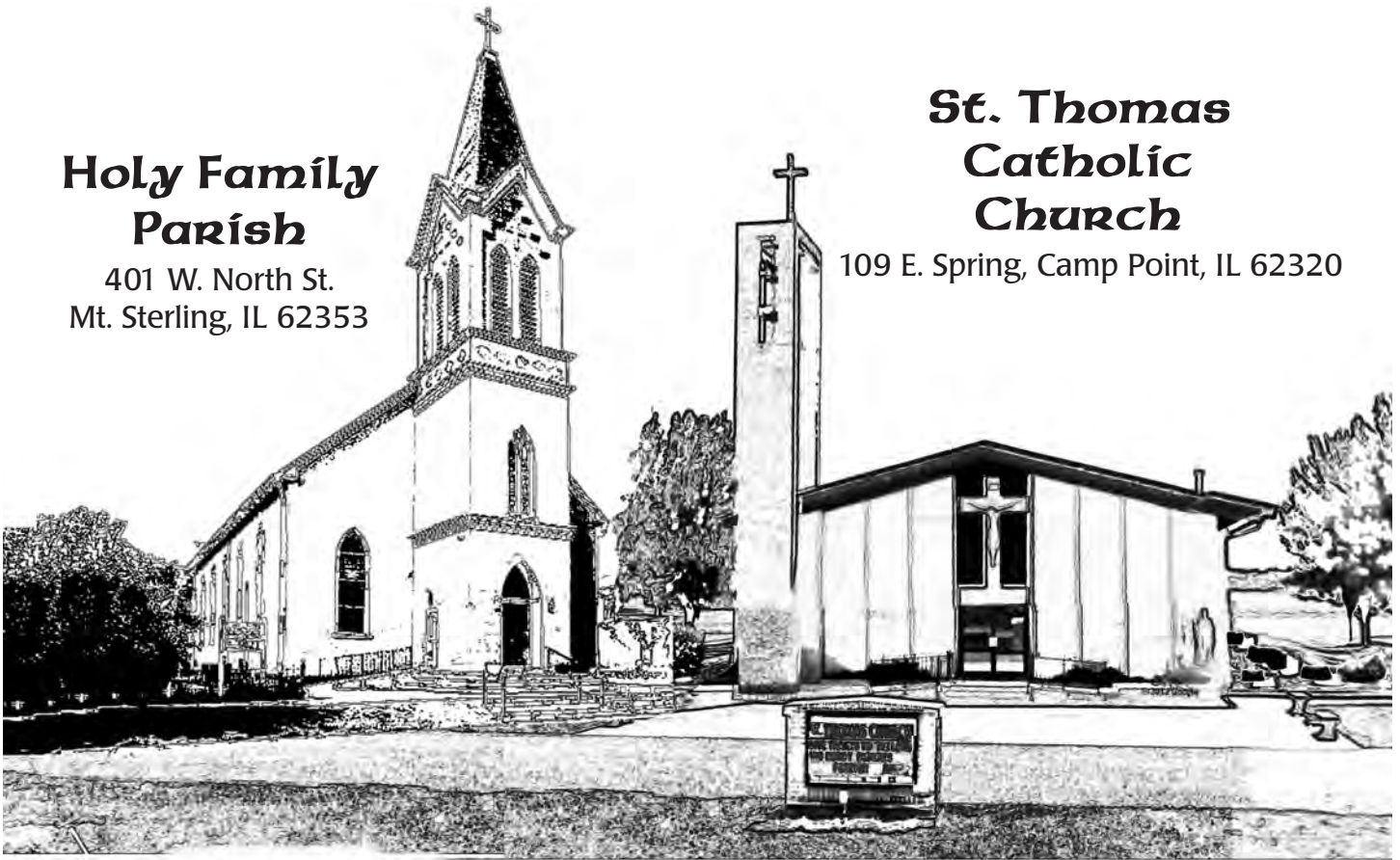


## Holy Family Parish

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, March 3 – 7:00 a.m.

