

**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

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**December 11, 2022**

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

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

**St. Thomas the Apostle Admin. Secretary:**  
**Mrs. Theresa Veit**  
[tveitoffice@gmail.com](mailto:tveitoffice@gmail.com)



**School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer**  
[lheckemeyer@stacs.school](mailto:lheckemeyer@stacs.school)  
**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 8:30-11:30 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 December 11-18:**

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Danny Libbert  
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Pat Kliegel  
Thursday, 7:45 a.m. – Herb Kroll  
Friday 7:45 a.m. - Ray, Marcella & Sam Herigon  
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ralph Hirschman  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes  
Harry & Norma Lueckenhoff Family

**Your Sunday Offering:**

Offertory Budget for 2022-2023: \$305,000.00  
Offertory Goal through Month End: \$152,502.00  
Actual Collection for 2022-2023: **\$138,390.35**  
Offertory Difference Year to Date: -\$ 14,111.65  
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

**Collection in Church:**

December 4 \$ 7,105.76  
December 11 \$  
December 18 \$  
December 25 \$

**Collection Online:** \$ 5,849.50

**December total to date:** **\$12,955.26**

Difference for December -\$12,461.74

**Church Renovation Capital Campaign**

Total Pledges/Donations \$484,477.70  
Total Collected \$454,352.10  
Total Expenses Paid \$699,195.95

A total of 130 parishioners have returned pledge cards/or  
Contributed to the renovation project.

Church Renovation Loan Balance \$155,524.33

Loan payments to date \$51,0005.00

(principal) \$44,475.67 (interest) \$6,529.33

**St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists**

Dec. 17 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kerry Meyer / Jeanette

Dec. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Amanda Wooten / Alanna

**Dec. 24 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten / Alanna**

**Dec. 24 Saturday 10:00 p.m. – Choir / Jackie**

**Dec. 25 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Lisa Wieberg / Jeanette**

**St. Thomas the Apostle Readers**

Dec.17 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Bill Luebbering

Dec. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Richard Heckemeyer

**Dec. 24 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle**

**Dec. 24 Saturday 10:00 p.m. – Jim Lueckenhoff**

**Dec. 25 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Daffiny Tallent**

**Saint Cecilia**

**Mass Schedule for the Week of December 11-18:**

Wednesday 6:30 p.m.- Fritz & Margie Luebbert

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Ben & Jason Hake

**Your Sunday Offering:**

Offertory Budget for 2022-2023: \$65,000.00  
Collection Total for 2022-2023: **\$27,444.21**  
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,416.67

**Collection in Church:**

December 4 \$1,070.00  
December 11 \$  
December 18 \$  
December 25 \$

**December total to date:** **\$ 1,070.00**

Difference for December: -\$ 4,346.67

**St. Cecilia Collection Counters**

December – Pam Libbert & Marie Lueckenotto

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

**St. Cecilia Readers**

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. -

Sunday, Dec. 18 8:00 a.m. – Doris Stumpe

**Saturday Dec. 24 7:00 p.m. – Doris Stumpe**

**Sunday, Dec. 25 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer**

**St. Cecilia Organist**

Dec. 18 8:00 a.m. – Lydia

**Dec. 24 7:00 p.m. - Choir**

**Dec. 25 8:00 a.m. – Lydia**

***IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO FULFILL YOUR  
LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENT, PLEASE FIND  
A REPLACEMENT. YOUR FELLOW  
PARISHIONERS THANK YOU!***

### **St. Thomas the Apostle Greeters/Ushers**

Dec. 17 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Dave Luebbering & Eric Strope  
Dec. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- T.J. Loethen & Mattheuw Prenger  
**Dec. 24 Saturday 5:00 p.m.** – Mark Graessle & Michael Wooten  
Gilbert Schellman  
**Dec. 24 Saturday 10:00 p.m.**- Richard Heckemeyer &  
Shane Verslues

**Dec. 25 Sunday 10:00 a.m.** – Craig Buechter & Ryan Buschjost  
**Parish Count for weekend Masses is on the offertory table.**  
**Collection baskets choir loft by organ, please return after use.**

### **St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Ministers**

Dec. 17 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jenny Becker  
Dec. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Keith Kliethermes  
**Dec. 24 Saturday 5:00 p.m.** – Barb Graessle  
(Mark Graessle choir loft)

