

## 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, September 16 – 7:00 a.m.

Sts. Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs  
1 Corinthians 11:17-26, 33; Luke 7:1-10

Communion Service

### Tuesday, September 17 – 7:00 a.m.

St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church; St.  
Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin & Doctor of the Church  
1 Corinthians 12:12-14,27-31a; Luke 7:11-17

Communion Service

### Wednesday, September 18 – 7:00 a.m.

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13; Luke 7:31-35

Communion Service

### Thursday, September 19 – 7:00 a.m.

1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 7:36-50

Communion Service

### AT ST. THOMAS – 5:30 p.m.

Irene Norkus  
(By Pat Sharow)

### Friday, September 20 – 8:30 a.m.

#### (School Mass)

Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest & Paul Chong Ha-sang  
and Companions, Martyrs  
1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 8:1-3

Randy Rigg  
(By Kathy Rigg)

### Saturday, September 21 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist  
Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13

Roberta Young  
(By Cheryl Dillard)

### Sunday, September 22 – 8:00 a.m.

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20; James 3:16-4:3; Mark 9:30-37

Corrine Kassing  
(By Catherine Clark)

### St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Parishioners of Holy Family  
and St. Thomas

## HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

September 7-8, 2024

Holy Family: \$4,398.70  
School Support: \$192.00  
Debt Reduction: \$150.00  
Sister Parish: \$280.00  
Mission Appeal: \$170.00  
Cemetery: \$20.00  
Parish Tithe/ACSA: \$1,000.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

## ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

September 8, 2024

St. Thomas: \$2,214.00  
Mission Appeal: \$70.00  
Parish Tithe/ACSA: \$25.00  
Candles: \$23.00

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 † Logan Wilson †  
Isabella Wilson † Calvin Schenk †  
Mary Gregory † Ezra Keokham † Greg Jones †

## ST. THOMAS

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

**St. Thomas Ice Cream Social Results** - Our Ice Cream Social was a wonderful success of fellowship and profit. Thank you to everyone who helped and for the many generous donations to help with expenses, Plus a thank you to everyone who came! Our basket raffle (19 baskets) and the 50/50 drawing made for happy winners. As of now, we have a profit of \$4,064, the best ever. We still have more ice cream to sell, so that will boost it up. Again, many thanks for your support of St. Thomas.

## ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

*September 22, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.*

<b>Sacristan:</b>	Jonah Coggeshall
<b>Greeters:</b>	Greg & Elizabeth Likes
<b>Lector:</b>	Denise Taylor
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	Jacob & Alicia Schmidt Family
<b>Eucharistic Minister:</b>	Tod Perry/Jim Clausius
<b>Collection Counters:</b>	Robin Coggeshall
<b>Ushers:</b>	Justin and Chase Reed

## From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Twenty Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time. The Liturgy of the Word for today's Mass reminds us that discipleship entails denying our very selves and following the way of the Lord, a way of suffering and service. In professing our faith in Him, we can rely on

the Lord for strength and salvation. The Liturgy of the Eucharist makes present to us in a real way, as it always does, the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Monday, September 16: Obligatory Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs. Saint Cornelius: died in 253; Patron Saint of cattle and domestic animals; Invoked against earaches, epilepsy, fevers, and twitching. Saint Cyprian: Lived around 200-258; Patron Saint of Algeria and North Africa. Liturgical Color: Red.

"Quote, from the Trial of St. Cyprian: Galerius Maximus: "Are you Thascius Cyprianus?" Cyprian: "I am." Galerius: "The most sacred Emperors have commanded you to conform to the Roman rites." Cyprian: "I refuse." Galerius: "Consider your choice and the consequences." Cyprian: "Do as you will; in such a clear case I accept the consequences." Galerius: "You have long lived an irreligious life, and have drawn together a number of men bound by an unlawful association, and professed yourself an open enemy to the gods and the religion of Rome...you shall be made an example to those whom you have wickedly associated with; the authority of law shall be ratified in your blood...It is the sentence of this court that Thascius Cyprianus be executed with the sword." Cyprian: "Thanks be to God."

Prayer: Saints Cornelius and Cyprian, you loved God and remained firm in your faith in the face of persecution and death. Your courageous witness was coupled with a pastoral witness to God's mercy. Please pray that I will imitate your courage and merciful hearts, standing strong in my faith and offering forgiveness to every sinner. Saints Cornelius and Cyprian, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You."

