The Roman Catholic Parishes of

St. Thomas the Apostle

in St. Thomas

St. Cecilia

in Meta

www.stthomasapostle.net

PO Box 146 St. Thomas, MO 65076

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

February 21, 2016

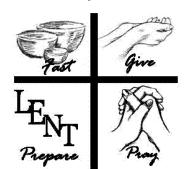
Pastor: Father Jeremy A. Secrist

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 Iheckemeyer@embarqmail.com

School: 573-477-3322 Fax: 573-477-3700

St. Thomas Secretary: Mrs. Diane Lueckenhoff stthomasoffice@embargmail.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. 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 February 21-28:

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Joe & Teresa Kaiser 70th Wedding Ann. Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – August, Leona & Donald Loethen

Wednesday 7:45 a.m.- Clete Matheisen Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Bernadine Groner

Stations of the Cross immediately following Thursday Mass

Friday 7:45 a.m. - Jerome & Dorothy Buschjost

6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Gregory, Lucille & Joe Veit

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - L&D Vincent & Katie Loethen Family

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2015-2016: \$305,000.00 Offertory Goal through Month End: \$203,336.00 \$178,660.03 Actual Collection for 2015-2016: Offertory Difference Year to Date: - \$24,675.97 Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

February 7 \$4,023.00 February 14 \$2,944.00 February 21 \$ February 28 **Collection Online:** \$4,284.00 February total to date: \$11,251.00 Difference for February: - \$14,166.00

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): \$18,633.00 Loan payments to date for FY 2015-2016: \$73,821.92 (Principal) \$58,163.20 (Interest) \$15,658.72

Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: \$525,890.34

St. Thomas Cantor / Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Bill Luebbering/Elizabeth Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jean Kliethermes/Jackie

St. Thomas Reader/ Petitions

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Lauri Luebbering Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Kathy Rackers

St. Thomas Altar Servers

Weekday: Sadi Wolken & Luke Kirkweg Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Cameron & Cheseny Luebbering Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Nolan & Molly Suthoff, Dorothy Lackman, Erika Luebbering

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of February 21-28:

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Josephine Werdehausen Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Catherine Hurst

6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross before Wednesday Mass Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - No Mass due to Penance Service 7:00 p.m. Lenten Penance Service

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Bonita Kleffner Sunday 8:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2015-2016: \$60.471.51 Collection Total for 2015-2016: \$38,046.01 Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,039.29

Collection in Church:

February 7 \$1,282.00 February 14 \$1,164.00 February 21 February 28 February total to date: \$2,446.00 Difference for February: - \$2,593.29

Please remember your parish in your last will & testament.

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

February - Dale & Margie Helton March - Marie Lueckenotto & Pam Libbert

St. Cecilia Reader / Petitions

Wednesday – No Mass Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Jennifer Even Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer

St. Cecilia Altar Servers

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Zachary & Alex Even, Carson Libbert & Gavin Holterman Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Nicholas & Shelby Wankum, Ava & Saige Werdehausen

LENTEN REFLECTION

"Lent stimulates us to let the Word of God penetrate our life and in this way to know the fundamental truth: who we are, where we come from, where we must go, what path we must take in life..."

- Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

St. Thomas Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion February 27-28

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Lora Boessen, Mark Luebbering, Pat Kaiser

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Keith Kliethermes, Randy Buschjost, Rob Henson, Rosalyn Wieberg, Emily Luebbering

Saturday 5:00 p.m.-Paul & Jenny Becker, Marshall Boessen Sunday 10:00 a.m. -Richard & Jan Heckemeyer, Janet Lueckenhoff, Linda Lueckenhoff, Glenn Prenger

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mike & Trish Green, Betty Schellman Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jan Carter, Randy Buschjost, Paul & Jenny Becker, Janet Lueckenhoff

<u>St. Thomas Greeters/Ushers</u> February 27-28

Saturday 5:00 p.m. -Steve Schellman & Gilbert Schellman Sunday 10:00 a.m. -Doug Stockman & TJ Loethen March 5-6

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Richard Schellman & Fred Luebbering Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Mattheuw Prenger & Keith Kliethermes March 12-13

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Joe Buschjost & Mark Boessen Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Mike Buschjost & Keith Kliethermes

St. Thomas Presentation of Gifts at Mass February 27-28

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Paul & Jenny Becker Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Tom & Carol Backes Family

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Gregg & Susan Boessen Family Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Eugene & MaryPat Luebbering March 12-13

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Ryan & Kelley Buschjost Family Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Pat Loethen & Janet Lueckenhoff

St. Thomas Collection Counters:

February 27-28 – Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman March 5-6 - Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg March 12-13 - Keith & Jean Kliethermes

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday 7:25 a.m. - Viola Boessen- Sorrowful (Paul Backes)

Wednesday 7:25 a.m. - Pat Loethen - Glorious (Dylan Bischoff)

