

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, September 2 - 7:00 a.m.

1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Luke 4:16-30

Communion Service

<u>Tuesday, September 3 – 7:00 a.m.</u>

St. Gregory the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church 1 Corinthians 2:10b-16; Luke 4:31-37

> Mike Rolf (By Martha Fluckey)

Wednesday, September 4 - 7:00 a.m.

1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Luke 4:38-44

Helen Armstrong (By Cathy Black)

Thursday, September 5 - 7:00 a.m.

1 Corinthians 3:18-23; Luke 5:1-11

Paul, Frances & Larry Schenk & Ruth James (By Bob & Judy Schenk & Family)

AT ST. THOMAS - 5:30 p.m.

Orville & Mary Ann Gronewold (By Jim & Kim Gronewold)

Friday, September 6 – 8:30 a.m. (School Mass) 1 Corinthians 4:1-5: Luke 5:33-39

> Jim Kassing (By Tammy)

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

Ron & Judy Bull (By Jenni Obert)

<u>Saturday, September 7 – 5:30 p.m.</u>

1 Corinthians 4:6b-15; Luke 6:1-5

Marilyn Hammer (By Doug & Debbie Hammer)

Sunday, September 8 - 8:00 a.m.

Isaiah 35:4-7a; James 2:1-5; Mark 7:31-37

Parishioners of Holy Family and St. Thomas

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

Esther & Russell Sherman & Curtis Boone (By Sheila Druffel)

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

<u>August 24-25, 2024</u>

Holy Family: \$3,151.00 School Support: \$75.00 Debt Reduction: \$20.00 Sister Parish: \$65.00 Assumption: \$50.00 Good Friday: \$20.00 Mission Appeal: \$1,368.15

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

August 25, 2024

St. Thomas: \$2,158.27 Assumption: \$25.00 Sister Parish: \$10.00 Mission Appeal: \$457.00 Candles: \$22.00 Mass Intention: \$20.00

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 † Logan Wilson † Mary Gregory † Ezra Keokham † John VanGiesen II †

ST. THOMAS

St. Thomas will once again be having their ministry sign-ups the following Sundays, September 8 & 15 immediately after Mass.

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

<u>September 8, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.</u>

Sacristan:	Denise Taylor
Greeters:	Butch & Dorothy Obert
Lector:	Tod Perry
Gift Bearers:	John & Janice Brady
Eucharistic Minister:	Cathy Wagner/Laura
	Evans
Collection Counters:	Greg & Elizabeth Likes
Ushers:	Justin and Chase Reed

From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Twenty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time. Having completed the Bread of Life Discourse in the Gospel of John which we had been hearing for a number of weeks, we now move back into Mark's Gospel.

In the First Reading for today from Deuteronomy, Moses exhorts the Israelites to observe the Commandments of the Lord. In the Second Reading, the Apostle James calls upon his fellow Christians to humbly receive and practice God's Word. In the Gospel, Jesus calls out (the Pharisees especially) for failing to obey God's Commands and then He teaches the people that it is the thoughts and actions born in the human heart that defile.

Our readings for today remind us that through the observance of the Lord's commands, we shall experience the fullness of life. Living in conformity with God's Will frees us from all clever and unsound reasoning about good and evil. We are called to welcome God's Word and to let it take root in our hearts.

Jesus teaches us to keep our focus on obeying God's Commandments and offers a reminder to not lose sight of what is truly important: obeying God's Commandments and keeping our hearts and actions pure. May we always strive to keep our hearts and actions pure by obeying God's Commands.

One other important point about today's readings is rejecting false accusations. I share here part of a reflection that I recently read on the readings:

"We will all experience unjust condemnation at times. If we are in the wrong, then we must receive the condemnation as if it were from God and repent. But if the condemnation flows from someone's wounded pride or error, then Jesus set the example on how we ought to respond. The best response is to reject their error and then refuse to become engaged in the conversation further. Too often when we are criticized unjustly, we also take it personally. We tend to fight back and justify ourselves, trying to prove that the other person is wrong. But when we do that, we are most likely acting out of our own wounded pride. This will result in angry sulking feelings and the experience of oppression that the evil one inflicts upon us. Jesus' model is to reject the lie and then refuse to engage it further. The reason for this is that the unjust condemnation is actually the seed of the evil one. The person delivering it is only the instrument. So we rebuke the lie of the evil one and refuse to get into a personal battle with the person delivering the lie. Doing so brings freedom from oppression and allows our hearts to remain at peace, no matter what we endure.

