

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

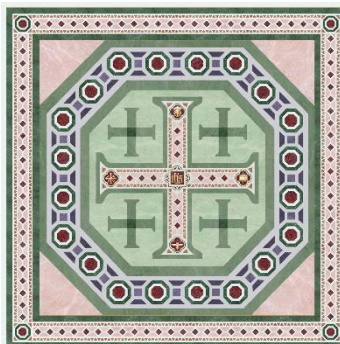
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 24, 2016

Pastor: Father Jeremy A. Secrist
jasecris@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.

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 January 24-31:

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – L&D Joe & Dorothy Luebbering Family
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes
Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Bernadine Groner
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Alfred & Angeline Berhorst
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Anthony Yanskey
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Mary Ann Schmidt
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Lucille Veit
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Andy & David Suthoff

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2015-2016:	\$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	\$177,919.00
Actual Collection for 2015-2016:	\$158,343.53
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	- \$19,575.47
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

January 3	\$6,534.00
January 10	\$3,319.00
January 17	\$3,295.25
January 24	\$
January 31	\$

Collection Online: \$5,244.00

January total to date: **\$18,392.25**

Difference for January: - **\$7,024.75**

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): **\$16,668.00**
Loan payments to date for fiscal year 2015-2016: **\$64,594.18**
(Principal) \$51,101.49 (Interest) \$13,492.69
Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: **\$532,952.05**

St. Thomas Cantor / Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – St. Thomas School Students
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Brooke Luebbering/Jackie

St. Thomas Reader/ Petitions

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – St. Thomas School Students
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Rosalyn Wieberg

St. Thomas Altar Servers

Weekday: Henry Schroeder & Ben Schroeder
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – St. Thomas School Students
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Ben & Emma Luebbering,
Cole Peters, Henry Buschjost

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of January 24-31:

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Josephine Werdehausen
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Ray Luebbering

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Jim & Christine Luebbering

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Brian Wansing

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2015-2016:	\$60,471.51
Collection Total for 2015-2016:	\$34,451.01
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 5,039.29

Collection in Church:

January 3	\$1,270.00
January 10	\$ 638.00
January 17	\$1,602.00
January 24	\$
January 31	\$

January total to date: **\$3,719.00**

Difference for January: - **\$1,320.29**

Please remember your parish in your last will & testament.

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

February – Dale & Margie Helton

St. Cecilia Reader / Petitions

Wednesday – Doris Stumpe
Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer
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

St. Thomas Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
January 30-31

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Leroy Heckemeyer, Danielle Plassmeyer
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Rosalyn Wieberg, Richard & Jan Heckemeyer, Emily Luebbering

February 6-7

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Paul & Jenny Becker, Marshall Boessen
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Linda Lueckenhoff, Glenn Prenger, Gilbert & Hermina Strobe, Millie Wieberg

February 13-14

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mike & Trish Green, Betty Schellman
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Shirley Volmert, Bill & Betty Jo Luebbering, Carolyn Loethen, Lynne Reinkemeyer

St. Thomas Greeters/Ushers

January 30-31

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Gilbert Schellman & School Students
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Tom Backes & Richard Heckemeyer

February 6-7

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Richard Schellman & Fred Luebbering
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jim Lueckenhoff & Larry Lueckenhoff

February 13-14

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Joe Buschjost & Mark Boessen
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Art Groner & Eric Boessen

St. Thomas Presentation of Gifts at Mass

January 30-31

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – St. Thomas the Apostle School Students
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Al & Jan Carter

February 6-7

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark & Lauri Luebbering
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Keith & Jean Kliethermes

February 13-14

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Andy & Pat Luebbering Family
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Randy & Charlene Buschjost

St. Thomas Collection Counters:

January 30-31 – Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
February 6-7 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes
February 13-14 – Richard & Jan Heckemeyer

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday 7:25 a.m. – Viola – Sorrowful (Josh Wieberg)
Wednesday 7:25 a.m. – Pat – Glorious (Sarah Wolken)
Thursday 7:25 a.m. – Celeste & Martha – Luminous (Paul Backes)
Friday 7:25 a.m. Alex & Joann – Sorrowful (Dylan Bischoff)
Saturday 4:40 p.m. – Paul Becker- Luminous (Kristin Boessen)
Sunday 9:40 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina -Luminous (Austin Distler)

LADIES TO BRING SNACK TO ST. THOMAS QUILTERS:

Thursday, January 28 – Viola Boessen & Jennifer Borgmeyer
Thursday, February 4 - Renee Braun & Jane Budnik
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. Wednesday night quilting at 7:00 p.m.

