

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 16, 2018

Pastor: Fr. Jeremy A. Secrist
jasecrist@yahoo.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
lheckemeyer@embarqmail.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
dorisstumpe@att.net

St. Thomas Parish Office hours: Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; Wednesdays 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 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 15-23:

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – L&D Herb & Henrietta Kroll Family
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Joe & Antonia Schwartz
Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Alex Heckman
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Rosalyn Wankum
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Jim Reinkemeyer
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Sylvanus Hoecker
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Stanley Brand
Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. – August, Leona & Donald Loethen
Midnight – People of our Parishes
Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Vocations to the Priesthood

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2018-2019: \$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End: \$152,502.00
Actual Collection for 2018-2019: **\$128,930.02**
Offertory Difference Year to Date: – \$ 23,571.98
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

December 2 \$ 6,428.00
December 9 \$ 5,079.00
December 16 \$
December 23 \$
December 30 \$

Collection Online: \$ 4,742.00

December total to date: **\$16,249.00**

Difference for December: – \$ 9,168.00

St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund

Total Expansion Project expenses paid: \$2,273,475.34
Income from parishioners for FY 2018-2019
(via the yellow "Building Fund" envelope): **\$14,784.00**
Loan payments to date for FY 2018-2019: **\$55,366.44**
(Principal) \$49,076.78 (Interest) \$6,289.66
Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: **\$260,088.45**

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantor / Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jean Kliethermes / Annette Kehner
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Kerry Meyer / Jackie Prenger
Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten / Annette Kehner
Midnight – Christmas Choir / Jackie Prenger
Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Lisa Wieberg / Annette Kehner

St. Thomas the Apostle Reader

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Judy Schroeder
Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle
Midnight – Daffiny Tallent
Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Molly Suthoff

St. Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of December 15-23:

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Joe Platt
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes
Adoration & Confessions before 6:30 p.m. Mass
Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Phil & David Graessle

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Lawrence "Dick" Rehagen
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Charles, Pauline & Danny Werdehausen

Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m. – Larry Stumpe

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2018-2019: \$62,000.00
Collection Total for 2018-2019: **\$30,948.22**
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,166.67

Collection in Church:

December 2 \$1,101.12
December 9 \$1,090.00
December 16 \$
December 23 \$
December 30 \$
December total to date: **\$2,191.12**
Difference for December: – \$2,975.55

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

December – Marie Lueckenotto & Pam Libbert
January – Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

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

St. Cecilia Reader

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Doris Stumpe
Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer
Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer

St. Cecilia Altar Servers

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – *servers needed*
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Melina Derkum & Ava & Saige
Werdehausen
Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m. – Skyla & Jesse Schroeder,
Additional servers needed

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

St. Thomas the Apostle Altar Servers

Weekday – Austin Meyer & Madi Buschjost

December 22-23

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ethan & Noah Luebbering,

Cale Luebbert

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Morgan & Jacob Luebbering,

Dylan & Kadence Kliegel

Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. – Lane, Kenzie, Avery Libbert,

Gregory Kirby, Dorothy Lackman, Ava & Claire Morris,

Abigail Verslues, Madi Buschjost, Henry Buschjost

Owen Schellman, Ava Rackers

Midnight – Ely & Dawson Wieberg, Mason & Clint

Luebbering, Emma Luebbering

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Brie Heckman,

Luke Schroeder, Colton Libbert

St. Thomas Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

December 22-23

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Paul & Jenny Becker,

Betty Schellman

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Glenn Prenger, Gilbert & Hermina

Strope

Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. – Mark & Barb Graessle,

Mike & Sheri Wieberg

Midnight – Glenn Prenger, Janet Lueckenhoff, Jan

Heckemeyer

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Millie Wieberg, Lillian

Lackman, Gilbert Strope

St. Thomas Greeters/Ushers

December 22-23

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Fred Luebbering & Carolyn Loethen

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Arthur McManus & Alan Reinkemeyer

Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. – Isaac Rackers,

Gilbert Schellman, Ryan Buschjost, Doug Stockman

Midnight – Keith Kliethermes, Jim Lueckenhoff & Richard

Heckemeyer

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Eric & Keith Boessen

St. Thomas Presentation of Gifts at Mass

December 22-23

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ralph & Kathy Graessle

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

Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. – Travis & Kathy Rackers Family

Midnight – Myron & Lindsay Luebbering Family

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Lillian Lackman & Family

St. Thomas Collection Counters

December 22-23 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes

December 29-30 – Jennifer Schroeder & Stephanie

Cortvrient

January 5-6 – Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas

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

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

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

Friday 7:25 a.m. – Bob Schellman – Sorrowful

Saturday 4:40 p.m. – Dale Herigon – Joyful

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

SNACKS FOR QUILTERS:

Thursday, December 20 – April Heckman & Tricia Heislen

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

573-477-3349 or Emily Luebbering 573-477-3459.

