

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, October 7 - 7:00 a.m.

Our Lady of the Rosary Galatians 1:6-12; Luke 10-25-37

Communion Service

#### Tuesday, October 8 - 7:00 a.m.

Galatians 1:13-24; Luke 10:38-42

Jason Volk (By Mike & Carol Boylen)

## Wednesday, October 9 - 7:00 a.m.

St. Denis, Bishop & Companions, Martyrs; St. John Leonardi, Priest Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14; Luke 11:1-4

> Jennifer Volk (By Maureen Norvell)

## Thursday, October 10 - 7:00 a.m.

Galatians 3:1-5; Luke 11:5-13

A Special Intention

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

David Leeders (By Jerry & Marge Herkert)

# Friday, October 11 - 8:30 a.m. (School Mass)

St. John XXIII, Pope Galatians 3:7-14; Luke 11:15-26

Norbert, Mary Jo & Linda Busen (By Tony Busen)

# Saturday, October 12 - 5:30 p.m.

Galatians 3:22-29; Luke 11:27-28

Patricia Jean Koch (By Joan Zurita)

# Sunday, October 13 - 8:00 a.m.

Wisdom 7:7-11; Hebrews 4:12-13; Mark 10:17-30

Parishioners of Holy Family and St. Thomas

# St. Thomas - 10:00 a.m.

In Honor of Jim & Fritzie Harper's 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

#### HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

September 28-29, 2024

Holy Family: \$4,283.00 School Support: \$405.00 Solidarity Fund/Africa: \$20.00 Sister Parish: \$20.00 ACSA/Parish Tithe: \$80.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

#### ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

**September 29, 2024** 

St. Thomas: \$1,809.00 Sister Parish: \$20.00 Candles: \$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 - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.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 † Kalvin Schenk †
Mary Gregory † Ezra Keokham † Greg Jones †
Misha Follis Allen † Susan Kenady †

# ST. THOMAS

Ice Cream for Sale -- St. Thomas still has some of their homemade ice cream for sale. Gallons (\$20) and Half-gallons (\$10). If you'd like to buy some, please contact Pat (217-740-2140).

Adams County Right to Life annual, "Pennies for Life Campaign" will be held the weekends of October 6 & 13.

# ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

#### October 13, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Jim Clausius

Greeters: John & Janice Brady

Lector: Laura Evans

Gift Bearers: Justin & Chelsea Reed

Family

**Eucharistic Minister:** Alicia Schmidt/Cathy

Wagner

**Collection Counters:** Jerel Mock Family

**Ushers:** Jerel Mock, Morgan

Mock

# From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Twenty-Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time. In the First Reading from the Book of Genesis, God creates a suitable partner for man, forming woman from his rib. In the Second Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews, the author writes about how Christ was, for a little while, made lower than the angels and therefore is not ashamed to call us brothers. In the Gospel from St. Mark, Jesus answers the Pharisees' question regarding the legality of divorce and reiterates the permanence of the marriage bond.

Conjugal love, lived in fidelity to God's original plan, is to be one of the principal manifestations of the Kingdom proclaimed by Jesus. Through Baptism into Christ, we join with Him in having one and the same Father.

God desires for us to love and be loved, as He loves. From the very beginning, the Lord made us to not be alone: we were created for relationship with Him and with one another. There is something truly worthy of awe – awesome – in knowing that God, the Creator of the Universe and all things, desires for us to love and be loved, as he loves. We are not just His Creation, we are His children. His only Son

is our brother. The Kingdom belongs to us, if we embrace it with the childlike wonder it deserves.

#### -LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Monday, October 7 – Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary; Liturgical Color: White.

"Quotes: One day, through the Rosary and the Scapular, Our Lady will save the world.
-Saint Dominic

Never will anyone who says his Rosary every day be led astray. This is a statement that I would gladly sign with my blood. -Saint Louis de Montfort

Of all prayers the Rosary is the most beautiful and the richest in graces...love the Rosary and recite it every day with devotion. - Saint Pius X

The Rosary is my favorite prayer. A marvelous prayer! Marvelous in its simplicity and its depth. -Saint John Paul II

The Rosary is a priceless treasure inspired by God. -Saint Louis de Montfort

The Rosary is the most excellent form of prayer and the most efficacious means of attaining eternal life. It is the remedy for all our evils, the root of all our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying.

-Pope Leo XIII

In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, the Albigensian heresy was flourishing in southern France. The Albigensians were Christian dualists who believed the Old Testament God was the source of the material world, which was evil, and the New Testament God was the source of the spiritual realm that was good. They rejected the sacraments and promoted extreme asceticism as a way of rejecting the material world.

