

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

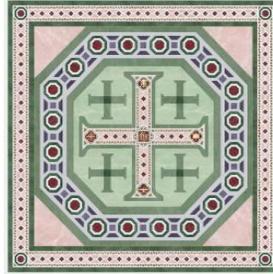
PO Box 146
St. Thomas, MO 65076

19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
August 9, 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 9-16:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – John Ullman
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – No Mass (Summer Schedule)
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Henrietta Kroll
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Keith Luebbering
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Wilfred & Virginia Libbert
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – L&D Philip & Alma Boessen Family

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021: \$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End: \$ 50,834.00
Actual Collection for 2020-2021: **\$ 32,544.00**
Offertory Difference Year to Date: – \$ 18,290.00
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

August 2 \$ 6,449.00
August 9 \$
August 16 \$
August 23 \$
August 30 \$

Collection Online: \$ 5,067.00
August total to date: **\$ 11,516.00**
Difference for August: –\$ 13,901.00

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): **\$3,194.00**
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. – Mary Kay Brand / Jackie Prenger
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Anne Strope / Annette Kehner

St. Thomas the Apostle Reader

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Katie Luebbering (Brian)

St. Thomas the Apostle Ushers

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Dave Luebbering & Eric Strope
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Mattheuw Prenger & Keith Kliethermes

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of August 9-16:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Gus Kelly

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – John Schutty
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Urban Voss

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021: \$62,000.00
Collection Total for 2020-2021: **\$ 5,700.00**
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,166.67

Collection in Church:

August 2 \$ 840.00
August 9 \$
August 16 \$
August 23 \$
August 30 \$

August total to date: **\$ 840.00**
Difference for August: –\$ 4,326.67

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. – Don Wansing

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. – Margaret Brune –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. – Anton Libbert & Terry Libbert

Mass live streamers

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. – 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.

CONGRATULATIONS to ***Shaylee Mae Buechter***, of daughter of Justin & Britni Buechter, 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: 19th Sunday in ordinary time year A: OUR NEED FOR TRUSTING FAITH IN OUR GOD

This Sunday we offer special prayers and dedication to good preparations, success and safety at our picnic. Today the word of God speaks of His saving presence among His us, our need for trusting Faith in our loving and providing God who always keeps us company, and our need for prayer in storms of life.

The first reading tells us of how Elijah the prophet who had defeated the 450 false priests of Baal with the help of just such a trusting Faith in the power of Yahweh, fled to the Lord God for help and strength on Mt Horeb, and encountered Him there in His mercy. In the second reading, Paul laments and mourns over the Jews who, having lost their Faith in Yahweh and His prophets, had rejected their promised Messiah, Jesus. Paul tells us later (11:7-24), that God's plan allowed the Jews to reject Jesus so that a few believers, like Paul, would be free to carry the Good News outside Judaism, evangelizing the Gentiles. The Gospel episode occurred during an unexpected storm on the Sea of Galilee in the early morning hours. As Jesus approached the apostles, miraculously walking on water, he allayed their fears by telling them, "*It is I.*" The Gospel episode also explains how Peter lost his trusting Faith in Jesus for a few seconds, failed his attempt to walk on water, but was rescued when he called on Jesus for help.

Dear friends in faith we all need to call Jesus in the storms facing us in the Church, in our parish (picnic vs pandemic) and in our lives. Let us approach Jesus with strong Faith in his ability and willing availability to calm the storms in the life of the Church and in our own lives. Church history shows us how Jesus saved his Church from the storms of persecution in the first three centuries, from the storms of heresies in the 5th and 6th centuries, from the storms of moral degradation and the Protestant reformation movement (later resulting in hundreds of denominations), in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and the storms of sex abuse scandals of the clergy in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. We need to realize that it is the presence of Jesus which gives us peace even in the wildest storms of life: the storms of anxiety and worries about the future we are suffering now in the ongoing Corona Virus Pandemic (Corvid-19), storms of sorrow, storms of doubt, tension and uncertainty, storms of anger and despair, storms of temptations, and storms in family relationships. But this peace flows only from a personal relationship with God, with Jesus, enhanced through prayer, meditation and active participation in the Holy Mass and reception of the Sacraments when these are available to us.

Friends we need to imitate the short prayer of sinking Peter: We are expected to pray to God every day with trusting Faith for strengthening our personal relationship with Him and for acknowledging our dependence on Him. But when we have no time or mental energy for formal prayers, let us use the short prayer of Peter: "*Lord, save me!*" or the prayer of the mother of the possessed girl: "*Lord, help me!*" or the blind man's prayer: "*Son of David, have mercy on me!*" or the repentant sinner's prayer: "*Lord, have mercy on me a sinner!*" We get plenty of time during our travels to say the short prayers like the "Our Father", "Hail Mary" and "Glory be...." We may begin every day offering all our day's activities to God and asking for His grace to do His will; then we may conclude every day before we go to sleep, by asking God's pardon and forgiveness for our sins.

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.

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.

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION is Tuesday, August 11, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS CHURCH CLEANING TEAM ROTATION FOR UPCOMING WEEKS:

Week of August 9th: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman

Week of August 16th: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Jackie Prenger, Amy Buechter

Week of August 23rd: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost

Week of August 30th: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter

Week of September 6th: 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 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 Struempf

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

A FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAY will be held on Saturday, August 29 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Mid America Bank in Wardsville. Please remove any binder clips. For more information, please call 573-635-0019.

