

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, 1/12-

7:00 a.m. Communion Service (HF)

Tuesday, 1/13 -

7:00 a.m. Logan F. & Rosemary (Berberet)
Mayfield (By Glen & Amy Koch)
(HF)

8:15 a.m. School Mass (HF)

Wednesday, 1/14 -

7:00 a.m. Paul, Frances & Larry Schenk &
Ruth James (By Bob & Judy
Schenk & Family) (HF)

8:15 a.m. School Mass (HF)

Thursday, 1/15 -

7:00 a.m. Donna Stephenson (By Rick &
Cindy Kunkel) (HF)

8:15 a.m. School Mass (HF)

5:30 p.m. Fr. Aaron's Intentions (ST)

Friday, 1/16 -

8:15 a.m. Mary Ann Mountain (By Carl &
Nancy Mitchell) (HF)

Saturday, 1/17 -

8:00 a.m. Fr. Aaron's Intentions (HF)

5:30 p.m. Parishioners of Holy Family &
St. Thomas (HF)

Sunday, 1/18 -

8:00 a.m. Norbert, Mary Jo & Linda Busen
(By Tony Busen) (HF)

10:00 a.m. Jon & Ann Faubel (By Ray &
Teresa Bockhold) (ST)

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 † Sharon Wiese †
Raymond Lehne † Linda Lehne † LeeAnn DeJaynes †
Georgia Champagne † Abram Kelle † Pauline Seals †
Lloyd White † Betty Parker † Dan Ray †

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

January 18 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan:	Denise Taylor
Greeters:	Matt & Laura Evans Family
Lector:	Karen Janssen
Servers:	Addiley Schmidt, Grace Mock
Gift Bearers:	John & Janice Brady
Eucharistic Minister:	Laura Evans, Cathy Wagner
Collection Counters:	Robin Coggeshall
Ushers:	Mark & Everett Obert

Cursillo

Are you looking for some spiritual growth? Would you like to deepen your faith in this coming new year? Consider going on a Cursillo weekend. A Cursillo-short course in Christianity- is held 8 times a year at the retreat center located on the north campus of Quincy University in Quincy, Illinois. It is designed to be a spirit filled three-day weekend where your relationship with Christ will be enriched and grow. For more information there are brochures in the back of church. You can also contact our area representatives Gail and Gary Mast 217-617-1731, Rector for the January weekend, Robin Coggeshall 217-779-1873, or anyone who has been on a weekend. You can also visit our website at www.quincycursillo.com. The dates as follows:

Men's weekends: January 22-25, March 19-22,
June 25-28 and September 17-2

Women's weekends: February 19-22, April 16-19,
July 16-19 and November 12-15

Holy Family Adult Faith Formation Program

We invite you all to attend this Winter 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 did not start this program in December because of the weather and people's schedules. So we will do all 8 sessions this winter and Lent. We will meet on Tuesday nights at the K of C Hall starting on 1/20/26 from 7-8:30. There will be 4 in-person sessions and 4 online sessions on YouTube that you can do at home. I will share the exact dates on the first night of class. Please let me know if you plan to attend. Ann O'Sullivan at 217-257-2516 or aosullivan2031@gmail.com.

From the Pastor's Desk

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This celebration draws to a close the Christmas Season. Jesus is the beloved Son of the Father. He is the Light of the nations and Lord of all creation. To Him be all glory and praise.

In the first reading for today, Isaiah prophesies about the servant who will bring justice without breaking a bruised reed. In the second reading, Peter proclaims Jesus as the Lord of all, recounting the story of His baptism and ministry. In the Gospel, Jesus is baptized by John in the Jordan and the heavens were opened for Him.

From Catholicculture.org: "The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes

In the Eastern Church this feast is called *Theophany* because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan God appeared in three persons. The baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparatory for the Baptism of Christ. It moved men to sentiments of repentance and induced them to confess their sins. Christ did not need the baptism of John. Although He appeared in the "substance of our flesh" and was recognized "outwardly like unto ourselves," He was absolutely sinless and impeccable. He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world."

Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin. -Excerpted from Msgr. Rudolph G. Bandas."

-LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

-Tuesday, January 13 - Optional memorial of St. Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop and Doctor of the Church. Lived about 315-367; Patron Saint of children

academically behind, children learning to walk, mothers, and the sick; Invoked against rheumatism and snakebites; Proclaimed a Doctor of the Church in 1851 by Pope Pius IX; Liturgical Color: White.

"Born into a wealthy pagan family in Poitiers, France, Hilary was well educated in the classics. As he looked into his own soul, however, he knew that he did not exist for the sole purpose of seeking pleasure, enjoying leisure, obtaining wealth, or merely satisfying his fleshly desires. Hilary reasoned that the human soul did not exist simply to die. Instead, it must exist for something more, something eternal, something glorious. When his pagan culture did not suffice and philosophy fell short, Hilary finally found what he was searching for when he stumbled upon the Scriptures."

-Saturday, January 17 - Obligatory Memorial of St. Anthony of Egypt, Abbot. Lived 251-356; Patron Saint of basket makers, grave diggers, butchers, swineherds, motorists, amputees, monks, and farmers; Invoked against skin diseases and epilepsy; Liturgical Color: White.

"Anthony was born into an upper-class Catholic home. His parents raised Anthony and his younger sister in a small village in southern Egypt. He received a basic education and was twenty years old when his parents suddenly died. He was left with a large inheritance and the responsibility of caring for his sister. Some months later, Anthony was attending Mass and heard the Gospel story of Jesus' command to the rich young man: "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven." As Anthony heard these words, he knew Jesus was speaking directly to him. Shortly after, he gave away most of his property, sold almost everything else, and kept only what he needed to care for himself and his sister. But that's not exactly what the Lord had commanded! Jesus said that perfection is obtained only if one were to sell everything and give it to the poor.

Not long afterward, Anthony was at Mass once again and heard the Gospel passage, "Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself." Again, he knew Jesus was speaking directly to him, so he gave away even the little he had saved back, entrusted his sister to the care of some holy women, and entered the desert to live a life of poverty, solitude, prayer, and mortification."

-ORDINARY TIME - On Monday we move into Ordinary Time. "Besides the times of year that have their own distinctive character, there remains in the yearly cycle thirty-three or thirty-four weeks in which no particular aspect of the mystery of Christ is celebrated, but rather, the mystery of Christ itself is honored in its fullness, especially on Sundays. This period is known as Ordinary Time." (Universal Norms, 43)

This year, Ordinary Time begins on Monday, January 12 and continues through Tuesday, February 17, the day before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten Season. It will resume when the Easter Season ends, that is, on Monday, May 25 this year, the day following Pentecost.

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Jim Henrick, Owner
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mtsterlingmonuments@frontier.com
212 West Main Street
Mt. Sterling, IL 62353
Ph.: 217-773-2026 Fax: 217-773-2975

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