

The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Thomas the Apostle
 in St. Thomas

St. Cecilia
 in Meta

www.stthomasapostle.net

St. Cecilia website still under development

PO Box 146
 St. Thomas, MO 65076

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 16, 2015

Pastor: Father Jeremy A. Secrist
jasecrist@yahoo.com
 Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315

St. Thomas Bookkeeper:
Mrs. Jenny Becker
jbeckeroffice@gmail.com

St. Cecilia Bookkeeper:
Mrs. Doris Stumpe
dorisstumpe@att.net



School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer
lheckemeyer@embarqmail.com
 School: 573-477-3322 Fax: 573-477-3700

St. Thomas Secretary:
Mrs. Diane Lueckenhoff
stthomasoffice@embarqmail.com

School Website:
www.stthomasapostleschool.net

St. Thomas Parish Office hours: Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Thursdays 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

St. Cecilia Parish Office hours: Tuesdays 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

School Office hours during school year: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Confessions: Saturdays 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. at St. Thomas; Sundays 7:30 - 7:50 a.m. at St. Cecilia;
 or anytime by appointment, just call Father.

Saint Thomas the Apostle
Mass Schedule for the Week of August 16-23:

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – L&D Lawrence Oligschlaeger Family
 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Vic Otto
 Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Marvin Buschjost
 Wednesday – No Mass – *Summer Schedule*
 Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Mary Lou Bax
 Friday 7:45 a.m. – Clara Loethen
 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes
 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Harold Groner

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2015-2016:	\$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	\$50,834.00
Actual Collection for 2015-2016:	\$37,447.25
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	- \$13,386.75
Offertory Goal per month:	\$25,417.00

Collection in Church:

August 2	\$6,223.00
August 9	\$3,908.00
August 16	\$
August 23	\$
August 30	\$

Collection Online: \$4,259.00

August total to date: **\$14,390.00**

Difference for August: **- \$11,027.00**

St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund

Total Expansion Project expenses paid: \$2,273,475.34
 Income from parishioners for fiscal year 2015-2016
 (via the yellow "Building Fund" envelope): **\$4,259.00**
 Loan payments to date for fiscal year 2015-2016: **\$18,455.48**
 (Principal) \$14,532.46 (Interest) \$3,923.02
 Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: **\$569,521.08**

St. Thomas Cantor / Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Rebecca Schroeder/Lindsay
 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Lisa Wieberg/Jackie

St. Thomas Reader/ Petitions

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Tom Backes
 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbing

St. Thomas Altar Servers

Weekdays – Ava Morris & Kadence Kliegel
 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Olivia & Emma Boessen,
 Sam Schaefer
 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Luke Schroeder, Lane & Kenzie Libbert,
 Audrey Wieberg

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of August 16-23:

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Gus & Marilyn Nilges
 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Vic Otto

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Lawrence & Scott Otto
 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Lionel, Arharta, Bonnie & Sandy Libbert

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2015-2016:	\$60,471.51
Collection Total for 2015-2016:	\$7,558.00
Offertory Goal per month:	\$5,039.29

Collection in Church:

August 2	\$1,511.00
August 9	\$1,466.00
August 16	\$
August 23	\$
August 30	\$

August total to date: **\$2,977.00**

Difference for August: **- \$2,062.29**

Please remember your parish in your last will & testament.

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

August – Dale & Margie Helton
 September – Marie Lueckenotto & Pam Libbert

St. Cecilia Reader / Petitions

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen
 Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Jennifer Even
 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Karen Fick

St. Cecilia Ushers

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Darin Even, Randy Hagenhoff,
 Tom Gragert, Lou Kloepfel
 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Harold Borckes, Larry Lueckenotto,
 Harold Libbert, Anton Libbert

St. Thomas Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
August 22-23

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark & Barb Graessle, Lora Boessen
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Richard & Jan Heckemeyer, Emily Luebbering, Janet Lueckenhoff, Linda Lueckenhoff

August 29-30

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Luebbering, Paul & Jenny Becker
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Richard & Jan Heckemeyer, Glenn Prenger, Gilbert & Hermina Strobe