Sirach 17:20-24; Mark 10:17-27

Communion Service

### Tuesday, March 4 – 7:00 a.m.

Sirach 35; 1-12; Mark 10:28-31

Ronnie Koch and Erik Heldt

### Wednesday, March 5 - 7:00 a.m.

(ASH WEDNESDAY - At HOLY FAMILY)

Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Fr. Aaron's Intentions

### Wednesday, March 5 – 8:30 a.m.

(ASH WEDNESDAY - AT HOLY FAMILY)

(School Mass)

Mattie French

(By Carl & Nancy Mitchell)

### Wednesday, March 5 - 12:00 p.m.

(ASH WEDNESDAY - AT ST. THOMAS)

Fr. Aaron's Intentions

### Wednesday, March 5 - 5:30 p.m.

(ASH WEDNESDAY - AT HOLY FAMILY)

Thomas J. Schneider

(By K of C #1281)

### Wednesday, March 5 - 7:00 p.m.

(ASH WEDNESDAY - AT ST. THOMAS)

Fritzi Harper

(By Pat Sharow)

### Thursday, March 6 – 7:00 a.m.

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25

James J. Wort

(By Norma Hufnagel)

### AT ST. THOMAS – 5:30 p.m.

Father Aaron's Intentions

### Friday, March 7 – 8:30 a.m.

(School Mass)

Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15

Kyle Moroney

(By Carol Blentlinger & Family)

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

Jerry Herkert

(By Alice Hughes)

### Saturday, March 8 – 8:00 a.m.

Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32

Father Aaron's Intentions

### Holy Family – 5:30 p.m.

Robert Kemper

(By John & Carolyn Ormond)

### Sunday, March 9 – 8:00 a.m.

Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13

Carolyn Marquez

(By Martha Fluckey)

### St. Thomas – 10:00 a.m.

Parishioners of Holy Family  
and St. Thomas

### HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

February 22-23, 2025

Holy Family: \$3,146.00

Sister Parish: \$2.00

ACSA/Parish Tithe: \$540.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

### ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

February 23, 2025

St. Thomas: \$2,668.00

Sister Parish: \$30.00

ACSA/Parish Tithe: \$165.00

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."
- ❖ **St. Mary School Fish Fry** – Friday, March 7 – Serving from 5-7 p.m. at the K of C Hall. Drive Thru only. \$12 per meal. 50/50 drawing – pay \$15 to receive 1 meal & 3 chances in the 50/50 drawing.

- ❖ **St. Thomas Fish Fry** – Friday, March 14 – Serving from 4-7 p.m. Dine in or Carry out. Adults: \$12; Children 6-12: \$6; Children 5 & under: free.

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 - 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 † Calvin Schenk †  
 Dylan Hendricks † Mary Gregory †  
 Misha Follis Allen † Leona Dunn †  
 Georgia Metz † Pam Dunbar †  
 Marsha Wagner †

## ST. THOMAS

**Save the date!** -- St. Thomas Lenten Fish Fry will be Friday, March 14. Hope to see you there!

There will be a sign-up sheet in the back of church for anyone who would like to lead the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 6:00 p.m. for the Lenten season. Questions, ask Robin and Claudia Coggeshall.

## ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

***March 9 - 10:00 a.m.***

<b>Sacristan:</b>	Denise Taylor
<b>Greeters:</b>	Justin & Chelsea Reed Family
<b>Lector:</b>	Karen Janssen
<b>Gift Bearers:</b>	Mark & Amanda Obert Family
<b>Collection Counters:</b>	Robin Coggeshall

## From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time. Today's first reading from the Book of Sirach warns of the power of speech to reveal one's faults. In the second reading, Paul explains that Jesus has defeated sin, the cause of death. In the Gospel, Jesus tells His disciples to stop judging others and says that every tree is known by its own fruit.