-Tuesday, September 17: Optional memorials of Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor of the Church. St. Robert Bellarmine: Lived 1542-1621; Patron Saint of canon lawyers, catechism writers, catechists, and catechumens; Canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1930; Declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius XI in 1931. Saint Hildegard of Bingen: Lived

1098–1179; Patron Saint of philologists and Esperantists; Canonized by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012; Declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012.  
Liturgical Color: White

“Quote: If I seek my maker, I find God alone. If I seek the material from which he made me, I find absolutely nothing. From this you can conclude that whatever is in me was made by God, and wholly belongs to God. If I ask about my nature, I find that I am the image of God. If I ask about my end, I find God himself, who is my supreme and total good. Therefore, I will recognize that I have a great bond with, and need for, God, as he alone is my creator, my maker, my father, my exemplar, my happiness, my all. If I understand this, what can happen except that I seek him ardently, that I think of him, that I yearn for him, desire to see and embrace Him? Should I not be horrified at the dense darkness of my heart, which for so long has considered, desired, and sought things other than God, who alone is my all?”  
~Saint Robert Bellarmine, *The Mind’s Ascent to God by the Ladder of Created Things*

Prayer: Saint Robert Bellarmine, you placed your mind at God’s service for His glory and praise. God used you to articulate His truth in a systematic and practical way that strengthened and unified the Church. Please pray that I will place my gifts and talents at God’s service so that He will use me to fulfill His perfect will. Saint Robert Bellarmine, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.”

“Saint Hildegard of Bingen was born to parents of lower nobility in Bermersheim vor der Höhe, in Franconia, modern-day Germany. Her father served Count Stephan II of Sponheim. Hildegard, her family’s tenth child, was offered to the Church as a tithe by her parents when she was eight years old, as was the custom. She was given to the Benedictine monastery at Disibodenberg, twenty-five miles from her hometown, and cared for by Jutta von Sponheim, Count Stephan II’s daughter.

Jutta, later abbess of the women’s branch, taught Hildegard basic catechism and enough Latin to pray the Psalms and Divine Office. She formed Hildegard’s faith, devotion, and asceticism. Hildegard learned to play the psaltery, a primitive form of the harp. Of noble descent, Jutta and Hildegard

inspired other noble girls to join them. After seven years, Hildegard took the Benedictine veil at age fifteen and became abbess in 1136 when Jutta died. By 1150, she had moved her growing community to Rupertsberg, near Bingen, and, in 1165, established a second monastery at Eibingen.

Despite Hildegard’s limited education, she was highly intelligent. Her knowledge was infused by what she referred to as “the shadow of the living light.” This “living light” came in the form of mystical visions and inspirations from an early age. Until she was in her forties, she mostly kept these mystical experiences to herself—absorbing, pondering, and allowing them to grow and deepen. Her Teacher was the Holy Spirit, giving her a divine infusion of Truth that led to a supernatural understanding of mysteries of the faith and revelation, along with insight into the natural sciences.

In 1142, Abbess Hildegard intensely sensed God commanding her to write her visions and share her divinely infused knowledge. She spent the rest of her life transcribing all that she understood by this infusion of the living light. Her first work, completed in 1151, described twenty-six visions with her commentary, known as *Scivias*—“Know the Ways.” These visions and commentaries touch on every aspect of faith, from the creation of the world to the end of time.

Hildegard spent the next twenty-eight years writing, completing two more visionary works in which she dealt with virtue and vice, God’s relationship with man, and God’s activity in the world. She wrote in detail on natural sciences, medicine, and women’s health, despite her lack of formal education. She also wrote on the saints and the Rule of Saint Benedict. She penned numerous letters to popes, emperors, abbots, and abbesses. As an artist and musician, she illustrated and composed beautiful hymns. Many, with their soaring melodies and beautiful harmonies, are still sung today.

The universal Church frequently called upon Abbess Hildegard for counsel. Unusual for women, she preached in public squares and cathedrals. Pope Eugene II and Saint Bernard of Clairvaux examined and approved her writings. Pope Benedict XVI declared Hildegard a saint and Doctor of the Church in 2012, even though she had informally

been recognized as a saint since the time of her death.

Prayer: Saint Hildegard of Bingen, in your humility and simplicity, God raised you up and gave you the gift of supernatural knowledge about Heaven and earth's deepest mysteries. Please pray that I will be open to the truths God reveals to me and will use that knowledge as the basis of all my choices. Saint Hildegard of Bingen, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You."

