

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

St. Cecilia
in Meta

www.stthomasapostle.net
www.stthomasapostleschool.net

www.stceciliameta.net

PO Box 146
St. Thomas, MO 65076

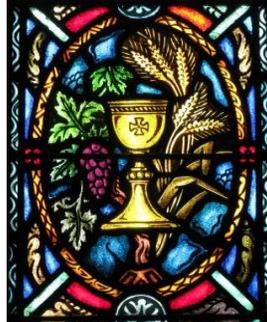
15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 12, 2020

Administrator: Fr. Leonard Mukiibi
frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315

St. Thomas the Apostle Bookkeeper:
Mrs. Jan Heckemeyer
jheckemeyeroffice@gmail.com

St. Thomas the Apostle Admin. Secretary:
Mrs. Jenny Becker
jbeckeroffice@gmail.com



School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer
lheckemeyerstacs@gmail.com
School: 573-477-3322 Fax: 573-477-3700

St. Thomas the Apostle Secretary:
Mrs. Diane Lueckenhoff
dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com

St. Cecilia Bookkeeper:
Mrs. Doris Stumpe
dstumpeoffice@gmail.com

St. Thomas Parish Office hours: Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.; Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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

St. Cecilia Rectory Office hours: Wednesdays 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. or by appointment

Confessions: Saturdays 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. at St. Thomas; Wednesdays 5:00 – 6:15 p.m. and
Sundays 7:00 - 7:45 a.m. at St. Cecilia; or anytime by appointment, just call Father.

Saint Thomas the Apostle
Mass Schedule for the Week of July 12-19:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Tony & Bernice Ullman
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – No Mass (Summer Schedule)
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Henrietta Kroll
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Ray & Bernadine Groner
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Bob Luebbering
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021:	\$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	\$ 25,417.00
Actual Collection for 2020-2021:	\$ 9,568.00
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	– \$ 15,849.00
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

July 5	\$ 4,551.00
July 12	\$
July 19	\$
July 26	\$

Collection Online:	\$ 5,017.00
July total to date:	\$ 9,568.00
Difference for July:	– \$ 15,849.00

St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund

Total Expansion Project expenses paid:	\$2,273,475.34
Income from parishioners for FY 2020-2021 (via the yellow "Building Fund" envelope):	\$ 700.00
Loan payments to date for FY 2020-2021:	\$ 0.00
Principal \$0.00 Interest \$0.00	
Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining:	\$ 95,833.45

Cantor/Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mary Kay Brand / Annette Kehner
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering / Jackie Prenger

St. Thomas the Apostle Reader

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Greg Russell

St. Thomas the Apostle Ushers

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Joe & Jonathan Buschjost
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Eric & Keith Boessen

Mass live streamers

July 19 – Karlie Reinkemeyer
July 26 – Jennifer Schroeder

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of July 12-19:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Vic & Rita Otto

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Larry Bock
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Danny Scheulen

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021:	\$62,000.00
Collection Total for 2020-2021:	\$ 1,445.00
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 5,166.67

Collection in Church:

July 5	\$ 1,445.00
July 12	\$
July 19	\$
July 26	\$

July total to date:	\$ 1,445.00
Difference for July:	– \$ 3,671.67

COLLECTION COUNTERS:

July: Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer
August: Dale & Margie Helton

**PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR
LAST WILL & TESTAMENT**

St. Cecilia Reader:

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer – Glorious Mysteries
Saturday 6:35 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen – Joyful Mysteries
Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer – Joyful Mysteries

St. Cecilia Ushers

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Mitch Stumpe & Darin Even
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer & Kenny Otto

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle

Tuesday 7:20 a.m. – Joann Heckman – Sorrowful Mysteries

Thursday 7:20 a.m. – Viola Boessen – Luminous Mysteries

Friday 7:20 a.m. – Bob Schellman – Sorrowful Mysteries

Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Barb Graessle – Joyful Mysteries

Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina Strobe – Joyful Mysteries

SCRIP: Visit www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip for more information about the Scrip program. Please contact Daffiny Tallent at 573-694-4408 to purchase anytime. A large variety of cards in various denominations are in stock and available for purchase.

