

# The Roman Catholic Parishes of

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

in St. Thomas

**St. Cecilia**

in Meta

[www.stthomasapostle.net](http://www.stthomasapostle.net)

PO Box 146  
St. Thomas, MO 65076

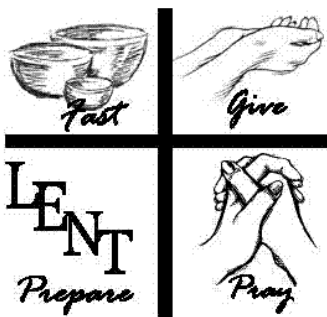
## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 6, 2016

**Pastor: Father Jeremy A. Secrist**  
[jasecris@yahoo.com](mailto:jasecris@yahoo.com)  
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315

**St. Thomas Bookkeeper:**  
**Mrs. Jenny Becker**  
[jbeckeroffice@gmail.com](mailto:jbeckeroffice@gmail.com)

**St. Cecilia Bookkeeper:**  
**Mrs. Doris Stumpe**  
[dorisstumpe@att.net](mailto:dorisstumpe@att.net)



**School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer**  
[lheckemeyer@embarqmail.com](mailto:lheckemeyer@embarqmail.com)  
School: 573-477-3322 Fax: 573-477-3700

**St. Thomas Secretary:**  
**Mrs. Diane Lueckenhoff**  
[stthomasoffice@embarqmail.com](mailto:stthomasoffice@embarqmail.com)

**School Website:**  
[www.stthomasapostleschool.net](http://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 March 6-13:

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – L&D John H. Boessen Family  
Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Tom & Clara Schmidt  
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Aloysious Wieberg  
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Wm & Rufina Boessen  
*Stations of the Cross immediately following Thursday Mass*  
Friday 7:45 a.m. – **No Mass** (Fr. at Conception Seminary)  
*6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross*  
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – L&D Alfred & Angeline Berhorst Family  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Geneva Plassmeyer

#### Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2015-2016:	\$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	\$203,336.00
Actual Collection for 2015-2016:	<b>\$188,140.03</b>
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	- \$15,195.97
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 25,417.00

#### Collection in Church:

February 7	\$4,023.00
February 14	\$2,944.00
February 21	\$4,088.00
February 28	\$4,432.00

**Collection Online:** \$5,244.00

**February total to date:** **\$20,731.00**

Difference for February: - **\$4,686.00**

#### 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): **\$19,708.00**  
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. – Kerry Meyer/Elizabeth  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Rebecca Schroeder/Jackie

#### St. Thomas Reader/ Petitions

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – MaryPat Luebbering

#### St. Thomas Altar Servers

Weekday: Dylan Kliegel & Sabrina Luebbering  
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Cameron & Chesney Luebbering,  
Chase Luebbering  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Caleb Buechter, Colton Libbert,  
Cole Peters, Luke Schroeder

### Saint Cecilia

#### Mass Schedule for the Week of March 6-13:

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Leroy Bruemmer  
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Ray Luebbering  
*6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross before Wednesday Mass*  
Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Fred Hilke

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Jason Hake  
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:	<b>\$41,382.01</b>
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 5,039.29

#### Collection in Church:

February 7	\$1,282.00
February 14	\$1,164.00
February 21	\$1,156.00
February 28	\$1,016.00
<b>February total to date:</b>	<b>\$4,618.00</b>
Difference for February:	- <b>\$421.29</b>

*Please remember your parish in your last will & testament.*

#### St. Cecilia Collection Counters

March – Marie Lueckenotto & Pam Libbert

#### St. Cecilia Reader / Petitions

Wednesday – Doris Stumpe  
Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Doris Stumpe  
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Karen Fick

#### St. Cecilia Altar Servers

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Zachary & Alex Even,  
Carson Libbert & Gavin Holterman  
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Will & Melina Derkum, Sophie Bock

#### LENTEN REFLECTION

"If Advent is the season par excellence that invites us to hope in the God-Who-Comes, Lent renews in us the hope in the One who made us pass from death to life. Both are seasons of purification – this is also indicated by the liturgical color that they have in common – but in a special way Lent, fully oriented to the mystery of Redemption, is defined the 'path of true conversion'"

- Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

### **St. Thomas Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

#### **March 12-13**

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

#### **March 19-20**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Leeroy Budnik, Mark & Barb Graessle  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Linda Lueckenhoff, Glenn Prenger, Gilbert & Hermina Strobe, Millie Wieberg  
Holy Saturday (March 26) 8:00 p.m. – *please sign up on sheets*  
Easter Sunday (March 27) 10:00 a.m. – *please sign up on sheets*

### **St. Thomas Greeters/Ushers**

#### **March 12-13**

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

#### **March 19-20**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mike Groner & Dave Luebbering  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Tom Backes & Alan Cortvrient  
Holy Saturday (March 26) 8:00 p.m. -

### **St. Thomas Presentation of Gifts at Mass**

#### **March 12-13**

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

#### **March 19-20**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Steve & Katrina Schellman Family  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Bryan & Renee Braun Family  
Holy Saturday (March 26) 8:00 p.m. – *please sign up on sheets*

### **St. Thomas Collection Counters**

March 12-13 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes  
March 19-20 – Richard & Jan Heckemeyer  
March 26-27 – Jennifer Schroeder & Stephanie Cortvrient

### **Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas**

Tuesday 7:25 a.m. – Viola Boessen – Sorrowful (John Christian)  
Wednesday 7:25 a.m. – Pat Loethen – Glorious (Angie Christian)  
Thursday 7:25 a.m. – Celeste & Martha Strobe – Luminous (Shelby & Samantha Christian)  
Friday 7:25 a.m. – **No Mass**  
Saturday 4:40 p.m. – Marilyn Herigon – Sorrowful (Jessica Schulte & Kalib Christian)  
Sunday 9:40 a.m. – Pat Loethen – Sorrowful (Austyn & Kaycie Christian)

*\* 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.*

### **SNACKS FOR ST. THOMAS QUILTERS:**

Thursday, March 10 – Kristin Buschjost & Charlene Buschjost Thursday, March 17 – Susan Buschjost & Rose Mary 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 Strobe or Emily Luebbering. Wednesday night quilting at 7:00 p.m.

### **SCRIP SALES (March 12-13)** Visit [www.stthomasapostleschool.net/scrip](http://www.stthomasapostleschool.net/scrip) for more information about the Scrip program.

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

### **NOTES OF THANKS**

ST. THOMAS/META K of C BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN collected \$1,750.00 that will benefit the Pregnancy Help Centers and Vitae Foundation to help save lives of the unborn. Thank you for your donations!

We would like to express our gratitude and thanks to everyone who by thoughts, prayers, cards, food, serving the food, memorial contributions and in any other way for your thoughtfulness and kindness during our loss.

–The Harold “Bud” Loethen Family

**PRAYING TOWARD THE EASTER VIGIL:** Please keep John & Angie Christian, Shelby Christian, Kalib Christian, Jessica Schulte, Austyn Christian, Kaycie Christian, Sarah Luebbert & Meghan Rackers in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Easter Sacraments at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 26.

**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.

**ADULT SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION:** The next meeting will be **Sunday, March 13 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.

**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. Cecilia Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

#### **March 12-13**

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Doris Stumpe, Jennifer Even  
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Gerald & Phyllis Rehagen

#### **March 19-20**

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Bonnie Kampeter, Lou Kloepfel, Brenda Wansing  
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer, Pam Libbert  
March 24 (Holy Thursday) – *please sign up on sheets*  
March 25 (Good Friday) – *please sign up on sheets*  
Holy Saturday – *please sign up on sheets*  
Easter Sunday 8:00 a.m. – *please sign up on sheets*

### **St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers**

#### **March 12-13**

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

### **Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia**

Wednesday: *No Rosary during Lent, due to Stations of the Cross*  
Saturday 6:40 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer – Sorrowful Mysteries (Sarah Luebbert)  
Sunday 7:40 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer – Sorrowful Mysteries (Meghan Rackers)

**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.

**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 (48 individuals** have pledged **\$7,055** 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 PRAYER LINE REQUESTS** should be emailed to Jenny Becker at [jbeckeroffice@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION: Wednesday, March 9, 7:30 p.m.** in the St. Thomas School Library.