SCRIP SALES (January 30-31) 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

ST. THOMAS PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Thursday, February 4, but will be open on Wednesday, February 3 from 8:30 to noon.

WINTER WEATHER: When school has been cancelled because of inclement weather, previously scheduled parish meetings in the evening will also be canceled.

THE 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** (16 individuals have pledged **\$1,605.00** so far).

The 2016 CSA goal for **St. Thomas Parish** is **\$7,945.00** (44 individuals have pledged **\$6,280.00** so far).

Please be generous so that we can reach our CSA goals. Thank you to all who have contributed! To those who haven't made a pledge yet, there's still time! Please fill out your pledge card today.

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.

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.

St. Cecilia Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
January 30-31

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Jennifer Even, Betty Hagenhoff,
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

February 6-7

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Bonnie Kampeter, Lou Kloepfel, Brenda Wansing
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Gerald & Phyllis Rehagen, Janice Schanzmeyer

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

January 30-31

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Darin Even, Randy Hagenhoff, Tom Gragert, Lou Kloepfel
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Harold Libbert, Anton Libbert, Terry Libbert, Tony Derkum

February 6-7

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Mitch & Brendan Stumpe, Darin Even, Randy Hagenhoff
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Leon Schanzmeyer, Kenny Otto, Dominic Plassmeyer, Larry Lueckenotto

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. – Florentine Hagenhoff – Glorious – (Ryan Dudenhoeffer)
Saturday 6:40 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer– Luminous Mysteries (Zachary Even)
Sunday 7:40 a.m. – Margaret Brune– Luminous 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.

** The names listed after the mysteries of the rosary to be prayed before Mass are those from St. Cecilia and St. Thomas the Apostle Parishes who are preparing for the Sacrament Confirmation. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for this important Sacrament.*

A NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR...

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

From time to time I am asked to compose letters of recommendation on behalf of parishioners who are seeking employment or pursuing a new career. At other times, I am asked by other parishes and pastors to compose letters on behalf of parishioners who have been invited to fulfill the important roles of Godparent or Confirmation sponsor. While it is always a joy to write a letter expressing how a particular parishioner might be able to faithfully and capably fulfill a new responsibility, there can be other times when it is difficult to honestly compose a letter testifying to one's being an active parishioner. So let's take this opportunity to revisit some basics of Catholic parish life and make some clarifications.

An "**active parishioner**" is a person who participates regularly in the life of the Church. This means following the teachings of Jesus Christ and His Church, particularly in Marriage and family life; leading others to faith by our good example and presence at Mass.

An active parishioner is a person who attends Sunday Mass regularly at St. Thomas the Apostle or St. Cecilia Parishes, is registered in the parish and who makes use of the sacramental preparation programs for Penance, Eucharist, Confirmation and Marriage. The responsibility to attend Mass on Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation is a serious one for Catholics. It is not merely a matter of parish or diocesan policy. Divine Law sets forth this expectation in the Third of the Ten Commandments, "Remember, to keep holy the Sabbath." Exercising the teaching authority given to the Church by Christ Himself, Canon Law states: "On Sundays and other Holy Days of Obligation, the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass; they are also to abstain from those labors and business concerns which impede the worship to be rendered to God, the joy which is proper to the Lord's Day, or the proper relaxation of mind and body (Canon 1247).

Mass on the weekend is the *ordinary* and most basic expectation of us as Catholics.