**Dec. 24 Saturday 10:00 p.m.**- Janet Lueckenhoff  
(Jan Heckemeyer choir loft)

**Dec. 25 Sunday 10:00 a.m.** – Mattheuw Prenger

### **St. Thomas the Apostle Servers**

Weekday – Ellie Boessen & Audrey Buschjost  
Dec. 17 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Gregory Kiby, Miranda Meyer,  
Carmen Luebbering  
Dec. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Valerie & Zeke Verslues,  
Victoria Wieberg, Stella Volmert  
**Dec. 24 Saturday 5:00 p.m.** – Evelyn Wooten, Ava Buschjost,  
Ellie Boessen  
**Dec. 24 Saturday 10:00 p.m.**- Valerie & Zeke Verslues,  
Miranda Meyer  
**Dec. 25 Sunday 10:00 a.m.**- Victoria Wieberg,  
Fayeth Prenger, Francie & Hannah Tallent

### **St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts**

Dec. 17 Saturday, 5:00 p.m. –Gilbert & Betty Schellman  
Dec. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Ryan & Kelley Buschjost Family  
**Dec. 24 Saturday 5:00 p.m.** – Norbert & Marilyn Veit  
**Dec. 24 Saturday 10:00 p.m.**- Shane & Melissa Verslues Fam  
**Dec. 25 Sunday 10:00 a.m.**- Keith & Lauren Buechter Fam.

### **St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters**

Dec. 18– Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman  
Dec. 25 – Ron & Theresa Veit  
Jan. 1 – Ron & Theresa Veit  
Jan. 8 - Paul Becker & Shara Buechter  
Jan. 15 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes  
Jan. 22 – Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg  
Jan. 29 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder  
**Live Stream Mass (10:00 a.m. Sunday)**  
Dec. 18 Lauri Luebbering  
Dec. 25 Brooke Schell  
Jan. 1 Dunja Wieberg  
Jan. 8 Jenny Becker  
Jan. 15 Karlie Reinkemeyer

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

Tuesday, 7:25 a.m. – Bob Schellman – Sorrowful Mysteries  
Wednesday 7:25 a.m.- Bob Schellman – Glorious Mysteries  
Thursday 7:25 a.m. –Gilbert & Hermina – Luminous Mysteries  
Friday 7:25 a.m. – Shirley Volmert – Sorrowful Mysteries  
Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Dale Herigon – Joyful Mysteries  
Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina Strope – Joyful Mysteries

### **St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners**

Dec. 11: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost  
Dec. 18: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer  
Dec. 25: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering  
Jan. 1: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman  
Jan. 8: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Jackie Prenger, Amy Buechter

**SNACKS FOR QUILTERS:** Quilter's luncheon may be dropped off Wednesday night 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. (Evening quilting) or St. Thomas the Apostle School. 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 Strope at 573-477-3349.  
**Thursday, Dec. 15** – Eileen Volmert & Glenda Werdehausen

**SCRIP:** Visit [www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip](http://www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip) for more information about the Scrip program. Please contact Amanda Wooten 573-694-1735 or [amandab\\_27@hotmail.com](mailto:amandab_27@hotmail.com) **Please remember to purchase Scrip Cards for your holiday gift giving needs!**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Garth Beckett Luebbering**, son of Benjamin & Elise Luebbering, who became a child of God through baptism this weekend in St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

**BULLETIN NOTICES:** Deadline for bulletin is Wednesday at noon.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH BULLETINS:** If you are needing a bulletin and Church is locked there are some on the Vitae House front porch.

### **St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers**

Dec. 18 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff  
**Dec. 24 Saturday 7:00 p.m.** – Betty Hagenhoff  
(Brenda Wansing choir loft)  
**Dec. 25 Sunday 8:00 a.m.** – Mary Plassmeyer  
(Dominic Plassmeyer choir loft)

### **St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers**

Dec. 18 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – William Derkum, Terry Libbert,  
Harold Libbert, Leon Schanzmeyer  
**Dec. 24 Saturday 7:00 p.m.**- Darin Even,  
Mitch & Brendan Stumpe  
**Dec. 25 Sunday 8:00 a.m.**- Harold Libbert, Anton Libbert,  
Kenny Otto, Leonard Schulte

