

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, May 20 - 7:00 a.m.

The Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of the Church Genesis 3:9-15, 20; John 19:25-34

Communion Service

Tuesday, May 21 - 7:00 a.m.

St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest & Companions, Martyrs James 4:1-10; Mark 9:30-37

Kay Downey (By Class of 1953)

Wednesday, May 22 - 7:00 a.m.

St. Rita of Cascia, Religious James 4:13-17; Mark 9:38-40

Jack Cannon (By Joe & Marlene LiBritz)

Thursday, May 23 - 7:00 a.m.

James 5:1-6; Mark 9:41-50

Amy Ormond Lucky (By Trey, Brenna & Eli Tomlinson)

St. Thomas - 5:30 p.m.

Danny Seals

Friday, May 24 - 8:30 a.m.

James 5:9-12; Mark 10:1-12

Charles & Norma Koch (By Tom & Nancy Schneider)

Saturday, May 25 - 5:30 p.m.

St. Bede the Venerable, Priest & Doctor of the Church; St. Gregory VII, Pope; St. Mary Magdalene dè Pazzi, Virgin James 5:13-20; Mark 10:13-16

> Jennifer Volk (By Larry Volk)

Sunday, May 26 - 8:00 a.m.

Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40; Romans 8:14-17; Matthew 28:16-20

Parishioners of Holy Family and St. Thomas

St. Thomas - 10:00 a.m.

Eugene Steinkamp (By Barbara Steinkamp)

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

May 11-12, 2024

Holy Family: \$6,904.00 Catholic Home Missions: \$20.00 School Support: \$190.00 Sister Parish: \$260.00 Cemetery: \$220.00 Debt Reduction: \$30.00

Prison Ministry: \$75.00 Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

May 12, 2024

St. Thomas: \$2,092.00 Parish Improvement: \$25.00

St. Thomas weekly budgeted amount: \$2,635

UPCOMING EVENTS

Legion of Mary meets each Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. in the convent. All are invited to pray the rosary with us and learn more about the Legion. "With Mary's help we guide, console and enlighten others."

Please contact Tammy at (217) 773-2825 or tmckeown@smseagle.org with any information you wish to have placed in the bulletin. I will need any information by Monday at 2:00 p.m. for insertion into the next weekend's bulletin.

OFFICE HOURS

School Office hours will be Monday & Tuesday mornings - 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.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

It is that time of year for the Seven Sisters Apostolate of St. Thomas Church to renew their commitment and with the help of the Holy Spirit, introduce more ladies to the mission of the Apostolate, which is to spend 1 hour per week praying for our pastor and priests in front of the Blessed Sacrament. To learn more go to www.sevensistersapostolate.org or contact Claudia Coggeshall at rccogg@adams.net.

"It is in my suffering priests that I live my victimhood and bring many souls to salvation who, were it not for My Passion continued in my priests, would be lost to my lost love for them.

I will save souls through the sufferings of My victim priests. They are lambs for the slaughter, but I am their life, and their sufferings and death are precious in my sight." In Sinu Jesu (Kettering, OH: Angelico Press, 2016)

St. Thomas Graduates - Congratulations to all of our parishioners graduating this year!

Those graduating high school are:

Reese Wilkey Gavin Bleweitt Elizabeth Perry Austin Smith

Those graduating 8th grade are:

Kolin Bockhold

St. Thomas Vacation Bible School

SAVE THE DATE - JULY 11-13

Grab your dive buddies for a whale of a good time! At Scuba, kids plunge into an undersea world brimming with colorful coral, flashy fish, and abundant life. Immersed in oceans of fun, kids discover God is a real friend who loves them forever. At St. Thomas VBS, we will have a fun-filled Thursday and Friday evening and Saturday all day.

Children entering preschool - 5th grade are welcome to attend VBS. Children entering 6th - 12th grade are welcome as Crew Leaders. Adults are welcome to volunteer. Please contact Alicia Schmidt at 217-257-3210 ASAP if you'd like to volunteer.



St. Thomas VBS T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST Help us design our 2024 VBS Shirt



Things to know:

- Open to preschoolers to seniors in HS
- Design must include a drawing related to our theme of SCUBA
- The words that must be on the shirt are the following:
 - 0 2024
 - o St. Thomas
 - Scuba Diving into Friendship with God
- Only use black ink or black marker on white 8.5" x 11" paper
- Include your name and contact number on the BACK of the drawing
- Art will be judged by St. Thomas parishioners
- Due May 26 to Alicia Schmidt
- Contact Alicia, 217-257-3210, with any questions

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

May 26, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Denise Taylor Greeters: Matt & Laura

Evans Family

Lector: David Leezer Gift Bearers: Tod Perry Family

Eucharistic Minister: Pat Sharow/

Jerry Herkert

Collection Counters: Greg & Elizabeth Likes **Ushers:** Elijah Perry, Tod Perry

From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Pentecost. Below are a couple of pieces taken from catholicculture.org that serve as a great read for coming to understand this Solemnity more fully and for further reflection.