Obviously, there can be extraordinary circumstances such as sickness, travel, or bad weather which prevent us from being able to attend Mass. The elderly, homebound or disabled are not bound to Sunday Mass attendance. However, the habitual disregard for God's Law and the Law of His Church constitutes grave matter, and thus serious (mortal) sin. Parents who want a Catholic education for their children see to it that their family attends Mass faithfully *every* Sunday.

Lastly, an active parishioner is a good financial steward of the church, giving of themselves by donating time, talent and treasure to the various ministries of the parish, preferably using the envelope system. The use of envelopes is not primarily about the money given; rather the use of envelopes provide a record of Sunday Mass attendance, which is a most important consideration. Parishioners who have difficulty contributing to the parish should simply drop a note to Fr. Secrist making this known.

Because life in Christ always calls us to live beyond the bare minimum, it logically follows that if Sunday Mass attendance is an important Catholic value, then parents who want to raise their children in the ways of the faith will see that they attend Mass faithfully on the weekend as well.

Registration forms are available at the entrance to church and online at www.stthomasapostle.net. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely Yours in Christ, Fr. Secrist

GIVING STATEMENTS will be available January 30-31 in the back of St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Cecilia Churches.

ST. THOMAS PRAYER EMAIL REQUESTS: all email prayer requests should be sent to jbeckeroffice@gmail.com. Please remember that the sole purpose of the parish prayer line and email communication to ask for prayers for those particularly in need. Out of respect for individuals' privacy, only necessary information is communicated.

ANNIVERSARY NOTES IN CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER: If you would like your anniversary (10 years & over) or birthday (90 years & over) listed in the Catholic Missourian, please send a note to Jenny Becker at jbeckeroffice@gmail.com or call 573-477-3315.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MEETING AT ST. THOMAS: Parents of St. Thomas School and PSR students preparing to make their First Holy Communion will have a meeting on **Tuesday, January 26 at 5:30 p.m.** in St. Thomas School library.

ADULT SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: The next meeting will be **Sunday, January 24, 6:00 p.m.** in Vitae House at St. Thomas. This meeting is for those adults who are becoming Catholic. Questions? Please contact Fr. Secrist at 477-3315.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION: **Wednesday, January 27, 7:30 p.m.** in St. Thomas school library.

ST. THOMAS CYO will be meeting the first Monday of every month at 7:00 in the Parish Cafeteria. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

CYO CINNAMON ROLLS will be available for purchase after Masses on **February 6 & 7**. Pre-orders for cinnamon rolls will be taken on the weekend of January 30 & 31; please contact any of the CYO members for more information.

ST. THOMAS CEMETERY DUES FOR 2016 ARE NOW 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.

ST. THOMAS PSR CLASSES are usually 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 @stthomaspsr to 81010 to receive messages. Also, please follow our "St. Thomas the Apostle PSR" page on Facebook for messages and notifications of events.

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

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School is for children preschool age (2 years prior to Kindergarten) and will meet 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 email dttallent@embarqmail.com if interested and/or 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.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK FAMILY SUPPER – ALL ST. THOMAS PARISHIONERS & SCHOOL FAMILIES ARE INVITED to dinner in the St. Thomas Parish Center on **Saturday, January 30** following the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Spaghetti, salad & dessert will be served. St. Thomas Parish families with the last names M-Z are asked to bring a dessert.

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL SNEAK PEEK: On **Thursday, February 4**, please join us as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week! We will have activities for in-coming Kindergartners and children of families considering future enrollment. Information will be provided for parents about new programs and initiatives. This will be a great time for you to see some of the changes at St. Thomas the Apostle, and we will answer any questions you may have about the upcoming school year. If you have been curious about what you may be missing in a faith based school close to home, please RSVP by calling 573-477-3322 or email lheckemeyer@embarqmail.com to schedule a more workable time to see what our Catholic School may offer you!!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK INVITATION: On **Friday, February 5**, we will be celebrating all our VIP's – parents, grandparents, parishioners, volunteers and friends – by starting our day with Mass at 7:45 a.m. followed by refreshments and BINGO in the St. Thomas Parish Center. All are welcome and invited! Please call St. Thomas School Office at 573-477-3322 to RSVP. It's that time of the year when we may be cleaning things or have some items (new or used) that would make excellent Bingo prizes. Please call the school office if you have any items to donate. Thanks in advance for helping out with the prizes for the bingo games!