Reflect, today, upon any ways that you have taken some conversation personally, allowing it to oppress you with anger, becoming defensive or argumentative. Know that whenever that happens, this is an attack from the evil one as he seeks to oppress you. Do not accept that abuse. The guide for each of us is the peace and joy that comes from the Holy Spirit. Even the greatest martyrs remained at peace and felt joy in the midst of their persecution. Reflect upon any ways that you have allowed the evil one to agitate you and leave you upset with your wounded pride. Do not fall into his trap. Hold on to the truth and remain at peace, and that will be all the defense you need to make.

My persecuted Lord, You endured much criticism in life, but You never allowed it to steal Your peace. You remained perfectly strong, rejecting the lies and turning from them. Please give me the grace I need to always turn away from the lies of the evil one and to listen only to Your clear and gentle voice. Jesus, I trust in You."

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Tuesday, September 3 – Obligatory Memorial of St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church. Lived about 540–604; Patron Saint of choir boys, educators, masons, musicians, popes, students, and singers; Invoked against gout and the plague; Declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Boniface VIII in 1295; Liturgical Color: White.

"Gregory was born in Rome into an aristocratic family whose members filled political and religious offices. Gregory's father, a senator, became the Prefect of Rome; his mother, Silvia, was canonized as a saint, as were two aunts. Gregory's influential, wealthy, and saintly family provided him with a stellar education and nurtured him in the Catholic faith. Until he was fourteen, Gregory witnessed disease and war between the Ostrogoths and the Eastern Roman Emperor ravage Rome. Gregory's family might have fled for a time. In 554, people returned to Rome to rebuild and reestablish order.

Gregory followed his father in civil leadership roles and was elected as Prefect of Rome in 573. When his father died, Gregory resigned as Prefect, turned his family home into a monastery, and took monastic vows. Gregory spent four years immersed in prayer and study before Pope Pelagius II ordained him as one of Rome's seven deacons and sent him to Constantinople as his papal ambassador. There, Deacon Gregory maintained his monastic life while fulfilling his imperial court duties. He also began writing his commentary on the Book of Job, providing teachings on God's nature, the problem of evil, the Christian understanding of suffering, and the virtue of patience.

Six years later, Deacon Gregory returned to Rome as abbot of his monastery. When Pope Pelagius II died in 590, the people of Rome chose Gregory as his successor. He reluctantly accepted and was the first monk to be elected pope. Over the next fourteen years, despite constant ill health, Pope Gregory I became one of the most consequential popes in history. Administratively, he implemented strict guidelines to ensure the responsible use of Church property and finances, put measures in place to prevent abuses, increased transparency, and expanded charitable works, nearly emptying the papal treasury. He also forged strategic military and political alliances that strengthened the papacy.

Pope Gregory standardized the liturgy with clear guidelines and rubrics. He instituted prayers, the flow of the Mass, and the liturgical year. The liturgical chant he developed became known as "Gregorian Chant." In the missionary spirit, he began the conversion of England's Anglo-Saxons.

In addition to Scripture commentaries, Pope Gregory authored the "Pastoral Rule," a guide for bishops and other church leaders, outlining their pastoral responsibilities and the conduct expected in their personal and public lives. His "Dialogues" are a collection of inspiring visions, miracles, and the lives of the saints, including an early biography of St. Benedict. Pope Gregory's approximately 800 letters offer a valuable insight into the ecclesiastical, social, and political landscape of his time. The letters' practical theological and pastoral advice have influenced Church leadership for centuries.

Enduring legacies cannot be fabricated, purchased, or contrived. They are the result of true leadership and the profound impact one leaves behind. Pope Gregory I is now known as Saint Gregory the Great. He is "great" because he not only had a major influence upon the people of his time, both religiously and politically, but also because his influence and writings solidified the direction that the Church would take after him. His first loves were of Christ and the monastic way of life. God used Gregory's humble way of life as a foundation upon which He would continue to build His Church.

