherine makes central in her short life, and which sounds clearly and consistently through her experience is complete surrender to Christ. What is most impressive about her is that she learns to view her surrender to her Lord as a goal to be reached through time.

She was the 23rd child of Jacopo and Lapa Benincasa and grew up as an intelligent, cheerful, and intensely religious person. Catherine disappointed her mother by cutting off her hair as a protest against being overly encouraged to improve her appearance in order to attract a husband. Her father ordered her to be left in peace, and she was given a room of her own for prayer and meditation.

She entered the Dominican Third Order at 18 and spent the next three years in seclusion, prayer, and austerity. Gradually, a group of followers gathered around her—men and women, priests and religious. An active public apostolate grew out of her contemplative life. Her letters, mostly for spiritual instruction and encouragement of her followers, began to take more and more note of public affairs. Opposition and slander resulted from her mixing fearlessly with the world and speaking with the candor and authority of one completely committed to Christ. She was cleared of all charges at the Dominican General Chapter of 1374.

Her public influence reached great heights because of her evident holiness, her membership in the Dominican Third Order, and the deep impression she made on the pope. She worked tirelessly for the crusade against the Turks and for peace between Florence and the pope. In 1378, the Great Schism began, splitting the allegiance of Christendom between two, then three, popes and putting even saints on opposing sides. Catherine spent the last two years of her life in Rome, in prayer and pleading on behalf of the cause of Pope Urban VI and the unity of the Church. She offered herself as a victim for the Church in its agony. She died surrounded by her "children" and was canonized in 1461.

Catherine ranks high among the mystics and spiritual writers of the Church. In 1939, she and Francis of Assisi were declared copatrons of Italy. Pope Paul VI named her and Teresa of Avila doctors of the Church in 1970. Her spiritual testament is found in The Dialogue.

Though she lived her life in a faith experience and spirituality far different from that of our own time, Catherine of Siena stands as a companion with us on the Christian journey in her undivided effort to invite the Lord to take flesh in her own life. Events which might make us wince or chuckle or even yawn fill her biographies: a mystical experience at six, childhood betrothal to Christ, stories of harsh asceticism, her frequent ecstatic visions. Still, Catherine lived in an age which did not know the rapid change of 21st-century mobile America. The value of her life for us today lies in her recognition of holiness as a goal to be sought over the course of a lifetime." (Franciscan Media)

St. Catherine of Siena, Pray for us!

Tuesday, April 30 – Optional Memorial of St. Pius V, Pope.

A Dominican, Pope Pius V implemented the reforms of the Council of Trent and promulgated the Roman Catechism, the Roman Missal, and the Roman Breviary. He died on May 1, 1572.

"This is the pope whose job it was to implement the historic Council of Trent. If we think popes had difficulties in implementing Vatican Council II, Pius V had even greater problems after Trent four centuries earlier.

During his papacy (1566-1572), Pius V was faced with the almost overwhelming responsibility of getting a shattered and scattered Church back on its feet. The family of God had been shaken by corruption, by the Reformation, by the constant threat of Turkish invasion, and by the bloody bickering of the young nation-states. In 1545, a previous pope convened the Council of Trent in an attempt to deal with all these pressing problems. Off and on for over 18 years, the Fathers of the Church discussed, condemned, affirmed, and decided upon a course of action. The Council closed in 1563.

Pius V was elected in 1566 and charged with the task of implementing the sweeping reforms called for by the Council. He ordered the founding of seminaries for the proper training of priests. He published a new missal, a new breviary, a new catechism, and established the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine classes for the young. Pius zealously enforced legislation against abuses in the Church. He patiently served the sick and the poor by building hospitals, providing food for the hungry, and giving money customarily used for the papal banquets to poor Roman converts. His decision to keep wearing his Dominican habit led to the custom-to this day-of the pope wearing a white cassock.