CONGRATULATIONS!! We had several St. Thomas the Apostle School students who participated in the St. Martin's Archery Meet on January 15-16. They all did a tremendous job at the meet and we had several students who received medals. Grace Boessen took home the 1st place medal in her division (Middle School Girls). On the boys side Ben Schroeder took home the 1st place medal (Middle School boys). Noah Luebbering took home the 1st place medal (Elementary School boys). Kenzie Libbert took home the 1st place medal (Elementary School girls). The Elementary School team took home 1st Place and the Middle School team took home 3rd place. Outstanding job to all our archers and coaches!!!

PRAY THE ROSARY DURING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK: Students & staff will pray the Rosary on Monday, February 1 at 8:15 a.m. in the Parish Center. All are welcome!

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 30-February 6 – Catholic Schools Week
February 3- Bookmobile
4 – Kindergarten Sneak Peek, Mid-Quarter
5 – VIP – Mass, Bingo & refreshments, First Friday – Adoration, Confessions following VIP
8 – Valentine's Day Parties
9 – COPE for 7th Graders

BOX TOPS: Please continue to save Box Tops for Education, Coke Points & Best Choice labels. **Please send in Box Tops by February 21 for submission.**

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

ST. THOMAS PARISH BALL PARK 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 sparkboard@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

TOTUS TUUS SUMMER CAMP: Please save the dates! This is an upcoming program that will be offered for all the youth of St. Cecilia & St. Thomas Parishes this Summer, July 18-22, 2016. *Totus Tuus*, means "all yours". Before Summer vacation plans are made, please mark your calendars for this great youth event.

ST. THOMAS/META KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN: The St. Thomas & Meta Knights of Columbus are participating in the "Meet Life" campaign to reduce abortions in Missouri. **On the weekend of January 30 & 31**, please bring your filled baby bottle back to Mass with you and they will be collected in the back of Church.

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 postmarked or returned to the Chancery by March 31, 2016. All applicants will be notified of the results by May 1, 2016.

MISSOURI RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE will be available to the St. Thomas Community on Monday, January 25 from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. in the St. Thomas K of C Parking lot; and 7:15 to 8:00 p.m. at Bee Line Meta.

ST. THOMAS/META KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CONTEST is Sunday, January 31, 12:00 noon in the St. Thomas School Gym. All boys & girls ages 9-14 as of January 1 are eligible to participate. For more information, please contact Steve Schellman at 573-694-3471.

WESTPHALIA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SOCCER CLUB SPRING SIGN-UP will be held at the Westphalia KC Hall on Sunday evening, January 31 and Monday, February 1 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. each night. All kids ages 3-14 (on 8/1/15) welcome. Please no late sign ups! Please email wkcsoccerclub@gmail.com with any questions.

META FIRE & RESCUE & AUXILIARY CHILI SUPPER is today, January 24 at the Meta Fire House at 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Meals are \$5/person (11 years & up), \$3/person (6-10 years.) ALL YOU CAN EAT! Also serving chili dogs, chicken noodle soup & desserts. All proceeds to benefit maintenance of the Fire House. Meta Fire & Rescue RAFFLE CHANCES sold there.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH PANCAKE BREAKFAST is Sunday, January 31, serving pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs & applesauce from 7:30 a.m. to Noon. Adults \$8.50, children 6-10 \$4.00.

K OF C COUNCIL #2027 BREAKFAST is Sunday, January 31 serving pancakes, eggs & sausage from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Loose Creek school basement. Adults \$7.00, children 6-12 \$3.00.

ST. THOMAS/META KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS VALENTINE'S DANCE is Saturday, February 6, 7:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m. in St. Thomas Parish Center. \$10.00 per person, 50/50 raffle. NO ONE UNDER 21 ALLOWED. Music provided by Shiloh. Proceeds to benefit St. Thomas/Meta Knights of Columbus Council.