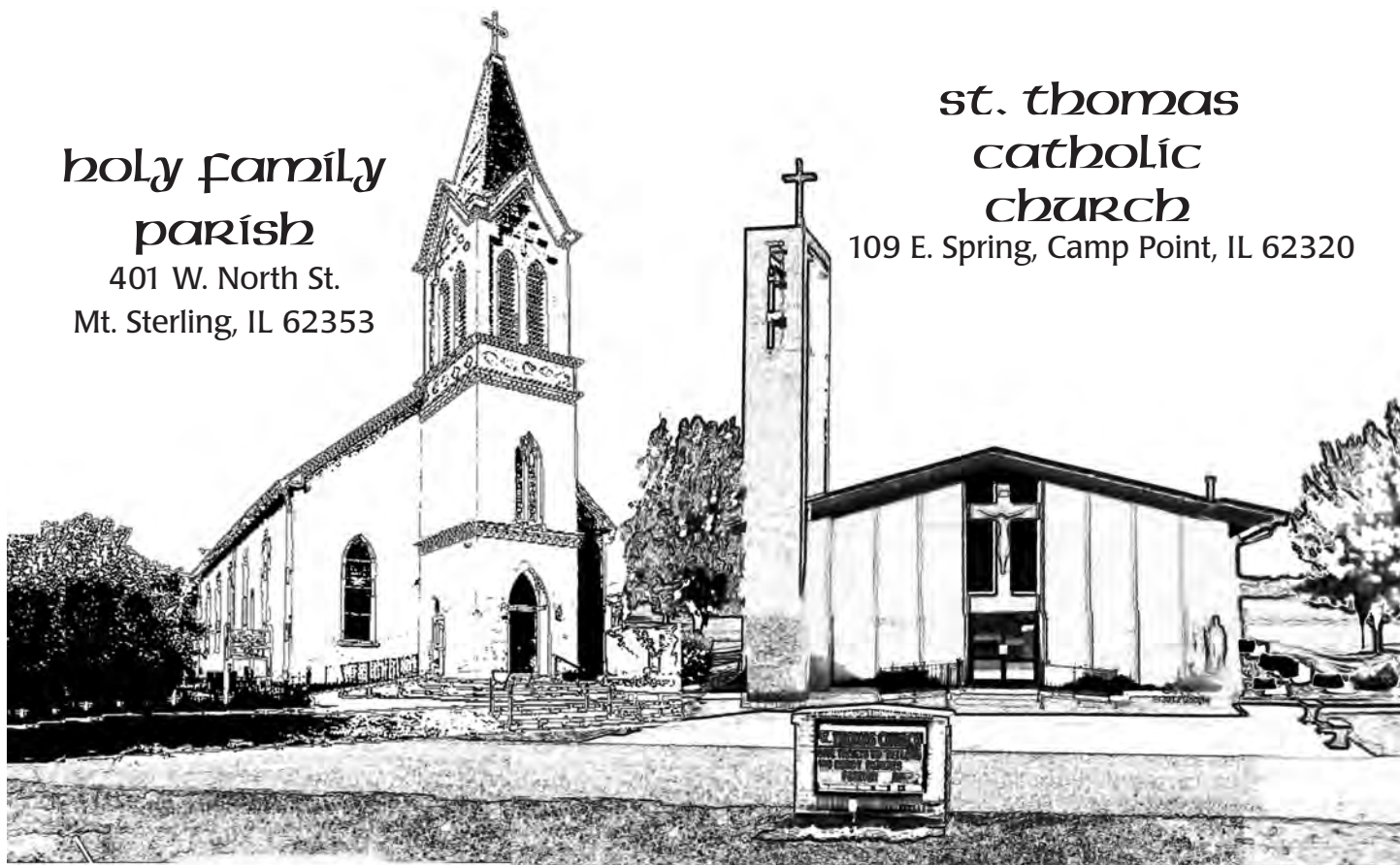


**holy family
parish**

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. Ramesh Matta, Pastor – (217) 773-3233
Emergency Only: (217) 414-7166

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:

Brent and Jenni Obert - (217)779-0720

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 8:30 a.m.

PSR classes Sunday 8:30 - 9:45 a.m.

Men & Women's Society Meeting 1st Thursday 6:00 p.m.

Website: www.stthomascp.org

<https://stthomascp.formed.org>

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Monday, 10/19 -

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

Tuesday, 10/20 -

7:00 a.m. Virginia Obi (By Legion of Mary) (HF)

Wednesday, 10/21 -

7:00 a.m. COMMUNION SERVICE (HF)

Thursday, 10/22 -

7:00 a.m. COMMUNION SERVICE (HF)

5:30 p.m. COMMUNION SERVICE (ST)

Friday, 10/23 -

8:15 a.m. COMMUNION SERVICE (HF)

Saturday, 10/24 -

8:15 a.m. NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE (HF)

5:30 p.m. Bill Rang (By Karl & Barb Groesch) (HF)

Sunday, 10/25 -

8:00 a.m. Luke Hedden (By Sean & Amanda Ketcham) (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:

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 † David Bordenkircher †
Stanley Obert † Dona Hedden †

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

October 25 - 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan: Denise Taylor
Greeters: Denny & Nancy Campbell
Lector: Bobbi Mock
Servers: Grace Mock, Addiley Schmidt
Gift Bearers: Jacob & Alicia Schmidt Family

Eucharistic Minister: Laura Evans, Clara Schmidt
Collection Counters: Jerel & Bobbi Mock
Ushers: Jacob & Maurice Schmidt

ST. THOMAS

SAVE THE DATE - Deacon Dennis Holbrook will be coming to St. Thomas Church Hall on Monday evening October 26 at 6:00 p.m. He will be speaking on "The Gift of Divine Mercy." Everyone is invited.

