

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, July 22 - 7:00 a.m.

St. Mary Magdalene Song of Songs 3:1-4b; John 20:1-2, 11-18

Communion Service

Tuesday, July 23 - 7:00 a.m.

St. Bridget, Religious Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Matthew 12:46-50

Cathy Kassing (By Mary Kassing & Family)

Wednesday, July 24 – 7:00 a.m. St. Sharbel Makhluf, Priest

Jeremiah 1:1, 4-10; Matthew 13:1-9

Dr. Robert Henson

Thursday, July 25 - 7:00 a.m.

St. James, Apostle Corinthians 4:7-15; Matthew 20:20-28

> Verna Veith (By Marilyn & Pat)

St. Thomas - 5:30 p.m.

Gay Gunn (By Maurice & Clara Schmidt)

<u>Friday, July 26 – 8:30 a.m.</u>

Sts. Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary Jeremiah 3:14-17; Matthew 13:18-23

> Tom & Barb Kuhn (By Nocturnal Adoration Society)

<u>Saturday, July 27 - 5:30 p.m.</u> Jeremiah 7:1-11; Matthew 13:24-30

Parishioners of Holy Family and St. Thomas

<u>Sunday, July 28 - 8:00 a.m.</u>

2 Kings 4:42-44; Ephesians 4:1-6; John 6:1-15

Maurice Ormond (By Randy & Gayle Frakes)

St. Thomas - 10:00 a.m.

Anne Norkus (By Pat Sharow)

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

July 13-14, 2024

Holy Family: \$4,651.00 School Support: \$620.00 Debt Reduction: \$500.00 Sister Parish: 562.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

July 14, 2024

St. Thomas: \$1,748.00 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

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Jeff Kozak † Jim Duvendack † Marilyn Clark † Sheila Thompson † Logan Wilson † Mary Gregory † Ezra Keokham †

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

July 28, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Jim Clausius

Justin & Emily Obert **Greeters:**

Family

Lector: Karen Janssen

Gift Bearers: Jerry & Marge Herkert **Eucharistic Minister:** Kim Gronewold/Clara

Schmidt

Collection Counters: Greg & Elizabeth Likes Ushers: Jacob Schmidt, Maurice Schmidt

From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time. Our readings for today remind us that Jesus, our Shepherd, nourishes and strengthens us, guiding us in right paths. He is the righteous shoot of David, the peace between Jews and Gentiles and between God and humanity. May we always know and follow Christ, the Good Shepherd, He who will always lead us to peace, joy, and Eternal Life in His Truth.

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK – We have a full slate of liturgical celebrations this week:

-Monday, July 22 – Feast of St. Mary Magdalene.

"St. Mary Magdalene is one of the greatest saints of the Bible and a legendary example of God's mercy and grace. The precise dates of her birth and death are unknown, but we do know she was present with Christ during his public ministry, death and resurrection. She is mentioned at least a dozen times in the Gospels.

Mary Magdalene has long been regarded as a prostitute or sexually immoral in western Christianity, but this is not supported in the scriptures. It is believed she was a Jewish woman who lived among Gentiles, living as they did.

The Gospels agree that Mary was originally a great sinner. Jesus cast seven demons out of her when he met her. After this, she told several women she associated with and these women also became followers.

There is also debate over if Mary Magdalene is the same unnamed women, a sinner, who weeps and washes Jesus' feet with her hair in the Gospel of John. Scholars are skeptical this is the same person.

Despite the scholarly dispute over her background, what she did in her subsequent life, after meeting Jesus, is much more significant. She was certainly a sinner whom Jesus saved, giving us an example of how no person is beyond the saving grace of God.

During Jesus' ministry, it is believed that Mary Magdalene followed him, part of a semi-permanent entourage who served Jesus and his Disciples.

Mary likely watched the crucifixion from a distance along with the other women who followed Christ during His ministry. Mary was present when Christ rose from the dead, visiting his tomb to anoint his body only to find the stone rolled away and Christ, very much alive, sitting at the place they laid Him. She was the first witness to His resurrection.

After the death of Christ, a legend states that she remained among the early Christians. After fourteen years, she was allegedly put into a boat by Jews, along with several other saints of the early Church, and set adrift without sails or oars. The boat landed in southern France, where she spent the remaining years of her life living in solitude, in a cave.

St. Mary Magdalene's feast day is July 22. She is the patroness of converts, repentant sinners, sexual temptation, pharmacists, tanners and women, and many other places and causes." (Catholic Online www.catholic.org)

St. Mary Magdalene, Pray for us!

-Tuesday, July 23 – Optional memorial of St. Bridget, Religious.

