

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

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, 12/1-**
 7:00 a.m. Communion Service (HF)
- Tuesday, 12/2 -**
 7:00 a.m. Raymond & Emma Ehrhardt (By Karl & Barb Groesch) (HF)
 8:15 a.m. School Mass (HF)
- Wednesday, 12/3 -**
 7:00 a.m. Paul, Frances & Larry Schenk and Ruth James (By Bob & Judy Schenk & Family) (HF)
 8:15 a.m. School Mass (HF)
- Thursday, 12/4 -**
 7:00 a.m. Daniel Quinn (By Legion of Mary) (HF)
 8:15 a.m. School Mass (HF)
 5:30 p.m. Fr. Aaron's Intentions (ST)
- Friday, 12/5-**
 8:15 a.m. Maurice Ormond (By Carol Blentlinger & Family) (HF)
 6:00 p.m. Jim Stout (By Marilyn Stout & Michele VanSickle) (ST)
- Saturday, 12/6 -**
 8:00 a.m. Fr. Aaron's Intentions (HF)
 5:30 p.m. Bob & Sylva Dixon and Julie Link (By Cheryl Dillard) (HF)
- Sunday, 12/7 -**
 8:00 a.m. Parishioners of Holy Family & St. Thomas (HF)
 10:00 a.m. Russell Sherman (By Sheila Druffel) (ST)

HOLY FAMILY TITHE TO THE LORD:

November 22-23, 2025

Holy Family: \$4,057.00

School Support: \$345.00

Sister Parish: \$5.00

Cemetery: \$275.00

Campaign for Justice & Hope: \$25.00

Tithe/ACSA: \$35.00

Missionaries of Hope: \$10.00

Debt Reduction: \$500.00

Archdiocese for Military Services: \$45.00

Holy Family weekly budgeted amount: \$6,500

ST. THOMAS TITHE TO THE LORD:

November 23, 2025

St. Thomas: \$2,212.00

Archdiocese for Military Services: \$130.00

St. Thomas weekly budgeted amount: \$2,635

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.

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 † Brandan Volk †
 Greg Jones † Eileen King † Sharon Wiese †
 Raymond Lehne † Linda Lehne † Bob Kassing †
 Becky Pool † LeeAnn DeJaynes †
 Georgia Champagne † Abram Kelle †

ST. THOMAS

Sarah and Sydney Kearby are attending Catholic Heart Work Camp in Montague, Michigan next summer with the St. Brigid/St. Edward/St. Joseph group. They are doing a 50/50 raffle to help fundraise for the trip. The group needs to raise nearly \$10,000! Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. You can contact Sarah at 217-653-2269 or sarahkearby@yahoo.com if you'd like to purchase any tickets. They will also be set up outside after church on November 23 with tickets available.

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

December 7 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan:	Denise Peters
Greeters:	Justin & Emily Obert Family
Lector:	Tod Perry
Servers:	Sydney Kearby, Myles Kearby
Gift Bearers:	Brent & Sarah Kearby Family
Eucharistic Minister:	Alicia Schmidt, Ray Bockhold, Tod Perry
Collection Counters:	Greg & Elizabeth Likes
Ushers:	Justin Obert, Justin Reed

Advent Adult Faith Formation Program

We invite you all to attend this Advent Adult Faith Formation Study program: Oremus: A Guide to Catholic Prayer. Learn the Essentials of a Fruitful Prayer Life. Do you find it easy to pray? Do you hear God's voice in your daily life and know how to

respond? For most of us the answer is no, and we struggle to find even a few minutes every day to pray. The good news is that you can overcome these difficulties. Oremus (Let us Pray) teaches you the essentials of an effective and fruitful prayer life. Over eight weeks you will learn the simple yet profound steps of Catholic prayer. Following Church Tradition and the wisdom of the saints, you will learn to talk to God and hear his voice in Scripture, in your heart, and in ordinary moments. You will become more aware of his close presence, will learn to overcome distractions and dryness, and will recognize desolation and consolation as normal prayer experiences. As you grow closer to God, you will also grow in your relationship with those around you. It is 8 sessions. We'll do 3 sessions in Advent and 5 in Lent. We will meet on Tuesday nights at the K of C Hall on 12/2, 12/9 (place to be determined), and 12/16 from 7-8:30. Please let Ann O'Sullivan know if you plan to attend at 217-257-2516 or aosullivan2031@gmail.com.