Thursday 7:25 a.m. - Celeste & Martha Strope - Luminous (Kristin Boessen)

Friday 7:25 a.m. - Alex & Joann Heckman- Sorrowful (Austin Distler)

Saturday 4:40 p.m. – Dale Herigon- Sorrowful (Ryan Dudenhoeffer)

Sunday 9:40 a.m. - Pat Loethen-Sorrowful (Zachary Even)

St. Cecilia Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion February 27-28

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Doris Stumpe, Jennifer Even, Betty Hagenhoff

Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Gerald & Phyllis Rehagen,

Pam Libbert

March 5-6 Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Bonnie Kampeter, Lou Kloeppel, Brenda Wansing

Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer, Janice Schanzmeyer

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

February 27-28

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Mitch & Brendan Stumpe, Darin Even, Randy Hagenhoff Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Harold Libbert, Anton Libbert, Terry Libbert, Tony Derkum

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday: No Rosary during Lent, due to Stations of the

Saturday 6:40 p.m. - Cathy Borgmeyer- Sorrowful Mysteries (Zachary Even)

Sunday 7:40 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer– Sorrowful Mysteries (Dalton Fowler)

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION at St. Thomas the Apostle will be at a 1:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, April 3, 2016.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION will be conferred on Thursday, May 12 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Cecilia Church.

* The names listed after the mysteries of the rosary to be prayed before Mass are those who are preparing to be confirmed. Throughout this season of Lent, please keep them in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament.

FOR ST. THOMAS QUILTERS:

Thursday, February 25 – Shara Buechter & Lauren Buechter Thursday, March 3 – Marian Buschjost & Julie Buschjost Please bring snacks to hall by 1:00 p.m.; snack served at 3:00 p.m. If you have questions, please call Kathy Strope or Emily Luebbering. Wednesday night quilting at 7:00 p.m.

<u>SCRIP SALES</u> (February 27-28) Visit www.stthomasapostleschool.net/scrip for more information about the Scrip program. Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Karen Luebbering Sunday 10:00 a.m. - April Heckman

GIVING STATEMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 are available in the back of St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Cecilia Churches. Please pick them up to aid your tax preparation.

2015-2016 CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL (CSA): The Catholic Stewardship Appeal (CSA) is our opportunity to come together as the Church in the 95 Catholic Parishes and 15 missions of our diocese.

The 2016 CSA goal for St. Cecilia Parish is \$3,363.00 (18 individuals have pledged \$1,730 so far).

The 2016 CSA goal for St. Thomas Parish is \$7,945.00 (47 individuals have pledged \$7,035 so far).

The Diocese of Jefferson City is very close to reaching our CSA goal of \$1,995,000; so far, \$1,922,000 has been raised. You can send your pledge to: Catholic Stewardship Appeal, P.O. Box 1049000, Jefferson City, MO 65110. Your gift makes me possible the many ministries and services of the Diocese, which benefit our parishes and surrounding communities.

ST. THOMAS CYO meets the first Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Cafeteria. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 1 at 7:00 p.m.

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.

ST. THOMAS PRAYER LINE REQUESTS should be emailed to Jenny Becker at jbeckeroffice @gmail.com or by calling (573) 690-0642. The Prayer Line exists to communicate prayer intentions for those in need of healing. Out of respect for individuals' privacy, only necessary information is communicated.

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.

<u>CHRISM MASS</u>: Bishop John R. Gaydos invites you to attend our annual Chrism Mass at the Cathedral Church, Jefferson City on Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. This Liturgy unites the Diocese in recalling the gifts of the Holy Priesthood and the Most Holy Eucharist. The Oil of the Sick and the Oil of the Catechumens are blessed and the Sacred Chrism is consecrated at this time. These Holy Oils impact the lives of those who are preparing to enter into the Church, those who are ill, and all preparing for Confirmation and Holy Orders.

<u>ADULT SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION</u>: The next meeting will be **Sunday, February 21 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Vitae House at St. Thomas. This meeting is for those who are becoming Catholic. Questions? Please contact Fr. Secrist at 477-3315.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION: Wednesday, February 24, 7:30 p.m. in St. Cecilia Parish Center

PENANCE SERVICES AROUND THE AREA DURING LENT

Tuesday, February 23, 7:00 p.m. – Argyle

Wednesday, February 24, 7:00 p.m. – St. Cecilia, Meta
Thursday, February 25, 7:00 p.m. – Rich Fountain
Tuesday, March 1, 7:00 p.m. – Chamois
Wednesday, March 2, 7:00 p.m. – Frankenstein
Tuesday, March 8, 7:00 p.m. – St. Thomas
Wednesday, March 9, 7:00 p.m. – Loose Creek
Tuesday, March 15, 7:00 p.m. – Folk
Tuesday, March 15, 7:00 p.m. – Linn
Wednesday, March 16, 7:00 p.m. – Westphalia



ST. THOMAS CEMETERY DUES FOR 2016 ARE DUE: Dues are \$3.00 per family this year. Anyone who turned 21 in 2015 or became a separate household, or newcomers in their first full year of residence, now owe dues for 2016. You may put your dues in the collection basket in an envelope marked "Cemetery Dues" or mail it to the St. Thomas Cemetery Assn., Attn: Lisa Lackman, 2222 Upper Bottom Rd., St. Thomas, MO 65076. Please call or text Lisa with questions at 573-338-2703.