As we honor this great pope, ponder the importance of making your life a foundation upon which others will grow and flourish. We establish a firm foundation for our spiritual lives and for the lives of others around us only when we make prayer and union with God our primary mission. Saint Gregory did this well, and God used him in glorious ways. May the same be said of each one of us.

Prayer: Saint Gregory the Great, your first desire was to love God, to come to know Him through prayer and study, and to serve Him with all your heart. God took what you gave and transformed it into a solid foundation upon which He would continue to grow His Church. Please pray for me, that my life will always be grounded upon a solid faith so that God can use me in any way He chooses for His glory and the salvation of souls. Saint Gregory the Great, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You." (mycatholic.life)

-Thursday, September 5 – In the United States of America, optional memorial of St. Teresa of Calcutta, Virgin (commonly known to many of us as Mother Teresa). Lived 1910–1997; Patron Saint of Calcutta and the Missionaries of Charity; Canonized by Pope Francis on September 4, 2016; Liturgical Color: White.

"Aniezë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu was born in Skopje, present-day North Macedonia, the youngest of three surviving children. Her devout Catholic parents called her Gonxhe, meaning "rosebud" or "little flower" in Albanian. When Gonxhe was eight, her father died, and her family suffered financially. Feeling called to serve the poor, at eighteen, she traveled to Ireland to join the Loreto nuns. After learning English, the young novice moved to the Loreto House in Darjeeling, India in 1929. In 1931, she made her first profession of vows, taking the name Teresa, after Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. She then taught at a girls' school in Calcutta. Making final vows in 1937, she became "Mother Teresa."

On September 10, 1946, Mother Teresa was traveling by train from Calcutta to Darjeeling for an annual retreat and time of rest. During the trip, she heard Jesus' "call within a call," to quench His thirst by following Him into the slums to serve the poorest of the poor. She observed September 10 as "Inspiration Day," the day she believed God founded the future Missionaries of Charity.

Jesus' thirst on the Cross was the purpose of Mother Teresa's life and the reason God called her to found the Missionaries of Charity. With no end to the depth of Jesus' thirst, there was no end to the depth of love she was called to give to Him by loving the poorest of the poor. Mother Teresa would quench Christ's thirst in those she served and encounter Jesus in the distressing disguise of the poor.

For eighteen months, Mother Teresa heard the "Voice" speak to her, calling her to trust, surrender, and love while her spiritual director and the archbishop tested her. Finally, with the permission of the Loreto Superior and the Holy See, Mother Teresa began her new mission on August 17, 1948.

After completing medical training. Mother Teresa began her life as a Missionary of Charity in the Calcutta slums where countless were homeless, poor, and uneducated. She dressed their wounds, showed compassion for the suffering, listened to their stories, and gave them food, treating them as if they were Jesus. This was a novel approach in India where poverty was viewed as a result of bad karma. In March 1949, one of her former students joined her in the work. A year later, she had twelve companions. Receiving formal papal approval on October 7, 1950, the Missionaries of Charity made the usual three vows and a fourth vow to care for the poor and needy.

Over the next decades, the order spread from India, growing to 4,000 members in 123 countries. In 1976, Mother Teresa received the Nobel Peace Prize, which she accepted "in the name of the hungry, of the naked, of the homeless, of the crippled, of the blind, of the leprous, of all those people who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared, thrown away of the society, people who have become a burden to the society, and are ashamed by everybody." After that, kings, dictators, presidents, prime ministers, and religious leaders sought her counsel, and she enjoyed an open door from the pope any time she was in Rome. While her international influence was considerable, she remained humble and devoted to her mission of love. Two years after her death, Pope John Paul II opened her cause for canonization. He beatified her in 2003, and she was canonized by Pope Francis in 2016.

Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta was one of the greatest saints in all of history. After her death, those closest to her shared many of her private letters that tell an incredible story. From the time she began her work with the poor and suffering, she started to experience an inner darkness, a complete loss of the sense of God's presence. This interior darkness mirrors the spiritual writings of the greatest mystics, such as Saints John of the Cross and Teresa of Ávila. God stripped her of every interior consolation so that her charity would be absolutely pure and devoid of all selfish motivation, resulting in pure selfless giving, fueled by unshakable faith, and driven by divine hope. She was truly a mystic in the deepest sense, an icon of the satiation of Christ's Thirst.