THE BLESSED HEART GROUP from the Holy Land selling spiritual items from the Holy land, Jerusalem, will be here on July 25 & 26 at St. Cecilia and St. Thomas the Apostle selling Holy items after Masses, you can plan to buy some of those items, their contact is (402 318 7164)

BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S JULY PRAYER INTENTION: For the unity of our country: that the God of truth may open our hearts to the truth of the Gospel, that peace may rule our hearts, and that justice may guide our nation of one people of many races.

ATTENTION USHERS: Usher assignments will return to the normal rotations. Please monitor the weekly bulletin.

Ushers – There will be a checklist in the back of each entrance that outlines some of the new duties and best practices that are required to help reduce any risks to our parishioners. Some of the new duties include wiping down pews, door handles, etc. Propping doors open before and after Mass. Collecting envelopes and assisting parishioners with seating. If you cannot attend Mass, please find a replacement as you would have done pre COVID 19. If you wish to be temporarily removed from the Usher rotation until after September 11, 2020, please contact Diane Lueckenhoff at 573-645-5794 or dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com

ATTENTION READERS: Reader assignments will return to normal pre COVID 19 rotations. Please watch the bulletin. If you cannot attend Mass, please find a replacement as you would have done pre COVID 19. If you wish to be temporarily removed from the Reader rotation until after September 11, 2020, please contact Diane Lueckenhoff at 573-645-5794 or dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com.

PASTOR'S MEDITATION: THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF THE WORD OF GOD Is 55:10-11; Rom. 8:18-23; Mt. 13:1-23

Today's readings are about the transforming power of the word of God when read, preached, and lived. The parable of the sower in today's Gospel challenges us to listen intently to God's Word, to be open to it, and to allow our lives to be shaped by its power. It reminds us that man's reception of God's Word is determined by the condition of his heart.

In the first reading, Isaiah consoles the Jewish slaves in Babylon, assuring them that, like rain and snow which water the earth so that seeds may sprout and grow, God's word will accomplish its purpose, in this case by returning the exiles to their homes in peace as God promised. In the second reading, St. Paul reminds us that just as seeds must fall into the earth and die to produce abundant crop, the pain and sufferings God permits in our lives help our redemption. Paul wants us to wait for our eternal reward while we continue sowing the word of God diligently and suffering for the Lord, as he did. Today's Gospel teaches us that the word of the Lord is the seed, and our hearts and minds are the soil. The seed's good spiritual yield in one's life depends on how fully one willingly accepts and responds to the word of the Lord. The yield arising from the positive response will be abundant beyond all imagining. The parable tells us to do our part by preparing fertile soil in our hearts in which the word of God can germinate, grow, and yield 30-, 60, or 100-fold.

Dear friends we need to assess our use of the word of God. We need to read the word of God every day, starting with a prayer to the Holy Spirit for the gifts of attentive reading and the ability and willingness to apply the message we receive to our daily living. When we listen to the word of God as read and preached in the Church during the Holy Mass, we need to pay full attention to the message given by God Who uses the priest as His instrument. We also need to ask God's special grace to remove all types of blocks, like laziness, anxiety, worries, and the burden of unrepented sins, any of which can prevent the word of God from influencing and transforming our lives. When we receive Jesus, the Source of the word of God, in Holy Communion we need to ask him to transform our lives so that we may see Jesus in all of us (for we are all brothers and sisters in Him), and share with each of them Jesus' unconditional love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness. *Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi*

NOTE TO ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHIONERS "MASS CHANGES AFTER JUNE 16, 2020":

As you may have heard, Governor Parson lifted the statewide health order beginning June 16, 2020. Shortly thereafter, the Diocese of Jefferson City issued an updated Decree On Pastoral Activities which loosens some of the previous restrictions. The Decree document is on page 4 of the bulletin and also on the website and Facebook page.

With these considerations in mind, the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish will be implementing new guidelines starting immediately:

