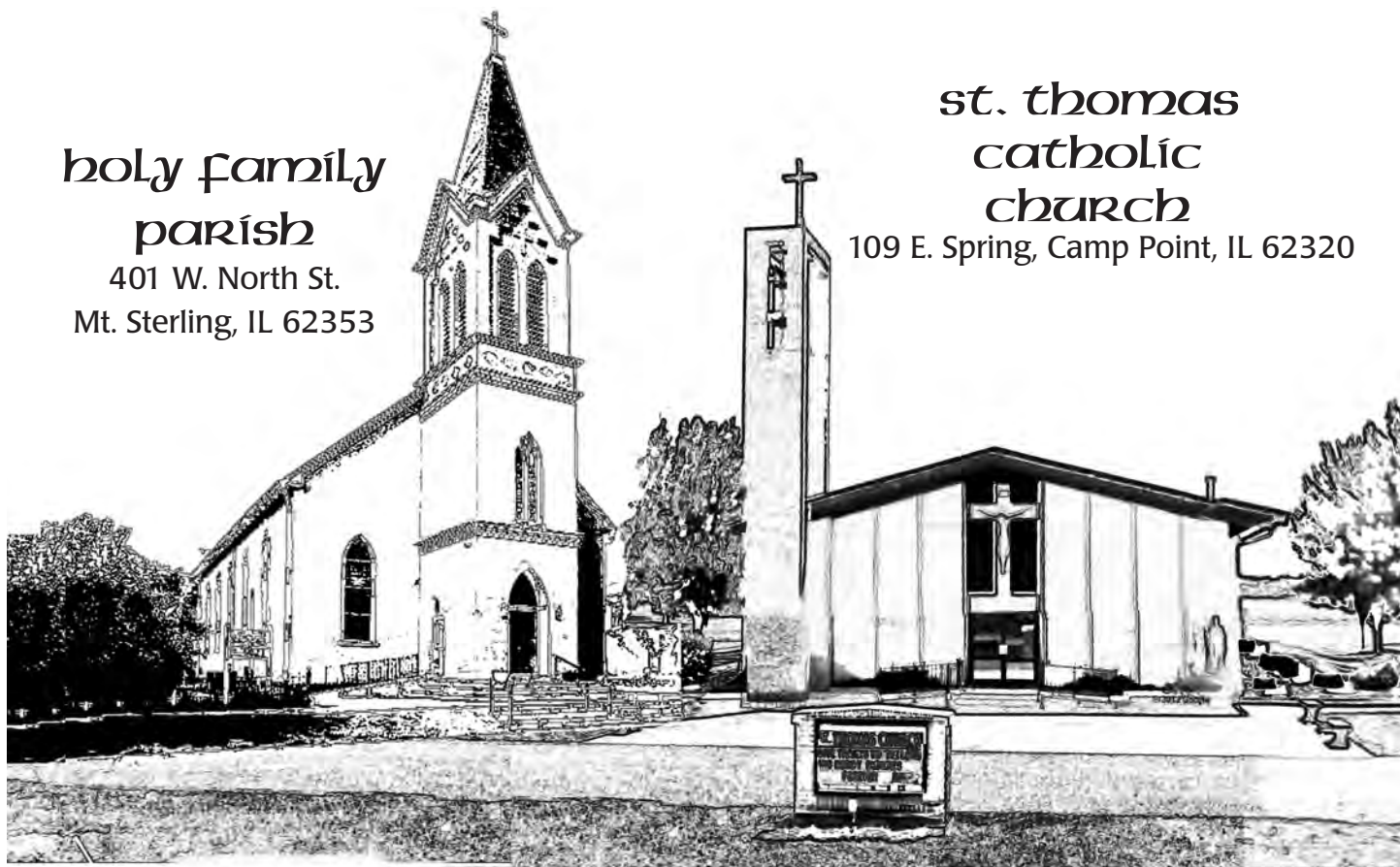


**holy family
parish**

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. Vincent Obi, Pastor – (217) 773-3233
Cell: (618) 384-1650

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: Christie Dickens

Mass Schedule

Daily: 7:00 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday - 8:15 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@parish.dio.org

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

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.

