

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

St. Cecilia
in Meta

www.stthomasapostle.net

www.stceciliameta.net

PO Box 146
St. Thomas, MO 65076

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 11, 2016

Pastor: Very Reverend Jeremy A. Secrist, V.F.
jasecrist@yahoo.com
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315

St. Thomas Bookkeeper:
Mrs. Jenny Becker
jbeckeroffice@gmail.com

St. Cecilia Bookkeeper:
Mrs. Doris Stumpe
dorisstumpe@att.net



School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer
lheckemeyer@embarqmail.com
School: 573-477-3322 Fax: 573-477-3700

St. Thomas Secretary:
Mrs. Diane Lueckenhoff
stthomasoffice@embarqmail.com

School Website:
www.stthomasapostleschool.net

St. Thomas Parish Office hours: Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Thursdays 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
School Office hours during school year: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Confessions: Saturdays 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. at St. Thomas; Sundays 7:30 - 7:50 a.m. at St. Cecilia;
or anytime by appointment, just call Father.

Saint Thomas the Apostle

Mass Schedule for the Week of December 11-18:

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ray, Sally & Sam Herigon
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Wm. & Rufina Boessen
Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – L&D Lawrence & Caroline Herigon
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Pat Kliegel
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Henrietta Kroll
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Ray Luebbering
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ralph Hirschman
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2016-2017:	\$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	\$152,502.00
Actual Collection for 2015-2017:	\$126,698.20
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	- \$ 25,803.80
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

December 4	\$ 4,534.00
December 11	\$
December 18	\$
December 25	\$

Collection Online: \$ 4,944.00

December total to date: \$ **9,478.00**
Difference for December - \$ 15,939.00

St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund

Total Expansion Project expenses paid:	\$2,273,475.34
Income from parishioners for FY 2016-2017 (via the yellow "Building Fund" envelope):	\$13,425.00
Loan payments to date for FY 2016-2017:	\$46,138.70
(Principal) \$37,536.01 (Interest) \$8,602.69	
Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining:	<u>\$458,559.96</u>

St. Thomas Cantor / Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kerry Meyer/ Annette Kehner
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Judy Schroeder/ Annette Kehner

St. Thomas Reader/ Petitions

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Rosella Reinkemeyer

St. Thomas Altar Servers

Weekday – Cale Luebbert & Leon Wolken
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Cameron & Chesney Luebbering,
Cale Luebbert
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Brooke & Grace Boessen, Abigail
Verslues, Erika Luebbering

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of December 11-18:

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Lionel, Arharta, Bonnie & Sandy Libbert

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Hubert Brune

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Joe Platt
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Lawrence Rehagen

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2016-2017:	\$60,500.00
Collection Total for 2016-2017:	\$27,641.99
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 5,041.00

Collection in Church:

December 4	\$ 1,189.00
December 11	\$
December 18	\$
December 25	\$

December total to date: \$ **1,189.00**
Difference for December: - \$ 3,852.00

Please remember your parish in your last will & testament.

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

December – Pam Libbert & Marie Lueckenotto

St. Cecilia Reader / Petitions

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Doris Stumpe
Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Jennifer Even
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer

St. Cecilia Altar Servers

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Zachary & Alex Even,
Henry & Ben Schroeder
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Adam & Madalyn Veltrop
Skyla Schroeder

**IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO FULFILL YOUR
LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENT,
IN YOUR KINDNESS & CHARITY,
PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT.**

St. Thomas Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

December 17-18

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Lora Boessen, Mark Luebbering, Pat Kaiser

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Randy Buschjost, Rob Henson, Rosalyn Wieberg

December 24-25

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark & Barb Graessle, Mike & Sheri Wieberg, Bill Lueckenhoff

Midnight Mass – Emily Luebbering, Gilbert & Hermina Strobe, Jan Heckemeyer

Sunday 10:00 a.m.– Millie Wieberg, Bill & Betty Jo Luebbering, Lillian Lackman

St. Thomas Greeters/Ushers

December 17-18

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Joe Buschjost & Carolyn Loethen

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – TJ Loethen & Mattheuw Prenger

December 24-25

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Graessle, Bill & Jason Lueckenhoff, Doug Stockman, Isaac Rackers, Madi Buschjost

Midnight Mass – Richard Heckemeyer & Keith Kliethermes

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Eric & Keith Boessen, Mattheuw Prenger

St. Thomas Presentation of Gifts at Mass

December 17-18

Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Mike & Trish Green

Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Alan & Stephanie Cortvrient

December 24-25

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Bryan & Renee Braun Family

Midnight Mass – Richard & Jan Heckemeyer Family

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Scott & Tracy Suthoff Family