Prayer: Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, the Thirst of Christ so permeated your soul that you experienced His longing within the depths of your being. This Thirst drove you to charity, endlessly searching for every way possible to bring satiation to our Lord in the distressing disguise of the poor and suffering. Please pray for me, that I will be freed of every selfish motivation in life so that I can give myself to others, freely and wholeheartedly, as an instrument of the Most Merciful Heart of Jesus. Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You." (mycatholic.life)

-DONUT SUNDAY – This Sunday, September 1 after the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas in the parish Hall. Plan to join us!

-LABOR DAY – In the United States, Monday, September 2 is celebrated as Labor Day. Though it is not a Liturgical Celebration, we recognize the importance and the value of the work we do. We recognize work as a gift from God. May we always know and follow God's Will in all things and bring Him into all our endeavors and may we remain ever mindful of the spiritual and temporal works of the Church that we are called to engage in.

-FIRST FRIDAY – First Friday Devotion at St. Thomas on Friday, September 6.

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from Noon until 5:45 p.m. followed by Benediction and then Mass at 6:00 p.m. Confessions from 5:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

A reminder that if you would like to take a regular hour of Adoration on First Fridays at St. Thomas or to serve as a substitute, contact Chuck Simmons.

-NOCTURNAL ADORATION – At Holy Family beginning at 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 7 with Exposition and Adoration until 7:45 a.m. on Sunday morning followed by Benediction and the regular 8:00 a.m. Mass.

-MISSIONARY APPEAL – I thank Fr. Frank Ruff from the Glenmary Home Missioners for being with us last week. If you would like to make a financial contribution to the Glenmary Home Missions, please do so as soon as possible by using one of the envelopes in the pews or in the back of each church and dropping it in the collection basket. We will forward these contributions on in the next few weeks. Please also pray for Fr. Frank, The Glenmary Home Missions, and the work they do.

-HOG ROAST – The annual St. Mary School Hog Roast is scheduled for Sunday, September 15. Mark your calendars and plan to join us and be sure to get tickets for our great prize that we have each year!

-LOOKING AHEAD – The Diocesan Priest Convocation will be held Monday, September 16 through Thursday, September 19 in Collinsville. I will be away from the parishes those days. I will let you know about Communion Services while I am away. As we prepare for and attend this year's Convocation, please keep the priests and Bishop Paprocki in your prayers.

PROJECT RACHEL - Help for women and men to heal from the pain of abortion. For assistance call 1-877-RACHEL-5.

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

-Fr. Aaron

HOLY FAMILY BOSCO KIDS AND RCIA

Bosco Kids (the Holy Family Parish School of Religion {PSR}) will start classes in early September for students in grades K-6. We will set the day and time for these classes based on what works best for the families and teachers. Please let me know if your children are coming to class this year. Just a reminder that 2nd grade students receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and 3rd grade students receive the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Please let me know if you have any questions. Ann O'Sullivan 217-257-2516 or aosullivan2031@gmail.com.

RCIA classes are for those interested in learning more about the Catholic religion and/or coming into the Catholic Church. Please let me or Father Aaron know if you are interested in attending these classes or have any questions about the Catholic Faith.

<u>National Day of Remembrance--</u> <u>A new opportunity for prayer in Quincy</u>

On Saturday, September 14, pro-life Americans throughout the U.S. will gather at memorial sites dedicated in honor of aborted babies and at their grave sites, for the 12th annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children.

Together, during the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children, let us remember the victims of abortion and pray for a final end to this injustice in our land.

Solemn vigils will be held in over 100 locations to commemorate the more than 65 million children who have lost their lives to legal abortion since 1973, and to remind our society of the humanity of the unborn child.

PLEASE join us for Quincy's first National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children memorial service.

Event: National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children

When: Saturday, September 14, 2024, 1:00 p.m.

Where: Knights of Columbus grounds, outdoors near the entrance to the main building, 700 S. 36th Street, Quincy

Sponsored by: Right to Life of Adams County

Please bring a lawn chair

More Info: Jane Haas, 217-257-0533

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

St. Mary School Drive Thru Hog Roast will take place on Sunday, September 15 from 11:00 – 1:00 p.m. at the K of C Hall.





MOUNT STERLING , IL • HOLY FAMILY