### **St. Cecilia Servers**

Dec. 18 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Natalee Derkum  
**Dec. 24 Saturday 7:00 p.m.** – Gavin Werdehausen,  
Henry & Annaline Schroeder  
**Dec. 25 Sunday 8:00 a.m.** – Skyla, Tucker &  
Jesse Schroeder, Kora Luebbering

**Please arrive 10 minutes before Mass.**  
**Servers who have questions or would like to practice,**  
**may do so after 8:00 a.m. Mass. Please contact Joanne**  
**Schroeder 573-229-8986.**

### **St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts**

December 18 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Family of Ben  
& Jason Hake

### **Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia**

Wednesday 6:35 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen -Glorius Mysteries  
December 18 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen  
Joyful Mysteries  
**December 24 Saturday 7:00 p.m. – No Rosary**  
**December 25 Sunday 8:00 a.m. - No Rosary**

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

### **MASS STIPENDS: \$10.00**

**BAPTISM PREPARATION:** Please call the rectory to  
schedule a meeting and date for Baptism.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION:** Please call the rectory *at least*  
six months prior to the desired date.

**BISHOP MCKNIGHT DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION:** During the holiday season, may our self-centeredness be replaced with generosity; our frustration with compassion; our anxieties with patience; and our intolerance with understanding, we pray to the Lord.

**DECORATING THE CHURCHES FOR CHRISTMAS:** St. Cecilia is Sunday, December 18 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.  
St. Thomas the Apostle is Sunday, December 18 after the 10:00 a.m. Mass

**RORATE CAELI MASS:** 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 6:30 a.m. on Friday, December 23. Hospitality will be offered in the Vitae House following the Rorate Mass.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:** Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle  
Saturday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m. St. Cecilia  
Sunday, December 25 at 8:00 a.m. St. Cecilia Sunday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m. St. Thomas the Apostle

**MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE: A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:**

Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, December 31, 5:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle  
Sunday, January 1, 8:00 a.m. St. Cecilia Sunday, January 1, 10:00 a.m. St. Thomas the Apostle

**CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL:** You can also make a pledge by going online to [diojeffcity.org](http://diojeffcity.org) and clicking the "Donate Now" button.

***The CSA goal for St. Cecilia Parish is \$2,550  
Received \$915.00***

***The CSA goal for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is \$10,404  
Received \$4,400.00***

**PASTORS MEDITATION: 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT: 'Rejoice in the Lord always' (Is. 35:1-6,10; Jam. 5:7-10 Mt. 11:2-11)**

The third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of joy. In our first reading, the prophet Isaiah invites nature to join in this rejoicing: 'Let the wilderness and the dry land exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy' (Is 35:1). The responsorial psalm proclaims the praises of God 'who gives sight to the blind, raises up those who are bowed down, protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan' (Ps 145). And the gospel invites us to embrace Jesus as the Messiah, the Savior, whose life and ministry manifest the saving power of God: 'the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them' (Mt 11:3). Too often in the past, Christianity has been presented as a rather grim and joyless affair, confronting us with guilt and failure. Today's gospel reading shows us that John the Baptist, too, for all his greatness, 'a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen' (Mt 11:11) and zeal, may also have been misguided about Jesus and his message. When he heard what Jesus was doing, he was disturbed and confused, so he sent some of his disciples to ask Jesus if he was the promised Messiah 'or have we got to wait for someone else?' (Mt 11:3). The response of Jesus is to point to the incontestable evidence of his healing and life-giving ministry: 'Tell John what you hear and see' (Mt 11:4). His actions prove that he is the Messiah foretold by Isaiah, the one who embodies God's healing love. The reality of sin and failure is not the centerpiece of the Christian story, but rather the victorious love of God who forgives, heals and makes all things new. And it is the experience of this love that is the source of our joy. But what is this joy that is at the heart of the Christian message? We think of joy very much in association with youthfulness, freshness, innocence. And it is true that joy keeps us young. A joyful person always seems youthful. Like the kiss of the sun on a flower or a smile lighting up a child's face, joy transforms. People who are joyful transform those around them. Joy is contagious. In the presence of joyful people, our hearts become lighter and the world around us seems so much brighter. However, Christian joy must not be confused with the kind of superficial cheerfulness we often come across in our social gatherings. It is not the false hilarity of those who choose to ignore the reality of suffering in the world around them or avoid pain in their own lives. Joy is not the absence of pain. It is the awareness of God's loving presence within you.' And this awareness is a gift of the Holy Spirit. Christian joy is quite compatible with sorrow and even with anger. As Christians we are called to share not only in the passion of Christ, but also in his passions – his joy and sorrow, his frustrations. These are the passions of those who are alive with the gospel, those who come to know from personal experience that 'it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned and in dying that we are born to eternal life' (Prayer of St Francis). The joy that Christ brings us is a joy that is often found in the midst of pain and suffering. The most joyful people are those who have been profoundly touched by the pain of the world. The paradox of joy is that it is at its most significant in association with suffering. As disciples of Jesus, we are invited to share the joy Jesus offers us, the joy we discover when we reach out to others in love. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

**MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION** is Tuesday, December 13, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

**SEND SOME CHRISTMAS JOY:** In your charity, remember our parishioners who are residing in nursing homes, retirement centers and in residences elsewhere with a Christmas card or note.

Patricia Loethen, Heisinger Bluffs, 1002 W. Main St., Room 115, Jefferson City, MO 65109

**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 flower donations in the collection basket or mail to the parish office **between now and December 18**. The names will be remembered & published in the December 25 bulletin.

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

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHRISTMAS CHOIR:** There will be practice for the 10:00 p.m. Christmas Mass choir on December 20 and 21 at 7:00 p.m. in Church. Anyone is welcome to join the choir. We would love to have new people come and sing with us. Contact Jackie at 573-291-3558 for any questions.

**ALL 8<sup>TH</sup> THRU 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS:** Any and all students that have been confirmed are invited to join in an hour of Faith, Fun, and Fellowship. Wednesday, December 14, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., St. Cecilia parish center basement. All are welcome so invite a friend from anywhere (not just St. Thomas and St. Cecilia). Confirmation was NOT the end of your faith journey, but the BEGINNING of your full faith commitment! What better way to stay involved with your faith than to get together with friends for some activities and snacks. Hope to see everyone there! Call or text Jennifer with questions 573-680-6945.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS:** Tuesday, December 13- Advent Program 7:00 p.m. Parish Center, Dress rehearsal 10:00 a.m. inviting anyone who would prefer to come in day instead of the evening.

**ST. CECILIA PSR:** During November my 6th and 7th grade PSRS students pray the St. Gertrude Prayer to release souls from Purgatory. One of the most popular prayers for the Souls in Purgatory is that of Saint Gertrude the Great. She received many visions of Our Lord during her lifetime and expressed to Our Lord Jesus her great desire to pray for the deceased. In return, Our Lord taught Saint Gertrude the following prayer. It is piously believed that 1,000 souls are released from purgatory by praying this prayer from the heart. Saint Gertrude's Prayer for Holy Souls. Eternal Father, I offer You the most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for all sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen I am so proud to say that our class released 4,928,000 souls from purgatory. What a joy there was in heaven. Brian Wieberg was our top achiever with 1,710,000 and Hunter Libbert was runner up with 1,010,000. Lizzy Backes was third with 741,000. But I am SO PROUD of all of them for their group effort. What a joy to be their teacher. **Cathy Borgmeyer**

**GRATEFUL LIVING FAITH SHARING:** Prayer is one of the three aspects of the Catholic Stewardship Renewal in our diocese. The program Grateful Living: The Joy of Stewardship is a small group (6-10 people) faith sharing opportunity that will begin during the Lenten season of 2023. It consists of six sessions during Lent and another six sessions in the Fall of 2023, although the book contains all of the sessions and so your group can meet as you wish. Each session lasts about an hour. In the next few weeks sign-up sheets will be available for anyone interested in this opportunity of sharing your faith in a small group. Books are provided to guide the sessions. Please indicate whether you would like to be a small group leader, if you would like to host sessions in your home, meeting time preferences, or any other pertinent information. Please contact Jackie Prenger at 573-291-3558 if you have any questions.