St. Thomas Collection Counters

December 17-18 – Richard & Jan Heckemeyer

December 24-25 – Jennifer Schroeder & Stephanie Cortvrient

December 31-Jan. 1 – Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday 7:25 a.m. – Alex & Joann Heckman – Sorrowful

Wednesday 7:25 a.m. – Pat Loethen – Glorious

Thursday 7:25 a.m. – Viola Boessen – Luminous

Friday 7:25 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina Strobe – Sorrowful

Saturday 4:40 p.m. – Paul Becker – Joyful

Sunday 9:40 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina Strobe– Joyful

SCRIP: December 17-18 Visit www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip for more information about the Scrip program.

Saturday – Kristi Luebbering Sunday – Amy Luebbering

Please remember to purchase Scrip cards for all your holiday shopping and gift giving needs. We have a large variety of cards in various denominations in stock and available for purchase. Scrip is available for purchase after every weekend Mass in St. Thomas and available during the week by contacting the school office at 573-477-3322. You can also contact Lindsay Luebbering at 573-680-4920 or Karen Luebbering at 573-301-5835 to purchase anytime.

LADIES TO BRING SNACK TO ST. THOMAS QUILTERS:

Thurs., Dec. 15 – Gina Luebbering & Emily Luebbering

Please bring to hall by 1:00 p.m.; snack served at 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Strobe or Emily Luebbering.

RORATE MASS – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23: There is an ancient custom during the season of Advent to celebrate Mass in the early morning before sunrise in anticipation of the coming of the Light of the World at Christmas. Mass will be offered by candlelight at St. Thomas the Apostle at **6:00 a.m.** on **Friday, December 23.** Hospitality will be offered in the Vitae House following the Rorate Mass.

2016 CHRISTMAS/SEMINARY ASSESSMENT: Our assessment for Seminarian Formation & Priest Retirement is - **\$1,114.00** for St. Cecilia & **\$3,661.00** for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. Please support the formation and education of our diocese's future priests.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE:

Mass will be celebrated on December 24, 5:00 p.m. & Midnight

December 25, 10:00 a.m.

ST. CECILIA:

December 24, 7:00 p.m.

December 25, 8:00 a.m.

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE:

Mass will be celebrated on December 31, 5:00 p.m.

January 1, 10:00 a.m.

ST. CECILIA:

December 31, 7:00 p.m.

January 1, 8:00 a.m.

2016-2017 CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL (CSA): The Catholic Stewardship Appeal (CSA) videos for this year's Catholic Stewardship appeal is available at: www.diojeffcity.org. The CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP GOALS for 2016 are:

St. Cecilia Parish: \$2,000.00. So far **\$963.00** (48%) has been contributed.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish: \$8,000.00. So far **\$5,742.00** (72%) has been contributed.

Thank you for your generosity!

The overall diocesan goal is \$2,000,000. So far \$1,407,244.49 (71%) has been contributed across the diocese.

St. Cecilia Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

December 17-18

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Doris Stumpe, Jennifer Even, Betty Hagenhoff

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Gerald & Phyllis Rehagen, Karen Fick

December 24-25

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen, Bonnie Kampeter, Lou Kloepfel

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer, Pam Libbert

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

December 17-18

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Brendan Stumpe, Darin Even, Randy Hagenhoff, Lou Kloepfel

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Harold Libbert, Anton Libbert, Terry Libbert, Tony Derkum

December 24-25

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Mitch & Brendan Stumpe, Darin Even, Randy Hagenhoff

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Leon Schanzmeyer, Kenny Otto, Dominic Plassmeyer, Larry Lueckenotto

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. – Florentine Hagenhoff– Glorious

Saturday 6:40 p.m. – Alice Hake– Joyful Mysteries

Sunday 7:40 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer–Joyful Mysteries

VOTIVE CANDLES: The requested donation for lighting a votive candle in church is **\$2.50.**

BAPTISM PREPARATION: Please call Fr. Secrist to schedule a meeting and date for Baptism.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION: Please call Fr. Secrist at least six months prior to the desired date.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH FINANCIAL "SNAPSHOT" as of December 6, 2016:

General Church Receipts	\$212,128.33	Church & Rectory (General)	\$ 64,212.17
Special Church Receipts	\$ 94,697.00	Church & Rectory (Special)	\$ 93,164.54
Diocesan Collections	\$ 1,712.75	Diocesan Collections	\$ 1,525.75
Universal Church Collections	\$ 2,493.00	Universal Church Collections	\$ 2,381.00
Parish School Receipts	\$ 65,009.86	School Expenses	\$195,838.69
Pre-School Receipts	\$ 21,817.00	Pre-School Expenses	\$ 26,536.01
Total Receipts	\$397,870.96	Total Expenditures	\$401,926.76

Thank you for your stewardship to our parish and the universal Church!

