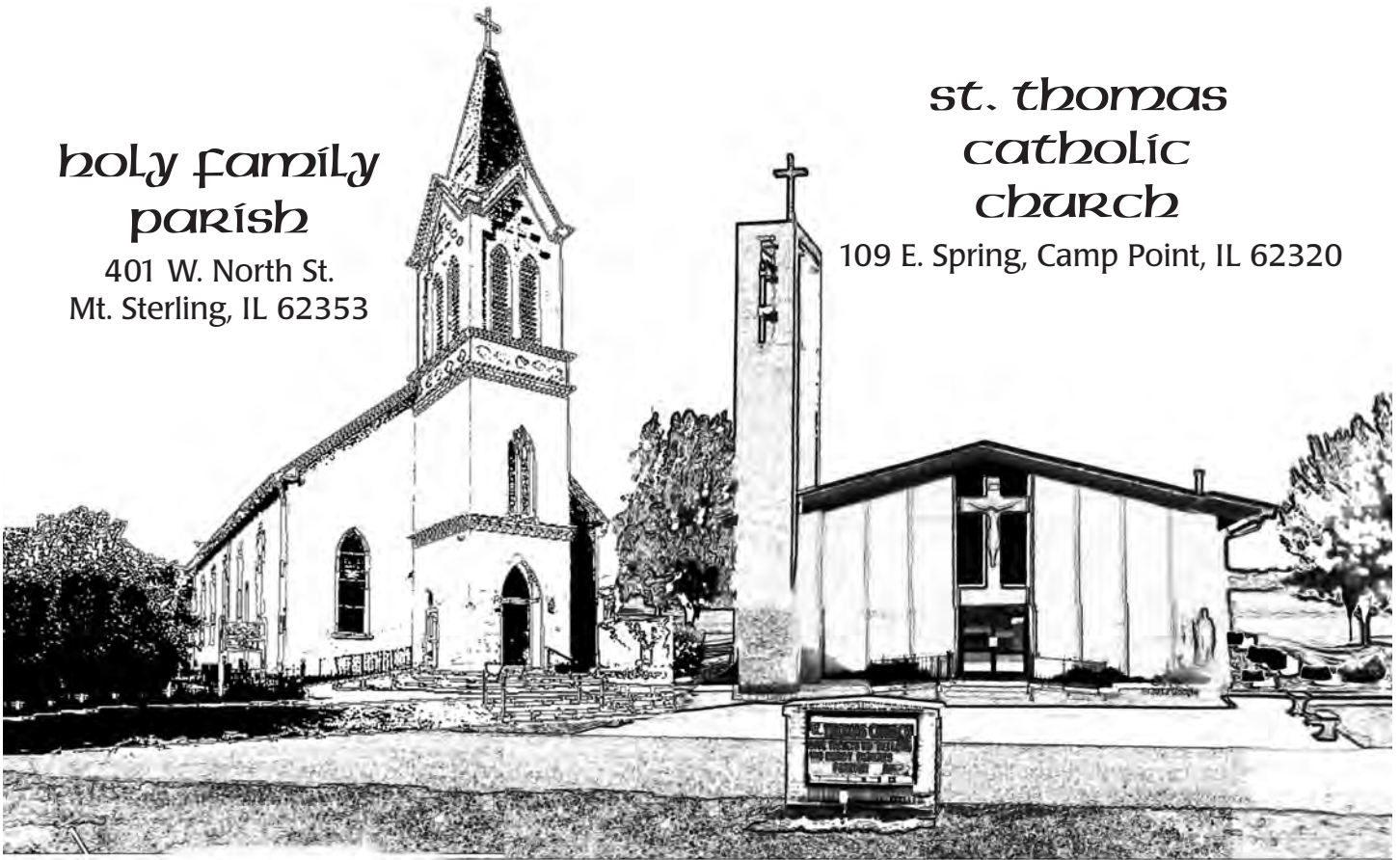


**holy family
parish**

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, 4/6-

7:00 a.m. NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE (HF)

Tuesday, 4/7 -

7:00 a.m. No Mass (HF)

8:15 a.m. No School Mass (HF)

Wednesday, 4/8 -

7:00 a.m. No Mass (HF)

8:15 a.m. No School Mass (HF)

Thursday, 4/9 -

7:00 a.m. No Mass (HF)

8:15 a.m. No School Mass (HF)

5:30 p.m. No Mass (ST)

Friday, 4/10 -

8:15 a.m. No School Mass (HF)

Saturday, 4/11 -

8:00 a.m. NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE (HF)

5:30 p.m. Thomas L. Tracy (By Mike & Gina Welbourne) (HF)

Sunday, 4/12 -

8:00 a.m. Neal Volk (By Kathy Rigg) (HF)

10:00 a.m. Parishioners of Holy Family & St. Thomas (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 † Sheila Thompson †
Logan Wilson † Isabella Wilson † Calvin Schenk †
Dylan Hendricks † Mary Gregory † Misha Follis Allen †
Leona Dunn † Brandan Volk † Sharon Wiese †
Raymond Lehne † Linda Lehne † Georgia Champagne †
Abram Kelle † Pauline Seals † Lloyd White †
Betty Parker † Susan Ray † Edna Ford †

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

April 12 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Denise Taylor
Greeters: Denny & Nancy Campbell
Lector: Tod Perry
Servers: Charlie Reed, Sydney Kearby
Gift Bearers: Jacob & Alicia Schmidt Family

Eucharistic Minister: Laura Evans, Clara Schmidt
Collection Counters: Robin Coggeshall
Ushers: John Brady, Denny Campbell

REPORTING ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

To report allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by clergy or other church personnel -- even if it is in the past -- individuals are encouraged to call the Diocese's Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation number at 217.321.1155. Individuals may also contact Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.25.ABUSE."