In the second reading we heard that death is no longer something to be feared, for it has been swallowed up by the victory of Christ: "Where, O death, is your sting?" Jesus' life, death, and resurrection have transformed death into the road to eternal life. Therefore, in this life, we must labor with the steadfast hope of attaining heaven, certain that if we strive to serve the Lord our work is not in vain.

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Monday, March 3 - in the United States, Optional memorial of St. Katherine Drexel, Virgin. Philadelphia heiress and Foundress of the Missionary Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament; established some forty-nine foundations; died on March 3, 1955, at the age of ninety-seven; canonized by Pope John Paul II on October 1, 2000. St. Katherine Drexel, Pray for us!

-Tuesday, March 4 - Optional memorial of St. Casimir. Polish prince known as the "brother and defender of the poor;" well known for the austere life that he led; died in 1484 and is patron of Poland and Lithuania. St. Casimir, Pray for us!

-Wednesday, March 5 - Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Day of universal fast and abstinence. See Mass times and additional details following.

-Friday, March 7 - Optional memorial of Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs. Day of universal abstinence. Perpetua, a noble lady, and Felicity, her slave, martyred at Carthage in 203 under Septimus Severus; their names are mentioned in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I). Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Pray for us!

-Saturday, March 8 - Optional memorial of St. John of God, Religious. Shepherd, soldier, and entrepreneur before his

conversion at the age of forty-two; laid the foundation for the Order of Hospitallers (O.H.) today numbering about 1,000 religious; died in 1550 in Granada; patron of hospitals, the sick, nurses, and booksellers. St. John of God, pray for us!

-LENT - This Wednesday, March 5 is Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of the Liturgical Season of Lent. Lent is very significant to us and is a season marked by a call to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. I encourage each of us to reflect on these three things during the season of Lent.

Lent runs from Ash Wednesday until the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday which then begins the Sacred Paschal Triduum. The Liturgical color for Lent is violet which signifies its repentant nature. "Alleluia" is not sung or said from the beginning of Lent until the Easter Vigil. The Gloria is not said or sung during Lent except on Solemnities. Although not required, I will most often use Eucharistic Prayers for Reconciliation I and II for Masses during Lent.

Ash Wednesday and the days of Holy Week take precedence over all Solemnities and Feasts. All memorials of saints occurring during Lent are observed as optional. Note that this is for memorials only. So, for example, the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Wednesday, March 19 (not on Ash Wednesday and not during Holy Week) is not optional as it is a Solemnity, not a memorial.

-ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE - Following is the Mass Schedule for Ash Wednesday (Wednesday, March 5, 2025) for both parishes:

At Holy Family: 7:00 a.m.; 8:30 a.m.; 5:30 p.m.

At St. Thomas: Noon; 7:00 p.m.

-WEDNESDAY MASSES - As in the past, Wednesday Masses at Holy Family during Lent will be at 5:30 p.m. There will be no 7:00 a.m. Mass on Wednesdays during Lent (except on Ash Wednesday, see above). Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be from about 4:15 p.m.- 5:15 p.m. on Wednesdays (no morning Exposition). I will also try to offer Confessions during part of the Exposition time each week as well. I believe we will again plan on

having the Stations of the Cross after Mass each Wednesday.

-STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Fridays during Lent at St. Thomas, 6:00 p.m. (except First Friday...on that day, Stations will be immediately following the 6:00 p.m. Mass). Robin and Claudia Coggeshall have headed this up in the past. This year, there is a sign-up in the back of Church if you'd like to lead the Stations of the Cross on one or more Friday evenings during Lent.

-40 DAYS FOR LIFE CALENDAR - If we don't already, we should have the 40 Days for Life Calendar in the back of St. Thomas Church soon to sign up for one or more days during Lent to pray for life. Please do so when it is available.