September 5-6

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Marshall Boessen, Betty Schellman, Leeroy Budnik
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Mike & Sheri Wieberg, Mike & Trish Green, Millie Wieberg

St. Thomas Greeters/Ushers

August 22-23

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Boessen & Gregg Boessen
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Alan Reinkemeyer & Doug Stockman

August 29-30

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mike Groner & Dave Luebbering
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Mattheuw Prenger & Keith Kliethermes

September 5-6

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Steve Schellman & Gilbert Schellman
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Mike Buschjost & Tom Backes

St. Thomas Presentation of Gifts at Mass

August 22-23

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Gilbert & Betty Schellman
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Scott & Tracy Suthoff Family

August 29-30

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark & Barb Graessle
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Ryan & Kelley Buschjost Family

September 5-6

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark & Lora Boessen Family
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Alan & Stephanie Cortvrient

Collection Counters:

August 22-23 – Jennifer Schroeder & Stephanie Cortvrient
August 29-30 – Bill Lueckenhoff & Paul Becker
September 5-6 – Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday 7:25 a.m. – Rose Mary Buschjost – Sorrowful Mysteries
Thursday 7:25 a.m. – Martha & Celeste – Luminous Mysteries
Friday 7:25 a.m. – Alex & Joann – Sorrowful Mysteries
Saturday 4:40 p.m. – Marilyn Herigon – Sorrowful Mysteries
Sunday 9:40 a.m. – Tina Stockman – Sorrowful Mysteries

Scrip Sales (August 22-23)

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kristi Luebbering
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Tina Stockman

LADIES TO BRING SNACK TO ST. THOMAS QUILTERS:

Thursday, August 20 – Hermina Strobe & Kathy Strobe Thursday, August 27 – Martha Strobe & Marsha Strobe
Please bring to hall by 1:00 p.m.; snack served at 3:00 p.m. If you have questions, please call Kathy Strobe or Emily Luebbering.

A NOTE OF THANKS

Words cannot begin to express our appreciation for all the prayers, condolences, memorial contributions, food and outpouring of love & support that we received during the loss of our beloved mother. A special thank you to Fr. Secrist for the beautiful funeral services. We will never forget the kindness and comfort that was extended to us during our difficult time.

The Dorothy Buschjost Family

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE WEBSITES: Be sure to check out and add the new websites www.stthomasapostle.net and www.stthomasapostleschool.net to your computer favorites.

MASS INTENTIONS...

The specific Mass intentions for each scheduled Mass are regularly published in this bulletin and are specifically requested by individual request. Every reasonable effort is made to accommodate particular times and dates, when so requested. However, when on occasion the date or time request cannot be met, the intention will be rescheduled for the next earliest date available.

MINISTRY TO THE ILL & INFIRM: If you are preparing for surgery, recovering from surgery, homebound or ill, please let Fr. Secrist (477-3315) and/or MaryPat Luebbering (477-3476) know so that you have the opportunity to receive the Sacraments and pastoral care.

“VISIONS OF FAITH” STAINED GLASS WINDOW RESTORATION PROJECT: Contributions, of various sizes from both our local community and beyond, have been received for the Visions of Faith Project totaling **\$76,900**. The overall project cost for the restoration of our stained glass windows in church is approximately **\$86,000**. This means that the fundraising program to restore the historic stained glass windows at St. Thomas the Apostle is still underway. Sacristy windows are still available for “adoption”. Associated Crafts studios are scheduled to begin work in September. Even if you or your family are not able to adopt a full window, any and all contributions to this project are greatly appreciated. Many thanks to all of you who have given to this important endeavor. A single commemoration plaque will be created to list the names (or memorial) of all who have contributed to the restoration project. If you have questions, please contact Fr. Secrist.

St. Cecilia Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
August 22-23

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Jennifer Even, Betty Hagenhoff, Dorothy Rehagen

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Karen Fick, Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

August 29-30

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Bonnie Kampeter, Lou Kloepfel, Brenda Wansing

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Gerald & Phyllis Rehagen, Pam Libbert

St. Cecilia Altar Servers

August 22-23

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Zachary & Alex Even, Ben Schroeder

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Nicholas & Shelby Wankum, Alicia Wankum

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. – Florentine Hagenhoff – Glorious Mysteries

Saturday 6:40 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer – Sorrowful Mysteries

Sunday 7:40 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer – Sorrowful Mysteries

VOTIVE CANDLES: The requested donation for lighting a votive candle in church is **\$2.50**.

**IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE
TO FULFILL
YOUR LITURGICAL MINISTRY,
IN YOUR KINDNESS & CHARITY,
PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT.**

BAPTISM PREPARATION: Please call Fr. Secrist to schedule a meeting and date for Baptism.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION: Please call Fr. Secrist at *least* six months prior to the desired date

META QUILTING: On Tuesday, August 4, the Meta Area Quilters began their quilting season at the Quilter's Cottage for St. Cecilia Parish and Meta Civic League. Quilting takes place on Tuesdays during the day and evening and Thursdays in the evening. More quilters are needed to meet the goal of 12 large quilts and 12 baby quilts for the 2016 Quilt Auction – even if it's only for an hour or two. Every stitch counts!

ST. THOMAS CRAFT STAND: Please call Diane Lueckenhoff at 573-645-5794 if you have t-towels stamped for embroidering or need to turn in any towels that are completed.

CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN SUBSCRIPTIONS: Just a gentle reminder that when you are making out your check for your household's annual subscription to the diocesan newspaper, please make out your check for **\$14 to the parish**, not to the Catholic Missourian. This will help the checks to be processed and cleared more easily. Thanks to all who have sent along their subscription contribution.

ST. THOMAS SUNDAY SCHOOL: St. Thomas the Apostle Sunday School will begin classes on September 13 for children preschool age (2 years prior to Kindergarten) (5 year olds not in Kindergarten) will meet on Sunday's from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m. in the St. Thomas School Kindergarten room. Please contact Daffiny Tallent at 573-694-4408 or email ddtallent@embarqmail.com if interested and/or for more information.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PSR REGISTRATION: The religious education of *all* of our children is an important and necessary part of the mission of our Catholic parishes and families. This coming school year, we are looking forward to offering an enhanced and expanded educational program for the children in our parish who do not attend Catholic school. Registration forms for St. Thomas the Apostle PSR (Parish School of Religion) are available at the entrances of St. Thomas church or on our web page. Please return the completed forms by August 23; the Wednesday evening classes will begin September 9.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL is now accepting registrations for the fall of 2015-2016 enrollment for **Preschool through 8th grade**. Please call the school office to register at 573-477-3322.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL DROP OFF & PICK UP REMINDERS: School begins on Thursday, August 20. For the safety of our children, please remember to ENTER from PARK STREET and EXIT from the Church PARKING LOT. This will keep everyone safe and the traffic flowing smoothly.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE YARD SIGNS & WINDOW STICKERS: Show your support for our local Catholic school by purchasing a sign for your front yard and a window sticker for your vehicle, boat or tractor. Yard signs and window stickers are \$5.00 each. Please contact the School Office at 573-477-3322.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL STUDENTS...SPORTS PHYSICAL REMINDER: Any student planning on playing sports during the 2015-2016 school year will need a physical (This does not pertain to archery). This is a Diocesan policy.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS

August 18 – Open House 6:00 p.m. & Mandatory Parent Meeting 6:30 p.m.

August 20 – First Day of School K-8

August 27 – Home & School Meeting 7:00 p.m.

BOX TOPS: Please continue to save Box Tops for Education, Coke Points & Best Choice labels.

SCRIP: During the summer months, SCRIP will only be sold after Mass every other weekend. Please watch the bulletins as to when SCRIP will be sold. You may contact Lindsay Luebbering at 573-680-4920 or Karen Luebbering at 573-301-5834 for additional sales. In September we will begin selling SCRIP after every weekend Mass.

