

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

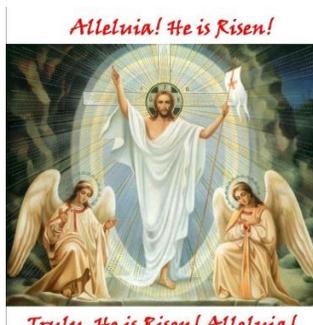
PO Box 146
St. Thomas, MO 65076

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
APRIL 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
dorisstumpe@att.net

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 April 12-19:

As per direction from Bishop McKnight, all Public Masses are SUSPENDED until at least **APRIL 30**. Fr. Leonard will have private Masses this week. Mass intentions for this week will be as follows: Judy Yoder, L&D John H. Boessen Family, Bob Luebbering, Herb Volmert, Mark Strope, People of our Parishes, Bob Luebbering

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2019-2020: \$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End: \$228,753.00
Actual Collection for 2019-2020: **\$222,234.02**
Offertory Difference Year to Date: -\$ 31,935.98
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

April 5 \$ 5,148.00
April 12 \$
April 19 \$
April 26 \$

Collection Online: \$ 4,717.00
April total to date: **\$ 9,865.00**
Difference for April -\$ 15,552.00

St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund

Total Expansion Project expenses paid: \$2,273,475.34
Income from parishioners for FY 2019-2020
(via the yellow "Building Fund" envelope): **\$23,657.20**
Loan payments to date for FY 2019-2020: **\$73,821.92**
Principal \$67,994.44 Interest \$5,827.48
Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: **\$132,744.41**

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.

INFIRM PRIEST/EASTER COLLECTIONS: The Annual Priest Retirement & Infirm Fund assessment for St. Cecilia Parish is \$491.50 and St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is \$1,864.50. The Diocese reduced it to half this year due to the coronavirus pandemic. Please be generous.

PARISH UPDATES: Please check St. Thomas the Apostle Parish & St. Cecilia Parish websites and St. Thomas the Apostle Church Facebook page for updates.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S APRIL PRAYER INTENTION: For a stronger sense of the mission of the Church, especially among our youth and young adults in this time of pandemic and in our discernment of a new pastoral plan.

DIOCESAN CHANCERY OFFICE: If you intend to come to the Chancery office in person, you must have an appointment in advance with the person you intend to meet. Please note the Chancery will be screening all guests with a health questionnaire and temperature check. This is for the safety of all.

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of April 12-19:

As per direction from Bishop McKnight, all Public Masses are SUSPENDED until at least **APRIL 30**. Fr. Leonard will have private Masses this week. Mass intentions for this week will be as follows: Celestine Stegeman & Martina Goeller

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2019-2020: \$62,000.00
Collection Total for 2019-2020: **\$44,646.25**
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,166.67

Collection in Church:

April 5 \$ 700.00
April 12 \$
April 19 \$
April 26 \$
April total to date: **\$ 700.00**
Difference for April: -\$ 4,466.67

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

PASTOR'S MEDITATION: ALLELUIA ALLELUIA, HE IS RISEN. Easter is the greatest and the most important feast in the Church for three reasons:

1) The Resurrection of Christ is the basis of our Christian Faith. It is the greatest of the miracles, for it proves that Jesus is God. That is why St. Paul writes: *"If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your Faith is in vain" (1 Cor. 15:14). "Jesus is Lord, He is risen!" (Rom 10:9),* was the central theme of the *kerygma* or "preaching", of the apostles, because Jesus had prophesied His Resurrection as a sign of His Divinity

2) Easter is the guarantee of our own resurrection. Jesus assured Martha at the tomb of Lazarus: *"I am the Resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me will live even though he dies" (Jn 11:25-26).*

3) Easter is a feast which gives us hope and encouragement in this world of pain, sorrows, Covid-19 virus and tears. It reminds us that life is worth living. It is our belief in the Real Presence of the Risen Jesus in our souls, in His Church, in the Blessed Sacrament and in Heaven that gives meaning to our personal as well as our communal prayer, strength to fight against temptations, and freedom from unnecessary worries and fears.

Dear friends, let us live the lives of Resurrection people: Easter gives us the joyful message that we are a "**Resurrection people.**" This means that we are not supposed to lie buried in the tomb of our sins, evil habits, dangerous addictions, despair, discouragement, doubts. Instead, we are expected to live a joyful and peaceful life, constantly experiencing the living presence of the Risen Lord in all the events of our lives and amid the boredom, suffering, pain, and tensions of our day-to-day life.