A NOTE OF THANKS!

Thank You! Thank you to all who donated to our March for Life Bake Sale! We greatly appreciate your support. We ask for continued prayers as we prepare for our pilgrimage to Washington D.C. in January.

God Bless! St. Thomas the Apostle March for Life Students

BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION: "For the blessing of family life; that as a community we may safeguard this basic cell of society in public policy, and as a Church we may support those struggling to provide a home filled with faith, hope and love."



CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL: The Catholic Stewardship Appeal continues in St. Cecilia & St. Thomas Parishes. For each one of you who chose to give back gratefully to God through a contribution to the CSA, we are deeply appreciative. Catholics are a community of faith, and you recognize that members of any community, particularly the Body of Christ, have responsibility to each other. For those who have not joined your fellow Catholics in support of the CSA, we urge you to pray about it. It is not too late and no gift is too small. If you misplaced your letter from Bishop McKnight, please look for a CSA envelope at the entrances of church. You can also make a pledge by going online to diojeffcity.org and clicking the "Giving" button. **Let's try to meet our goals this year!**

The CSA goal for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is \$8,000. **\$7,675.00 (96% of goal)** has been received from 41 donors.

The CSA goal for St. Cecilia Parish is: \$2,500. **\$1,201.00 (48% of goal)** has been received from 11 donors

St. Cecilia Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

December 22-23

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Brenda Wansing, Doris Stumpe,

Jennifer Even

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

Libbert

Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m. – Betty Hagenhoff, Bonnie

Kampeter, Lou Kloepfel,

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

December 22-23

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

Lou Kloepfel, Mitch Stumpe

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

Leon Schanzmeyer, Kenny Otto

Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m. – Mitch & Brendan Stumpe,

Darin Even, Randy Hagenhoff

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

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

Saturday 6:40 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer – Joyful

Sunday 7:40 a.m. – Margaret Brune – Joyful

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

To Our Lady, Mother of Advent

To Our Lady, Mother of Advent, O Mother of our Advent, be with us and see to it that he will remain with us in this difficult Advent of the struggles for truth and hope, for justice and peace: He, alone, Emmanuel.

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.

2018 CHRISTMAS/SEMINARY ASSESSMENT: Our assessment for Seminarian Formation & Priest Retirement is \$758.00 for St. Cecilia & \$2,422.00 for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. Please support the formation and education of our diocese's future priests.

MINISTRY TO THE ILL & INFIRM: If you are preparing for surgery, recovering from surgery, homebound or ill, please let Fr. Secrist (573-477-3315) and/or MaryPat Luebbering (573-477-3476) know so that you have the opportunity to receive the Sacraments and pastoral care.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: Please for our younger parishioners who will be making their First Confessions during this season of Advent. First Confessions will be December 19 on 7:00 p.m. at St. Cecilia Parish.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE 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.

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 & December 16. The names will be remembered & published in the December 23 bulletin.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Those wishing to make a monetary donation toward the Christmas flowers and decorations at St. Thomas 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 16. The names will be remembered & published in the December 23 bulletin.

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.