In striving to reform both Church and state, Pius encountered vehement opposition from England's Queen Elizabeth and the Roman Emperor Maximilian II. Problems in France and in the Netherlands also hindered Pius's hopes for a Europe united against the Turks. Only at the last minute was he able to organize a fleet which won a decisive victory in the Gulf of Lepanto, off Greece, on October 7, 1571. [though I do not have the space now to go into it here. I remind you that I have mentioned in previous bulletins of how The Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title of Our Lady of The Rosary, was invoked at the battle of Lepanto and is honored as having brought about the victory through Her intercession.]

Pius' ceaseless papal quest for a renewal of the Church was grounded in his personal life as a Dominican friar. He spent long hours with his God in prayer, fasted rigorously, deprived himself of many customary papal luxuries, and faithfully observed the spirit of the Dominican Rule that he had professed.

In their personal lives and in their actions as popes, Saint Pius V and Saint Paul VI both led the family of God in the process of interiorizing and implementing the new birth called for by the Spirit in major Councils. With zeal and patience, Pius and Paul pursued the changes urged by the Council Fathers. Like Pius and Paul, we too are called to constant change of heart and life." (Franciscan Media)

St. Pius V, Pray for us!

-Wednesday, May 1 – Optional memorial of St. Joseph the Worker.

"In an address to the Catholic Association of Italian Workers, May 1, 1955, Pope Pius XII proclaimed May 1 (May Day) the feast day of St. Joseph the Worker. He thus imparted special religious significance to an observance that had been strictly secular – the proper feast of labor throughout the world – and one that had been used by the enemies of the Church to further their evil designs.

Henceforth, May Day is to be 'a day of rejoicing for the concrete and progressive triumph of the Christian ideals of the great family of labor. Acclaimed in this way by Christian workers and having received as it were a Christian baptism, the first of May, far from being a stimulus for discord, hate, and violence, is and will be a recurring invitation to modern society to accomplish that which is still lacking for social peace.'

Thus, the humble carpenter of Nazareth, who was the support and guardian of the Divine Child and His Virgin Mother on earth, is now honored above all other men as the personification of the dignity of the manual laborer and the provident guardian of the worker's family.

Prayer: Lord God, you have created all things, and imposed on man the necessity of work. Grant that, following St. Joseph's example, and under his protection, we may accomplish the works you give us and obtain the rewards you promise. Amen." (Lives of the Saints, Catholic Book Publishing).

As a side, as many of you are aware, there is also the Solemnity of St. Joseph, the Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, normally celebrated on March 19.

St. Joseph the Worker, Pray for us!

Today is also designated Religious Brothers' Day, celebrating the life and vocation of the Religious Brother and honoring the important role Religious play in the life of the Catholic Church.

-Thursday, May 2 – Obligatory Memorial of St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church. Athanasius led a tumultuous but dedicated life of service to the Church. He was the great champion of the faith against the widespread heresy of Arianism, the teaching by Arius that Jesus was not truly divine. The vigor of his writings earned him the title of Doctor of the Church.

"St. Athanasius, the great champion of the faith, was born at Alexandria, about the year 296, of Christian parents. Educated under the eye of Alexander, later Bishop of his native city, he made great progress in learning and virtue. In 313, Alexander succeeded Achillas in the patriarchal See, and two years later St. Athanasius went to the desert to spend some time in retreat with St. Anthony.

In 319, he became a Deacon, and even in this capacity he was called upon to take an active part against the rising heresy of Arius, an ambitious priest of the Alexandrian Church who denied the Divinity of Christ. This was to be the life struggle of St. Athanasius.

In 325, he assisted his Bishop at the Council of Nicaea, where his influence began to be felt. Five months later, Alexander died; on his deathbed, he recommended St. Athanasius as his successor. In consequence of this Athanasius was unanimously elected Patriarch in 326.

His refusal to tolerate the Arian heresy was the cause of many trials and persecutions for St. Athanasius. He spent seventeen of the forty-six years of his episcopate in exile. After a life of virtue and suffering, this intrepid champion of the Catholic Faith, the greatest man of his time, died in peace on May 2, 373.