We need to live aware of the presence of the Risen Lord with us. Our awareness of the all-pervading presence of the Risen Lord in and around us, and the strong conviction of our own coming resurrection, help us to *control our thoughts, desires, words and behavior.* **This salutary thought inspires us to honor our bodies, keeping them holy, pure, and free from evil habits and addictions.** Our conviction about the presence of the Risen Lord in our neighbors and in all those with whom we come into contact should encourage us to respect them, and to render them loving, humble and selfless service.

We need to radiate the Risen Lord all around us: We are called to be transparent Christians, showing others through our lives the love, mercy, compassion and spirit of self-sacrificing service of the Risen Jesus living in our hearts.

We need to share in the power of the Risen Lord: Let us recall that, each time we try to practice Christian charity, mercy and forgiveness and each time we fight against temptations we share in the Resurrection of Jesus. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Have a blessed week. Fr. Leonard Mukibi

LETTER FROM BISHOP SHAWN W. McKNIGHT: The following decree was issued by Bishop W. Shawn McKnight on March 31, 2020. It is effective April 1-30, 2020. Below are some excerpts from the decree. You can find the full decree & additional information on the Diocese of Jefferson City website at <https://diojeffcity.org/public-health/>

In light of the guidance from the United States Federal Government, the State of Missouri, the directives of county health officials, the special Decree from the Congregation of Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments (Prot. N. 153/20 and "Update" of 25 March 2020), and for the benefit of the common good, I hereby mandate as the Diocesan Bishop the following directives on all pastoral activity in the Diocese of Jefferson City:

Masses without a congregation that are livestreamed for the benefit of the faithful may have up to nine asymptomatic assisting ministers (musicians, lector, acolyte, deacon, etc.) for only the following solemn occasions: The Holy Week services of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil; the Sundays of the Easter Season; the solemn Masses on the Anniversary of the Dedication of the Parish Altar or Church and the Parish Patronal Feast Day. Social distancing must be observed for these Masses, with no offertory procession or the exchange of the sign of peace, and assisting ministers are encouraged not to present themselves for Holy Communion.

Public celebrations of the liturgy and devotions are expressly forbidden. Families and individuals who are asymptomatic may make visits to their parish church for private prayer as long as no more than ten people are present in the church at the same time and social distancing (at least six feet in between persons) is observed. Families and individuals are encouraged to pray at home especially the Liturgy of the Hours, the Scriptures, the Rosary, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and to participate spiritually in sacred celebrations live-streamed from the Holy See, our Cathedral, and their local parish church.

Funeral rites may be celebrated with no more than ten people present (including the ministers and funeral home staff). Graveside services may take place immediately with no more than ten people present, and the celebration of a memorial Mass can take place once the prohibition of public Masses is lifted. Live streaming funeral rites would benefit the faithful who are not able to attend in person.

Weddings should be rescheduled for a later time. However, wedding liturgies may take place with no more than ten persons present (including the ministers). Live streaming the wedding liturgy is encouraged for the benefit of those who cannot attend in person.

All confirmation Masses will be rescheduled.

The school and parish **playground** is **CLOSED!** Please do your part and stay off the playground.

All in-person meetings greater than ten persons or which cannot guarantee proper social distancing of at least six feet are strictly prohibited whether indoors or outdoors. This prohibition includes and is not limited to the following activities: education, catechesis, youth programming, devotional activities, socializing, and other similar pastoral activities. Outdoor or indoor playground equipment shall not be open for use.

Charitable activities of the Church are to follow the diocesan safe environment policies (Virtus) and the guidance of the local county health director.

ST. THOMAS BETTER TOGETHER PASTORAL PLANNING:

In light of Bishop McKnight's request that we cease public gatherings, the diocese has asked that:

1) Groups participating in the Better Together pastoral planning consider using other alternatives for discussion, such as social media platforms or group calls.

2) Individuals fill out the discernment reports. Any parishioner, not just those in established groups, can participate.

The discernment reports can either be mailed to the parish office, or submitted online on the diocesan website. To find the discernment reports, or for more information regarding the Better Together program, please visit www.diojeffcity.org/better-together or contact Brian Luebbering at 913-951-7222.

Parishioners are encouraged to utilize our parish's FORMED subscription to enhance their Lenten experience.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS for four positions will be held in the coming months. If you would like to volunteer to be on the ballot or nominate someone to be on the ballot, please contact Theresa Veit at 573-418-7301 or by e-mail at rtbv05@embarqmail.com.