ST. THOMAS QUILTERS: It is time to start on our 2016 picnic quilts. We will begin quilting on Thursday, August 20 and evening quilting will begin Wednesday, August 26 at 7:00 p.m. We are in need to quilt tops. If you have a quilt top ready for quilting along with lining, or if you have any questions regarding the afternoon snack, please call Kathy Strope at 573-477-3349 or Emily Luebbering at 573-477-3459. The minimum size should be 90"x108" but larger sizes are recommended. We have batting available for \$10.00.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

St. Thomas CYO Breakfast – August 23, 2015

"Family Night Under the Stars" on Saturday, August 29 sponsored by St. Thomas Parish Park Board. The event will include concessions, games, a glow run/walk at dark and will conclude with a fireworks show! Registration forms for the run/walk are available at B&K or email gluebbering@gmail.com. Donations are still being accepted to offset the cost of the fireworks show. No amount is too small or too big. All donors will be mentioned prior to the show and on display for all to see. This is a beautiful way to honor a loved one, give thanks for all we have, or just in celebration of life. For questions, please contact Lora Boessen at 573-477-3737 or send donation along with name/reason by August 22, to Lora Boessen, 15214 Rt. B, Meta, MO 65058. Please make checks payable to St. Thomas Park Board. Thank you!

St. Thomas Parish Fall Fantasy – October 24, 2015

DIOCESAN JCYA SERVICE DAY WITH THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY is Saturday, August 22, JCYA (Jefferson City Young Adults) will be volunteering with the Missionaries of Charity in St. Louis. Arriving in St. Louis at 9:30 a.m., we will help the sisters serve breakfast and do other chores. If you are interested, please contact catholicjcy@gmail.com

ST. THOMAS BOWLING ASSOCIATION meeting is Tuesday, August 18, 2015 at 7:30 pm in the bowling alley. All team captains should plan to attend. This will be the only meeting before the start of the next bowling season so please plan to attend. Drawing of team numbers will be held at this meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE AREA

ST. THOMAS CYO BREAKFAST is Sunday, August 23, St. Thomas Cafeteria serving from 7:30 – 11:00, \$9.50 for adults, \$4.00 for children 5 – 10. Serving: Sausage, Biscuits & Gravy, Hash Browns, Scrambled Eggs, Coffee & Juice. Proceeds to help offset the cost of NCYC.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PICNIC is **this Sunday, August 16**, serving fried chicken & roast beef dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Adults \$10.00, children 6-12 \$5. Quilt auction at 5:00 p.m. Kiddie tractor pull at 3:00 p.m. Afternoon entertainment will feature Live Bluegrass & Country Music (Thomas Kroll & Cory Luebbering & friends!)

NOLAN SCHROEDER MEMORIAL VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT: Please join us Friday August 21 & Saturday, August 22 for the 5th Annual Nolan Schroeder Memorial Tournament at the Meta Ballpark. There will be volleyball, food & fun. Free skin screenings will be available Saturday morning as well as lots of information about Melanoma and its prevention. There will be a flag dedication ceremony at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday.

RETROUVILLE is a French word meaning “rediscovery”. Retrouville is a program to help couples heal & renew their marriages. It offers tools needed to rediscover loving marriage relationship. It has helped thousands of couples with marital problems & crises, even couples who are separated & divorced. The next program begins with the weekend of September 18-20. For more information, please call 1-800-470-2230 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com

CATHOLIC 101 - WHAT WE BELIEVE

Made in the Image of God

The most basic principle of the Christian moral life is the awareness that every person bears the dignity of being made in the image of God. He has given us an immortal soul and through the gifts of intelligence and reason enables us to understand the order of things established in his creation. God has also given us a free will to seek and love what is true, good, and beautiful. Sadly, because of the Fall, we also suffer the impact of Original Sin, which darkens our minds, weakens our wills, and inclines us to sin. Baptism delivers us from Original Sin but not from its effects—especially the inclination to sin, concupiscence. Within us, then, is both the powerful surge toward the good because we are made in the image of God, and the darker impulses toward evil because of the effects of Original Sin.

But we should always remember that Christ's dying and rising offers us new life in the Spirit, whose saving grace delivers us from sin and heals sin's damage within us. Thus we speak of the value, dignity, and goal of human life, even with its imperfections and struggles. Human life, as a profound unity of physical and spiritual dimensions, is sacred. It is distinct from all other forms of life, since it alone is imprinted with the very image of its Creator.