-Thursday, September 19: Optional memorial of Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr. Died around 304; Patron Saint of Naples, Italy and blood banks; Invoked against volcanic eruptions.

"Among times of persecution of the Church, none was worse than the one begun in 303 when Roman Emperor Diocletian issued a series of edicts that punished Christians for their faith. Some had their property confiscated, others were forced to work in mines, and still others were imprisoned, tortured, and killed. Today's saint, Januarius, joined the company of other famous martyrs of that period, including Saints, Agnes, Cosmas, Damian, and Lucy.

Januarius might have been born into an aristocratic family in Benevento, about 150 miles southeast of Rome. Little is known about his childhood and life, beyond various legends. According to one, he became a priest at age fifteen in Benevento and the bishop of either Benevento or Naples at twenty.

When Diocletian's persecutions began in 303 and 304, four of Bishop Januarius' friends were arrested. To encourage the two deacons and two laymen, Bishop Januarius visited them in prison, but he himself was arrested and imprisoned. Shortly after, Bishop Januarius' deacon and a lay lector were arrested when they visited Januarius.

During their interrogations, each Christian boldly professed his faith and refused to offer sacrifices to the Roman gods. They were ordered to be burned. When Bishop Januarius was thrown into the flames, he remained unharmed. Next, they were to be fed to wild beasts in the arena. One legend says that the beasts became docile and refused to devour them. Ultimately, they were ordered to be beheaded. When the

executioner approached, he was struck blind, but Bishop Januarius cured him, leading to many conversions.

After consenting to their martyrdom, the seven were beheaded. Januarius' body was buried in the principal church in Naples. Since then, many who have prayed at his tomb have reported miracles. Some credit Januarius with the sparing of Naples during Mount Vesuvius' volcanic eruptions.

Since his martyrdom, God has continued to use Saint Januarius in a mysterious way. Legend holds that, after his death, a holy woman named Eusebia collected some of his blood and stored it in two glass vials that were later enshrined in the church next to his body. In 1389, a miraculous phenomenon began to occur. Three times each year, his dried blood liquefies in the presence of the faithful.

Today, the blood is enclosed in a silver reliquary containing two hermetically sealed vials. The first instance of liquefaction is on the Saturday before the first Sunday of May, commemorating the translation of the saint's relics to Naples. The second time is on September 19, the feast of Saint Januarius. The third event takes place on the anniversary of the 1631 eruption of Mount Vesuvius, December 16, when a silver bust believed to house the skull of Saint Januarius is placed on the altar, and the blood is brought out for veneration. Scientists have attempted to explain this phenomenon, but no one has successfully cast sufficient doubt on its miraculous nature.

Prayer: Saint Januarius, you laid down your life for your faith after being arrested for visiting your friends in prison. Your love and courage are inspiring. Please pray that I will find great inspiration in your witness and seek to imitate your selflessness and courage. Saint Januarius, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You."

-Friday, September 20: Obligatory Memorial of Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gön, Priest, and Paul Chöng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs. Died 1839-1867; Patron Saints of Korea; Canonized by Pope John Paul II on May 6, 1984. Liturgical Color: Red.

"Quote: Listen to me attentively, as my time is limited here below. The very reason I

reached out to the people of other civilizations was for the sole purpose of my faith and my God alone. I am willing to lay down my life for the Lord. Eternal life is about to begin for me and if you desire to be eternally satisfied and joyful after your time here, believe in this teaching from God. He will not forget those who reject Him, and unending punishment is unavoidable for them. ~From a letter from the Apostolic Vicar of Korea relating Saint Andrew's dying words

Prayer: Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gön, Paul Chöng Ha-sang, and Companions, you chose Christ over your earthly lives. Your hope was eternal life, and death became gain for you. Please pray that nothing will ever deter me from following Christ. May your witness inspire me to become a saint like you. Korean Martyrs, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You."

-September 21: Feast of Saint Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist. Lived in First Century; Patron Saint of civil servants, accountants, bankers, bookkeepers, customs officers, financial officers, guards, moneychangers, money managers, stockbrokers, and tax collectors. Liturgical Color: Red

"Today's saint emerged from the despised profession of tax collectors, seen as traitors to the Jews for collaborating with the Romans and often profiting by imposing extra taxes on their own people. Saint Matthew was most likely born as Levi, the son of Alphaeus. The name "Levi" implies that he was from the Tribe of Levi that was responsible for Jewish liturgical worship. It is almost universally accepted that the Levi in Mark 2:14 and Luke 5:27 is the same person called Matthew in Matthew 9:9. Possibly, Jesus gave Levi the name Matthew, meaning "Gift of Yahweh," upon his conversion.

