

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

**St. Cecilia**  
in Meta

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

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

PO Box 146  
St. Thomas, MO 65076

**22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**August 30, 2020**

**Administrator: Fr. Leonard Mukiibi**  
[frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com](mailto:frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com)  
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315

**St. Thomas the Apostle Bookkeeper:**  
**Mrs. Jan Heckemeyer**  
[jheckemeyeroffice@gmail.com](mailto:jheckemeyeroffice@gmail.com)

**St. Thomas the Apostle Admin. Secretary:**  
**Mrs. Jenny Becker**  
[jbeckeroffice@gmail.com](mailto:jbeckeroffice@gmail.com)



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

**St. Thomas the Apostle Secretary:**  
**Mrs. Diane Lueckenhoff**  
[dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com](mailto:dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com)

**St. Cecilia Bookkeeper:**  
**Mrs. Doris Stumpe**  
[dstumpeoffice@gmail.com](mailto: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 30-Sept. 6:**

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Marian Becker  
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Ray & Bernadine Groner  
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Dennis Struempf  
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Ray, Sally & Sam Herigon  
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Vic & Rita Otto

**Your Sunday Offering:**

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021:	\$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	\$ 50,834.00
Actual Collection for 2020-2021:	<b>\$ 43,736.00</b>
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	–\$ 7,098.00
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 25,417.00

**Collection in Church:**

August 2	\$ 6,449.00
August 9	\$ 5,362.00
August 16	\$ 2,305.00
August 23	\$ 2,540.00
August 30	\$

**Collection Online:** \$ 6,052.00

**August total to date:** **\$22,708.00**

Difference for August: –\$ 2,709.00

**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): **\$4,098.00**

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

Principal \$8,860.51 Interest \$367.23

Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: **\$86,972.94**

**Cantor/Organist**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Judy Schroeder / Annette Kehner

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Lisa Wieberg / Annette Kehner

**St. Thomas the Apostle Reader**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – MaryPat Luebbering

**St. Thomas the Apostle Ushers**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Gilbert Schellman & Steve Schellman

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Keith Kliethermes & Tom Backes

**Saint Cecilia**

**Mass Schedule for the Week of August 30- Sept. 6:**

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Edward "Eddie" Bock

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Lawrence "Dick" Rehagen

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Hubert Brune

**Your Sunday Offering:**

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021:	\$62,000.00
Collection Total for 2020-2021:	<b>\$ 8,305.00</b>
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 5,166.67

**Collection in Church:**

August 2	\$ 840.00
August 9	\$ 755.00
August 16	\$1,125.00
August 23	\$ 725.00
August 30	\$

**August total to date:** **\$ 3,445.00**

Difference for August: –\$1,721.67

**COLLECTION COUNTERS:**

September: Marie Lueckenotto & Pam Libbert

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

**St. Cecilia Reader:**

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Jennifer Even

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Don Wansing

**Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia**

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen – Glorious Mysteries

Saturday 6:35 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer – Luminous Mysteries

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

**St. Cecilia Ushers**

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Darin Even & Randy Hagenhoff

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Leonard Schulte & Anton Libbert

### **Mass live streamers**

September 6 – Jennifer Schroeder

**If anyone is interested in helping livestream the 10:00 a.m. Mass, please contact Barbara Graessle at 573-680-2954. We are installing a new system so it will be easier to stream and training will be provided. If we get two or three more signed up you will only need to assist every seven to eight weeks.**

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

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

Wednesday 7:20 a.m. – Pat Loethen – Glorious Mysteries

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

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

Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Dale Herigon – Luminous Mysteries

Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Pat Loethen – Luminous Mysteries

**SCRIP:** Visit [www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip](http://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.

### **SNACKS FOR QUILTERS:**

Thursday, September 3 – Kim Akin & Carol Backes

Thursday, September 10- Jenny Becker & Agnes Boessen

Quilting will begin on Wednesday, September 2 and Thursday, September 3. Please bring snack to hall by 1:00 p.m.; snack

served at 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Emily Luebbering at 573-477-3459 or Kathy Strobe at 573-477-3349.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to ***Elizabeth Backes & Robbie Belew***, who were united in the bonds of Holy Matrimony on Saturday, August 29 at St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

**BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S SEPTEMBER PRAYER INTENTION:** For children deprived of a safe and healthy home, that they experience the love of God through the care and concern shown by Catholics.

