

## 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 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](http://www.smseagle.org)

Principal: Melissa Obert

### Mass Schedule

Daily: 7:00 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday - 8:30 a.m. Friday

Saturday: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m.

Holy days: Will be Announced

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 4:30-5:00 p.m. - Anytime by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

First weekend of month

Phone (217) 593-6685, (217) 773-3233

E-mail: [stthomascp@gmail.com](mailto:stthomascp@gmail.com)

Parish Secretary: Pat Sharow

Renting of Hall: Cathy Holtschlag – 217-430-7493

Community for Christ Assistance Center Board Member:

Dorothy Obert – (217) 593-6520

Ministry Schedule: Bobbi Mock – (217) 430-2859

CHWC Director: Karen Janssen – (217) 242-5283

D.R.E: Laura Evans – (217) 316-1734

Sunday Mass 10:00 a.m.

Holy Day: Will be Announced

First Friday Adoration of the Eucharist 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

First Friday Mass 6:00 p.m. with

Reconciliation prior 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.

Ladies Bible Study Wednesday 9:30 a.m.

PSR classes Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Men & Women's Society Meeting 1st Thursday 7:00 p.m.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting – 2nd Thursday 6:00 p.m.

Website: [www.stthomascp.org](http://www.stthomascp.org)

<https://stthomascp.formed.org>

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### Monday, July 1 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Junipero Sierra, Priest  
Amos 2:6-10, 13-16; Matthew 8:18-22

Communion Service

### Tuesday, July 2 – 7:00 a.m.

Amos 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Matthew 8:23-27

Pat Parker  
(By Tom & Nancy Schneider)

### Wednesday, July 3 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Thomas, Apostle  
1 Ephesians 2:19-22; John 20:24-29

In Honor of Matt & Hannah Heldt's  
25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

### St. Thomas – 5:30 p.m.

Descendants of Albert & Pauline Frericks  
(By the Frericks Family)

### Thursday, July 4 – 7:00 a.m.

Amos 7:10-17; Matthew 9:1-8

Jennifer Volk  
(By Legion of Mary)

### St. Thomas – 5:30 p.m.

Danny Seals

### Friday, July 5 – 8:30 a.m.

St. Anthony Zaccaria, Priest; St. Elizabeth of Portugal  
Amos 8:4-6, 9-12; Matthew 9:9-13

Bill O'Sullivan  
(By John & Carolyn Ormond)

### FIRST FRIDAY - ST. THOMAS – 6:00 p.m.

Jerry Gunn  
(By the Family)

### Saturday, July 6 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr  
Amos 9:11-15; Matthew 9:14-17

Ramon Hufnagel  
(By the Family)

### Sunday, July 7 – 8:00 a.m.

Ezekiel 2:2-5; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 6:1-6a

Parishioners of Holy Family  
and St. Thomas

### St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Janet Harper  
(By Jim & Fritzie Harper & Family)

### Holy Family – 5:00 p.m.

Good and Holy Vocations

## HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

June 22-23, 2024

Holy Family: \$6,341.00  
School Support: \$110.00  
Sister Parish: \$25.00  
Retired Priests: \$30.00  
Catholic Communications: \$20.00  
Seminary: \$10.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

## ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

June 23, 2024

St. Thomas: \$2,252.00  
Sister Parish: \$5.00

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

## OFFICE HOURS

*School Office hours will be Monday & Tuesday 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

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Jeff Kozak † Jim Duvendack † Marilyn Clark †  
Sheila Thompson † Linda VanGiesen †  
Logan Wilson † Maurice Ormond †  
Mary Gregory †

## ST. THOMAS

If you have not brought back your baby bottles yet, please bring them back, even if they are empty and we will get them back to CareNet.