<u>ST. THOMAS PSR CLASSES</u> are held on Wednesday evenings 7:00-8:00 p.m. for grade & high school students. Everyone involved in the PSR program is asked to please sign up for the Remind text messaging. This is the primary form communication we will use should classes need to be cancelled. Text @stthomasps to 81010 to receive messages. Follow our "St. Thomas the Apostle PSR" page on Facebook for messages and notifications of events.

<u>WEDNESDAY EVENING TRAFFIC PATTERN AT ST. THOMAS</u>: Because of the number of people attending PSR, Confirmation Preparation and Quilting on Wednesday evenings at St. Thomas, <u>all</u> drivers are asked to please *enter via the lower driveway from Park Street* and *exit from the upper parking lot onto Highway B only*.

<u>ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>: Sunday School is for children preschool age (2 years prior to Kindergarten) and meets on Sundays from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m. in the St. Thomas School Kindergarten room. Please contact Daffiny Tallent at 573-694-4408 or *ddtallent@embargmail.com* for more information.

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.

<u>ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL ARCHERY TOURNAMENT</u> will be Sunday, February 21, beginning at noon in the Parish Center. Hamburgers, hotdogs & other concessions will be served. Please come support our school archers!!

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

ST. THOMAS SCRIP: Please contact Lindsay Luebbering at 573-680-4920 or Karen Luebbering at 573-301-5835 for any questions about the scrip program or for any special orders.

<u>CONGRATULATIONS</u> to the St. Thomas the Apostle School students participated in the Helias Archery Meet on February 13. They all did a tremendous job at the meet and we had several students who received medals. Cameron Luebbering took home the 2nd place medal (Middle School boys) and Kenzie Libbert the 1st place medal (Elementary School girls). The Elementary School team took home 1st Place. Outstanding job to all our archers and coaches!!!

A Poster Contest from Western Catholic Union was held during Catholic Schools Week by our 5th & 6th graders. They were instructed to draw what they thought God's love looked like in a selfie theme, "My Selfie with God's Love." Each student received a WCU t-shirt and a certificate for participating. The 5 winners also received gift cards to Wal-mart. The following students received the following awards: 1st place- Morgan Luebbering (\$25), 2nd place Leon Wolken (\$15), 3rd place – Molly Suthoff (\$10), 4th place – Kenzie Libbert (\$10) and 5th place – Madi Buschjost (\$10). Congratulations to all of these students.

WINNING SCHOOL ESSAYS

"I like St. Thomas because it is fun. It is fun because we do 100th day at school and we get to dress up like an old boy or girl. It is fun because we do Advent Angels. It is fun because we go to the pumpkin patch. St. Thomas is loving." - *Courtney Luebbering, 2nd Grade*

"I like going to St. Thomas Catholic School because we can have prayers in our school. If someone in our school or a family member or someone in our parish is sick or hurt you can pray for them with your friends and classmates. We have the chance to go to Mass daily. We get to participate in Mass as lectors, serving as altar servers and bringing up gifts. Our parents and grandparents have the opportunity to come to Mass and see us participate.

At St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School you learn that giving is better than receiving. Some of the things we do in school to help other teaches us for the rest of our lives to share and serve others who do not have much. We learn to treat people as Christ would. We learn respect towards our classmates and teachers. We learn to respect all our brothers and sisters. In our school we are surrounded by pictures and statues relating to Christ. This gives us the feeling that Christ is always with us." - *Carson Libbert, 3rd Grade*

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS

February 21 – St. Thomas the Apostle School Archery Tournament (noon)

25 - NAEP Test for 8th grade students

March 3 – Early Release 1:20 Car riders, 1:30 Bus Riders

4 - First Friday, Adoration & Confessions

5 - Diocesan Regional Speech Meet here at St. Thomas

<u>ST. THOMAS PARISH BALL PARK</u> is looking for concession manager for 2016 ball season (May-July). If interested, please contact Gina Luebbering for more details at 573-694-1863 or *stparkboard@gmail.com*

<u>ST. THOMAS PARISH HAM/SAUSAGE BREAKFAST is March 13</u>. The work-list is attached to this bulletin. If you have any questions or input regarding the work-list, please contact TJ Loethen, Joyce Luebbering, Greg Luebbering, Lynne Reinkemeyer or Michelle Luebbering. Everyone's help is needed to make this fundraiser a success. Please help with the following items if possible.