CONFIRMATION on April 22 has been cancelled at this time, and will be rescheduled.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL: FROM THE DIOCESAN SCHOOL OFFICE: With a formal decree suspending the public celebration of the liturgy and devotions, our schools must remain closed. Schools within the Diocese of Jefferson City **must remain closed** through April 30, 2020.

ST. THOMAS CEMETERY DUES: The dues are \$10.00 per family (\$5.00 for single persons). Family members becoming the head of a separate household are not covered under their parent's membership. Also, anyone after their 21st birthday must pay their own dues of \$5.00. Please note: Anyone falling in areas over 5 years must pay \$100.00 to rejoin plus current dues. Please put your payment in the collection basket marked "Cemetery Dues" or mail to St. Thomas Cemetery Association, c/o Lisa Lackman, 2222 Upper Bottom Road., St. Thomas, MO 65076. You may contact Lisa, if you have questions about your current or past dues, at 573-338-2703.

ST. THOMAS CHURCH CLEANING TEAM ROTATION FOR UPCOMING WEEKS

Week of April 12th: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert and Darrel Buechter

Week of April 19th: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering and 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 – ONE MORE TEAM NEEDED!

It would be great if we had **one more grass cutting team** to assist with the 2020 grass cutting responsibilities. Please consider finding a friend, neighbor or family member to create a team. What better place to donate your time and talent than right here in our own parish and community. Help keep St Thomas the Apostle a thriving and beautiful parish! A parish lawnmower is available for use so you don't have to haul your own equipment. If anyone is interested please feel free to contact Alan Reinkemeyer at 573-694-6984 or Mark Luebbering at 573-694-6393.

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

Week of April 13: Richard Schellman, Pat Schellman and Paul Struemp

Week of April 20: Paul & Jenny Becker, Eric & Shara Buechter

Week of April 27: Alan Reinkemeyer, Richard Heckemeyer and Dave Schroeder

ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the April 14 meeting will not be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall like normal. The meeting will be held online with the officers and then the meeting minutes will be sent out via email. In order for you to receive the minutes and newsletter via email, please send an email to: grandknight@kofc2149.com and you will be added to the Knights of Columbus list.

SAVE THE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

Confirmation – Wednesday, April 22 has been **CANCELLED** and will be rescheduled.

TOTUS TUUS – June 14-19, 2020

St. Cecilia Parish Picnic – July 12, 2020

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

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/>

Church: Our Churches will remain open during normal hours (St. Thomas 6:00 AM to 7:00 PM and St. Cecilia 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM) and remain as a place of prayer and comfort. Private Stations of the Cross, prayer and adoration are welcome. Please use social distancing of 6 to 8 feet from others, refrain from handshakes and cover mouth/nose when coughing or sneezing.

Masses: Effective immediately, all public Masses have been suspended. Bishop McKnight has provided a dispensation for attendance of Sunday Mass, but we have not been dispensed of honoring the Lord's Day. Join the weekend Mass online at 10:00 AM each Sunday at St. Thomas the Apostle Church Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/St-Thomas-the-Apostle-Church-109903037307741/?modal=admin_todo_tour. The link is also on St. Thomas the Apostle Parish website. Mass is also available on the EWTN channel.

Parish Offices: If you need to reach Father Leonard, contact him at 573 477-3315 or frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com. St. Thomas the Apostle Parish office will be staffed as normal, but closed to outside visitors until further notice. Jenny Becker may be contacted at 573-477-3315 or 573-690-0642 or jbeckeroffice@gmail.com. Jan Heckemeyer may be contacted at 573-477-3315 or 573-619-8432 or jheckemeyeroffice@gmail.com. Doris Stumpe may be contacted at 573-619-6125 or dorisstumpe@att.net.

Baptisms and Weddings: Are postponed through April 30 and will be dealt with on case by case basis following current recommendations of the Diocese.

Funerals: Funeral will be restricted to immediate non-symptomatic family members with gatherings no larger than 10 persons. Funeral lunches are suspended at this time.

Confessions and Anointing: The obligation of Lenten Confession has been dispensed but confession and/or anointing will be available at the regular scheduled times at St. Thomas the Apostle (Saturdays 4:00 – 4:45 PM) and St. Cecilia (Sundays 7:00 – 7: All confessions will be private/behind a screen until further notice.

Parish Hall/Center Rentals: If you have the parish hall/center rented during this time, you will be contacted about rescheduling or refunding the hall rental deposit and fee.