-LENTEN REGULATIONS:

1. ABSTINENCE - Everyone 14 years of age and over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday.

2. FAST - Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 is required to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is permitted. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each person's needs, but together these two should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids (including milk and fruit juices) are allowed.

3. TO DISREGARD COMPLETELY THE LAW OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE IS SERIOUSLY (MORTALLY) SINFUL.

-FIRST FRIDAY - This Friday, March 7. Devotion at St. Thomas. Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Noon - 5:45 p.m.; Confessions 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.; Benediction 5:45 p.m.; Mass at 6:00 p.m.

-FISH FRIES - St. Mary School, this Friday, March 7, served at the Knights of Columbus in Mt. Sterling, drive thru only.

St. Thomas, next Friday, March 14, served at the parish hall.

-PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION - As you have noticed and as I've mentioned before, I've asked that there be silence after the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass at both parishes. This is a powerful time for us to pray, give thanks

to God, and reflect on the incredible gift of the Holy Eucharist.

There are a number of prayers that can be offered as well as meditation and contemplation. It is also an excellent time to pray for your own needs and the needs of others. There is no "right" way to pray but we should enter into prayer having just received the Lord Himself into our bodies in the Holy Eucharist. I draw your attention to the back cover of the Pray Together Missalettes. There are a number of excellent prayers there including the Prayer of St. Thomas Aquinas for Thanksgiving After Holy Communion. If you have not prayed that prayer, I encourage you to do so and discover the beauty in it. The Anima Christi, also on the back cover of the missalette, is also another beautiful prayer, especially for after having received Holy Communion.

-PREPARATION FOR MASS & THE SACRAMENTS - In last week's bulletin I began to speak about preparing for Mass and the vestiture for the priest. I continue now with the vesting proper. Again, the following is from a 2010 publication from the Holy See:

"After the washing of the hands, the vesting proper begins."

-“The priest begins with the amice, a rectangular linen cloth, which has two strings and is placed over the shoulders and around the neck; the strings are then tied about the waist. The amice has the purpose of covering the everyday clothing, even if it is the priest's clerical garb. In this sense, it is important to recall that the amice is worn even when the celebrant is wearing a modern alb, which often does not have a large opening at the neck but fits closely around the collar. Despite the close-fitting neck of the modern alb, the everyday clothing still remains visible and it is necessary for the celebrant to cover his collar even in this case.”

In the Roman Rite, the amice is donned before the alb. While putting it on the priest recites the following prayer: "Impone, Domine, capiti meo galeam salutis, ad expugnandos diabolicos incursus" (Place upon me, O Lord, the helmet of salvation, that I may overcome the assaults of the devil).

With the reference to St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians (6:17), the amice is understood as "the helmet of salvation," that must protect him who wears it from the demon's temptations, especially evil thoughts and desires, during the liturgical celebration. This symbolism is still more clear in the custom followed since the Middle Ages by the Benedictines, Franciscans and Dominicans, who first put the amice upon their heads and then let it fall upon the chasuble or dalmatic.”

-“The alb is the long white garment worn by the sacred ministers, which recalls the new and immaculate clothing that every Christian has received through baptism. The alb is, therefore, a symbol of the sanctifying grace received in the first sacrament and is also considered to be a symbol of the purity of heart that is necessary to enter into the joy of the eternal vision of God in heaven (cf. Matthew 5:8).

This is expressed in the prayer the priest says when he dons the alb. The prayer is a reference to Revelation 7:14: "Dealba me, Domine, et munda cor meum; ut, in sanguine Agni dealbatus, gaudiis perfruar sempiternis" (Make me white, O Lord, and cleanse my heart; that being made white in the Blood of the Lamb I may deserve an eternal reward).”