**St. Thomas – 4th of July at the Park** - St. Thomas is serving homemade ice cream & pie at the 4th of July celebration at Bailey Park. We can use your help. We need folks to serve at the park, to set up, and to tear down. Shifts are only about 2 hours long. We also need pies and brownies. Cookies are good too. Let's come and work together as a parish family and also support the community. There are sign-up sheets on the table at the back of church. Thank you!

## St. Thomas Vacation Bible School



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. Register today!

Vacation Bible School at St. Thomas will be held the July 11-13. On July 11 and July 12, VBS will be from 5:30-7:30. We will serve the participants dinner at 5:30. On July 13, VBS will be from 9:00-4:00. Lunch and snacks will be provided. A mass will follow at 4 p.m. for all families of VBS and the parish. A dinner for the parish and VBS families will be immediately after mass in the hall.

Children entering preschool - 5th grade are welcome to attend VBS. Children entering 6th - 12th grade are welcome as Crew Leaders. Please register both campers and crew leaders.

A \$10 donation for each child to cover some of the cost of VBS is suggested. It is only a suggestion and not required.

Please consider serving in one of the many volunteer roles. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Alicia Schmidt at 217-257-3210.

Please direct questions or concerns to Alicia Schmidt, 217-257-3210 or [a\\_ordner@hotmail.com](mailto:a_ordner@hotmail.com).

Register at: <https://forms.gle/e9kzLnjpBty7d53j9>.

## ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

*July 7, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.*

<b>Sacristan:</b>	Jonah Coggeshall
<b>Greeters:</b>	Jacob & Alicia Schmidt and Family
<b>Lector:</b>	Bobbi Mock
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	Jim & Nora Clausius
<b>Eucharistic Minister:</b>	Laura Evans/ Teresa Bockhold
<b>Collection Counters:</b>	Jerel Mock Family
<b>Ushers:</b>	Jacob Schmidt, Maurice Schmidt

## From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time. Our readings today remind us that sin, sickness and darkness have entered the world but are overcome by the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Lord hears the cry of those in need, healing the sick and raising the dead to life. Indeed, Jesus made Himself poor so that we might become rich! Let us sit with that for a while in our prayer and in the quiet. Let us really ponder and sit in awe of what God has done for us and continues to do for us.

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Monday, July 1 - In the United States, optional memorial of St. Junipero Serra, Priest. Junipero Serra was a Franciscan Missionary who established nine of the California missions and baptized over 6,000 Native peoples. He is recognized as a builder of California and "an exemplary model of the selfless evangelizer." He died in 1784. St. Junipero Serra, Pray for us!

-Wednesday, July 3 - Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle (celebrated as a Solemnity in the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle; see below for more information on that). Thomas, one of the Twelve, is perhaps best known as "doubting Thomas." But we have to remember that his doubt gave way to faith when he saw the Risen Lord. We too can sometimes doubt, and we pray that any doubt that may come upon us may give way to faith in the Risen Christ. Thomas is associated with founding the Church in south India. He is mentioned in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I). He was martyred in the First Century and is patron of builders, India, and Pakistan. St. Thomas the Apostle, Pray for us!

-Friday, July 5 - Optional memorial of St. Anthony Zaccaria, Priest and, in the United States of America, St. Elizabeth of Portugal.

Anthony Zaccaria lived in the sixteenth century and was a doctor turned priest. He was a popular preacher who, in 1530 in Milan, founded the Clerics Regular of St. Paul for the reform of society which today numbers about 375 members. He was known to seek collaboration between the clergy and the laity and to promote frequent Communion. He died in 1539 at Cremona at the age of thirty-six. St. Anthony Zaccaria, Pray for us!

Elizabeth of Portugal was named after her great aunt, St. Elizabeth of Hungary. She was a queen and mother, lover of the poor, and peacemaker in the royal family. She died in 1336 and is the patroness of Catholic charities. The optional memorial of St. Elizabeth of Portugal is perpetually transferred from July 4 to July 5 in the United States of America. St. Elizabeth of Portugal, Pray for us!