**HOLIDAY COLLECTION FOR THOSE IN NEED:** St. Thomas the Apostle Social Concerns Committee is asking for donations during this holiday season to give back to our local community. Many families continue to struggle financially in the current economy. Please consider any monetary donation to help those in need in our school or parish. We will be collecting cash/checks from now - Jan. 1. Donations can be turned in to the Parish office or in the collection basket in an envelope labeled "Holiday Collection." If you know of a local family in need, please reach out to Fr. Leonard or the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity! *For it is in giving that we receive — St. Francis of Assisi*

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

**ATTENTION MEN OF THE JEFFERSON CITY AREA:** Are you looking for a group of men to support you in greater study of and devotion to your faith? Or, are you just looking for an opportunity to be with like-minded men to help "keep you on track"? You are invited to join the new, vibrant fraternity of men called the Men of **Signum Crucis**. We gather the third Wednesday of each month, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. sharp at Helias Catholic High School at 1305 Swifts Highway. Our chaplain is Father Paul Clark. Next gathering: December 21. Call Jeff Cassmeyer at (573) 690-7546 for directions or more information.

**THE KC/LADIES AUXILLARY** are collecting new and gently used kids coats for the Samaritan Center. If you have coats you would like to donate, please put them in the box at the side entrance of Church anytime between now and December 18.

**CITY OF ST. THOMAS COUNCIL ELECTIONS:** Looking for applicants interested in running for a two-year term City Council position. The council meets once a month to discuss, review all matters regarding the City of St. Thomas. For the April 4, 2023 election the City will have two open positions. If you are interested in running for a two-year term Council position, please contact Susan Boessen, City Clerk, at 573-619-4424 leave a message with your name and contact number. You must reside within the city limits of St. Thomas to hold a Council position. Must apply by December 27, 2022.

**ST. THOMAS HOMETOWN HOLIDAY MARKET** is Sunday, December 11 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center. Over 30 vendors, free admission, raffle for prizes, Pizza Kwik 11:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Proceeds to benefit St. Thomas the Apostle School. (See last week's bulletin for the attachment).

**ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS/LADIES AUXILIARY KIDS CHRISTMAS EVENT** is Sunday, December 11, come anytime between 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Santa will be there for pictures! Cookies for a snack. Ornament making pine cone bird feeders & gingerbread house decorating. Accepting coats for kids (new & gently used) and food for families.

#### **St. Cecilia Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, November 17, 2022**

The meeting opened at 7:05 p.m. with a prayer by Fr. Leonard Mukiibi. Those present were Joanne Schroeder, Emily Libbert, Katy Werdehausen, Shirley Bock, Fr. Leonard. Absent were Dusty Stegeman, Doris Stumpe, Janice Schanzmeyer. Minutes from the last meeting had been previously approved.

#### **Committee Reports**

- Doris and Janice were not present to report for the Building and Grounds Committee. The council discussed the leak situation and how it had been fixed. Father noted that multiple people were called in to fix the leak and requested in the future that if one person/company can do all the work, that he prefers it all to be done by that one person/company as opposed to various different people
- Dusty was not present to report for the Finance Committee, but Father Leonard encouraged the Finance Committee to meet prior to the Parish Council Meeting every other month, so we have updated Finance reports.
- The Cemetery Committee hasn't recently met, but Father let Shirley know that if they are using the Parish ID, he will need to be added as a signer on the account.
- Joanne reported for the Liturgical and Worship Committee. They have set Masses through January. Sign-ups are in the back of Church for the holiday Masses for anyone who wishes to participate. December 6 will be Penance Service. Advent penance will always be at St. Cecilia and Lenten penance will always be at St. Thomas. Church decorating days have been set and Parish Council members and other parishioners are encouraged to help if available. The Feast of St. Cecilia Mass was set for Wed. November 23. Parish Council members were to provide cookies as refreshments for after Mass. Father requested St. Cecilia ushers start getting to the back of Church a little sooner to start the collection process so as to not delay Church and if ushers need to be found, try to have those found prior to the start of Mass if possible. He also said ladies can be ushers if they would like to.
- Katy reported for the Social Concerns Committee. They are joining with other neighboring parish groups to conduct a food drive. Donations will be collected through December 11.

#### **Father Leonard's Report.**

- The new way of Stewardship is set to officially begin in February. We still need to form a council to represent that group.
- There is an upcoming Deanery meeting and there will need to be someone from the council to attend that meeting as well.
- Father also discussed the need for a Vocation Liaison/Coordinator. Our parish needs someone to encourage people into vocations. If anyone is interested in serving in this capacity, please let a Parish Council member know.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.  
The meeting was closed at 7:55 p.m. with a prayer by Fr. Leonard.