- Masks are encouraged.
- If you are symptomatic for COVID-19 please do not enter church.
- **SEATING:**
- The Blessed Virgin Mary side of the church will remain roped off for the next few weeks to allow for continued social distancing for those who prefer it.
- The St. Joseph side of the church and balcony will be open for seating as normal. Usher and Reader assignments will return to normal. Please watch the bulletin. If you do not wish to be assigned, please contact Diane Lueckenhoff at 573-645-5794, dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com or the Parish Office. Special instructions (checklist) for Ushers will be in back of church at each entrance. You are responsible for finding a replacement.
- Please maintain social distancing during Communion. The floor is marked for this purpose.
- There will be no offertory procession or sign of peace.
- Stationary basket(s) are available for offertory collection envelopes. The baskets are currently located in the aisle near handicap pew.
- Communion ministers are to sanitize hands before **and** after distributing Holy Communion and must use facemasks during distribution of Holy Communion.
- Missals are at the back of church. If you take one, please take it home with you as this becomes your personal missal.
- Hand sanitizers and masks are available in back of church.
- Holy water fonts will remain empty.
- If you are uncomfortable in returning to Mass at St Thomas the Apostle, Bishop McKnight has dispensed the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligations until September 11, 2020 provided you follow one of the three (3) obligations found in his decree. St Thomas the Apostle will continue to live stream the Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass for you to view. Thanks for your patience!

PLEASE READ: ST. CECILIA CHURCH MASS CHANGES AFTER JUNE 16, 2020:

With the uplifting of the statewide health order that began on June 15, 2020 and the update from the Diocese of Jefferson City on Decree on Pastoral Activities, the following will apply to St. Cecilia Church. The Decree document is located on page 4 of the bulletin and is posted on the website.

- Entrance is thru the front door and after mass you may exit thru front door and side doors.

- If you have a fever, cough, sore throat, symptomatic or been exposed to someone with the virus within the last 14 days- PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND MASS.
- Masks are encouraged.
- SEATING: The left side of church is open with the right side of the church with pews marked for seating in every other row as previous. Feel free to set where you feel most comfortable. Social distancing is still encouraged.
- There will be no offertory or sign of peace.
- Maintain social distancing during communion, the floor is marked for the distancing.
- The tithe/offertory basket is located in the aisle in entrance of church.
- Missals are located in the back of church, if you take one, please take home after mass and bring back with you to the next mass. Please do not put back on the table.
- Holy Fonts will remain empty of holy water.
- If you are uncomfortable in coming back to Mass, Bishop McKnight has dispensed the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday's and Holy Days of Obligations until September 11, 2020 provided you follow one of the three (3) obligations found in his decree.

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE QUILT GROUPS: The group list for the 2021 parish picnic is attached to the bulletin or may be found on our web page.

REMINDERS FOR PARISHIONERS that every First Friday of the month, we have a Holy Hour/Adoration followed by Benediction at St. Thomas and at St. Cecilia the last Friday of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH will be having a picnic on Sunday, August 16. We will be serving cafeteria style. Menu will be the same. If you cannot work or do not feel comfortable working, please contact Larry Lueckenhoff by text, phone or email 573-619-6783, lueckenhoff@embarqmail.com. The Picnic Committee will be reaching out to the Cole County Health Department for any input/restrictions that they might have.

THE WESTERN CATHOLIC UNION annual District BBQ will be held on Friday, July 17 at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center beginning with a catered meal at 6:00 p.m. and bingo immediately following for members and their families. **Reservations MUST BE MADE by Wednesday, July 15** to Lillian Lackman at 573-477-3472 or 573-645-2243 or Janice Boessen 573-455-2651 or Barbara Poetker 573-291-1415.

META OVER 50 CLUB: There will not be any over 50 meetings until further notice for the META CLUB.

ST. CECILIA PARISH WILL NOT have their picnic this July due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. The parish is asking each family to donate \$100 and each single household member to donate \$50 to the St. Cecilia Picnic Fund. A special collection will be taken up on Sunday, July 12 which would have been the date of the picnic. The Quilt Auction will be held at the Citizens Civic League Fall Supper in September. Proceeds from Quilt Auction will be split as usual. Please put donations in an envelope marked "St. Cecilia Picnic" and checks should be made payable to St. Cecilia Picnic also.

TO ALL COMM-UNITY AMBULANCE MEMBERS: The annual meeting will be held as an **Open House** at the Comm-Unity Ambulance building on **Sunday, July 19, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. – Noon**. Refreshments will be served and if there is no parking available, a shuttle from the Civic League Hall to the Comm-Unity Ambulance building will be available. If you are interested in becoming a board member, please contact DJ Schroeder at 573-301-1737 or current board member by July 12th to ensure your name will be included on the ballot. Please come by the ambulance building to take a tour, enjoy some refreshments and place your vote. Bring a friend and invite anyone who may be interested in becoming a member for a small annual fee. The raffle drawing will be held at 11:30 a.m.