-Saturday, July 6 - Optional memorial of St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr. Born near Ancona, Maria Goretti was stabbed to death in 1902 at the age of twelve, preferring to die than to be raped. Canonized in 1950, her mother was present for her canonization. It was the largest crowd ever assembled in Rome for a canonization. St. Maria Goretti is the patroness of teenage girls. St. Maria Goretti, pray for us!

-THE PRECIOUS BLOOD - "The month of July is dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ. The feast of the Precious Blood of our Lord was instituted in 1849 by Pius IX, but the devotion is as old as Christianity. The early Fathers say that the Church was born from the pierced side of Christ, and that the sacraments were brought forth through His Blood.

'The Precious Blood which we worship is the Blood which the Savior shed for us on Calvary and reassumed at His glorious Resurrection; it is the Blood which courses through the veins of His risen, glorified, living body at the right hand of God the Father in heaven; it is the Blood made present on our altars by the words of Consecration; it is the Blood which merited sanctifying grace for us and through it washes and beautifies our soul and inaugurates the beginning of eternal life in it.'  
(Catholicculture.org)

"Devotion to the Precious Blood is not a spiritual option, it is a spiritual obligation, and that not only for priests, but for every follower of Christ. I really believe that one of the symptoms of modern society (and I would even include, sadly, modern Catholic society) one of the symptoms of a growing, gnawing secularism is the lessening and the weakening of devotion to the Precious Blood. Devotion, as we know, is a composite of three elements: It is first- veneration, it is secondly- invocation, and it is thirdly- imitation. In other words, devotion to the Precious Blood of Christ, the Lamb of God who was slain, is first of all to be veneration on our part, which is a composite of knowledge, love and adoration. We are to study to come to a deeper understanding of what those two casual words, Precious Blood, really mean.

I found this passage in the oldest document, outside of sacred scripture, from the first century of the Christian era - to be exact, from Pope St. Clement I, dated about 96 A.D. Says Pope Clement: 'Let us fix our gaze on the Blood of Christ and realize how truly precious It is, seeing that it was poured out for our salvation and brought the grace of conversion to the whole world.'

To understand the meaning of the Precious Blood we must get some comprehension of the gravity of sin, of the awfulness of offending God, because it required the Blood of the Son of God to forgive that sin. We are living in an age in which to sin has become fashionable.

This veneration of the Precious Blood, which is the first element in our devotion to the Precious Blood means that we have a deep sensitivity to the awfulness of sin. Sin must be terrible. It must be awful. It must be the most dreadful thing in the universe. Why? Because it cost the living God in human form the shedding of His Blood.

Lord Jesus, You became Man in order by your Passion and Death and the draining of your Blood on the Cross might prove to us how much You, our God, love us. Protect us, dear Jesus, from ever running away from the sight of blood. Strengthen our weak human wills so that we will not only not run away from the cross, but welcome every opportunity to shed our blood in spirit in union with your Precious Blood, so that, dying to ourselves in time we might live with You in Eternity. Amen."

"Excerpted from The Precious Blood of Christ, Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J." (Catholicculture.org)



-POPE'S INTENTION - The Holy Father's intention for July is for the pastoral care of the sick. We pray that the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

-BIRTHDAY - Monday, July 1 is my birthday. As I've mentioned before, many of us don't necessarily like to make a big deal of it, including myself, but our birthdays are important and we recognize the great gift of life that God has given to us and the many gifts that He fills our life with.

-JULY 3 - As noted above, at St. Thomas, we celebrate St. Thomas the Apostle as a Solemnity on Wednesday, July 3. I will be offering Mass at St. Thomas at 5:30 p.m. that day. Please plan to join us.

-INDEPENDENCE DAY - Thursday, July 4 marks Independence Day for our Country. While this is a secular celebration and not a Liturgical Celebration, we recognize the importance of our Independence as a country. We recognize the freedoms that we are afforded, hopefully with a correct understanding of freedom. We recognize too those who have worked to protect that independence. Above all, we give praise and thanks to God, the Creator of all that is good!