"From age 7 on, Bridget had visions of Christ crucified. Her visions formed the basis for her activity—always with the emphasis on charity rather than spiritual favors.

She lived her married life in the court of the Swedish king Magnus II. Mother of eight children—the second eldest was Saint Catherine of Sweden—Bridget lived the strict life of a penitent after her husband's death.

Bridget constantly strove to exert her good influence over Magnus; while never fully reforming, he did give her land and buildings to found a monastery for men and women. This group eventually expanded into an Order known as the Bridgetines.

In 1350, a year of jubilee, Bridget braved a plague-stricken Europe to make a pilgrimage to Rome. Although she never returned to Sweden, her years in Rome were far from happy, being hounded by debts and by opposition to her work against Church abuses.

A final pilgrimage to the Holy Land, marred by shipwreck and the death of her son, Charles, eventually led to her death in 1373. In 1999, Bridget, Saint Catherine of Siena and Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, were named copatronesses of Europe.

Bridget's visions, rather than isolating her from the affairs of the world, involved her in many contemporary issues, whether they be royal policy or the years that the legitimate Bishop of Rome lived in Avignon, France. She saw no contradiction between mystical experience and secular activity, and her life is a testimony to the possibility of a holy life in the marketplace." (Franciscan Media)

St. Bridget, Pray for us!

-Wednesday, July 24 – Optional memorial of St. Sharbel Makhluf, Priest.

"Youssef Antoun Makhlouf was born in 1828, in Bekaa Kafra (North Lebanon). He had a true Christian upbringing, which had given him a passion for prayer. Then he followed his two hermit uncles in the hermitage of the St. Antonious Kozhaya monastery and was converted to monastic and hermetical life.

In 1851, he left his family village and headed for the Our Lady of Maifouk monastery to spend his first monastic year, and then he went to the St. Maron monastery in Annaya, where he entered the Maronite Order, carrying the name Charbel, a name of one of the Antioch church martyrs of the second century. On November 1st. 1853, he exposed his ceremonial vows in St. Maron's monastery - Annaya. Then he completed his theological studies in the St. Kobrianous and Justina monastery in Kfifan, Batroun.

He was ordained a priest in Bkerky, the Maronite Patriarchate, on July 23, 1859. He lived 16 years in the St. Maron's monastery - Annaya. From there, he entered, on February 15, 1875, the St Peter & Paul hermitage, which belongs to the monastery. He was a typical saint and hermit, who spent his time praying and worshipping. Rarely had he left the hermitage where he followed the way of the saintly hermits in prayers, life and practice.

St. Charbel lived in the hermitage for 23 years. On December 16, 1898 he was struck with an illness while performing the holy mass. He died on Christmas' eve, December 24, 1898, and was buried in the St. Maron monastery cemetery in Annaya.

Few months later, dazzling lights were seen around the grave. From there, his corpse, which had been secreting sweat and blood, was transferred into a special coffin. Hordes of pilgrims started swarming the place to get his intercession. And through this intercession,

God blessed many people with recovery and spiritual graces.

In 1925, his beatification and canonization were proposed for declaration by Pope Pious XI. In 1950, the grave was opened in the presence of an official committee which included doctors who verified the soundness of the body. After the grave had been opened and inspected, the variety of healing incidents amazingly multiplied. A multitude of pilgrims from different religious facets started flocking to the Annaya monastery to get the saint's intercession.

Prodigies reached beyond the Lebanese borders. This unique phenomenon caused a moral revolution, the return to faith and the reviving of the virtues of the soul." (Catholic Online www.catholic.org)

St. Charbel Mahkluf, Pray for us!

-Thursday, July 25 – Feast of St. James, Apostle.

"Nothing is known of St. James the Greater's early life, though it has been established that he is the son of Zebedee and Salome and brother of John the disciple.

The title "the Greater" was added to St. James' name to help distinguish him from the Apostle James "the Less," who is believed to have been shorter than James "the Greater."

Saint James the Greater was one of Jesus' first disciples. James was fishing with his father and John the Apostle when Jesus came to the shores of the Sea of Galilee and called for the fisherman, who were unable to catch any fish that day, to dip their nets in the water once again.

When the fishermen followed Jesus' instructions, they found their nets full, and after emptying the fish on board, the boats nearly sank from their weight.

Later, James was one of only three called by Jesus to witness his Transfiguration, and when he and his brother wanted to call fire upon a Samaritan town, both were rebuked by Jesus.

Following Christ's Ascension, James spread the Gospel across Israel and the Roman kingdom as well. He traveled and spread the Word for nearly forty years in Spain.