"After Jesus had ascended to heaven from Mt. Olivet, the apostles and disciples

returned to the Holy City. They remained together in the Upper Room or Cenacle, the place where Jesus had appeared to them, and which may well be called the first Christian church. About a hundred and twenty persons were assembled there. They chose Matthias as an apostle in place of the unhappy Judas; they prayed and waited for the Paraclete.

Ten days had passed, it was Sunday, the seventh Sunday after the resurrection. At about nine o'clock in the morning, as they were together praying fervently, the Holy Spirit descended upon them. Note how all the great theophanies in Christ's life occurred during the course of prayer. After His baptism, for instance, when Jesus was praying the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove; likewise, it was during prayer at night that the transfiguration took place on Tabor. Surely too it was while Mary was praying that Gabriel delivered his message, and the Holy Spirit overshadowed her. Pentecost followed precedent. The small community of Christians had prepared themselves through prayer for the coming of the Paraclete. The same is true at Mass today, every day; through prayer we ready our souls for the advent of the Spirit.

The descent upon the apostles was internal and invisible in nature although accompanied by certain visible phenomena. There came a mighty roar, like the onrush of a violent wind. It came suddenly, from heaven; but unlike storms that strike a structure from without, this one penetrated and filled the room where the disciples were gathered. Therefore, it was not a natural wind, it was a miracle peculiar to the occasion. A second visible sign consisted of tongues of fire that descended upon each one present. These fiery tongues gave visible evidence that the Holy Spirit had descended upon them.

Today at Mass, particularly at holy Communion, the power of the Holy Spirit will come down upon us; fiery tongues will not be seen, but invisible tongues of fire will not be absent. There was still another external manifestation of the Holy Spirit; the apostles and disciples were enabled to speak various languages. After the roar of the wind many of Jerusalem's pilgrims hurried to the Cenacle. Pentecost was one of the three festivals which obliged all Jews to be present in Jerusalem. Jews from distant lands, and Jewish converts from paganism too, attended these feasts. As a result, a colorful crowd speaking a variety of languages surrounded the house. Now the apostles, who so shortly before had hid in fear behind locked doors, came forth and courageously walked among the multitude speaking to each in his native tongue. It was indeed amazing! Galileans, and multilingual?

But the malicious too were present; they had the answer. Nothing marvelous at all! Those Galileans were simply drunk, and their drunken babble sounded like a foreign language! Peter showed no hesitation in answering the charge. None of their number, he said, were intoxicated; it was but nine o'clock in the morning, and at that hour men usually are sober. What the multitude saw was, in fact, the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy: In those days (of the Messiah), God will pour forth His Spirit upon men and they will prophesy. . . . Then the apostle pointed his words more directly against the accusers: they had killed Jesus, had nailed Him to the Cross; but God had awakened Him and after His departure to heaven, He sent the Holy Spirit.

The pilgrims who had heard Peter give this first pentecostal sermon "were pierced to the heart and said: Brethren, what shall we do? But Peter said to them: Repent and be baptized; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Three thousand responded.

One final question: why the miracle of tongues? In answer, recall the story regarding the tower of Babel. Puffed up by pride, men attempted to build a tower that would touch the heavens. To punish their sin, God confused their speech. Sin causes confusion and division. Now Christ came to gather all men into His Church and thereby to unite them to Himself. This should result in creating but one family of nations again. To this blessed state the miracle of tongues points.

Yes, even we as individuals have a gift of tongues which all men can understand. It is the gift of love infused into us by the Holy Spirit. Love unites, love is a common language, by means of love we can speak to all nations. —Excerpted from The Church's Year of Grace, Pius Parsch."

"But I tell you the truth; it is expedient to you that I go; for if I go not, the Paraclete will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you" (John 16:7). When Christ ascended into heaven, He went to His Father. Today He fulfills His promise of sending to His apostles and to His Church the Paraclete, the Holy Spirit. This coming is further proof that He has been glorified and that He sits at the right hand of the Father.