Prayer: Father, you gave us St. Athanasius, Your Bishop, to defend the Divinity of Your Son. Grant that we may enjoy his teaching and protection and grow continually in our knowledge and love of You. Amen." (Lives of Saints, Catholic Book Publishing)

St. Athanasius, Pray for us!

-Friday, May 3 – Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostles. Philp was from Bethsaida and among the first disciples called by Jesus. Tradition holds that he preached in Phrygia, dying on a cross at Hierapolis in the first century. Along with St. James, they are venerated as patron saints of Uruguay.

James, the son of Alphaeus was leader of the Jerusalem Church. St. James has an Epistle in Sacred Scripture ascribed to him. He is believed to have been beaten or stoned to death in the year 62. He is a patron of the dying and both he and St. Philip are mentioned in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer 1).

"St. Philip, a native of Bethsaida in Galilee, was called by our Lord the day after St. Peter and St. Andrew. We learn from tradition that he was then a married man, and that he had several daughters, three of whom reached eminent sanctity. Like the other Apostles, St. Philip left all things to follow Christ. His name is frequently mentioned in the Holy Gospels.

After the Ascension of his Divine Master, St. Philip preached the Gospel in that part of Asia Minor called Phrygia, which was then a province of the Roman Empire. It is supposed that he was buried at Hierapolis in Phrygia.

St. James the less, the author of the first catholic Epistle, was the son of Alphaeus of Cleophas. His mother Mary was either a sister or a close relative of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and for that reason, according to Jewish custom, he was sometimes called the brother of the Lord. The Apostle held a distinguished position in the early Christian community of Jerusalem. St. Paul tells us he was a witness of the resurrection of Christ; he is also called a 'pillar' of the Church, whom St. Paul consulted about the Gospel.

According to tradition, he was the first Bishop of Jerusalem, and was at the Council of Jerusalem about the year 50. The historians Eusebius and Hegesippus relate that St. James was martyred for the Faith by the Jews in the Spring of the year 62, although they greatly esteemed his person and had given him the surname of 'James the Just.'

Tradition has always recognized him as the author of the Epistle that bears his name. Internal evidence based on the language, style, and teaching of the Epistle reveals its author as a Jew familiar with the Old Testament, and a Christian thoroughly grounded in the teachings of the Gospel. External evidence from the early Fathers and Councils of the Church confirms its authenticity and canonicity.

The date of its writing cannot be determined exactly. According to some scholars it was written about the year 49 A.D. Others, however, claim it was written after St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans (composed during the winter of 57-58 A.D.). It was probably written between the years 60 and 62 A.D.

St. James address' himself to the 'twelve tribes that are in the Dispersion,' that is, to Christians outside Palestine; but nothing in the Epistle indicates that he is thinking only of Jewish Christians. St. James realizes full well the temptations and difficulties they encounter in the midst of paganism, and as a spiritual father he endeavors to guide and direct them in the Faith. Therefore, the burden of his discourse is an exhortation to practical Christian living.

Prayer: Lord God, we enjoy celebrating the annual Feast of your Apostles Sts. Philip and James. Through their prayers let us share in the Passion and the Resurrection of Your Son and help us merit Your eternal presence. Amen." (Lives of Saints, Catholic Book Publishing)

Saints Philip and James, Pray for us!

-POPE'S INTENTION FOR MAY – For the formation of Religious and Seminarians. We pray that Religious men and women, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual, and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

-MAY – The month of May has traditionally been known as the month of Mary. As such, I will be asking the music folks at both parishes once again to include Marian hymns for each Mass. These hymns are a rich treasure that we have in the Church.

We will also be having May Crownings at both parishes.

May Altars are also very much a tradition, especially in individual homes. I would encourage you to "build" your own May Altar at home for the month of May. A statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary along with flowers and perhaps a Rosary and whatever else to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. Be sure to pray together as a family as well, perhaps the Holy Rosary each evening, and to talk about Mary's great role in salvation history and how she is a both a perfect example for us in living our Christian lives and a great intercessor.