#### **PENANCE SERVICES AROUND THE AREA DURING LENT**

**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. – Linn, Folk & Wardsville

Wednesday, March 16, 7:00 p.m. – Westphalia



**ST. CECILIA FLOWERS:** Anyone interested in making a monetary donation for Easter lilies/flowers in memory of your loved ones, please **PRINT** the name(s) of your loved one on a note and include your donation in an envelope marked "FLOWER DONATION: and place it in the collection basket on all the weekends in March. The names will be published in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

**ST. THOMAS FLOWERS:** Anyone interested in make a monetary donation toward the purchase of Easter flowers in memory of loved ones is asked to place the donation along with **PRINTED** names of those to be remembered in the envelope and place in the collection basket on all the weekends in March. The names will be published in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

**CHRISM MASS:** Bishop John R. Gaydos invites you to attend the annual Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Jefferson City on Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

#### **HOLY WEEK & TRIDUUM SCHEDULE FOR 2016:**

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, March 20,** Procession with palms from Parish Center into Church, 8:00 a.m. at St. Cecilia (weather permitting), Procession with palms from parish school building into Church, 10:00 a.m. at St. Thomas (weather permitting).

**Tuesday, March 22,** 7:45 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas

**Spy Wednesday, March 23** 7:45 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas; 6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross at St. Cecilia, 6:30 p.m. Mass at St. Cecilia.

**Holy Thursday, March 24,** 7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Cecilia, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight.

**Good Friday, (Day of Fast & Abstinence) March 25,** 3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross at St. Thomas, 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy at St. Cecilia. *Paschal Fast continues*

**Holy Saturday, March 26,** 8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil at St. Thomas.

**Easter Sunday, March 27,** 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Cecilia, 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas

#### **ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS**

- March 8 – Freddy's Fundraiser 3:00-10:00 p.m. to benefit our school. Please tell the cashier to credit our school.
- 9 – End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- 11 – No School K-8, Diocesan Teacher Retreat
- 14 – Diocesan Teacher Retreat
- 17 – Report Cards Go Home
- 18-19 – State Archery Meet

#### **WINNING SCHOOL ESSAYS**

"I love my Catholic School for many reasons. One reason is because it is a small school. I also love that we do lots of fun activities when we learn about God and Jesus. We also, do to Church many days during the week and we have really good teachers and a principal too.

The first reason I love my Catholic School is because it a private school and small. I like because I know everyone by their first name. Some of our classes are combined, which I like because I really get to know the kids that are younger and older than me. I also like that it is a small because I get to know the teachers really well too.

Next, I love my Catholic School because we do a lot of fun activities while learning about God & Jesus. Our teachers make learning about God fun, which makes it easier to remember different stories about God & Jesus.

We get the opportunity to go to Church every day. I like learning about God in Church, singing songs, and saying prayers. I enjoy going to Church with my classmates and friends, and I also like receiving Holy Communion every day.

Last but not least of all, I love my Catholic School because we have really great teachers and a great principal. They all help us learn about God by teaching us and showing us what is right. Since we are in a small town, I also get to see some of my teachers outside of the school in our community.

Being at a small school in a small town, that has awesome teachers and principal, who do fun activities to help us learn are just some of the reasons why I love my Catholic School, St. Thomas the Apostle." - **Ethan Luebbering, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING** is Tuesday, March 8 at 7:30 p.m. **The meeting will begin after the Lenten Penance Service at 7:00 p.m. in St. Thomas Church.** Please read the March newsletter attached to the bulletin.

**MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP** will NOT be held this week, due to Parish Penance Service.

**META OVER 50 CLUB** will meet on Thursday, March 10 at noon at the Parish Center. Please bring a dish & join us for lunch, fun & fellowship.

**ST CECILIA CEMETERY MEETING** is scheduled for Monday, March 14 at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center. Members from the association, living in Meta or elsewhere, can serve on the cemetery board. If unable to attend meeting and would like to be on the board, contact Michael Schroeder.