ST. THOMAS CHURCH CLEANING TEAM ROTATION FOR UPCOMING WEEKS:

Week of July 12th: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman

Thanks to all who volunteer to help keep our Church looking beautiful! Anyone else interested in helping out, please contact Lynne Reinkemeyer at 573-690-7113 and we can add another group.

GRASS CUTTING ROTATION: THE ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH GROUNDS "GRASS CUTTING TEAM ROTATION" FOR THE UPCOMING WEEKS:

Week of July 13: Mark Luebbering, Antone Luebbering and Nick Luebbering

Week of July 20: Mark Graessle, Jeff Cassmeyer and Fred Luebbering

THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, July 14, 7:30 p.m. A rosary will be prayed at 7:15 p.m. Please read the July newsletter attached to the bulletin.

ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BLOOD DRIVE is Sunday, July 19 at the Knights of Columbus Hall. 8:00 a.m. to noon.

SAVE THE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Blood Drive – July 19, 8:00 a.m. – noon at the St. Thomas K of C Hall.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Picnic – August 16, 2020

St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Farm tractor pull – September 12, 2020

St. Thomas Garden tractor pull – September 19, 2020

COVENANT NETWORK CATHOLIC RADIO DRIVE THROUGH BBQ DINNER is Saturday, July 18, 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Mark at 573-680-2520 or mrehagen@heliascatholic.com with the number of barbecue dinner(s) you would like. Dinner pick up will take place outside the Helias Commons, in the parking lot off Myrtle St. Signage will direct you to the exact location. Donations of the meal will be accepted for the benefit of Covenant Network, the organization that has provided our local radio station since 2011.

ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH, WARDSVILLE CHAPEL HOURS: Although the chapel isn't open yet (except Adoration in church M-F, 8-6--and optional for the other times outside those hours) here are the hours that will be available when it does open. Thanks. Saturday morning 4:00-5:00 a.m.; Saturday morning 10:00-11:00 a.m.; Sunday morning 1:00-2:00 a.m.; Sunday morning 2:00-3:00 a.m. (2nd Sunday only); Monday morning 1:00-2:00 a.m.; Monday morning 3:00-4:00 a.m. Please call Donna if you would like to sign up for any of these hours. 680-1470 or 635-2095. Thank you!

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE IMPORTANT COVID-19 PANDEMIC REMINDERS: Please check the Diocesan webpage at <https://diojeffcity.org/public-health/> Information can be found on the St Thomas Parish website at <http://www.stthomasapostle.net/> and St. Cecilia website at <http://www.stceciliameta.net/>

Tithe/Financial Commitment: Please strive to keep up with your **financial commitment** to the parish during this time when public worship and events have been restricted or suspended. The work of our parishes and staff continues with ongoing expenses and financial obligations. There will be a basket in Church to place your envelope in if you attend Mass." **St. Thomas the Apostle**

parishioners can mail contributions to the parish office at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, PO Box 146, St. Thomas, MO 65076. Or you may sign up for electronic giving through ACH payments. Blank ACH forms are available in St. Thomas the Apostle Church entrances and on the parish website. Call or email the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish office if you have questions about ACH payments.

For St. Cecilia Parishioners that would like to contribute towards their weekly/monthly Tithe, please feel free to do so. The contribution envelope can be mailed to St. Cecilia Parish, P.O. Box 146, St. Thomas, MO 65076 to the attention of Doris Stumpe. Your contribution will be graciously appreciated to keep the upkeep/expenses of the parish going during this time of COVID-19.

Outreach to our parish community/vicinity: Please contact the parish offices, Father Leonard or a PPC member of your needs or the needs of others. If you wish to volunteer, the Diocese enrollment is at <https://diojeffcity.org/parish-disaster-responders-team-volunteer-form>. If you know of someone needing assistance, please don't hesitate to call.

Updates and Communications: Ongoing updates will be communicated through the following: St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Cecilia parish websites, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and School Facebook pages, marquee signs at both churches, and church bulletins.