It is said that one day, as he prayed, The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him and asked him to build her a church, which he did. Later, James returned to Jerusalem but was martyred for his faith by King Herod, who decapitated him. Saint James the Greater is known as the first apostle to die.

As he was not allowed to be buried following his martyrdom, his remains were taken to Compostela, Spain, by some of his followers, who buried him.

In the ninth century his remains were discovered and moved to a tomb in Santiago de Compostela. Today, his remains can still be found in the Cathedral of Santiago.

Because Santiago de Compostela is the most frequently visited place pilgrims migrate to following Rome and Jerusalem, Pope Leo declared it a shrine.

St. James the Greater Prayer: O glorious Apostle, St. James, who by reason of thy fervent and generous heart was chosen by Jesus to be a witness of His glory on Mount Tabor, and of His agony in Gethsemane; thou, whose very name is a symbol of warfare and victory: obtain for us strength and consolation in the unending warfare of this life, that, having constantly and generously followed Jesus, we may be victors in the strife and deserve to receive the victor's crown in heaven. Amen." (Catholic Online www.catholic.org)

St. James, Pray for us!

-Friday, July 26 – Obligatory Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Saints Joachim and Anne, "are the parents of the Virgin Mary. There are no mentions of them in the Bible or Gospels, what we know comes from Catholic legend and the Gospel of James, which is an unsanctioned, apocryphal writing from the second century AD. We do know from scholarship that the Gospel of James was not written by James, the Brother of Jesus, despite its claim to be so authored.

Even the early Church fathers expressed skepticism about the Gospel of James in their writings. There are about 150 copies of the ancient manuscript which often have different titles, but tell the same story, that Mary was promised to Joachim and Anne by an angel, was consecrated to God, and she remained a virgin all her life.

Naturally, there is plenty of room for scholarly debate about these saints. We have no true primary sources that prove they even existed, but certainly we can agree that Mary had parents. Likewise, we can agree that Mary had good, faithful parents who raised her with a love and devotion to God like none other except Jesus Christ Himself.

Joachim and Anne serve as role models for parents and both deserve to be honored and emulated for their devotion to God and Our Lady Mary, the Mother of God." (Catholic Online www.catholic.org)

Saints Joachim and Anne, Pray for us!

-VISITOR – As I wrote in last week's bulletin and as I wrote this now, my oldest brother, Fr. Melvin Kuhn, a priest of the Diocese of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, is planning to be here for a visit. By the time you are reading this, he should be here and will be staying for a while. He will be staying in the rectory with me much of the time and you may see him around both parishes while he is praying or offering Mass. Once again, I ask that if you happen to be in one of the Churches and he is celebrating Mass, please be aware and respectful of the Holy Sacrifice he is offering.

I might also mention, though he will not like me doing so, that he will be celebrating a birthday on Friday, July 26.

-HOLY WATER BOTTLES – You may have noticed that I have made Holy Water bottles available in each Church. Feel free to use these to take Holy Water with you. The ones I have out are a little larger than I anticipated. I do have a few smaller ones as well if you need or prefer one of those. I will try to put some of those out as well or ask me for one and I'll get it for you if I still have some.

At Holy Family, the bottles are on top of the large metal Holy Water receptacle and at St. Thomas they are on the small table opposite the Holy Water receptacle.

-MY AVAILABILITY – I will be around the parishes each day but this week and next week I am also planning to take some personal time away several of those days (part of the day). I will be fairly close by. If there is an emergency, call the rectory phone and if the voicemail picks up, press zero. You may also call my cell phone number for an emergency. While I take a little time away, I will respond to all other messages as soon as possible.

-FIRST FRIDAY – As I hope you are aware, we have First Friday Devotions at St. Thomas each

month. Part of that includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at noon until about 6:00 p.m. Anyone is welcome to come for Adoration at any time. However, we must have folks who are committed to taking a particular hour to make sure someone is always present with the Blessed Sacrament. We are in need of help with this, folks who can commit to one of those hours. If you are interested and able to help, please let me know. It is always a wonderful opportunity to spend time with the Lord especially in Eucharistic Adoration.

-EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION – I mentioned this at Masses but just to say once again, I was at the National Eucharistic Procession that went through Quincy on Tuesday, July 9 (as were several parishioners). It was an extraordinary event and the large number of people present was great. May we always be reminded of the Lord's Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist and take the opportunity to spend time with Him in prayer. May our lives reflect the joy found only in Christ and also His love and mercy for each of us.

-DIACONATE FORMATION – Just a reminder, as part of his Formation, I've asked Matt Heldt to give a reflection at the end of Mass once a week which he has been doing for some time now during the week. He will begin to also give a reflection about once a month at the Sunday Masses at both parishes.