In 1203, Saint Dominic was traveling through southern France on a diplomatic mission when he encountered this grave heresy. In the two decades to follow, he devoted himself wholeheartedly to rooting out this heresy through preaching and debates. Legend has it that at some point, frustrated with the difficulties he was facing in that mission, he retreated for a few days of prayer and fasting to beseech Our Lady for guidance. Our Lady appeared to him, giving him the Rosary, revealing the mysteries to be meditated upon during the fifteen decades, and exhorting him to preach the mysteries and to pray the decades as a spiritual weapon. The

word "Rosary" comes from the Latin rosarium, which means "rose garden." Each Hail Mary is a spiritual rose; together, they make up the garden of roses. Saint Dominic did as Our Lady instructed him and became quite successful in converting the heretics.

Today's feast of Our Lady of the Rosary has its roots in a feast named Our Lady of Victory. In the late sixteenth century, the Muslims of the Ottoman Empire were expanding into southeastern Europe and the Mediterranean region. In 1571, Pope Pius V. who was a Dominican, formed an alliance between the Papal States, Spain, Venice, and several other smaller Christian states, called the Holy League, in order to stop Ottoman aggression. On October 7 of that year, the Holy League confronted the Ottoman navy in the Mediterranean, and the pope called upon all of Europe to pray the Rosary for victory. Victory was achieved. In gratitude, Pope Pius V instituted the Feast of Our Lady of Victory to be celebrated on the first Sunday of October every year. Two years later, Pope Gregory XIII changed the name to the Feast of the Holy Rosary. In 1671, the feast was extended to all of Spain, and in 1716, after another important victory against the Muslims, the feast was extended to the entire Church. In 1913, Pius X changed the date from the first Sunday in October to October 7 to preserve the Sunday celebration. Today, this feast is celebrated under the title of Our Lady of the Rosary as a mandatory memorial on the Roman Calendar.

Though war is always gravely unfortunate and should be avoided if at all possible, defense of one's family and nation is a moral duty when an unjust aggressor attacks. In this case, prayer is the greatest weapon of war, and after the Mass, the Rosary is the greatest prayer to be prayed.

In addition to physical war to protect one's nation, the Rosary is among the greatest spiritual weapons to fight against every form of evil. Often, even during times of peace, spiritual chaos reigns. Today, due to instant worldwide communication technologies, we are well aware of the many spiritual evils that plague societies and peoples everywhere: wars, corruption, immoral living, flamboyant sins of the flesh, murders, thefts, crimes of hate, moral decay, poverty, and so much more. Rather than just criticizing and condemning such evils, praying the Rosary for those intentions is the best way to combat them.

Prayer: Our Lady of the Rosary, you entrusted this holy prayer to Saint Dominic, and through him, to the world. You are always attentive to the prayers of the Rosary and never fail to pour forth God's grace in response. Please pray that I will more deeply comprehend the Rosary's power and will never fail in my duty to pray it every day. Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You."

-Wednesday, October 9 - Optional memorials of St. Denis, Bishop and Companions, Martyrs and St. John Leonardi, Priest.

St. Denis and Companions: Lived Third Century; Patron Saint of France, Paris, and possessed people; Invoked against frenzy, headaches, hydrophobia, rabies, and strife; Liturgical Color: Red.

"Quote: After this, they were brought before the judge and subjected to further torture. Then, the judge ordered the beheading of all three of them—Denis, Rusticus, and Eleutherius—while they were professing their faith in the Holy Trinity. This execution took place near the Temple of Mercury, and they were beheaded using three axes. Immediately after, the body of St. Denis stood up and carried his own head in his arms. Guided by an angel, he walked about two miles from the execution site, known as the Hill of the Martyrs, to the location where he now rests, which he chose through divine guidance.

-The Golden Legend.

Saint Denis and his companions were early clerics, missionaries, and martyrs. Though they had a powerful effect upon the people of their time, their more profound effect came afterwards as faithful Christians were inspired by their witness and enthralled by their stories. Regardless of whether some details of their martyrdom are more legend than fact, their stories are inspirational. Though most historians deny the historicity of Saint Denis carrying his head, God is All-Powerful and could easily perform such a miracle. The greater miracle, however, is the witness they gave and the forgiveness this legend conveys.

As we honor Saint Denis and his companions, ponder the depth of your own faith and how willing you are to go, so as to embrace martyrdom rather than sin. Ponder, also, whether you are willing to forgive anyone and everyone who has sinned against you. These are the central messages of Saint Denis'

legend. Allow those messages to penetrate your own soul.