SEND SOME CHRISTMAS JOY You are encouraged to remember our parishioners who are living in nursing homes, retirement centers and in residences elsewhere with a Christmas card or note. Please find below those who would love to hear from you.

Teresa Kaiser, Jefferson City Nursing & Rehabilitation, 1221 Southgate Lane, Jefferson City, MO 65101

Ginny Libbert, 1030 Edmonds St., Jefferson City, MO 65019, Room 215.

Celestine Stegeman, 42114 Pinehurst Ct., Jefferson City, MO 65109.

ST. THOMAS PRAYER LINE REQUESTS should be emailed to Jenny Becker at jbeckeroffice@gmail.com or by calling (573) 690-0642. The Prayer Line exists to communicate prayer intentions for those in need of healing. Out of respect for individuals' privacy, only necessary information is communicated.

FOOD DRIVE: The St. Thomas & Meta Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a food drive through December 18. The food collected will be delivered to the Helping Hands of Central Missouri Food Pantry located near St. Elizabeth in Miller County. Food collection boxes are located in the entrances of St. Thomas & St. Cecilia Churches. As we approach the winter season, please take this opportunity to help those in need. Thank you!

MIDNIGHT MASS CHOIR PRACTICE: There will be choir practice for Midnight Mass in St. Thomas on Monday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 18 at 8:00 a.m. New choir members are welcome.

DVD'S OF THE PFEFFER PIPE ORGAN REDEDICATION held on October 2nd, are now available for \$15. These DVD's were recorded and edited by the videographer and sportscaster Rod Smith. Please contact Fr. Secrist or Diane Lueckenhoff to obtain a copy. Proceeds will go for the continued care and maintenance of the historic instrument.

PENANCE SERVICES AROUND THE AREA DURING ADVENT:

December 13	7:00 pm	Folk
December 13	6:30 pm	Wardsville
December 13	7:00 pm	St. Thomas (<i>1st Reconciliation for younger parishioners and their parents</i>)
December 14	7:00 pm	Westphalia
December 14	7:00 pm	Osage Bend
December 18	4:00 pm	St. Elizabeth
December 20	7:00 pm	St. Thomas
December 21	7:00 pm	Loose Creek
December 22	7:00 pm	Linn

ST. CECILIA CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: If you want to remember your loved ones during the Christmas season, you may make a monetary donation with their names (**clearly printed**) in an envelope marked "**ST. CECILIA FLOWER DONATION**". Please place the flower donations in the collection basket between now and December 18. The names of those to be remembered will be published in the December 24-25 bulletin.

ST. THOMAS CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Those wishing to make a monetary donation toward the Christmas flowers and decorations at St. Thomas are asked to place their donations, along with names (**clearly printed**) of those to be remembered in the envelope provided in the December packet. Please place donations in the collection basket between now and December 18. The names of those to be remembered will be published in the December 24-25 bulletin.

ST. CECILIA SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School classes for St. Cecilia is immediately following the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the Parish Center. Sunday School classes are open to any children in kindergarten, or those who will be entering kindergarten next year (fall of 2017). Please contact Jennifer Even at 680-6945, 229-8976 or evenfamily6@att.net to sign up or with any questions.

ST. THOMAS SUNDAY SCHOOL: St. Thomas the Apostle Sunday School is for children preschool age (2 years prior to Kindergarten) meet on Sunday's from 9:00-9:45 a.m. in the St. Thomas School Kindergarten room. Please contact Daffny Tallent at 573-694-4408 or email dtallent@embarqmail.com for more information.

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL/PSR DROP OFF & PICK UP REMINDER: For the safety of everyone, please remember to ENTER from Park Street and EXIT from the Church parking lot ONLY. This will keep our children safe and the traffic flowing smoothly.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRESCHOOL: If you have a preschool aged child, please email Mrs. Kirkweg for information on how to get your child enrolled. mkirkweg@embarqmail.com

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SAVE: Box Tops for Education, Coke Points & Best Choice Labels.