The Responsible Practice of Freedom

The second element of life in Christ is the responsible practice of freedom. Without freedom, we cannot speak meaningfully about morality or moral responsibility. Human freedom is more than a capacity to choose between this and that. It is the God-given power to become who he created us to be and so to share eternal union with him. This happens when we consistently choose ways that are in harmony with God's plan. Christian morality and God's law are not arbitrary, but specifically given to us for our happiness. God gave us intelligence and the capacity to act freely. Ultimately, human freedom lies in our free decision to say “yes” to God. In contrast, many people today understand human freedom merely as the ability to make a choice, with no objective norm or good as the goal.

The Understanding of Moral Acts

Another important foundation of Christian morality is the understanding of moral acts. Every moral act consists of three elements: the objective act (what we do), the subjective goal or intention (why we do the act), and the concrete situation or circumstances in which we perform the act (where, when, how, with whom, the consequences, etc.).

For an individual act to be morally good, the object, or what we are doing, must be objectively good. Some acts, apart from the intention or reason for doing them, are always wrong because they go against a fundamental or basic human good that ought never to be compromised. Direct killing of the innocent, torture, and rape are examples of acts that are always wrong. Such acts are referred to as intrinsically evil acts, meaning that they are wrong in themselves, apart from the reason they are done or the circumstances surrounding them.

The goal, end, or intention is the part of the moral act that lies within the person. For this reason, we say that the intention is the subjective element of the moral act. For an act to be morally good, one's intention must be good. If we are motivated to do something by a bad intention—even something that is objectively good—our action is morally evil. It must also be recognized that a good intention cannot make a bad action (something intrinsically evil) good. We can never do something wrong or evil in order to bring about a good. This is the meaning of the saying, “the end does not justify the means” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, nos. 1749-1761*).

The Reality of Sin and Trust in God's Mercy

We cannot speak about life in Christ or the moral life without acknowledging the reality of sin, our own sinfulness, and our need for God's mercy. When the existence of sin is denied it can result in spiritual and psychological damage because it is ultimately a denial of the truth about ourselves. Admitting the reality of sin helps us to be truthful and opens us to the healing that comes from Christ's redemptive act.

The Formation of Conscience

The formation of a good conscience is another fundamental element of Christian moral teaching. “Conscience is a judgment of reason by which the human person recognizes the moral quality of a concrete act” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1796*). “Man has in his heart a law inscribed by God. . . . His conscience is man's most secret core, and his sanctuary” (*GS, no. 16*). Conscience represents both the more general ability we have as human beings to know what is good and right and the concrete judgments we make in particular situations concerning what we should do or about what we have already done. Moral choices confront us with the decision to follow or depart from reason and the divine law. A good conscience makes judgments that conform to reason and the good that is willed by the Wisdom of God. A good conscience requires lifelong formation. Each baptized follower of Christ is obliged to form his or her conscience according to objective moral standards. The Word of God is a principal tool in the formation of conscience when it is assimilated by study, prayer, and practice. The prudent advice and good example of others support and enlighten our conscience. The authoritative teaching of the Church is an essential element in our conscience formation. Finally, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, combined with regular examination of our conscience, will help us develop a morally sensitive conscience.

The Excellence of Virtues

The Christian moral life is one that seeks to cultivate and practice virtue. “A virtue is an habitual and firm disposition to do the good. It allows the person not only to perform good acts, but to give the best of himself” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1803*). An effective moral life demands the practice of both human and theological virtues.

Human virtues form the soul with the habits of mind and will that support moral behavior, control passions, and avoid sin. Virtues guide our conduct according to the dictates of faith and reason, leading us toward freedom based on self-control and toward joy in living a good moral life. Compassion, responsibility, a sense of duty, self-discipline and restraint, honesty, loyalty, friendship, courage, and persistence are examples of desirable virtues for sustaining a moral life. Historically, we group the human virtues around what are called the Cardinal Virtues. This term comes from the Latin word *cardo* meaning “hinge.” All the virtues are related to or hinged to one of the Cardinal Virtues. The four Cardinal Virtues are prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance.