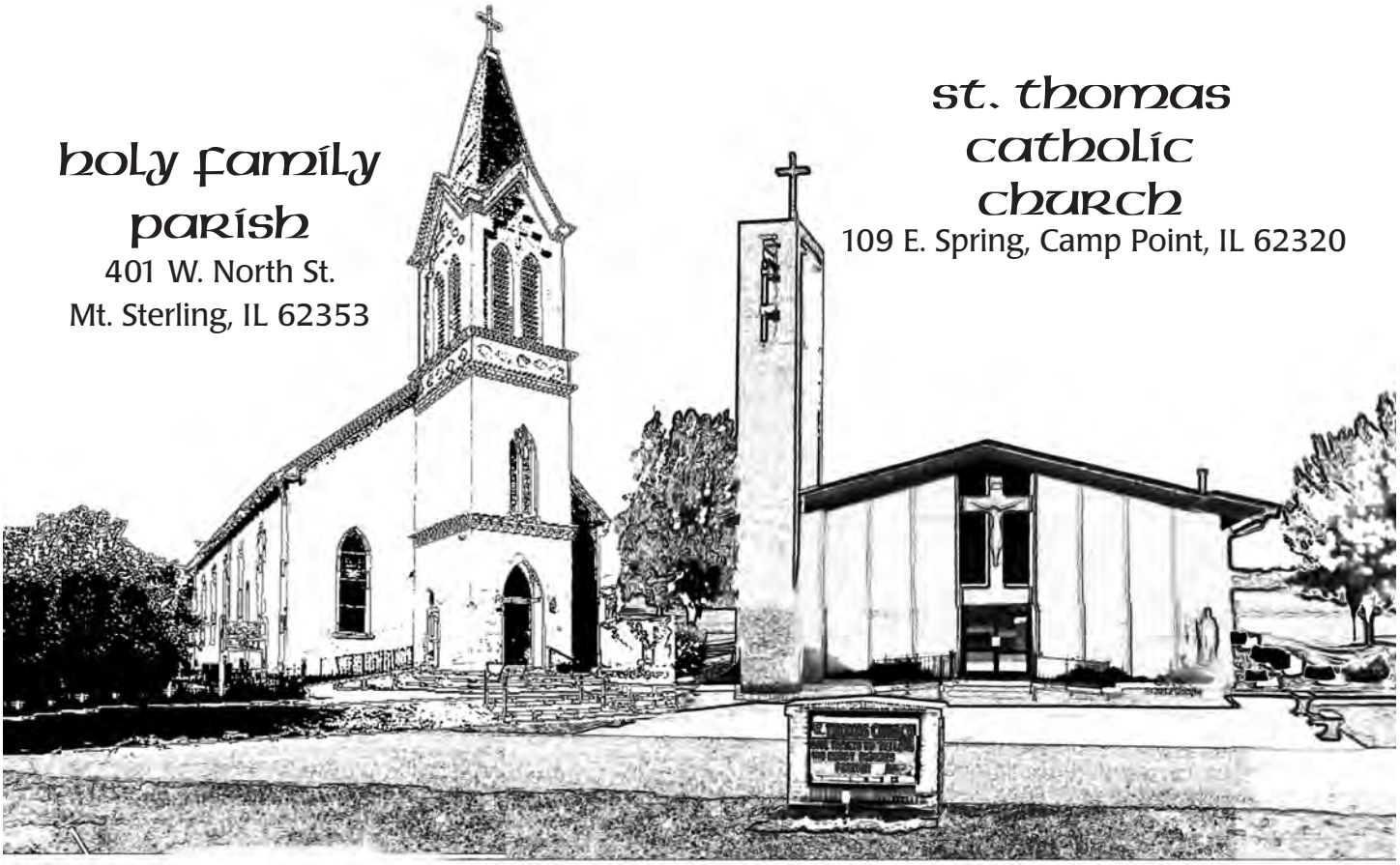
holy family parish

401 W. North St.
Mt. Sterling, IL 62353

st. thomas catholic church

109 E. Spring, Camp Point, IL 62320



Parish Office: (217) 773-2825
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
(217) 773-2825
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, 11/2–
7:00 a.m. Fr. Ramesh's intentions **(HF)**
Tuesday, 11/3 –
7:00 a.m. Jennifer Volk (By Larry Volk) **(HF)**
Wednesday, 11/4 –
7:00 a.m. Paul, Frances & Larry Schenk & Ruth James (By Bob & Judy Schenk & Family) **(HF)**
Thursday, 11/5 –
7:00 a.m. Daniel B. Quinn (By Mary Eloise Meyer) **(HF)**
5:30 p.m. Richard & Delores Obert (By Butch & Dorothy Obert) **(ST)**
Friday, 11/6 –
8:15 a.m. Karla Ormond (By Richard & Diane Fagan) **(HF)**
6:00 p.m. Cecile Hurst (By Cheryl Dillard) **(ST)**
Saturday, 11/7 –
8:15 a.m. **NO MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE (HF)**
5:30 p.m. Cecile Hurst (By Cheryl Dillard) **(HF)**
Sunday, 11/8 –
8:00 a.m. Parishioners of Holy Family & St. Thomas **(HF)**
10:00 a.m. Esther Sherman (By the Family) **(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 † Kalvin 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 † Tom Tracy †

Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family of Jim Clausius who passed away on October 22, 2026. May God keep you in His care! Eternal Rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let Perpetual Light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

ST. THOMAS LITURGICAL ROLES

November 8 – 10:00 a.m.

Sacristan:	Dawn Peters
Greeters:	Matt & Laura Evans Family
Lector:	Teresa Bockhold
Servers:	Grace Mock, Evan Hoeschler
Gift Bearers:	Denny & Cathy Wagner
Eucharistic Minister:	Alicia Schmidt, Ray Bockhold, Tod Perry
Collection Counters:	Dale & Sindy DeRousse
Ushers:	Tod & Elijah Perry

ST. MARY SCHOOL



St. Mary and Holy Family Veterans are invited to join us at the 8:15 Mass on Wednesday, November 11! Following Mass, we invite our Veterans to join us in the gym for a recognition and breakfast! Thank you, Veterans, for all you have done to keep us safe and protect our freedoms! In order to ensure we prepare enough food, please call the office by Monday, November 9 to let us know if you have Veterans in your family who will be joining us on this day.

SAVE THE DATE

Holy Family Turkey Dinner - November 1, 2026 at the KC Hall. Drive -thru only from 11-1. Local delivery available, as well as bulk orders may call 217-242-1237.

St. Mary School's largest fundraiser of the year – the **Brown County Deer Classic** – will take place on November 14, 2026. Please see the website www.bcdeerclassic.com for details.

If you are still wanting to make a donation for Coats for Kids, please do so as soon as possible. Please call Joe Sullivan with any questions at 217-242-9862.

FOOD DRIVE

Marilyn Veith is heading up the food drive at Holy Family again this year. If you'd like to donate food items, there is a tub inside the doors of the church

that you can place your items. We will be collecting items through November 30.

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,

Peace and blessings to you and your families!

Happy Solemnity of All Saints!

On November 1, the universal Church rejoices in celebrating all the saints in heaven—those officially recognized by the Church and the countless holy men and women whose names are known only to God. All Saints Day reminds us that holiness is not reserved for a select few. Every one of us is called to become a saint by following Jesus faithfully in our daily lives.

In the first reading from the **Book of Revelation (7:2–4, 9–14)**, St. John describes a great multitude from every nation, race, people, and language standing before the throne of God. They have come through great tribulation and have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb. This beautiful vision reminds us that heaven is our ultimate destination and that people from every walk of life are called to share in God's eternal glory.

In the second reading **(1 John 3:1-3)** St. John reminds us of the extraordinary love the Father has bestowed upon us: "See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God." We are already God's beloved children, and our journey of faith is a journey toward becoming more like Him.

In today's Gospel **(Matthew 5:1-12a)** Jesus gives us the Beatitudes: "Blessed are the poor in spirit," "Blessed are they who mourn," "Blessed are the meek," and "Blessed are the clean of heart." These are not merely beautiful words; they are the path to holiness. The saints lived these teachings through humility, mercy, courage, forgiveness, and love. We, too, can become saints through ordinary acts of extraordinary love—serving those in need, forgiving those who hurt us, caring for our families, and remaining faithful to God in difficult times.

November: A Month of Prayer for the Faithful Departed

As we celebrate the saints in heaven, the Church also invites us to dedicate November in a special way to praying for our beloved dead. On November 2, we commemorate All Souls' Day, remembering all the faithful departed and praying for those who are being purified on their journey toward the fullness of heaven.

This devotion expresses our belief in the Communion of Saints: the spiritual union of the faithful on earth, the souls being purified, and the saints in heaven. Death does not destroy the bonds of love we share in Christ. We entrust our deceased family members and friends to God's infinite mercy and offer prayers for their eternal rest.

Practical Ways to Observe November as a Month of Prayer for the Dead

1. **Attend Mass:** Offer a Mass for deceased parents, grandparents, relatives, friends, and parishioners.
2. **Pray for the departed daily:** Include the names of deceased loved ones in your morning or evening prayers.
3. **Visit a cemetery:** Pray at the graves of family members, clean their graves, and remember their Christian witness.
4. **Pray the Rosary:** Offer a decade or the entire Rosary for the faithful departed.
5. **Offer sacrifices and good works:** Unite small acts of charity, patience, and self-denial with prayers for the deceased.
6. **Remember the forgotten souls:** Pray especially for those who have no one to remember them.
7. **Teach children to pray for the dead:** Help them understand that praying for deceased relatives is a beautiful expression of love.
8. **Practice the works of mercy:** Comfort grieving families, visit the lonely, and support those who are mourning.
9. **Seek indulgences according to the Church's conditions:** During the designated November period, the faithful may obtain a plenary indulgence applicable to the souls in Purgatory by fulfilling the prescribed conditions.

Dear parishioners, All Saints Day points our hearts toward the glory of heaven, while November reminds us to pray lovingly for those who have gone before us. Let us follow the example of the saints, entrust our beloved dead to God's mercy, and encourage one another on our journey toward eternal life.

May all the saints intercede for us, and may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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Mt. Sterling, IL 62353
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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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