Other Information: The CDC's COVID-19 page is an accurate, credible source that is consistently updated with directives from the White House. The webpage is found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PARKBOARD CONCESSION STAND WORKERS

Tuesday, July 14 6:30 p.m. 8 U Girls Lizzie Lindhart & Micky Libbert

Decree on pastoral activities following the governor's declaration lifting statewide restrictions for the COVID-19 pandemic

June 15, 2020 | Public Health Concerns: Whereas Governor Mike Parson has lifted the statewide health order beginning 16 June 2020, leaving the determination of public health requirements to local governments; and Whereas the Department of Health and Senior Services of the State of Missouri and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Federal Government continue to recommend: the observance of social distancing and the use of face masks when in gatherings; that persons 65 years of age and older, as well as those with certain medical conditions, avoid public gatherings as much as possible; and the practice of frequent handwashing or use of hand sanitizers; and Whereas the common good demands that the public health requirements and recommendations of the state are to be observed whenever possible; I therefore declare, as the diocesan bishop, the following: 1. All the faithful of the Diocese of Jefferson City, and those who are present in the territory of the Diocese, are dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation until 11 September 2020, provided that for days of precept after 1 July 2020 they do one of the following:

a. Participate in the Sunday or holy day of obligation Mass livestreamed from their parish church or chapel, the Cathedral, or the Vatican.

b. Prayerfully read and meditate on the readings of the Mass for the Sunday or holy day of obligation, and recite the rosary.

c. Prayerfully read and meditate on the readings of the Mass for the Sunday or holy day of obligation, and recite the Divine Mercy chaplet.

2. Parishes are highly encouraged to livestream Masses for Sundays and holy days of obligation through Labor Day weekend.

3. Those who are symptomatic for COVID-19 are not permitted to enter church properties, in accordance with national, state and local health directives. All are asked to check their temperature at home before going to church.

4. Those who are 65 years of age or older, and those with medical conditions, are highly encouraged not to go to Mass when it is likely that there will be a large number of the faithful in attendance or if social distancing and the wearing of face masks are not observed.

5. Those who do not attend Mass on Sundays are encouraged to attend Mass on a weekday if it would be easier to observe the proper social distancing and other health recommendations.

6. Pastors, parochial administrators, parish life collaborators, and the presidents and principals of Catholic schools are strictly obliged to follow the public health requirements, directives or orders of local government officials for gatherings of the faithful, including for the celebrations of Mass, weddings and funerals, other liturgies, devotions, school and catechetical activities, social events, sports activities, and meetings.

7. The celebration of weddings outside of Mass may take place outdoors on the grounds of and in proximity to the parish church or chapels, according to the judgement of the pastor, parochial administrator, or parish life collaborator.

8. The observance of social distancing, the use of face masks, and all other public health recommendations of state authorities should be followed whenever possible, according to the judgment of the pastor, parochial administrator, parish life collaborator, president or principal. Consultation with the bishop, vicar general, moderator of the curia, local dean, liturgy commission chairman, or superintendent is recommended.

9. The use of face masks upon entering the church, during the celebration of Mass except when in place in the pew, during the Communion procession, and upon leaving the church is highly encouraged.

10. The offertory procession, the sign of peace, and Holy Communion from the chalice shall continue to be suspended. One or more stationary collection baskets are to be used rather than baskets passed or taken up by ushers. Where it has been the practice, the holding of hands during the Our Father must not be done.

11. Communion ministers are to sanitize their hands before and after distributing Holy Communion, and they must use face masks during the distribution of Holy Communion.

12. Communicants are encouraged to wear face masks during the reception of Holy Communion, and it is requested that Holy Communion be received in the hand.

13. Those who persist in their desire to receive Holy Communion on the tongue may do so but only after those who receive Holy Communion in the hand, or in a Communion line designated solely for Holy Communion on the tongue. Communion ministers must purify and then sanitize their fingers after distributing Holy Communion on the tongue to each household.

14. High use areas within the church must be cleaned after each service:

a. The pews used by the assembly shall be cleaned after each use.

b. Restroom facilities and door handles, push plates, and door knobs are to be sanitized after each service.

c. It is advisable to have entrance and exit doors propped open during high traffic volumes before and after Mass.

15. Hymnals and other books are to remain stored for the duration of the pandemic. No materials may be left in the pews or adoration chapels. The faithful are encouraged to bring their own missals, hymnals and devotional books.

16. Holy water fonts shall remain empty.

17. Hand sanitizer should be made available throughout church and school facilities.

This decree is effective from 16 June 2020 and until 11 September 2020, anything to the contrary notwithstanding. Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Jefferson City on this 15th day of June 2020.

Most Rev. W. Shawn McKnight, Bishop of Jefferson City