Masses that day will be celebrated at our regular times at both parishes...7:00 a.m. at Holy Family and 5:30 p.m. at St. Thomas. As you celebrate Independence Day, I encourage you to start join us for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. I cannot think of a better way to celebrate.

-ICE CREAM - Just a reminder, St. Thomas is continuing to prepare for the upcoming ice cream and dessert in the park in Camp Point on Independence Day and their annual ice cream social in August. Sign-up sheets to help and to bring desserts for July 4 are in the back of St. Thomas Church. If you have not already done so, please sign up.

Although no one has said anything to me, I'm sure there is also a need for gallon containers with lids. If you have some, please bring them to Church and leave them neatly in the back of church. If you bring them to Holy Family, I will make sure they get to St. Thomas.

-FIRST FRIDAY - Friday, July 5 is First Friday and so we will be having our First Friday Devotions at St. Thomas. Exposition of

the Blessed Sacrament will be at Noon with Adoration continuing until 5:45 p.m. Benediction will be at 5:45 p.m. followed by Mass at 6:00 p.m. Confession will be available from 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.. As always, I encourage everyone to spend some time in prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

-NOCTURNAL ADORATION - Saturday, July 6 is First Saturday and so we will have Nocturnal Adoration at Holy Family beginning at 10:00 p.m. on Saturday night and going through the night until 7:45 a.m. Sunday morning. Benediction is at 7:45 a.m. on Sunday morning followed by our regularly scheduled 8:00 a.m. Mass.

-CELEBRATION OF CANDIDACY - As I mentioned at Masses last weekend and noted in last week's bulletin, to celebrate Matt Heldt's Candidacy to the Permanent Diaconate locally here in the parishes, we are planning a celebration on Sunday, July 7 at Holy Family. Please make plans now to be there. We will have Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 4:00 p.m. with Benediction around 4:45 p.m. followed by Mass at 5:00 p.m. and then a reception/dinner in the school cafeteria.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be offered to pray especially for good and holy Vocations. Mass will be the Sunday Mass and will fulfill one's Sunday obligation. The meal will be a nice dinner for us all to enjoy and to visit with one another. I do hope you can join us.

As I said in last week's bulletin, this celebration is not so much about Matt but about what God has done and continues to do and giving praise and glory to God and God alone. It should come to help us recognize that all the more in our own lives and in the world and draw us to an even deeper cooperation with God's grace. It is, indeed, a celebration of the Universal Church which calls for great humility and an absence of any pride or vainglory.

Candidacy needs to be properly understood and is something that should be celebrated. It is important. The Church in Her discernment with the men have admitted these men into Candidacy. While one should never seek human affirmation for anything, we do want to and need to affirm the good work that God has begun in others.

-FULLNESS OF TRUTH - The Fullness of Truth is found ONLY in the Roman Catholic

Church. We should, with great love, unapologetically be proclaiming that everywhere and to everyone...by our words, deeds, and thoughts. This comes about first and foremost in our own recognition of that and then making that the very way we live our lives. We never "beat someone over the head," so to speak about the faith, we never condemn (that's left for the Lord alone) but it is necessary for us to recognize the Fullness of Faith being found ONLY in the Catholic Church and to teach that to others. It is the Lord Himself that established the Church and gave us the Sacraments out of love for us, yes, but also for our salvation.

We each have a responsibility in this. Don't take it lightly. Please, please don't take it lightly! Parents, especially...your children NEED to know this, NEED to be taught this, NEED to see this. That NEED is to be fulfilled by YOU!

The attractions of this world are passing. Our desires and passions are powerful but never lead us to lasting joy. Those things that make us feel good may not be bad in and of themselves (unless they keep us from the Lord and His Church, the Catholic Church) but it is only through the Lord that we find true happiness, true joy, and can hope for Eternal Life with Him...something so great that we can't even imagine what the Lord has in store for those who follow Him.

