

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

18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 2, 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 August 2-9:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Bob Luebbering
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – No Mass (Summer Schedule)
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Alex Heckman
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Herb & Chris Verslues
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Carl Prenger
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:	\$ 21,028.00
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	–\$ 4,389.00
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

July 5	\$ 4,551.00
July 12	\$ 5,550.00
July 19	\$ 2,400.00
July 26	\$ 2,525.00

Collection Online: \$ 6,002.00

July total to date: **\$ 21,028.00**

Difference for July: –\$ 4,389.00

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): **\$2,134.00**

Loan payments to date for FY 2020-2021: **\$9,227.74**

Principal \$8,888.33 Interest \$339.41

Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: **\$86,945.12**

Cantor/Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Lisa Wieberg / Jackie Prenger

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Amanda Wooten / Jackie Prenger

St. Thomas the Apostle Reader

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Ben Luebbering

St. Thomas the Apostle Ushers

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Joe & Jonathan Buschjost

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Michael Wooten & Doug Stockman

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of August 2-9:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Larry Bock

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Virgil & Cathy Borgmeyer
(50th Wedding Anniversary)

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021:	\$62,000.00
Collection Total for 2020-2021:	\$ 4,860.00
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 5,166.67

Collection in Church:

July 5	\$ 1,445.00
July 12	\$ 950.00
July 19	\$ 1,495.00
July 26	\$ 970.00

July total to date: **\$ 4,860.00**

Difference for July: –\$ 306.67

COLLECTION COUNTERS:

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. – Betty Hagenhoff

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer – Glorious Mysteries

Saturday 6:35 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen – Sorrowful Mysteries

Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Margaret Brune – Sorrowful Mysteries

St. Cecilia Ushers

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Mitch Stumpe & Darin Even

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Leonard Schulte & Kenny Otto

Mass live streamers

August 9 – Karlie Reinkemeyer
August 16 – Jennifer Schroeder
August 23 – Brooke Schell
August 30 - Lauri Luebbering
September 6 – Jennifer Schroeder

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. – Pat Loethen – Sorrowful Mysteries
Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Paul Becker – Luminous Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Pat Loethen – Luminous 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.

CONGRATULATIONS to ***Bodie Lawrence Peters***, son of Logan & Jessica Peters, who was washed in the saving waters of Baptism this weekend in St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S AUGUST PRAYER INTENTION: For our parish and school communities, that we may be bound by a spirit of unity to work together for the common good during the pandemic.

PASTOR'S MEDITATION: 18th Sunday in ordinary time: "THE HAND OF THE LORD FEEDS US; HE ANSWERS ALL OUR NEEDS," The central theme of today's readings is that God takes care of our physical and spiritual needs if we put our trust in Him. In the first reading, Isaiah consoles the Jewish exiles in Babylon, assuring them of their return to homeland and promising them that Yahweh their God alone can and will provide for their spiritual and physical needs. He will pardon their sins and will offer them participation in His eternal (eschatological) banquet. In the second reading, Paul argues that since God's love for us is so immense and infinite, "*nothing can come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.*" In today's Gospel, Jesus demonstrates God's caring love for us by feeding the people, spiritually by his preaching and physically by the miraculous multiplication of five loaves and two fish, which the apostles had brought for their lunch and which they gave Jesus to feed the people. This miracle shows the Divinity of Jesus, the providing care of God and the compassion of Jesus for the crowd. It is a Messianic sign, presenting Jesus as the new Moses who fed the Israelites in the desert and the new Elisha who miraculously fed the starving people of Gilgal (2 Kings 42-44). The Eucharistic wordings used, and the promise made by Jesus on the following day, that he would give his body and blood as food and drink (John 6:25-70), make the miracle a prefiguring symbol of the Holy Eucharist.

Dear friends we need to nourish our souls with Jesus in Word and Sacrament. We nourish our souls with the Word of God (by listening to God through reading the Bible) and with the Bread of Life (by receiving Jesus in Holy Communion). We need to find time to be with Christ both in personal and family prayer and in Adoration of the Eucharist whenever this is available. One way of listening to God is to read a passage in the Bible until it speaks to the heart, then stop to reflect on the message God is conveying to our hearts. The next step is to respond to God by prayer, which is talking to Him, as to a friend in conversation, telling Him everything and asking Him for whatever we need.