Prayer: Saint Denis and companions, you courageously traveled to an unknown land, to an unknown people, to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. You did so with prayer and trust in God's divine guidance. God used you during your lives and continues to use you in your deaths. Please pray for me, that all that I am and all that I do will be done solely for the glory of God and the salvation of souls. Saints Denis, Rusticus, and Eleutherius, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You."

St. Leonardi: Lived 1541-1609; Patron Saint of pharmacists; Canonized by Pope Pius XI on April 17, 1938; Liturgical Color: White.

"Quote: Those who want to work for moral reform in the world must seek the glory of God before all else. Because he is the source of all good they must wait for his help, and pray for it in this difficult and necessary undertaking. They must then present themselves to those they seek to reform, as mirrors of every virtue and as lamps on a lamp-stand. Their upright lives and noble conduct must shine before all who are in the house of God. In this way they will gently entice the members of the Church to reform instead of forcing them, lest, in the words of the Council of Trent, they demand of the body what is not found in the head, and thus upset the whole order of the Lord's household.

They will be like skilled physicians taking great pains to dispose of all the diseases that afflict the Church and require a cure. They will ready themselves to provide suitable remedies for each illness. -Letter to Pope Paul V, from Saint John Leonardi.

Saint John Leonardi was inspired by the Holy Spirit to assist in the reform of the Church and to foster a deeply personal relationship with Christ, especially through adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, frequent Communion, and good catechesis. It often happens that the work the Holy Spirit inspires in one person is then opposed by those who do not listen to the promptings of that same Spirit. The life of Saint John Leonardi displays a prime example of this conflict. His perseverance throughout lends more credence to his holiness and divine mission.

As we honor this religious founder and confessor, ponder the fact that God's will is not always embraced by the world with open arms. Therefore, when we act as instruments

of God's will and Truth, others will not always embrace us. This opposition can, at times, lead to discouragement. As you ponder Saint John's life today, allow his fidelity and perseverance in the face of persecution to inspire you to press on with the mission God has given to you. Reject discouragement, pray for courage, and seek to implement God's will in your life.

Prayer: Saint John Leonardi, you came to know Christ in an intimate and personal way and desired to share your devotion with others. Though your mission was not warmly welcomed by those who opposed the Holy Spirit, God used you, nonetheless, to bring about much good. Please pray for me, that I will never allow opposition to hinder my fidelity to God's will, but will be inspired by your own courage in the face of persecution and will follow in your example. Saint John Leonardi, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You."

Friday, October 11 – Optional memorial of Saint John XXIII, Pope. Lived 1881–1963; Patron Saint of papal delegates; Canonized by Pope Francis on April 27, 2014; Liturgical Color: White.

"Quote: Since the Lord chose me, unworthy as I am, for this great service, I feel I have no longer any special ties in this life, no family, no earthly country or nation, nor any particular preferences with regard to studies or projects, even good ones. Now, more than ever, I see myself only as the humble and unworthy "servant of God and servant of the servants of God." The whole world is my family. This sense of belonging to everyone must give character and vigor to my mind, my heart and my actions. -Saint John XXIII, journal entry.

As we honor this holy pastor of the universal Church, ponder the amazing fact that God could use a poor, humble, and simple man in such a profound way. As a divine institution, God always has and always will guide the Church through the Vicar of Christ. Sinful and weak though even popes are, God's grace suffices where human weakness is present. Pray for the pope today, and know that he is God's gift to the Church in our day and age.

Prayer: Saint John XXIII, you were raised in humble conditions, were formed well in the faith, responded to God's grace, and were used in powerful ways that have had a profound effect upon the Church and world. Please pray for me, that I will always remain faithful to God's will so that He can use me in the

particular ways He chooses. Saint John XXIII, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You."

-DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT – Please pray for the repose of the soul of Vivian Schulte who died on Monday, September 30. Vivian is the mother of one of our Diocesan Priests, Fr. Mark Schulte, Pastor of St. Mary in Pittsfield and St. Mark in Winchester. Additionally, Vivian has a number of other children including Claudia Coggeshall from St. Thomas and Aaron who is a Trappist Monk at the Abbey of Gethsemani in Trappist, KY.

The death of one's mother is difficult and especially so for many priests and so as you keep Mrs. Schulte in your prayers, please pray also for Fr. Schulte and all of Vivian's family in this time of sorrow.