### **UPDATED DECREE FROM BISHOP MCKNIGHT:**

**Decree on pastoral activities during the COVID-19 pandemic and after 11 September 2020.**

#### **August 20, 2020 | Health, Public Health Concerns**

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; and

Whereas having received the recommendation of the Presbyteral Council to extend the current norms with regard to the pandemic;

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 27 November 2020, provided that for days of precept they do one of the following:
  1. Prayerfully participate in the Sunday or holy day of obligation Mass livestreamed from their parish church or chapel, the Cathedral, the Vatican, or of any Mass of the day celebrated in communion with the Roman Catholic Church.
  2. Prayerfully read and meditate on the readings of the Mass for the Sunday or holy days of obligation, and recite the Rosary or Divine Mercy Chaplet.
2. Parishes are highly encouraged to livestream Masses for Sundays and holy days of obligation indefinitely.
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, especially 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. 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.
7. 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.
8. All other public health recommendations of state authorities should be followed whenever possible, especially with regard to singing in church, 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 required. If social distancing cannot be maintained in the pew, then the wearing of face masks is obligatory even in the pew.**
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. 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.

13. High use areas within the church must be sanitized before each service, including the pews used by the assembly, restroom facilities, door handles, push plates, and knobs. It is advisable to have entrance and exit doors propped open during high traffic volumes before and after Mass.
14. 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.
15. Holy water fonts shall remain empty.
16. Hand sanitizer should be made available throughout church and school facilities.
17. Other directives from the chancery for Catholic schools and religious education programs are to be followed.

This decree is effective from 12 September 2020 and until 27 November 2020, anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Jefferson City on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 2020.

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

**PASTOR'S MEDITATION: 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in ordinary time year A: TRUE CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

Today's readings explain how we should practice true, dynamic Christian discipleship. Jeremiah, in the first reading, is certainly a prototype of the suffering Christ. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 65), the Psalmist manifests his profound trust in God, just as Jeremiah himself does. In the second reading, Paul advises the Romans and us (Rom 12:1-2): *to "offer our bodies as a living sacrifice"* to God by explicitly rejecting the ungodly behavior of the world around us and by discerning and doing the will of God. Today's Gospel passage reminds us that Christian discipleship demands self-control ("*Deny yourself*"), the willingness to suffer ("*take up your cross*"), the readiness to follow Jesus by obeying his commandment of love, and generosity in surrendering our lives to God ("*to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice to God.*" Jesus takes his disciples by surprise when, after Peter's great confession of Faith, Jesus announces that he "*must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.*" After correcting Peter's protest, Jesus announces the three conditions of Christian discipleship: "*Deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me.*"

True disciples of Christ are: a) *truly compassionate*: they are willing to visit and help the infected and the sick in hospitals, the incontinent elderly, the handicapped and those who suffer dementia in nursing homes, and AIDS patients in hospices; b) *truly humble*: they are able to see that every good gift comes from God alone, and that these gifts (talents and resources) should inspire gratitude, not pride; c) *truly patient*: they are committed to working with challenging children, adolescents with problems, young adults who are struggling with their Faith, with the intellectually challenged and with those suffering dementia; d) *truly forgiving*: they are willing to forgive not just once or twice but again and again, because they know that God has forgiven them again and again; e) *truly loving*: they willingly visit people in prisons, in retirement homes, and in homeless shelters; and f) *truly faithful*: they are living out a committed, trusting relationship with God, with spouse, with family and friends.

**Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukibi**

**FR. LEONARD'S BIRTHDAY:** Please join us Sunday, October 4, after Mass outside of Church from 11:00 a.m. - Noon for light snacks and fellowship to celebrate Father Leonard's birthday. We encourage you to participate in a card shower by bringing a note card or birthday card with a kind message for Father Leonard.

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

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE HOLY HOUR** is Friday, September 4, 7:00 p.m. in St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

**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 CHURCH CLEANING TEAM ROTATION FOR UPCOMING WEEKS:**

Week of August 30<sup>th</sup>: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter

Week of September 6<sup>th</sup>: 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 31: Richard Schellman, Pat Schellman and Paul Struempfl

Week of September 7: Paul & Jenny Becker, Eric & Shara Buechter

Week of September 14: Alan Reinkemeyer, Richard Heckemeyer and Dave Schroeder.