We need to be "Eucharistic ministers:" We too, can perform miracles in our own time and place, by imitating the four "Eucharistic actions" of Jesus: take humbly and generously what God gives us, bless it by offering it to others in God's love, break away from our own needs and selfish interests for the sake of others, give with joy-filled gratitude to God who has blessed us with so much. We need to be generous in sharing God's blessings: We need to share our blessings with others around us, generously and sacrificially, in order to alleviate their spiritual and physical hunger. God lavishly blesses the large-hearted, who generously and sacrificially share their resources with others. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukibi***

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.

MENTORED IN CHRIST is a full day workshop for anyone serving a catechetical role in parishes is Friday, August 14, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Cathedral Undercroft. Light breakfast & full lunch are provided and there is no cost to participate. Please register on line on the Diocese of Jefferson City website - Upcoming Workshops.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE RECTORY HOUSE CLEANING: St Thomas the Apostle is looking for someone to conduct a monthly (or as needed) deep cleaning of Fr. Leonard's house. This could be for contract hire (on a per cleaning basis) or as part of your monthly stewardship. Anyone interested feel free to contact the St. Thomas Parish Office or call Alan Reinkemeyer at 573-694-6984 by August 1, 2020. Additional details on the size and scope of the cleaning duties will be shared once interested parties make contact. Thanks!

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 HOLY HOUR is Friday, August 7, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

A ROSARY FOR OUR COUNTRY will be prayed on Tuesday, August 4, 5:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS CHURCH CLEANING TEAM ROTATION FOR UPCOMING WEEKS:

Week of August 2nd: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter

Week of August 9th: 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 August 3: Paul & Jenny Becker, Eric & Shara Buechter

Week of August 10: Alan Reinkemeyer, Richard Heckemeyer and Dave Schroeder.

Week of August 17: Mark Luebbering, Antone Luebbering and Nick Luebbering

Week of August 24: Mark Graessle, Jeff Cassmeyer and Fred Luebbering

Week of August 31: Richard Schellman, Pat Schellman and Paul Struempfl

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD ELECTIONS for 2 positions will be held the weekend of August 15&16.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL is looking for a full time preschool aide for the 2020-2021 school year. If interested, please contact Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer or Miss Jay Bax on the school number, which is 573-477-3322. Please leave a message if no one answers and we will get back to you.

SAVE THE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

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

THE ANNUAL BOWLING MEETING will be held on Monday, August 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Thomas bowling alley. All teams are requested to have at least one member present for this meeting.

OSAGE COUNTY LIBRARY: One On One Technology Instruction at the Osage County Library Mondays 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Are you interested in learning how to better navigate the internet, become comfortable with computers or learn how to use a software program? We're here to help. The Osage County Library now offers one on one technology instruction with an information technology specialist. No prior computer skills necessary. Reservations are required and time slots are limited to 45 minute sessions starting at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. Please call the branch at 573-897-2951 to make a reservation or email gudermuthc@mrrl.org.

ST. JOSEPH PARISH PICNIC WESTPHALIA is Sunday, August 2 – DRIVE THRU ONLY. Dinners will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Fried chicken and German pot roast, real mashed potatoes, & gravy, green beans & cole slaw – family style carry-out meals. 4 meals \$40.00, single meals \$12.00. Raffle & Kettle Corn available for purchase in the drive through line.