**THE DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA, GLENNON CIRCLE 322** will be meeting on Monday, March 7 at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Tanner Bridge Road. The business meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. Please plan to attend.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SESQUICENTENTIAL MEETING** the next meeting to plan for our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2019 is Friday, **March 18 at 6:45 p.m.** in the Vitae House.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD:** 6:00 p.m., Tuesday March 22, in the Vitae House.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING:** 7:00 p.m., Tuesday March 22, in the Vitae House.

**2016 BLAIR OAKS PROJECT GRADUATION CHICKEN DINNER** is this 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, call Brenda Schell at 573-301-4907.

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHILI SUPPER BABBTOWN** is this 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.

**SENIOR CITIZEN'S DAY AT FATIMA HIGH SCHOOL, WESTPHALIA:** The annual "Senior Citizen's Day" will be held at Fatima on Wednesday, March 23. There will be a musical program in the gym starting at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be then provided to all attending starting at 12:40 p.m. courtesy of the Osage County RIII Board of Education. Bus transportation will be provided from your church, Bus D departures from: Meta at 10:35 a.m. & Folk at 11:00 a.m.

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

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

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGIN NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 13** Don't forget to set your clock *forward* one hour before bedtime Saturday night.

**ST. THOMAS PARISH HAM/SAUSAGE BREAKFAST** is **March 13.** Committee Members are: TJ Loethen, Joyce Luebbering, Greg Luebbering, Lynne Reinkemeyer or Michelle Luebbering.

**Post Ham/Sausage Breakfast Meeting will be Tuesday, March 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vitae House.**

- **SHUTTLE SERVICE** will be available from the KC hall on Sunday beginning at 6:00 A.M. As many workers as possible should use the service to save parking for our guests. If you start work before 6:00 A.M., the shuttle crew can take your car to the KC Hall. Please see Michelle Luebbering or TJ Loethen in the cafeteria to leave your keys and car information.
- **SOLD & UNSOLD RAFFLE TICKETS** should be returned the day of the Ham/Sausage Breakfast.
- **LAST SHIFTS** should plan to serve guests until 12:00 P.M. Last shift workers must stay and help clean their work areas.
- **CARRY-OUTS:** If you are a worker needing a carry-out, please inform them prior to 11:30 A.M.
- **KITCHEN SALES** will begin in the cafeteria at 12:15 P.M. on Sunday. Leftovers from the meal will be sold at this time. Please bring your own containers.
- **EVERYTHING** must be cleaned and put away Sunday afternoon. Chairperson and last shift workers are responsible for their own work areas before they leave.

#### **Catholic Relief Services Collection**

Dear Friends in Christ,

This weekend is our Catholic Relief Services Collection which funds eight Catholic agencies serving Jesus in the disguise of our suffering brothers and sisters around the world. These agencies provide a broad range of services including humanitarian aid in the wake of natural disasters, resettling displaced individuals, and working for increased peace in our world.

In war-torn Afghanistan, Aazar and Ali lost their family. The boys, ten and eight years old, fled to Pakistan looking for safety amid the many threats to their lives. Shortly after they arrived in Quetta, Pakistan, they were separated and despite days of searching, Aazar could not find his younger brother. Aazar was forced to keep moving, making his way through Pakistan and Iraq, and finally reaching an orphanage in Turkey, where he was granted refugee status. From there, his case was assigned to the refugee resettlement program of the Catholic Church in the United States.

Once here, Aazar received help looking for his little brother. Ali was found alive in Pakistan. For seven years he had lived with a Pakistani family, but as a domestic helper and so did not attend school, nor did he have any friends. Our Church's Migration and Refugee Services program (MRS) began working with other agencies to reunite the brothers. Thanks to the efforts of MRS, Aazar and Ali are together today.

MRS is one of the eight worldwide Catholic relief agencies funded by The Catholic Relief Services Collection. In our Diocese, this includes the Care of the Holy Land and Peter's Pence. Through these groups, Catholics in the U.S. provide food, water, disaster relief, and other vital assistance to Jesus in the disguise of suffering people each day.

Please be generous in The Catholic Relief Services Collection.

Sincerely yours in Christ, **Most Reverend John R. Gaydos, Bishop of Jefferson City**