On a personal note, I've known Vivian my entire life. My own mother and Vivian were friends from years ago. Priests' mothers tend to have a special connection with one another. I know mom and Vivian talked many years ago about my own Vocation to the Priesthood and as mother's do, both found ways of "encouraging" that Vocation without forcing it. I recall (and still have) a letter from Vivian's son, Aaron, from when I was in high school some thirty years ago and thinking about the Priesthood. One thing he wrote in the letter that I recall to this day was to "always go to and stay close to our Blessed Mother...she will never let you down." Gosh that is so true!...I have always had a special devotion to her! Additionally, I also served for Fr. Mark's First Mass of Thanksgiving at St. John the Baptist in Quincy some twentyseven years ago. Without any doubt these two mothers, Vivian and my own, played a big but simple part in bringing this all about. It sounds simple and it is but God is simple. Though it took me a while to enter Seminary. through these simple things and certainly with fervent prayer from both mom and Vivian and many others, my Priestly Vocation was nurtured. Never underestimate the simplest of things that you do or say.

All mothers are vital and indispensable. They are given to us by God. Their role as mothers is the greatest role they have.

Mothers, please hear and know this every single day of your life. Along with fathers, they form holy families and bring about good and holy Vocations. The mothers of priests are pretty incredible. I don't just say that because of my own mother. Look at the Mother of THE High Priest, Jesus Christ, whose

Priesthood every other priest shares in. She is a great model for all of us. Take a moment now and every single day to pray for your own mother and for all mothers.

Eternal Rest, grant unto Vivian, O Lord, and let Perpetual Light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

-PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY – Last Sunday, September 29 was Priesthood Sunday. I simply forgot to mention it in last week's bulletin. Thank you for all of your prayers, cards, notes, and gifts to me personally. They certainly are sources of encouragement and I am grateful for that.

Please continue to pray for and support all priests and those men in formation for the Priesthood. Pray too for men to respond eagerly, courageously, and generously to the Lord's call to the Priesthood.

-VOCATION MINISTRY – I need 2 people from each parish to take on the role of leading our Vocation Ministry in each parish. I can help get you started with some resources and certainly it all would not just fall on those two people...they would simply be the leaders for this. Please let me know if you'd like to do this or be willing to say yes when I ask you.

-DEACON SUNDAY - Next Sunday, October 13 is designated Deacon Sunday. Please keep all Deacons and those men in formation for the Diaconate in your prayers, especially our own Deacon Paul Koch and Mr. Matt Heldt who is in Formation. If you wish to send a note or card to them, you can send it directly to them, of course, or you can drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the office (PO BOX 252, Mt. Sterling, IL 62353) with their name on it and we will make sure they get it. If you wish to send a note to any other Deacons (Deacon Mike comes to mind) and you need an address, just let me know.

I wish to express my gratitude to Deacon Paul and to Matt for all they do and to Deacon Mike for all he did for our parishes.

As you remain in my prayers each day, I thank you for all you do and 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 -- aosullivan2031@gmail.com or 217-257-2516.

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.

# Respect Life Dinner

Right to Life of Adams County again offers you the opportunity to hear a great speaker and to support the pro-life cause.

The 2024 annual Respect Life Dinner will feature Alison Centofante, a national pro-life activist with over ten years of experience speaking on abortion and human dignity.

Please invite your family, friends, and church members to join you and fellow pro-lifers for a motivating evening.

Date: Tuesday, October 15, 2024

Time: Doors open, 5:30 p.m.; Dinner, 6:00 p.m.;

Guest speaker, following dinner

Location: Holiday Inn, 4821 Oak Street,

Quincy IL

Price: \$25 per person;

\$40, 2 persons; \$150, table of 8

By reservation only; no tickets available at the door. Reservations must be made by Monday, October 7.

Call or text Lyn Schlipmann, 217-653-0075 for reservations and information, or download invitation at rtlac.org.

You are invited to hear the speaker at approximately 7:00 p.m. if you are unable to attend the dinner.

### **Holy Family Turkey Dinner**

Turkey time again! November 3 is the Annual Turkey Dinner. This will be a drive through event from 11-1. Meals are \$10. Turkey donations (\$35) and raffle tickets/money can be dropped in the box as you come into church. Extra sheets of raffle tickets will be available on the table in the back. Let us come together as a Catholic family to support our Church and School. Bless you.



# **Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy**

St. Mary School admits students of any race, color, sex or national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate based on race, color, sex, or national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarships and loan programs, and athletic and school administered programs. Our schools do reserve all their rights as religious entities in accord with the teachings of the Catholic Church, the protections of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and the Illinois Religious Freedom Restoration Act 775 ILCS 35/.

MOUNT STERLING, IL . HOLY FAMILY