Rose Mary Buschjost, 1899 Highway 63, Westphalia, MO 65085

Ray Groner, Oak Tree Villa 3108 West Truman Blvd. Jefferson City, MO 65109

Ginny Libbert, 1030 Edmonds St., Jefferson City, MO

Gerry & Patsy Luebbering, 1248 Duane Swift Parkway, Jefferson City, MO 65101

Marie & Delphine Luebbering, 12813 Rt. B, St. Thomas, MO 65076

Rose Mary Luebbering, 2489 County Rd., St. Thomas, MO 65076

Shirley Luebbering, C/O Jefferson City Manor, 1720 Vieth Dr., Room 209, Jefferson City, MO 65109

Margie Luebbert, 1899 Highway 63, Westphalia, MO 65085

Celeste Suthoff, 11923 Lower Bottom Road, St. Thomas, MO 65076

SCRIP: December 22-23 - Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kerry Meyer Sunday 10:00 a.m. – April Heckman

Visit www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip for more information about the Scrip program. Scrip is available after every other weekend Mass in St. Thomas. You can contact Lindsay Luebbering at 573-680-4920 or Karen Luebbering at 573-301-5835 to purchase anytime. **Please remember to purchase Scrip Cards for your holiday shopping gift giving needs!** A large variety of cards in various denominations are in stock and available for purchase.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRE-SCHOOL: If you have a preschool age child and have been thinking about preschool, please contact the school office at (573-477-3322) or Ms. Jaycine Bax at jbaxstacs@gmail.com.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, December 17 – Christmas Caroling at Mid America Bank & Bowling Party 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 18 - Bookmobile

Thursday, December 20 – Advent Program "Waiting for the King" Dress Rehearsal 10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. program

Friday, December 21 – Early Release 1:00 p.m., No EDP

Thursday, January 3 – School Resumes

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES IN THE AREA

6:30 p.m. Sunday, December 16 – St. Stanislaus, Wardsville

7:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 18 – St. Thomas the Apostle, St. Thomas

RORATE MASS: There is an ancient custom during the season of Advent to celebrate Mass in the early morning before sunrise in anticipation the coming of the light of the World at Christmas. Mass will be offered by candlelight at St. Thomas the Apostle Church at **6:00 a.m. on Friday, December 21.** Hospitality will be offered in the Vitae House following the Rorate Mass.

CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS CHOIR: We will have choir practice for Christmas Midnight Mass on Monday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 23 at 8:00 a.m. in church. Call Jackie at 477-3558 if you have any questions. Anyone is welcome to join us for the practices.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

St. Thomas the Apostle

December 24, 5:00 p.m. & Midnight

December 25, 10:00 a.m.

St. Cecilia

December 24, 7:00 p.m.

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE:

St. Thomas the Apostle

Monday, December 31, 6:00 p.m.

St. Cecilia

Tuesday, January 1, 9:00 a.m.

ST. THOMAS CRAFTS: If anyone is interested in quilting baby quilts for the 2019 Parish Picnic, please contact Diane Lueckenhoff, 573-645-5794 or Charlene Buschjost, 573-477-3480.

COLE COUNTY PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT NO. 5: Candidates interested in running for a three year term on the Board of Directors must notify the District by 5:00 p.m., January 15, 2019 to be included on the April 2, 2019 election ballot. Please notify Sheri Wieberg at 573-477-3497 if interested.

RETROUVAILLE is a weekend retreat, is for couples with marital problems seeking help. Those who are considering marriage separation and those who are already separated or divorced are encouraged to consider the Retrouvaille program. There is always hope of reviving your relationship. The next weekend is available in Kansas City January 25-27. You can find more information online at www.helpourmarriage.org.

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 morning or on Wednesday from 8:30-5:00 p.m. at 573-477-3315. The names will be published in the December 23 bulletin.

OSAGE COUNTY SUICIDE AWARENESS GROUP will meet on December 18, 6:30–7:30 p.m. in the Osage County Community Center, Linn. Join us for this 4 week series for those who have suffered loss & sadness often magnified by the holidays. For more information, please call the Osage County Health Department, 573-897-3103.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH MISSION:

A parish mission will be offered by Msgr. K. Bartholomew Smith from St. Bernadette Parish in Silver Spring, MD **January 12-15, 2019** at St. Thomas the Apostle. Msgr. Smith will preach at all of the weekend Masses on 12-12 January and then give talks at on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday evenings (13-15 January) at 7:00 p.m. Mass will be offered on Monday and Tuesday evening (14 & 15 January) at 6:00 p.m. Please plan to attend.

POSSIBLE PARISH TRIP TO CONCEPTION ABBEY: As part of our Sesquicentennial events, would there be interest in a trip to Conception Abbey and Clyde Monastery in March, 2019? Kindly contact Fr. Secrist if you would be interested so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Thanks!