From the Pastor's Desk

Happy New Year!...a new Liturgical Year. Today the Church celebrates the First Sunday of Advent and with that, the beginning of a new Liturgical Year.

The Season of Advent is meant for us to prepare our hearts for three comings of Christ, His birth in Bethlehem (which we celebrate in the Season of Christmas); His return at the end of time; and His coming to us here and now. Our preparations include prayer, reception of the Sacraments, good works, and sacrifices. Although each person's preparations will look different, they are all meant to cleanse us from sin and teach us to welcome Christ with love.

Advent is set aside as a time of repentance and preparation. We prepare for many things. I pray that each of us will take this Season with seriousness and as it is intended; and in the busyness of our lives that we often times create, may we prepare ourselves as the Church and the Lord calls us to, not with hustle and bustle but with peace, quiet, repentance, sacrifice...it is very contrary to what the world wants us to be but we are reminded that our citizenship is in Heaven.

-“CHRISTMAS NOVENA” - It is piously believed that whoever recites the St. Andrew “Christmas Novena” prayer FIFTEEN times each day from the feast of St. Andrew (November 30) until Christmas Eve will obtain the favor requested. Following is that prayer that I encourage you to consider using each day during Advent.

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the

merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen. (mention your intention here).

-POPE'S INTENTION - The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December is for Christians in areas of conflict. "Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war and conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope."

-FIRST FRIDAY - This Friday, December 5, First Friday Devotions at St. Thomas. Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from Noon until 5:45 p.m.; Benediction at 5:45 p.m.; Mass at 6:00 p.m.; Confessions from 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

-NOCTURNAL ADORATION - Saturday Night, December 6 at Holy Family; Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 10:00 p.m. and going through the night. Benediction at 7:35 a.m. followed by the regularly scheduled 8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.

-DONUT SUNDAY - Next Sunday, December 7, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas in the Parish Hall.

-ADVENT GIVING TREE - Both parishes will once again have an Advent Giving Tree. Consider taking one or more ornaments from the trees and purchasing the item(s) for one of the local Pregnancy Care Centers. Return the items to the Church and we will take them to the location. Questions contact Altar and Rosary Society at St. Thomas; Marilyn Veith at Holy Family.

-SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE - Monday, December 8 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. The faithful are obliged (required) to participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on this day. TO DISREGARD THIS OBLIGATION IS SERIOUSLY (MORTALLY) SINFUL.

Following is the anticipated schedule of Masses for both parishes that day:

Holy Family, Mt. Sterling - 7:00 a.m.; 8:15 a.m.; 7:00 p.m.

St. Thomas, Camp Point - Noon; 5:30 p.m.

-LOOKING AHEAD - The Anticipated Christmas Mass Schedule for both parishes is:

Holy Family, Mt. Sterling:

Christmas Eve (Wednesday, December 24) - 4:00 p.m.; 9:00 p.m.

Christmas Day (Thursday, December 25) - Midnight; 8:30 a.m.

St. Thomas, Camp Point:

Christmas Eve (Wednesday, December 24) - 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Day (Thursday, December 25) - 7:00 a.m.

-BAPTISM - On Saturday evening, November 22, I baptize Belen Anaid Sanchez Tafoya at Holy Family. It is always a great joy to celebrate the Sacraments. Congratulations and welcome to Belen. She is the daughter of Juan Cesar Sanchez and Stephanie Tafoya.

Fr. Aaron

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