Week of September 21: Mark Luebbering, Antone Luebbering and Nick Luebbering

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL DROP OFF & PICK UP REMINDERS:** For the safety of our children, please remember to **ENTER** from **PARK STREET** and **EXIT** from the Church parking lot. This will keep our children safe and the traffic flowing smoothly.

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

Monday, September 7 – No School Preschool – 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Labor Day

Wednesday, September 9 – Picture Day

**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](mailto:director@stnick.org)

**THE DIOCESE OF JEFFERSON CITY** warns the public of what appears to be an ongoing phishing scam involving emails and texts purportedly from priests or parish/Chancery staff. This scam has hit many parishes across the United States. The email or text purports to be from a person the target knows, such as one's pastor, a parish staff member, the bishop or someone else from the Church. If the target responds to the fake email or text, the sender will follow up with a request for some sort of monetary assistance, often for gift cards or iTunes cards. It is truly unfortunate cyber criminals will attempt to exploit the generous nature of our community. Sending emails or texts asking for cash or gifts cards is not how priests, parishes or the Diocese of Jefferson City seeks financial assistance for our work. If you receive an email or text from a trusted church personnel asking for

assistance, confirm by calling that person and do NOT respond to the email or text. For more information on phishing scams and email security, or The FBI website address to file an online Internet crime complaint is <https://www.ic3.gov>.

**THE ST. THOMAS BOWLING ASSOCIATION** has an opening for **ONE** ladies team. If interested call Dick Schellman at 573-619-1083 or 473-477-3556.

**THE OSAGE SENIOR CENTER** located in Wardsville, has an urgent need for a part time general maintenance person. If you are retired or a full time worker wanting a to work a few hours each week and would like to earn a little extra cash, call 573-469-8426 or email [OSC@gmail.com](mailto:OSC@gmail.com).

**THE STANISLAUS LEGION OF MARY** is sponsoring a prayer service including Rosary, Novena, Chaplet of Divine Mercy and songs on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday nights of each month. The intention is the end of the Coronavirus. Service begins at 7 p.m. and will be held in St. Stanislaus Church, Wardsville. If you can't stay for the whole time (approximately one hour), please come and join us for whatever time you are available! Thank you!

**AMERICAN RED CROSS (MISSOURI AND ARKANSAS):** Please join us from the comfort and safety of your home for a Virtual Volunteer Fair. Upcoming Volunteer Fair Dates: Tuesday, September 1, 12-12:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 15, 4-4:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 29, 12-12:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 13, 4-4:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 27, 12-12:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 10 4-4:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 24, 12-12:30 p.m. Please RSVP by registering at [www.redcross.org/ARCVolunteerFair](http://www.redcross.org/ARCVolunteerFair) You will then receive the necessary information you will need to join by phone and/or online. Volunteer opportunities for nearly everyone from 14-114 years old.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH, LOOSE CREEK:** The 175th Anniversary Celebration of Immaculate Conception Parish in Loose Creek is cancelled due to COVID-19. It is rescheduled for Oct 9, 2021. The parish is selling commemorative books (including 715 family histories of people that settled in the town) for \$55. Also for sale is Vol. I,II, III of the Growing of Loose Creek. Complete set is \$200. Will ship or arrange pickup. Please contact Janice at 573-619-8149 or Joan at 573-680-1897.

**SAVE THE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:**

St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Farm tractor pull – September 12, 2020  
St. Thomas Garden tractor-pull – September 19, 2020

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH PICNIC, FREEBURG** is Sunday, September 6, serving fried chicken & roast beef dinners from 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Carry-outs only, no indoor dining. \$12.00 dinners. Quilt auction 5:00 p.m. No bleacher seating, please feel free bring lawn chairs.

**WARDSVILLE/OSAGE BEND KNIGHTS OF COLMUBUS BAR-B-QUE** is Saturday September 19. Serving pork steak, chicken, bratwurst, baked beans, cole slaw for \$10.00 per plate, slab of ribs \$18.00, cinnamon rolls \$10.00 from 11:00am to 5:00pm in the St. Stanislaus School Cafeteria.

**ST. MICHAEL PARISH DRIVE-THRU DINNER, RUSSELLVILLE** is Sunday, September 20, serving sausage, Au Gratin potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, bread, applesauce, brownie from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. \$12.000, children's meal: hotdog w/bun, chips, applesauce, brownie \$5.00. Online quilt auction [www.stmichaelauctions.com](http://www.stmichaelauctions.com)