- Breakfast flyers are available in the entrances of St. Thomas Church and raffle tickets are in the back of Church. Please note may outstanding prizes on our raffle this year donated by supporters of St. Thomas Parish. Please post the flyers, as your help spreading the word about the breakfast is very important.
- There is an envelope for meat donations in your March envelope packet. Any contribution you can make is needed and appreciated to cover the cost of meat for the breakfast.
- The Country Store would appreciate any donated items such as breads, rolls, cookies, brownies, pies, cakes, jelly, relish, etc. Your conations are needed.
- Items for the Craft Stand such as baby quilts and other crafts are also appreciated.

BOOK AVAILABLE: Copies of the book "The Lucky Ones" that chronicles Norbert Gerling's assignment to a World War II tank destroyer battalion are available for purchase for \$12 from Gilbert Schellman. Call 477-3471 or 821-6462 for details.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SESQUICENTENTIAL MEETING the next meeting to plan for our 150th anniversary is Friday, **March 18 at 6:45 p.m.** in the Vitae House.

THE WILLIAM SIMON SCHOLARSHIP FUND awards scholarships to Catholic students in the Jefferson City Diocese who are in financial need for attending an accredited college of the student's choice. The scholarship is \$1,000 per semester. Please see Fr. Secrist at the rectory for details and application. Students from St. Thomas have been awarded this scholarship in the past. Applications must be returned to the Chancery by March 31, 2016. All applicants will be notified of the results by May 1, 2016.

<u>ST. THOMAS / META SOFTBALL & BASEBALL REGISTRATION</u>: will be held Saturday, February 20 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. and Sunday February 21, from 11:00 a.m. to noon in the St. Thomas School cafeteria.

<u>ARGYLE VFW Post 8045 ANNUAL BREAKFAST</u> is this Sunday, February 21, serving sausage, fried eggs, pancakes, morning pastries & drinks from 7:30 – 11:30 a.m. in the Argyle post home. Adults \$8.00, children 6-12 \$4.00. Carry-outs available.

MISSOURI RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE will be available to the St. Thomas Community on Monday, February 22 from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. in the St. Thomas K of C parking lot, and 7:15-8:00 p.m. at Bee Line, Meta.

<u>CITIZEN'S CIVIC BLOOD DRIVE META</u> is Thursday, February 25 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. in the Meta Citizen's Civic League Hall, Meta. To make an appointment please visit redcrossblood.org, sponsor keyword: CivicLeagueMeta

NFP (Natural Family Planning): Want to give your beloved the perfect gift? How about the gift of total, self-giving love! Natural Family Planning allows a couple to give of themselves to each other, freely and totally, without physical, emotional, or spiritual side effects, while allowing couples to space children according to their need. Not sure how your beloved will react? Ask them to simply *consider* NFP. Do your research and tell them why you think it is a good idea, or contact a NFP Provider to request a free introductory class or for more information. You never know, maybe they were hoping you would ask! For more information, Diocesan NFP Provider contact information, and ongoing class schedules, visit *www.MidMoNFP.org* or call (573) 449-8342.

24 HOURS OF CONFESSION & ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: beginning at 4:00 p.m., March 4 at St. Joseph's Church, Westphalia. A priest will be available for Confession throughout the 24 hours

2016 BLAIR OAKS PROJECT GRADUATION CHICKEN DINNER is Sunday, March 6 at the Wardsville Lions Club. Serving from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. \$10.00 per person. To purchase advanced tickets, please contact Brenda Schell at 573-301-4907. A silent auction will also be held.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHILI SUPPER BABBTOWN is Sunday, March 6 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Adults \$5.00, children 5-12 \$3.00. All you can eat: Chili, chili dogs, hot dogs, homemade chicken noodle soup, cinnamon rolls, pie and other desserts.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE ANNUAL HAM BREAKFAST is **Sunday, March 13**. Serving country ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, hash browns, applesauce, biscuits & gravy **8:00 – 11:30 a.m.** Country store, craft stand, raffle and much more. Adults: \$9.00, children 6-12: \$4.00, children 5 & younger: free.

ST. BRENDAN PARISH, MEXICO is sponsoring an event on Friday, April 22 7:00 - 10:45 p.m. at the Presser Performing Arts Center in Mexico, MO. Dr. Allen Hunt will be presenting a talk the "The Good Life" who is associated with the Dynamic Catholic program and has written a couple of books including "The Conversion of a Mega Church Pastor". Tickets are \$25.00.

ST. CECILIA ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC is Sunday, July 10, 2016

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC is Sunday, August 21, 2016