"At Christmas, God became incarnate; He came to share with us His participation in the divine life and in the grace of God. Easter is the feast of the resurrection of the soul from sin and of the incorporation of man in the mystical body of the Eucharist. Pentecost is the feast of the visible mission of the Holy Spirit to the apostles, to the Church, to each Christian family, and to each individual soul. By virtue of His death on the cross, the Lord has merited the grace of the sending of the Holy Spirit. Now that He is in heaven He prays for and effects the coming of the Holy Spirit, that we may grow in grace and holiness, that we may be strong and firm in faith, that we may reach perfection and share in the inheritance of Christ our head.

During His life on earth, and even in His mortal human body, Christ possessed the fullness of the Holy Spirit. But after His resurrection and ascension into heaven He is so completely united to and informed by the Holy Spirit that St. Paul speaks of Him as being made into a "quickening spirit" (1 Cor 15:45). Since we are His members, He lives and works in us to the extent that the Holy Spirit lives and works in Him. Thus, for St. Paul "to live in Christ" means the same as "to live in the Spirit." "Baptism in Christ is baptism in the Spirit." For this reason, St. John can say, "In this we know that we abide in Him and He in us; because He hath given us of His Spirit" (John 4:13).

We have been elevated to the divine life by Christ, but the Holy Spirit also took part in this operation. Where the Holy Spirit is not operating, there can be no body of Christ. "The faithful become members of the body of Christ when they attain life through the Spirit of Christ," the Holy Spirit (St. Augustine). The

divine life is always given through Christ, the incarnate God. When we allow Him to do so, He always sends us the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of love. This Spirit always binds us again firmly to the Father, so that we long and strive with all our strength to be true children of the Father and to attain to perfect love. Therefore, the life of Christ which was implanted in our souls by baptism (Easter) cannot be made perfect without the coming of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost).

Pentecost is the complement and the completion of Easter. Easter gives us the beginning of supernatural life and incorporation in Christ. But this new life must unfold; it must be strengthened and enkindled into a burning fire which can resist all things; it must be imbued with a love which is stronger than death, so that we are prepared to suffer all things Christ, even the sacrifice of our life. This strengthening of our spirit is brought about by our baptism with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The spirit of Pentecost is the spirit that makes the confessors and martyrs. It gives light, power, and unconquerable strength. This effect is visible in the apostles, who "went from the presence of the council." rejoicing that they were accounted worthy to suffer reproach for the name of Jesus" (Acts 5:41).

Pentecost is the birthday of the Church and of Christianity, the beginning of the New Dispensation. Man, having been touched by the Spirit, no longer lives according to the flesh, according to the principles and ideals of fallen human nature; he lives in the Spirit. He is filled with the light of truth and is guided by the Spirit of truth Himself, the Holy Spirit. The new generation of men now sees all things in their proper place in the plan of divine providence and in their relationship to eternity. In the spirit of truth and love the new generation is called to act for good and upright motives, to do only what is pleasing to the Father. It is a generation of spiritual men. Since they "live in the spirit," they must also "walk in the spirit" (Gal 5:25). They belong to Christ, and with Him they are not envious of one another, but practice mildness, patience, and charity (Gal. 5:26f.). "The fruit of the spirit is charity, joy, peace, patience, benignity,

goodness, longanimity, mildness, faith, modesty, continency, chastity" (Gal 5:22f).

In the baptism of the Spirit, which the Church receives at Pentecost, she is washed clean in the blood of Christ; she arises with Him: she is imbued with the fullness of new life. Today she stands with the divine dowry which Christ earned for her and gave to her. She is bright with the glory of eternal youth and fertility as she stands at the side of her heavenly bridegroom. Now she has been prepared for that arduous life for which she is destined upon earth. She has been prepared to share the life of her bridegroom and to remain faithful to Him in spite of all that may befall her; she is prepared to represent Him under all circumstances, and joyfully to bring forth new generations of children. The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of love and truth, dwells within her and operates in her. He is the soul of the body of the Church. He guides her and leads her to her eternal nuptials with her divine spouse. Jesus Christ. That is the meaning of the mission of the Holy Spirit and of the feast of Pentecost.

The feast of Pentecost is a day of thanksgiving for the foundation of the Church, in which are contained all the treasures of supernatural riches, and through which all grace and redemption are given to men. Pentecost is a day of thanksgiving for the coming of the Holy Spirit and for the establishment of the sacrament of confirmation. It is a day on which we place a joyful and grateful trust in the operation of the Holy Spirit within us and thank Him for His inspiration and guidance. On this day we again place ourselves in the hands of the Holy Spirit with complete confidence. He should be the soul of our souls; He should reign in us, amid the ruins of our own fallen nature. Pentecost is a day of petition, a day on which we should implore the Holy Spirit for a full measure of His graces and gifts. — Benedict Bauer, O.S.B., from The Light of the World, Vol II, Pentecost."

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Monday, May 20 - Obligatory Memorial of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church. On February 11, 2018, The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments issued a Decree implementing Pope Francis' decision that the Memorial of the "Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church" be inscribed in the General Roman Calendar and observed on the Monday following Pentecost, taking precedence over conflicting obligatory Memorials. "The joyous veneration given to the Mother of God by the contemporary Church, in light of reflection on the mystery of Christ and on His nature, cannot ignore the figure of the woman (cf. Gal 4:4), the Virgin Mary, who is both the Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church." Mary, Mother of the Church, Pray for us!

-Tuesday, May 21 – Optional memorial of St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs. Christopher Magallanes and twenty-one Diocesan Priests and three laymen were either shot or hanged between 1915 and 1937 for their association with the Cristero uprising that opposed the anti-Catholic Mexican government in the 1920s. The Cristero motto was: "Long live Christ the King and the Virgin of Guadalupe!" St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions, Pray for us!

-Wednesday, May 22 – Optional memorial of St. Rita of Cascia, Religious. Rita was born in 1381. She lived with a brutal husband and had two sons. After the violent murder of her husband, she urged forgiveness in contrast to the customary vendetta of her day. Becoming an Augustinian nun, she spent some forty years in prayer, contemplation, and service to the sick and poor. Toward the end of her life, she received a wound from a thorn from the crown of thorns. She died in 1457 and is the patron saint of those in desperate situations. St. Rita of Cascia, Pray for us!

-Saturday, May 25 – Optional memorials of St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church, St. Gregory VII, Pope, and St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, Virgin

St. Bede, of the Order of St. Benedict is known as the "Father of English History" wrote Scriptural expositions, commentaries, and homilies. He was called "venerable" while still living. He died in 735. St. Bede the Venerable, Pray for us!

St. Gregory VII, also of the Order of St. Benedict, championed reform of the clergy against simony, clerical marriage, and lay investiture, leading to the excommunication of Henry IV. He is also known for expanding the authority of the Holy See. St. Gregory VII died in 1085. St. Gregory VII, Pray for us!

St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi was a Carmelite mystic of Florence who led a hidden life of prayer and self-denial, praying particularly for the renewal of the Church and encouraging her fellow sisters in holiness. She was also instrumental in the reform of her order. She died in 1607. St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, Pray for us!

-ORDINATION – Bishop Paprocki is planning to celebrate the Ordination of five men to the Diocesan Priesthood on Saturday, May 25 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield. Those to be ordained are: Rev. Mr. Daniel McGrath; Rev. Mr. Jayke White; Rev. Mr. Troy Niemerg; Rev. Mr. Alex McCullough; Rev. Mr. Bruce Scott. Please keep these men in your prayers along with all those who are preparing for Ordination.

Please also continue to pray for, encourage, and nurture good and holy Vocations to the Priesthood, Religious Life, Permanent Diaconate, and Sacramental Marriage.

ST. MARY SCHOOL – The last day of school this year at St. Mary School was on Wednesday, May 15. Eighth grade Graduation Mass is Wednesday evening, May 22.

-SAFE ENVIRONMENT – Each year every parish undergoes a safe-environment audit. If you have been contacted regarding the need to have a background check updated or other information, please complete this as soon as possible. If you have questions, contact Tammy for Holy Family/St. Mary School, Pat for St. Thomas, or myself. Thank you for your help.

-BABY BOTTLES – As of this writing, there were still some baby bottles in the back of each church which are used as a fundraiser for local pregnancy centers. Please take one and include a donation in the bottle if you'd like. Return the bottles on Father's Day (June 16). If you take a bottle, please be sure and return it even if you later decide you are unable to make a contribution.

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

Fr. Aaron

National Eucharistic Pilgrimage

WALK WITH JESUS ON OUR CITY STREETS IN UNPRECEDENTED EXPERIENCE – You are invited to join the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, coming to seven cities in our diocese July 8-12! This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience in which Catholics will pray and publicly follow Jesus through Eucharistic processions. Cities include Collinsville, Alton, Quincy, Girard, Springfield, Effingham, and Teutopolis. Mass, adoration, potluck dinners, and powerful witness talks are also part of the experience. BE THERE WHEN GOD MOVES IN YOUR COMMUNITY! Go to dio.org to learn more and register!



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 elementary teacher or an English Language Arts 3-8 grade teacher. 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.

School Office Hours

Just a reminder that with school being out for the summer our office hours will be Monday and Tuesday mornings 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