Levi's call to follow Jesus changed his life in an instant. Likely working in Capernaum, where Jesus had been living in Peter's home, Levi might have been corrupt, greedy, and ostracized by his Jewish community. His duties would have included collecting taxes on goods coming to Capernaum via the Sea of Galilee, as well as charging a toll to those who arrived there by boat. Matthew's Gospel relates his conversion this way, "As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man named

Matthew sitting at the customs post. He said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him" (Matthew 9:9).

Immediately after Matthew abandoned his occupation, he invited Jesus to dine at his house and Jesus accepted. Dining with them were other tax collectors and sinners. The Pharisees quickly condemned Jesus for associating with these men. Jesus rebukes them: "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. Go and learn the meaning of the words, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' I did not come to call the righteous but sinners" (Matthew 9:12-13).

Throughout the rest of the Gospels, Matthew's name is listed with the Twelve. He was present at the Ascension and at Pentecost. Early Church Fathers state that he remained for some time in Judea, preaching the Gospel and helping the newly formed Church. He might have penned his Gospel during this period. The Church Fathers commonly held that Matthew went to "Ethiopia," but not in northeast Africa. Instead, he might have traveled to modern-day Iran or Armenia.

One legend holds that Matthew became a martyr while in ancient Ethiopia. In the story, Matthew thwarted King Hyracus' desire to take Princess Ephigenia as his wife, telling Hyracus that she was a virgin consecrated to Christ. King Hyracus sent an assassin who fatally stabbed Matthew in the back while he stood at the altar, provoking such chaos and death that Hyracus' brother became king, establishing Christianity as his kingdom's official religion.

Saint Matthew's most enduring gift is his Gospel, which early Church Fathers attribute to him unequivocally. Matthew's Gospel was written by a Jew for his fellow Jews, likely written in Hebrew and Aramaic and later translated into Greek. His Gospel shows Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament, the long-awaited Messiah. He begins with a lengthy genealogy tracing Jesus' roots back to Abraham, the father of the Jewish nation. The Sermon on the Mount portrays Jesus as the new Moses, offering the New Law on the new mountain. Moses received the Law from God on Mount Sinai while the Son of God gives the New Law on the Mount of the Beatitudes.



Prayer: Saint Matthew, the emptiness in your soul could not be filled with money, and you immediately left all behind to follow Christ. Please pray that I will never hesitate in saying "Yes" to God's call in my life, so that God can transform my life and use me as He wills. Saint Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You."

-HOG ROAST - St. Mary School Hog Roast is today, Sunday, September 15, served drive thru at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Mt. Sterling, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Come and join us!

-MINISTRY SIGN-UP - Continues at St. Thomas this Sunday, September 15 after Mass.

-CONTAINERS - St. Thomas is in need of gallon size ice cream containers with lids. If you have any that you'd like to give, put them neatly in the back of either church.

-CONVOCATION - I will be away from the parishes this week from Monday evening until Thursday afternoon attending our Diocesan Priest Convocation. Communion Services are planned at Holy Family those days at the regularly scheduled Mass times. I should be back in time for Adoration and Mass at St. Thomas on Thursday evening.

In the event of an emergency while I am away, please first try to contact Tammy in the School Office (217)-773-2825. If you are unable to reach her, call me on my cell phone, found on the front of the bulletin.

-AREA-WIDE MASS - Tuesday, September 24 at QND, 9:30 a.m. with Bishop Paprocki. We are planning to take the 2nd-8th Graders from St. Mary School. You are welcome to attend the Mass as well. In the past, we have gone to a park with the kids for lunch. We plan to do that this year as well. If you're attending the Mass and would like to join us for lunch, let me know so we can plan accordingly and give you more details.

As you remain in my prayers each day, I thank you for your continued prayers for me, one another, our parishes and school, and the Universal Church. 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](mailto: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.

## POT OF GOLD

September Pot of Gold winners are:

\$200.00 - Shannon Brilley  
\$100.00 - Danielle Hannig  
\$50.00 - Doug Janssen  
\$50.00 - Kristen Schenk  
\$50.00 - Pam Parn  
\$50.00 - Sharon Kindhart

## ST. MARY HOG ROAST

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.



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