From the Pastor's Desk

Happy Easter to all of you and your families. The Lord is risen, Alleluia, Alleluia! Today the Church celebrates Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord and the start of the Easter Season. For the next eight days, we will be in the Octave of Easter, celebrating this joyous Solemnity for the next eight days. We will remain in the Easter Season for fifty days at which time we will celebrate Pentecost (this year, May 24) and draw our Easter Season to a close. But until then, we celebrate and rejoice in the Resurrection of the Lord. In the readings for Easter Sunday, St. Peter speaks of Jesus' life, death and resurrection and says, we are witnesses of all that He did. In his Letter to the Colossians, St. Paul writes that our life is with Christ and we will one day appear with Him in glory. In the Gospel, Mary of Magdala, Peter, and the other disciple whom Jesus loved find Jesus' body missing from the tomb. John comes to believe in Christ's resurrection.

We are a resurrection people who follow the risen Christ. The empty tomb is a sign of hope. Death does not have the final word. If our life with Christ can overcome even the seeming finality of death, God's mercy can also overcome all pain and sorrow. If we bind ourselves to Christ, earthly suffering will be vanquished. We can rejoice and be glad, with hearts full of peace.

I cannot emphasize enough that Easter is not just one day. As noted above, we celebrate it as a Solemnity for eight days and the Season itself for fifty days. All too often we fall into

worldly ways and thinking that once Easter Sunday is over, Easter is done, time to move on to something else. But no, Easter has just begun. Don't "put away" the season until we conclude it at the end of May this year. Don't move on to something "new", "bigger and better things." Perhaps you will, perhaps you won't. If you "put Easter away" with the world, you rob yourself of this glorious celebration and enslave yourself to the world and worldly desires. The world is good because God created it. But we are not created for this world, we are created for union with God in Heaven for all eternity. God desires that for us. Do you also desire that? Do you really? If so, then you need to conform yourself to God and His Will, not the world. And you need to do that in all things.

That's why I find it baffling and even unnerving a bit to hear about things like meals and celebrations on Good Friday or Easter Egg hunts during Lent. Good Friday is the day that Jesus suffered and died for us, not for Himself, for us, so that we might be able to live with Him forever in Heaven. Is eternity important to you or just the present moment? Have you stopped to consider the agony that God-Made-Man, Jesus Christ, went through for you? It should bring us to tears and true repentance and then humble and sustained gratitude. The world teaches us that we deserve whatever we want. This brings us nothing but unrest and the very real potential of the loss of our eternal salvation. Lent is a time of repentance and turning back to the Lord more intentionally. Easter and the Easter Season is the time of great and glorious rejoicing. I pray that having moved through another Season of Lent, our hearts are indeed made clean and that we will be a people of great rejoicing in the Risen Lord all throughout the Easter Season and beyond.

-THIS WEEK - I will be away from the parishes this week. There will be no Masses or Communion Services at either parish Monday through Friday and Saturday morning. I should be able to check messages while I am away but will have limited access. If there is an emergency, call the office (rectory) number and press the number indicated in the greeting for an emergency. I will return emergency calls as soon as possible and will reply to other messages when I can.

-DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - Next Sunday, April 12, is the Second Sunday of Easter and also Divine Mercy Sunday. Divine Mercy Sunday is so very important with its promise of extraordinary graces. These graces include the complete forgiveness of sin and remission of all punishment from those sins. To receive the extraordinary graces, one need only to confess their sins, receive Holy Communion on that day (or at the Vigil Mass the night before) in a state of grace, of course, and should engage in acts of mercy, coming to the Lord in Holy Communion with great trust in His mercy.

This year we will not be having the celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday quite like we've done the last couple of years with Adoration, Confession, Mass and dinner in the evening. I will, however, be in the confessional at Holy Family from 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Saturday evening and from 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. on Sunday morning. I will try to get to St. Thomas on Sunday morning as early as possible to also hear confessions there before Mass. I will also try to lead the prayers for the plenary indulgence after each Mass for this day as listed in the plenary indulgence decree.

-HOSPITAL - If you or a family member are admitted to the hospital, please let me know. Also, please be aware that Blessing Hospital in Quincy is currently transitioning to a new patient registration system. If you have been a patient there before, your religious affiliation and parish will not transfer, as of now anyway. Therefore, please make sure that when you are registered as a patient at the hospital that you are listed as Catholic along with what parish you are a member of. This would be a good practice anytime you are admitted to any hospital.

-NOCTURNAL ADORATION - A reminder that Nocturnal Adoration at Holy Family for April has been moved to next weekend. We will begin at 10:00 p.m. as usual on Saturday night, April 11.

Again, a very Happy Easter to you all. You remain in my prayers each day and I ask you to pray for me as well. May you have a most blessed week and Easter Season.

-Fr. Aaron

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Amen, amen, I say
to you, unless a grain
of wheat falls to the ground
and dies, it remains just a
grain of wheat, but if it dies,
it produces much fruit.
John 12:24

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