-“Over the alb and around the waist is placed the girdle or cincture, a cord made of wool or other suitable material that is used as a belt. All those who wear albs must also wear the cincture (frequently today this traditional custom is not followed). For deacons, priests and bishops, the cincture may be of different colors according to the liturgical season or the memorial of the day. In the symbolism of the liturgical vestments the cincture represents the virtue of self-mastery, which St. Paul also counts among the fruits of the Spirit (cf. Galatians 5:22). The corresponding prayer, taking its cue from the first Letter of Peter (1:13), says: "Praecinge me, Domine, cingulo puritatis, et exstingue in lumbis meis humorem libidinis; ut maneat in me virtus continentiae et castitatis" (Gird me, O Lord, with the cincture of purity, and quench in my heart the fire of concupiscence, that the virtue of continence and chastity may abide in me).”

-“The maniple is an article of liturgical dress used in the celebration of the extraordinary

form of the Holy Mass of the Roman Rite. It fell into disuse in the years of the post-conciliar reform, even though it was never abrogated. The maniple is similar to the stole but is not as long: It is fixed in the middle with a clasp or strings similar to those of the chasuble. During the celebration of the Holy Mass in the extraordinary form, the celebrant, the deacon and the subdeacon wear the maniple on their left forearm. This article of liturgical garb perhaps derives from a handkerchief, or "mappula," that the Romans wore knotted on their left arm. As the "mappula" was used to wipe away tears or sweat, medieval ecclesiastical writers regarded the maniple as a symbol of the toils of the priesthood.

This understanding found its way into the prayer recited when the maniple is put on: "Merear, Domine, portare manipulum fletus et doloris; ut cum exultatione recipiam mercedem laboris" (May I deserve, O Lord, to bear the maniple of weeping and sorrow in order that I may joyfully reap the reward of my labors).

As we see, in the first part the prayer references the weeping and sorrow that accompany the priestly ministry, but in the second part the fruit of the work is noted. It would not be out of place to recall the passage of a Psalm that may have inspired the latter symbolism of the maniple.

The Vulgate renders Psalm 125:5-6 thus: "Qui seminant in lacrimis in exultatione metent; euntes ibant et flebant portantes semina sua, venientes autem venient in exultatione portantes manipulos suos" (They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. Going they went and wept, casting their seeds, but coming they shall come with joyfulness, carrying their maniples)."

I do not currently wear a maniple as part of my vesture for Mass. I do, however, have a number of maniples that I may begin wearing sometime.

-“The stole is the distinctive element of the raiment of the ordained minister and it is always worn in the celebration of the sacraments and sacramentals. It is a strip of material that is embroidered, according to the norm, whose color varies with respect to the liturgical season or feast day.

Putting on the alb, the priest recites this prayer: "Redde mihi, Domine, stolam

immortalitatis, quam perdidisti in praevaricatione primi parentis; et, quamvis indignus accedo ad tuum sacrum mysterium, merear tamen gaudium sempiternum" (Lord, restore the stole of immortality, which I lost through the collusion of our first parents, and, unworthy as I am to approach Thy sacred mysteries, may I yet gain eternal joy).

Since the stole is an article of enormous importance, which, more than any other garment, indicates the state of ordained office, one cannot but lament the abuse, that is now quite widespread, in which the priest does not wear a stole when he wears a chasuble."

-“Finally, the chasuble is put on, the vestment proper to him who celebrates the Holy Mass. In the past the liturgical books used the two Latin terms "casuala" and "planeta" synonymously. While the term "planeta" was especially used in Rome and has remains in use in Italy ("pianeta" in Italian), the term "casula" derives from the typical form of the vestment that at the beginning completely covered the sacred minister who wore it. The Latin "casula" is found in other languages in a modified form. Thus one finds "casulla" in Spanish, "chasuble" in French and English, and "Kasel" in German.

The prayer for the donning of the chasuble references the exhortation in the Letter to the Colossians (3:14) -- "Above all these things [put on] charity, which is the bond of perfection" -- and the Lord's words in Matthew, 11:30: "Domine, qui dixisti: Iugum meum suave est, et onus meum leve: fac, ut istud portare sic valeam, quod consequar tuam gratiam. Amen" (O Lord, who has said, "My yoke is sweet and My burden light," grant that I may so carry it as to merit Thy grace)."