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.

THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, August 11, 7:30 p.m. A rosary will be prayed at 7:15 p.m. Please read the August newsletter attached to the bulletin.

THE STANISLAUS LEGION OF MARY is sponsoring a prayer service including Rosary, Novena, Chaplet of Divine Mercy and songs on the 1st and 3rd 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!

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.

OSAGE SENIOR CENTER: Is your home getting too big? Do you need to be closer to Jefferson City or away from the city? If so, the Osage Senior Center, located in Wardsville, MO, is looking for interested seniors to fill possible vacancies and/or be placed on our waitlist for USDA or MHDC units. For more information call 573-469-8426 or Osageseniorcenter@gmail.com

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PICNIC is Sunday, August 16, serving fried chicken & roast beef dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Drive-thru and carry-outs available. Adults \$12.00, children 6-12 \$6.00. Quilt Auction 5:00 p.m.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PICNIC QUILT AUCTION: If you are unable to attend the Picnic on August 16 and wish to submit a bid, please contact either Jenny Becker 573-690-0642 or Lauri Luebbering 573-619-6090 with the item number and amount of bid. Quilts are posted on St. Thomas the Apostle website: <http://www.stthomasapostle.net/quilt-auction.html> When providing a pre-bid, please provide the maximum dollar amount that you are willing to bid for a specific item number. We will have someone bidding for you during the quilt auction, and will not exceed your pre-bid amount that you submitted. Pre-bids will be accepted through Saturday, August 15. The quilt auction will be live streamed at 5:00 p.m. for those who cannot attend, please share with friends.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PICNIC WORK-LIST was attached to last week's bulletin. Additional copies are in the entrances of St. Thomas Church or on our webpage.

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.
- Desserts 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

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council Minutes - July 28, 2020

PPC Goal: Develop a more inclusive sense of community in our Parish by encouraging the growth of our relationships with each other and with God. Members Present: Alan Reinkemeyer, Mark Luebbering, Leroy Heckmeyer, Debbie Strope, Jan Carter, Sarah Luebbert, Jackie Prenger, Barb Graessle, Brian Luebbering, Theresa Viet, Fr. Leonard. Bob Schellmann, Jan Carter. Absent: Ryan Wieberg and Curt Goeller

The meeting was opened at 6:30 p.m. with a prayer by Fr. Leonard. New PPC members: Welcome to: Debbie Strope, Sarah Luebbert and Bob Schellmann. Officers elected: Jackie Prenger, President; Mark Luebbering, Vice-President; Jan Carter, Secretary. Committee Assignments: Worship: Jackie Prenger, Theresa Viet, Barb Graessle Social Concerns: Jan Carter, Sarah Luebbert, Debbie Strope Administration: Mark Luebbering, Bob Schellman, Ryan Wieberg, Curt Goeller

Principal’s Report (Leroy)

- Concentrating this year on Language Arts and Math and the character trait of “Kindness”
- Using Google Classroom this school year.
- School re-opening plans will be sent to parents on Monday, August 3rd. Plans are subject to change.
- Working on ordering supplies for teachers. Teacher workshops will be held on August 12 and 13.
- All classrooms have been waxed except for the Preschool classroom and the main hallway. Thanks to Jim Lueckenhoff and his crew.
- Teachers have gone through a 2-day Google Classroom training in June and will start to use this program in their classrooms this fall. Leroy secured a grant to purchase 84 chromebooks for students.
- The mandatory Parent Meeting will be on Tuesday, August 18 starting at 6:30 in the gym. The first day of school is Thursday, August 20. There are currently 89 students registered to come to school this fall.
- The first Home and School meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 27 at 6:30 pm.

Picnic Update

The picnic committee is moving forward with plans for the picnic. They are working closely with the Cole County Health Department to plan an eat-in picnic with modifications. Watch the bulletin for an updated work list and more specifics about the changes.

Worship/Christian Education:

Karlie Reinkemeyer is the new PSR leader. There is some discussion about having a high school PSR program.

Social Concerns Report:

Although it was not mentioned at the meeting, four boxes of food were delivered to the Samaritan Center in March. Thanks to all of the people who donated.

Administration Report:

Some of the projects that are on-going are: the deck on the rectory, some roof repair has been completed and the stairs to the bell tower are being repaired. Water filling stations have been put in. We will be keeping Three Rivers Propane for this year. Next summer, we have to do some tuck pointing of the school.

Financial Committee Report

Kathy Grassle will be at future meetings to give a financial report. We do have good reserves, however, giving is down 5%. It helped to have PPP of \$110,000 to assist with teacher’s salaries and maintenance during the stay at home order.

Pastor’s Report (Fr. Leonard)

Fr. Leonard thanked everyone for their hard work to maintain the grounds and the church. He suggested that we might have a novena to pray for the success of the picnic in the time of the pandemic.

New Business

- Time and Talent Report - A Time and Talent summary sheet was distributed.
- Parish Pastoral Plan - There was a very robust discussion about the results of the group meetings to help prepare the Parish Pastoral Plan which is due on Friday, July 31, 2020. Brian Luebbering volunteered to complete the appropriate forms for the plan.

The next meeting is Tuesday, September 29 at 7:00 pm in the Vitae House.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm with a prayer and blessing by Fr. Leonard.