COPY PAPER: St. Thomas School is in need of copy paper, clean on one side and staple free. Please drop off paper at school or call the school office.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS:

December	13	– First Reconciliation for 2 nd Graders 7:00 p.m.
	15	– Advent Program 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center (DRESS REHEARSAL 10:00 a.m.)
	21	– K-8 caroling at Mid-America Bank, bowling party, Early Release K-8 1:20 car-riders, 1:30 bus riders. End of 2 nd Quarter
	22	– Christmas break December 22 – Jan. 2 – K-8
January	3	– School Resumes K-8

THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m. A rosary will be prayed at 7:15 p.m. Please read the December newsletter attached to the bulletin.

ST. THOMAS HERITAGE BOOK: In the near future, the Sesquicentennial Team will be asking each family household to write a short narrative for inclusion in the heritage book. There will be four topics that you choose to write about in less than 260 words: tell us about your family, tell us about your family's occupation, tell us about family traditions, and tell us about anything special that defines your family. We will also ask for two photos, one family photo and one of your choice. Have fun preparing your narrative and photos.

RECOGNIZING OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES in the bulletin. If you are a college or technical school graduate this semester, please let us know by emailing or calling the school at 573-477-3322, or the Parish Office on Tuesday or Thursday mornings at 573-477-3315. The names will be published in the December 24-25 bulletin.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

November 29, 2016

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:

Fr. Secrist, Charlene Buschjost, Jan Carter, Dan Lindenbusch, Eileen Volmert, Simon Strope, Mike Groner, Marshall Boessen, Shane Verslues, Leroy Heckemeyer, Alan Reinkemeyer, and Theresa Veit

Absent: Mike Green and Fred Luebbering

Father led the Parish Pastoral Council in prayer.

Principal's Report (Leroy Heckemeyer):

Red Ribbon Week was celebrated on October 3rd – 7th. It was organized by Miss Morris and STUCO. STUCO had their trail mix sale on October 13th and it brought in around \$400.00 for a needy family for the Christmas season. The flu shot clinic was put on by the Cole County Health Department on October 18th and we had a lot of kids who participated in this clinic. TEAM training was held for our 8th graders on October 19th and they got to work with students from St. Francis Xavier. We had our Parent/Teacher Conferences on October 20th and we had a very high attendance rate. Our K-4th grade students went on a field trip to Uncle Buck's Pumpkin Patch in Dixon on October 27th and they had a really good time while they were there. We also had a lot of very nice complements from their staff on our students' behavior. Great things to hear about our students.

We were able to celebrate All Souls' Day Mass out at the cemetery on November 2nd. The students walked out there and prayed the Rosary on the way out. The Lord blessed us with beautiful weather on this day. We had our Three Rivers Electrical Safety Assembly on November 3rd and our students really enjoyed the time with Keith Mueller. Home & School's Freddy Fundraiser was held on Wednesday, November 16th from 3-10 p.m. Mid-Quarter was on November 16th. We had a visit from the Superintendent of Schools, Sister Elizabeth Youngs on November 17th. STUCO held their annual Bake Sale on November 17th. The Helias visit for our 7th-8th graders has been moved to Wednesday, November 30th at 9:00 a.m.

The Advent Program will be held on Thursday, December 15th at 7:00 p.m.

Our annual Bowling Party for K-8 will be held on Wednesday, December 21st. We will head over to Mid America Bank to sing some Christmas Carols around 9:20 a.m., and then after this we will proceed to Capitol City Bowl to bowl from 10:00 – 12:00. Christmas Vacation for K-8 will be from December 22nd – January 2nd. School will resume for K-8 on Tuesday, January 3rd.

School Advisory Board Report: Committee has been formed to work with the Sesquicentennial committee.

Worship Committee Report: Advent booklets are available in church.

Christian Education Report: PSR in the school has been wonderful this year making use of the parish school building. Mass with PSR kids had a huge turnout in October.

Social Concerns Report: Discussion held on Fall Fantasy.

Administration Report: Shane will take the lightning rods off school building since they are not grounded properly.

Old Business:

Sesquicentennial – the committee continues to meet and the book is going well.

Church building maintenance / improvements

Handicap doors installed in church.

New Business:

Catholic Schools Week (Dinner: January 28th, 2017) Spaghetti, Salad, Bread, and Dessert

Discussion on Fry Room (Climate Conditioning) Readjust air pressure by cutting in vents to bring more air conditioning into space.

MODOT project on Route B. Route B will be widened starting next year. Parish will receive new ADA-compliant sidewalks and steps in front of church and rectory as part of that project.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 31, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vitae House.

The meeting was adjourned and Father ended with a prayer.