“In conclusion, one hopes that the rediscovery of the symbolism of the liturgical vestments and the vesting prayers will encourage priests to take up again the practice of praying as they are dressing for the liturgy so as to prepare themselves for the celebration with the necessary recollection.

While it is possible to use different prayers, or simply to lift one's mind up to God, nevertheless the texts of the vesting prayers



are brief, precise in their language, inspired by a biblical spirituality and have been prayed for centuries by countless sacred ministers. These prayers thus recommend themselves still today for the preparation for the liturgical celebration, even for the liturgy according to the ordinary form of the Roman Rite.”

As I wrote last week, though knowledge of this is not critical to living your faith, it is both important and even interesting. Sadly, many folks no longer see the Mass for what it is...a foretaste of the Heavenly Banquet... something not of this world (though that’s what many want to make it). This is evidenced in a number of ways including the vestiture for Mass of the Clergy.

In the Mass, we receive not bread and wine but the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ Himself, His Fullness. There is nothing more incredible. Perhaps it is so incredible that some just cannot fathom it but what a sad rejection! I do not know how anyone could stay away, frankly, even for a day!

Thank you for your continued prayers for me, one another, our parishes and school, and the Universal Church. Please be assured of my continued prayers for you each day. May you have a most blessed week.

Fr. Aaron

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH LENT STUDY PROGRAM**

We will continue our parish Adult Faith Formation series in Lent on A Biblical Walk Through the Mass --Discover the Beauty and Riches of the Mass. This is a 5-week program. We did the first 2 sessions during Advent and will do the last 3 during Lent. I have a couple books left from Advent--and new people are welcome to join us.

The Mass is nothing short of amazing. Through it, we encounter God in the most intimate way possible as we hear him speak to us in the Liturgy of the Word and as we receive him Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. The words, the gestures, and the rituals of the Mass are rich in meaning. Everything we say and do in the Liturgy is steeped in biblical language. A Biblical Walk Through the Mass explores the extraordinary biblical roots of the Liturgy and reveals what it

all means and why it all matters. This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

"Dr. Sri’s best-selling study program, A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, has been a blessing for thousands over the past decade. ... We need to recommit ourselves to the central act of our faith with passion and joy. This marvelously written aid will help us join ourselves to the Lord as he offers himself to the Father in the Sacrifice of the Mass."

We will meet on Tuesdays, March 11 & 25, and April 8 from 7:15-8:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. We invite you to gift yourself this Lenten season by attending this program. We received a grant for this program from the Diocese, so there is no charge for this program. Please let me know if you would like to come --e-mail at [aosullivan2031@gmail.com](mailto:aosullivan2031@gmail.com) or text/call 217-257-2516.

**Our Savior Church Men’s Lenton Breakfast**

Our Savior Church in Jacksonville is having a Men’s Lenton Breakfast on Saturday, March 15, 2025. They will start with Mass at 8:00 at the church (453 E. State St.), then move to Hamilton’s (110 North East St.) in downtown Jacksonville for the breakfast and speaker who will be Carlos Tejada. Tickets are \$15. Please contact Joe Koch (217-473-6604) or Our Saviors Parish (217-245-6184) to purchase. Breakfast should conclude by 11:00 a.m.

**ST. THOMAS FISH FRY**

St. Thomas Fish Fry  
 Camp Point, IL  
 Friday, March 14, 2025  
 4:00-7:00 PM  
 Dine in or Carry Out



Prices:  
 Adults- \$ 12.00  
 Children 6-12: \$ 6.00  
 Children 5 & under: Free

**MENU**  
 Fish    Potato salad    Baked Beans    Cole Slaw  
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Hosted by St. Thomas Men and Women's Society

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