In addition to your May Altars in your homes, I will be setting up a May Altar in each parish church during May as well. Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us!

-JUBILEE CELEBRATION – On Wednesday, May 1, the priests of the Diocese will gather in Springfield for the annual Priest Jubilee Celebration. It begins in the afternoon with a Spiritual talk for the priests followed by Solemn Evening Prayer and then dinner with recognition of the priests celebrating significant Jubilees. I will try to include the names of this year's Jubilarians in next week's bulletin. We are grateful for the work they have done and continue to do, and I ask you to keep them in your prayers. I personally am especially grateful to share in the Priesthood of Jesus Christ with these men.

-FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTION – Friday, May 3 at St. Thomas. Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at noon. Confessions from 5:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m. Benediction at 5:45 p.m. and Mass at 6:00 p.m. As always, I encourage you to spend some time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and to join us for Mass and also to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly.

-GRANDPARENTS' DAY – Friday, May 3 we will be having Grandparents/Special Person Day at St. Mary School. It is always good to see so many join us for this day. I am grateful for the support of St. Mary School and for those who work so diligently to make this an extra special day.

-NOCTURNAL ADORATION – Beginning at 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 4 at Holy Family and going through the night. Benediction is at 7:45 a.m. followed by our regularly scheduled 8:00 a.m. Mass.

-DONUT SUNDAY – Next Sunday, May 5 is the first Sunday of the month which means Donut Sunday at St. Thomas. Plan to join us after the 10:00 a.m. Mass in the hall.

-CONFIRMATION LITURGY – I hope to write more about it, but I did want to mention briefly the Confirmation and First Holy Communion Liturgy last Saturday, April 20 at the Cathedral was a most beautiful celebration...a beautiful manifestation of the foretaste of Heaven. Congratulations to all those who received Sacraments that day. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

-PRISON MINISTRY – As I've mentioned in previous bulletins, Matt Heldt and I have been visiting the prison on Saturday nights. As of this writing, I am hopeful that I will now be able to celebrate Mass at the prison each week, beginning this weekend. It has taken a bit of time to get all this together.

There has been some expense in gathering items to have at the prison for the celebration of Mass and to provide good and solid Catholic material for them. If you would like to make a contribution toward these expenses, please place your contribution in an envelope and mark it clearly "Prison Ministry." You may place this in the collection basket, give it to me, or mail it to the parish office. Thank you in advance for your kind consideration. This is important and rewarding work.

Thank you for your continued prayers for me, one another, our parishes and school, and the Universal Church. You remain in my prayers each day. May you have a most blessed week.

Fr. Aaron

### **Ladies of Charity**

The Ladies of Charity of Quincy invites you, both women and men, and both current and potential members, to attend an Orientation and Day of Reflection on Sunday, May 5, 2024, from 1:00 -3:00 p.m. at the St. Francis Catholic Church Parish Hall. Although the Ladies of Charity is comprised of mostly women volunteers, we also invite men to assist us (particularly with the heavy lifting, transporting of items, etc.). We are a Vincentian organization called to serve those in need and we would love to have you join us. Please plan to attend to learn more about us and the volunteer opportunities available! If you have any questions or need other details, please feel free to contact either Kathy Obert at 703-786-4788 or Brenda Ehrhardt at 217-257-8832.



Are you passionate about teaching students and want to work for a school that values you as a professional? If so, St. Mary School has a position for you!

St. Mary School is looking for an <u>elementary</u> <u>teacher</u> or an <u>English Language Arts 3-8 grade</u> <u>teacher</u>. SMS has small class sizes, comparable compensation and benefits to the public school, prep time each day, teacher collaboration, positive and supportive atmosphere, and a family environment! Candidates must have a valid teaching certificate. If you are interested, please call Melissa Obert at 217-773-2825 or email her at mobert@smseagle.org.



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