ST. CECILIA CHURCH BUDGET SUMMARY July 1 – September 30, 2018

Income:

General (Sunday Collections)	\$16,457.70
Special Income (Parish Center Rental, Misc & Donations)	\$200.00
Diocesan Collection Income	\$140.00
Universal Church Collection	\$157.00
Special Church Receipts	\$734.56
Picnic Income	\$40,551.81
Total Income:	\$58,241.07

Expenses:

Church & Rectory General	\$14,490.57
Church & Rectory Special	\$6,421.76
Diocesan Collections	0.00
Religious Education	\$1,611.11
Universal Church Collection	0.00
Picnic Expenses	\$15,688.32
Total Expenses:	\$38,211.76
Net Income (Loss)	\$20,029.31

Summary of Deposit Accounts (as of September 30, 2018)

Mid America Bank:

Regular Checking	\$32,236.82
Picnic Account	\$117,405.16
Mass Stipend	\$2,656.20
Certificate of Deposits (3 CD's)	\$42,370.45
Total on Deposit at Mid America Bank	\$194,668.63
On Deposit with Diocese of Jefferson City: Certificate of Deposits	\$86,200.76

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES November 27, 2018

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, Jason Buschjost, Leroy Heckemeyer, Mark Luebbering, Simon Strope, Ryan Wieberg, Brian Luebbering, Mike Groner, Eileen Volmert, Steve Schellman, Alan Reinkemeyer, Paul Becker & Theresa Veit

Absent: Jan Carter

Father led the Parish Pastoral Council in prayer.

Principal's Report/School Advisory Report:

- STUCO's trail mix sale brought in a little over \$400.00. All the proceeds go to the STUCO Adopt-a-Family program from the Samaritan Center. This money will be used for the chosen family's Christmas presents.
- Leroy has put in a Field Experience Request form to Bass Pro for the Wonders of Wildlife Museum and Aquarium in Springfield, MO for our spring field trip for grades K-8. We had to put down three choices for when we can go and they select which one we can come on. Our first choice is April 8th, then April 15th and finally April 1st. The student cost is \$12. Parents get off 10% of the full price.
- We have a 6th grade boys and girls basketball team and one J.V. boys team for this basketball season. We also have two girls playing with I.C. in Jefferson City. Games start this week.
- Our preschool numbers have gone up from 13 to 15 and that brings our total enrollment up to 90 students. We have Renee Stockman helping as the preschool aide and Natalie Otto is helping with the preschool aftercare.
- Bake Sale and Bookmobile on November 28
- Christmas bowling party on Monday, December 17th from 12 – 2 pm
- Advent Program on Thursday, December 20th at 7 p.m.
- Early release on Friday, December 21st at 12:50 and 1:00 pm
- Christmas break from December 22, 2018 – January 2, 2019. School resumes on Thursday, January 3rd.

School Advisory Board Report:

- Looking at shirts for the 30th Anniversary of the Catholic School

Worship Committee Report:

- Parish Mission – Mass will be offered in Extraordinary Form one evening of the Parish Mission. (January 12th -January 15th)

Christian Education Report:

- FORMED – Online education – Father will look into purchasing for the parish.

Social Concerns Report:

- Parish Directory in progress.

Administration Report:

- Parking lot repair will occur in spring.

Old Business:

- Parish Emergency Plan – CPR Training will be scheduled in a couple of months. A meeting will be scheduled to discuss what to do in case of an intruder during mass or parish function. This will include a law enforcement officer and parish members willing to help with this.
- Church/Parish Property Improvements Update – Meeting held on November 20th with Barb Niekamp, Rainbow Painting on repainting the church sanctuary, also a bid is in the mail from Kevin Autenrieb – some of the funding has been put in the budget for the sanctuary.
- Sesquicentennial Update – Book is being edited. Books will be revealed on June 28, 2019.
- Fall Fantasy Recap – Next year's menu will be prime rib and smoked pork

New Business:

- Christmas Activities and Planning – Schedule for Masses has been published in the bulletin.
- Catholic Schools Week –Catholic School's Dinner – January 26th – Chili, hotdogs, salad, and dessert.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vitae House.

The meeting was adjourned and Father ended with a prayer.