Website: www.stthomascp.org

<https://stthomascp.formed.org>

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, 8/17-

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

Tuesday, 8/18 -

7:00 a.m. Donna Stephenson (By Ginger Teefey) (HF)

Wednesday, 8/19 -

7:00 a.m. Maurice Ormond (By Pat Berry) (HF)

Thursday, 8/20 -

7:00 a.m. Mary Volk (By Dawn Dunn) (HF)

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

Friday, 8/21 -

8:15 a.m. Donald Howard (By Legion of Mary) (HF)

Saturday, 8/22 -

8:15 a.m. John Colgan (By Linda Colgan) (HF)

5:30 p.m. John Moorman (By Tammy) (HF)

Sunday, 8/23 -

8:00 a.m. Mark, Raymond & Margaret Ebbing (By Penny Ebbing & Family) (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 †
Dyson Ham † Nancy Salrin †
David Bordenkircher † Sandra Kemper †
Stanley Obert † Dona Hedden †

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

August 23 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan:	Denise Taylor
Greeters:	Butch & Dorothy Obert
Lector:	Bobbi Mock
Servers:	Jordan Kearby, Charles Evans
Gift Bearers:	Matt & Laura Evans Family
Eucharistic Minister:	Elizabeth Likes, Kim Gronewold, Cathy Wagner
Collection Counters:	Greg & Elizabeth Likes
Ushers:	Jerel & Alex Mock

ST. THOMAS

Meet the PSR Catechists will take place on Sunday, August 30 after Mass in the hall.

PSR classes will start Sunday September 13 and will be from 8:30-9:45. Registration forms are in the back of Church and also emailed out. If you have any questions, please reach out to Laura Evans 217-316-1734 or levans@adams.net.

Introducing the Sister Sara Koch Scholarship

Sister M. Sara Koch, O.P., a 1959 graduate of St. Mary School, went on to spend nearly six decades as a Dominican Sister — teaching, leading, and encouraging countless families in their faith. Her journey began right here in Mt. Sterling, formed by the same Catholic education our students receive today.

In her honor, Jim and Rosalie Shank and other family members have established the Sister Sara Koch Scholarship Fund. This fall, the first awards will go to St. Mary students, helping ensure Catholic education continues to shape young hearts for generations to come.

Consider joining this legacy of grace with a gift today at www.smseagle.org/donate/scholarship.

St. Mary School

St. Mary School's first day of attendance will be Wednesday, August 19 for grades Kindergarten through Eighth Grade. Pre-K students will start on Monday, August 24.

Back to School night for drop off of supplies and to meet the teacher will be held on Monday, August 17 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Our Back to School Mass will be the 5:30 p.m. Mass at Holy Family on August 22, 2026. Please join us.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST. PAUL MISSION APPEAL August 29-30, 2026

The Missionary Society of St. Paul (MSP) is a congregation of priests founded in Nigeria in 1977. The Society now has 300 priests. They are working in eleven countries of Africa, (South Africa, Malawi, Botswana, Cameroon, Liberia, Chad, Central African Republic, The Gambia, Nigeria, Kenya, and Southern Sudan. They have over 140 seminarians in Nigeria.

Their missions in rural parts of Africa provide food and support for children. They run elementary schools to cater for the educational needs of children from poor families and assist young people with vocational training. They need funds to: 1) provide freshwater wells, and health care in rural communities; 2) Sponsoring seminarians, our future priests; 3) Supporting priests in the founding/building of new churches. Your prayers and financial support will be a great encouragement to the Missionary Society of St. Paul. May God bless you!

Find out more about them on
www.mspfathers.org.

From the Pastor's Desk

Today is the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (August 16, 2026). The readings focus on God's inclusive mercy and the power of persistent faith. The liturgy centers on Isaiah's prophecy of a house of prayer for all nations and Jesus' encounter with the Canaanite woman.

The Mass Readings

- **First Reading (Isaiah 56:1, 6-7):** God welcomes foreigners and outcasts who keep His covenant, declaring His house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.
- **Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8):** A joyful prayer asking that all the nations on earth praise God.
- **Second Reading (Romans 11:13-15, 29-32):** Paul explains God's mysterious plan of mercy, showing that God's grace and call extend to both Gentiles and Jews.
- **Gospel (Matthew 15:21-28):** A Canaanite woman persistently begs Jesus to heal her daughter, and He praises her great faith, granting her request.

TAKE TO HEART

- **Universal Salvation:** God's salvation and love do not belong to a single group; they cross every physical and cultural border.
- **Persistent Faith:** The Canaanite woman shows us how to pray with bold trust and humble persistence, even when an answer seems delayed.
- **Welcoming Heart:** The community of faith is called to imitate God by rejecting exclusion and embracing all people.
- **Points for Reflection**

Do we sometimes act as though God's grace belongs only to certain groups, or do we welcome all people?

How strong is our persistence in prayer when facing silence or hardship?

- Our parish is blessed to have so many dedicated members who generously share their Time, Talent, and Treasure. I'm grateful for the volunteers who serve as lectors, Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers,
- We need more volunteers as Sacristans to ensure that our Holy Mass and sanctuary are well-prepared. Please let know if you are interested
- The Legion of Mary members also deserve recognition for leading us in the Holy Rosary. Thank you to everyone who's actively contributing to our community's growth!

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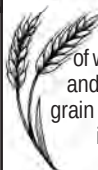
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 Amen, amen, I say
to you, unless a grain
of wheat falls to the ground
and dies, it remains just a
grain of wheat, but if it dies,
it produces much fruit.
John 12:24

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