ST. NICHOLAS ACADEMY is a supportive living experience for boys from families that are under-resourced who want to give their sons every opportunity to succeed in school and life. St. Nick's partners with families and St. Peter Interparish School to provide this opportunity. St. Nick's is seeking Christian, married couples or single individuals who are willing to be part of a pool of relief parents. The role of relief parents is to care for the boys and home when the full-time house parents are off duty or away. Typically, the full-time house parents are off duty every fourth weekend from 9:00 AM Friday through 7:00 PM Sunday. Relief parents, on a rotational schedule, fill in during this time. They may also be asked to be on a call list to help fill in when the house parents are on vacation and/or sick. Relief parents receive an hourly wage, all legally mandated benefits and a compensation package that includes a private suite and all meals for the days on duty. Please contact Sister Susan Renner, SSND at 573-635-7719 or director@stnick.org

SACRED HEART PARISH PICNIC, RICH FOUNTAIN is Sunday, August 9. Dinners will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Fried chicken & German pot roast, mashed potatoes, green beans & slaw (no dessert or bread) \$12.00. Carry-outs & drive through but outdoor picnic tables available. Quilt auction 6:00 p.m., no bleacher seating, please feel free to bring a lawn chair. NO kids games, bingo, country store or kiddie tractor pull.

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 PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS: The PPC met on July 29 and welcomed our newest members Sarah Luebbert, Debbie Strope, Robert Schellman and Mark Luebbering (re-elected for a second term). Officer elections were held and the new officers will be Jackie Prenger as President, Mark Luebbering Vice President and Jan Carter Secretary. Alan Reinkemeyer will work close with incoming President Jackie Prenger over the next several months to ensure a smooth transition.

The full list of PPC members include: Jan Carter, Curt Goeller, Barb Graessle, Brian Luebbering, Mark Luebbering, Sarah Luebbert, Jackie Prenger, Alan Reinkemeyer, Robert Schellman, Debbie Strope, Theresa Veit and Ryan Wieberg

Many thanks to our out-going PPC members Paul Becker, Jason Buschjost and Steve Schellman.

Picnic Question – In House Dining - Some have asked about our Picnic offering "in house" dining. The St. Thomas Picnic Committee looked at this closely and consulted with the Cole County Health Department. The Picnic Committee has instituted measures over and above those being required by the Health Department. They include:

- No family style meal. People will pass thru a serving line.
- We have gone to strictly plastic ware (no silverware or table serving dishes to wash).
- Several tables will be removed to allow for more distancing.
- St. Thomas has one of the largest dining halls of any parish around.
- Seating will be monitored by the doorman/greeters.
- Tables will be sanitized between settings.
- Deserts will be served in a closed pie/cake container.
- All areas (kitchen, dining, restrooms, etc.) will be thoroughly cleaned at conclusion and day after picnic.

Also please keep in mind many local Jefferson City restaurants are serving at full capacity and experiencing long waiting lines. The committee is allowing every possible option including dine-in, drive-thru and carry-out. This allows our customers ample food service choices. Please pray for a successful picnic!

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PICNIC UPDATE:

Our annual St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Picnic will be held on Sunday August 16th. The Picnic Committee has met several times in order to plan the best and safest picnic possible following local Cole County Health Department Guidelines.

Over the last several weeks parishioners were asked (via church bulletin) to contact Larry Lueckenhoff at 573-619-6783 if they had concerns about attending and/or working the picnic. Those who have contacted Larry have been respectfully released from this year's worklist. We do have fewer volunteers than previous years, but do have a strong contingent of parish volunteers to host a successful event.

While we have fewer volunteers, we still have an extensive group willing to help host a successful event. Some modifications and changes have been made. They include:

- Close consultation with the Cole County Health Department has taken place throughout the picnic planning process.
- No "family style" meal. We will be utilizing a serving line system.
- Desserts will be served in a covered container.
- Less tables in the dining room to allow additional spacing. Tables will be wiped down with a disinfectant after each use.
- No silverware. We will be using plastic plates and sturdy plastic ware.
- We are considering a Drive Thru Carry-Out system. More details to follow.
- No Kidsville, Craft Stand or Cake Walk (for this year).
- The Concession Stand will be moved back up to the area by school.
- There will be a 50/50 raffle added.
- With no Craft Stand, the Quilt Auction area can be expanded to allow for greater social distancing.
- Hand sanitizing stations available.
- Masks are encouraged for those who want to wear them.

Please pray for good weather and a successful picnic!

Respectfully – The St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Picnic Planning Committee