Just a reminder of what I have said before, a homily may only be given by a Priest or a Deacon, the duty belonging most appropriately to the Priest Celebrant himself or in some cases a Concelebrant. Matt is in Formation and what he will be giving is a reflection...often times on the Sacred Scriptures for the day, yes, but it is not a homily and will not occur during the time for a homily in the Liturgy. In fact, the reflection will not occur during the Liturgy Proper at all but rather immediately following the Final Blessing and Dismissal.

Also, while weekday homilies MAY be omitted for reason, Sunday homilies are NEVER to be omitted for any reason. During weekday Masses when Matt gives a reflection, I normally do not also give a homily. For Sunday Liturgies, when Matt is to give a reflection, I will also be giving a homily.

Thank you for your support of Matt in his Formation. Please continue to keep Matt and

the other men in his Formation class in your prayers. Indeed, may the good work that God has begun in these men be brought to completion by God's grace.

-TEC - There is a TEC scheduled for next weekend. If you are interested in learning more or going or know someone who is, please contact Matt and Hannah Heldt who are directing the weekend. If you need contact information, let me know.

-CCW – The next Quincy Deanery Council of Catholic Women meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 14 at St. Anthony Parish in Quincy. More information to follow.

Also, the Diocesan-Wide CCW Convention is scheduled for Wednesday, August 28 to be held at the Lake Williamson Retreat Center in Carlinville. Again, more information will be forthcoming

-ICE CREAM SOCIAL – At St. Thomas, Sunday, August 18. Mark your calendars!

-LOOKING AHEAD – Folks who offer religious olive wood products from the Holy Land are planning to be at the parishes after Masses on the weekend of August 10/11. More info to come.

Our Missionary Appeal is scheduled for the weekend of August 24/25. Again, more info to follow.

-PRAYERS – There are many things to pray for, no doubt. I ask you to pray for all those who are sick or suffering in any way, especially our parishioners and family members. Please pray too for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, and for families who have recently lost a loved one. I also ask for prayers and sacrifice for those who are away from the Church. Again, many things to pray for.

-HOT LUNCH PROGRAM – As I've noted in previous bulletins, St. Mary School will be ending Her participation in the Federal and State Hot Lunch Program. We will continue to serve/offer good and healthy hot lunches for our students. This move will give us the opportunity to serve our families even better.

Again, if you or someone you know are interested in contributing to our hot lunch program especially by means of meat donation (beef, pork, poultry) or other contributions, please contact our Principal, Mrs. Melissa Obert or myself. We look forward to your support. Thank you for your consideration.

-FROM THE SAINTS - St. Bonaventure: "If you would suffer with patience the adversities and miseries of this life, be a man of prayer. If you would obtain courage and strength to conquer the temptations of the enemy, be a man of prayer. If you would mortify your own will with all its inclinations and appetites, be a man of prayer. If you would know the wiles of Satan and unmask his deceits, be a man of prayer. If you would live in joy and walk pleasantly in the ways of penance, be a man of prayer. If you would banish from you soul the troublesome flies of vain thoughts and cares, be a man of prayer. If you would nourish your soul with the very sap of devotion, and keep it always full of good thoughts and good desires, be a man of prayer. If you would strengthen and keep up your courage in the ways of God, be a man of prayer. In fine, if you would uproot all vices from your soul and plant all virtues in their place, be a man of prayer. It is in prayer that we receive the unction and grace of the Holy Ghost, who teaches all things."

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

Fr. Aaron

Upcoming Church Ice Cream Socials & Picnics

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

Ice Cream Social

St. Brigid Catholic Church, Liberty, IL is holding their annual Homemade Ice Cream Social on Saturday, August 3 from 4 - 7 p.m.

The menu includes Homemade Ice Cream, Maid-rites, Hot Dogs, Chili Dogs, Chips, Homemade desserts and drinks. Come out and join us! VETERANS EAT FREE!!

Springfield Diocesan Council Of Catholic Women

The Springfield Diocesan Council Of Catholic Women are excited to announce their

upcoming convention on Wednesday, August 28, at Lake Williamson Retreat Center in Carlinville, Illinois. Kelly Wahlquist, speaker, and Donna Cori, singer, will be sharing their message as women who are "Sent On Mission & Fortified By The Eucharist." We are excited about the two speakers we have this year and think many women will be blessed by their message! There will be the church basket silent auction raffle, the guilt and garden statue raffles, vendors and the 50/50 drawing. The convention registration form will be on the church bulletin board registration deadline is August 7. The annual convention is a rewarding and enjoyable day with our fellow sisters in Christ! Hope to see you in Carlinville on August 28!



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.