Pray for your own faith and for the faith of others. Pray for those who have abandoned Christ by leaving the Church that they may return to the fullness of His Love and the Fullness of Truth. It is only in the Catholic Church that we can receive within our very selves the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ and forgiveness of sins. WOW! There is nothing greater! What a great gift the Lord has given us. Can we really do anything but give Him praise and thanks?!

-BABY BOTTLES - If you have not yet returned your baby bottle and/or contribution for the Pregnancy Centers, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you for your support of this important work.

-VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - Don't forget, Vacation Bible School at St. Thomas will be Thursday through Saturday, July 11-13. There will be a Vigil Mass celebrated at 4:00 p.m. on that Saturday followed by a meal in the hall

for all parishioners. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of St. Thomas Church for the meal. Please sign up for the meal if you plan to join us in order to help plan for food. Any questions, please contact Alicia Schmidt.

Confessions that Saturday evening will be at St. Thomas from 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. I will have Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. that evening at St. Thomas. Confessions will not be available at Holy Family that evening as they normally are. Please remember that if you need to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, you can contact me anytime.

Mass at Holy Family will still be at 5:30 p.m. that evening and I am planning to still have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament as usual (4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.).

-EUCCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE - The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is 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. There are posters in the back of each Church and more information in the bulletin and on our Diocesan website ([www.dio.org](http://www.dio.org)). I encourage each of you to join in this, especially as the Pilgrimage travels through Quincy on Tuesday, July 9.

-CALLED AND SENT - Join other high school students in our diocese for a 4 day/3 night retreat from July 14-17 at the Villa Maria Retreat Center in Springfield. Encounter Jesus in a new, deep, and meaningful way. Have loads of fun and enjoy the beautiful views at this lakeside retreat house. To register, go to [dio.org/events](http://dio.org/events). For questions, contact Daniel Heffernan at [dheffernan@dio.org](mailto:dheffernan@dio.org).

-PRAY FOR VOCATIONS - A reminder to pray each day for good and holy vocations to the Priesthood, Religious Life, Permanent Diaconate, and Sacramental Marriage.

-MASS FOR COUPLE MARRIED 50+ YEARS - On September 22 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield, all couples married 50 years or more are invited to attend a special Mass honoring their marriage vocation! The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Thomas John Paprocki.

A reception will follow after Mass. Please register for the Mass by going to [dio.org/events](http://dio.org/events). When you register, please upload (not mandatory) a photo from your wedding day and present day for a slide show during the reception. You may also register by contacting Gracie Ortiz at the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois at [gortiz@dio.org](mailto:gortiz@dio.org) or (217) 698-8500.

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.

Fr. Aaron

### Upcoming Church Ice Cream Socials & Picnics

- July 14 - St. Joseph Ice Cream Social
- July 20 - St. Anthony Parish Picnic
- August 3 - St. Brigid Ice Cream Social
- August 18 - St. Thomas Ice Cream Social
- August 24 - St. Peter Parish Picnic
- September 7 - Blessed Sacrament Septemberfest



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 a Middle School/Junior High Teacher & an English Language Arts 3-8 grade teacher (full & part-time options available).** 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](mailto:mobert@smseagle.org).

### 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](http://dio.org) to learn more and register!

**JOIN THE NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION IN QUINCY**  
to the Grave of the Venerable Servant of God Father Augustine Tolton

**TUESDAY-JULY 9**

<p>5:30 PM Procession forms at St. Peter's Church 2600 Maine Street</p>	<p>7:30 PM Potluck and Witness Talk St. Francis Solanus Parish Hall 1721 College Avenue</p>
<p>6:30 PM Evening Prayer and Benediction St. Peter's Cemetery 3400 Broadway Street</p>	<p>8:30 PM Adoration</p>

*Participants are kindly asked to R.S.V.P. for each event at [dio.org/procession](http://dio.org/procession)*

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