ST. MARY SCHOOL

CALENDAR - Week of OCTOBER 19

Parent/Teacher Conferences - October 21-22

Friday, October 23 - NO SCHOOL

Save the Date: Brown County Deer Classic, Saturday, November 14 - The Brown County Deer Classic is coming up on Saturday, November 14, and we need every St. Mary family to help make it a success!

What to do now:

Mark Saturday, November 14 on your calendar.

Watch for your volunteer assignment via email.

Gun Safe and Side by Side tickets have been sent home with your youngest child.

Thank you for the generous gift of your time and ticket sales. Events like the Brown County Deer Classic remind us that St. Mary is truly a family, and we're grateful to be on this journey with you!

From the Coordinator of Religious Education

Have you been thinking about becoming Catholic? Would you like to learn more about the Catholic faith? We will begin the program Order of Catholic Initiation for Adults (OCIA) this fall. Please let Fr. Ramesh or myself know if you are interested in learning more about this program.

Also, we are planning an Adult Faith Formation program for Advent and Lent. More details to follow. Let me know if there is any specific topic you would like to learn more about.

Ann O'Sullivan (CRE), 217-257-2516 or aosullivan2031@gmail.com

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

The readings for the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time invite us to reflect on our responsibilities to God and to the world in which we live. Jesus gives us a familiar but profound teaching in the Gospel: "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God" (Matthew 22:21). These words remind us that while we have responsibilities in our families, communities, and society, our deepest identity and ultimate allegiance belong to God.

In the Gospel, the Pharisees try to trap Jesus with a difficult question about paying taxes to Caesar. Jesus responds with wisdom, asking whose image is on the coin. When they answer, "Caesar's," He tells them to give Caesar what belongs to Caesar and God what belongs to God. But Jesus' response invites us to ask a deeper question: **Whose image do we bear?** The coin bears Caesar's image, but every human person is created in the image and likeness of God. Our lives, therefore, belong to Him. We honor God not only through our prayers and worship, but also through our honesty, compassion, forgiveness, generosity, and concern for our neighbors.

The first reading from the prophet Isaiah reminds us that God is at work even through unexpected people and circumstances. God calls Cyrus, a foreign king, to serve His purposes. This teaches us that God's wisdom is greater than our understanding and that His presence is not limited to the places or situations we expect. We are invited to trust in His providence and remain open to His guidance in our daily lives.

In the second reading, St. Paul praises the Thessalonians for their **work of faith, labor of love, and endurance in hope**. These three virtues offer us a beautiful model for Christian living. Faith must become visible in what we do; love must be expressed through our service to others; and hope must sustain us through life's challenges. As a parish family, may we continue to grow in these virtues and make the love of Christ visible in our homes, school, and community.

October holds a special place in the life of the Church as the **Month of the Holy Rosary**. The Rosary is more than a familiar prayer repeated from memory; it is an invitation to walk with Mary as we contemplate the life of Jesus. Through the joyful, luminous, sorrowful, and glorious mysteries, we reflect on Christ's love, His sacrifice, His resurrection, and His promise of eternal life. Mary always leads us closer to her Son, teaching us to listen to God's Word and to say yes to His will.

I encourage every family to make time for the Rosary during this month. If praying the entire Rosary seems difficult, begin with one decade each day. Parents can pray with their children, couples can pray together, and individuals can offer the Rosary for peace, healing, vocations, our Church, and those who are

suffering. Let us especially remember those who feel lonely, those facing illness, and families experiencing difficulties. Our simple prayer, offered with faith, can become a powerful expression of love and trust in God.

Dear friends, as we fulfill our duties as citizens and members of society, let us never forget our higher calling as children of God. We belong to Him, and our lives are meant to reflect His goodness. May the Word of God strengthen our faith, the Eucharist nourish our hearts, and the Rosary draw our families closer to Jesus through Mary's loving intercession.

May God bless our parishes and school, one family of faith.

With prayers and blessings,

Fr. Ramesh Matta, Pastor



October: The Month of the Holy Rosary

October is traditionally dedicated to the **Holy Rosary**, a beautiful prayer that brings us closer to Jesus through the loving intercession of His Blessed Mother, Mary. As we meditate on the mysteries of Christ's life, we contemplate His joy, His ministry, His suffering, and His glorious Resurrection. The Rosary invites us to slow down, listen to God's Word, and welcome His grace into our daily lives.

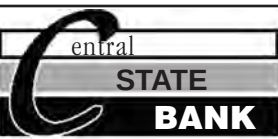
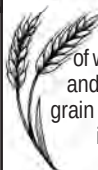
St. Padre Pio beautifully reminds us, "Love the Madonna and pray the Rosary, for her Rosary is the weapon against the evils of the world today."

St. John Paul II also taught, "The Rosary is my favorite prayer."

During this special month, let us make the Rosary a regular part of our family prayer. Parents, pray with your children; couples, pray together; and all of us, pray for peace, vocations, the sick, and those in need. **Through Mary, may we grow closer to Jesus and become joyful witnesses of His love.**

Rosary Procession: Honoring Mary in October

In honor of October, the Month of Mary, Holy Family Parish and St. Mary School invite you to an outdoor Rosary Procession on Saturday, October 24, following the 5:30 p.m. Mass. Together we will pray the five mysteries as we walk the church and school grounds, asking Our Blessed Mother to lead us closer to her Son. Families, students, and parishioners of all ages are welcome. Please join us for this beautiful fall event.

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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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