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 suspended. The work of our parishes and staff continues with ongoing expenses and

financial obligations. **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 Tithes, 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 Whitehouse. The webpage is found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

We encourage all parishioners to pray,

***O Immaculate Heart of Mary, we entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.
Bring under your mantel of protection all who provide care for the sick and minister to their needs, as your Son implores us to do for one another.
We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.
Amen.***

EASTER FLOWERS FOR ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE & ST. CECILIA PARISHES

Thank you for the contributions made in memory of the following individuals, living & deceased.

Ben & Margie Backes	Leo & Rose Luebbering	Henry & Agnes Strobe
Jeanine Backes	Lucy & Jerome Luebbering	John Strobe Family
Fred & Bertha Beck	Margaret Ann Luebbering	Mark Strobe
Don Becker	Millie Marie Luebbering	Stanley Strobe
Louis A. & Anna Benne	Olivia Luebbering	George & Anna Stumpe
Louis E. Benne	Ray Luebbering	Larry Stumpe
Alfred & Angeline Berhorst	Tom & Maggie Luebbering	Luebbert & Stumpe Family
Henry Blomberg	Anton & Elizabeth Luebbert	Andy Suthoff
Stanley Brand	Sylvester (George) Luecke	David Suthoff
Roman Brandt	Lueckenhoff Family	Steve Suthoff
George Brooks	Frank & Frances Lueckenhoff	Joe & Mildred Taube
Albert & Alice Budnik	Harry Lueckenhoff	Bobby Toeppen
Mary Clark	Roger & Lorene Lueckenhoff	Doug Toeppen
Jim Coffman	Mary Jane Lueckenotte	Edwin & Veronica Toeppen
Kenny Coleman	Fr. Art Lueckenotto	Generose Toeppen
Ben Engelmeyer	Henry & Agnes Lueckenotto	LaVern Toeppen
Chris Garrison	Eleanor Moeller	Kelsey Toeppen & Justin Gaddos
Alex Heckman	Vic & Rita Otto	Peggy Toeppen
Herman & Josephine Heckman	Betty Peters	Mary Ann Turner
Ralph Hirschman	Mary Ann Prenger	John Ullman
Herman & Gertie Hoecker	Oscar & Frieda Prenger	Clem Veit
Leo & Leander Hoecker	Rosemary Prenger	Harold Veit
Sylvanus Hoecker	Carol Rackers	Kelly Lynn Veit
Tammy & Viola Holtmeyer	Harry J. Rackers	Chris Verslues
Hope Luebbering Hulsey	Vernon & Alice Rackers	Herb Verslues
Nancy Jaegers	Anna Reinkemeyer	Andrew & Loreen Volmert
Angela & Paul Kaiser	Bill Reinkemeyer	Ben & Minnie Volmert
Brayden Kaiser	Brad Reinkemeyer	Curt Volmert
Joe & Teresa Kaiser	Frances & Eddie Reinkemeyer	Herb Volmert
Ryan Kaiser	Gail Reinkemeyer	Viola Volmert
Anna & Ilde Kampeter	Jim Reinkemeyer	George & Elizabeth Walther Family
Anthony Kampeter	Vince Reinkemeyer	Rosalyn Wankum
Nolan Koenigsfield	David & Jean Russell	Kenny 'Muzz' Wieberg
Betty Kutilek	Tom Schaefer	Mary Lou & Lee Wieberg
Anna Marie & Dave Lackman	Walter Schaefer	Paul & Mathilda Wilbers
Harriet Lackman	Buddy & Anna Marie Schell	Marcella Wright
Stanley & Sophie Lada	Helen & Lawrence Scheppers	
Alfred Leven	Mary Carol Schmid	
Dennis Libbert	Schmidt Family	
Patti & Delmer Loethen	Mary Ann Schmidt	
Tom (Butch) Loethen	Tom & Clara Schmidt	
Vincent & Katie Loethen	William & Rose Schmidt	
Agatha Luebbering	Frank & Stella Schroeder	
August Rose Luebbering	Antonia Schwartz	
Ben & Emma Luebbering	Jerry Schwartz	
Bob Luebbering	Joe Schwartz	
Donald Luebbering	Richard Schwartz	
Evelyn Luebbering	Bernard Stegeman	
Glenn Luebbering	Celestine Stegeman	
Herman Luebbering	Andrew & Anna Strobe	
Jeremy Louis Luebbering	Becky Strobe	
Joe & Dorothy Luebbering	Germaine & Alan Strobe	