

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 19, 2021

Administrator: Fr. Leonard Mukiibi
frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315

St. Thomas the Apostle Bookkeeper:
Mrs. Jan Heckemeyer
jheckemeyerooffice@gmail.com

St. Thomas the Apostle Admin. Secretary:
Mrs. Theresa Veit
tveitoffice@gmail.com



School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer
lheckemeyer@stacs.school
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 8:30-11:30 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.; 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 Dec. 19-26:

WEEKDAY MORNING MASSES IN PARISH CENTER

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Rose Mary Buschjost

Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Curt Stockman

Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Jim Reinkemeyer

Friday 7:45 a.m. – No Mass

WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH

Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. – Philip & Alma Boessen Fam.

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Harry & Norma Lueckenhoff Family
People of our Parishes

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2021-2022: \$305,000.00

Offertory Goal through Month End: \$152,502.00

Actual Collection for 2021-2022: **\$131,258.50**

Offertory Difference Year to Date: – \$ 21,243.50

Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

December 5 \$ 5,851.00

December 12 \$ 4,309.00

December 19 \$

December 26 \$

Collection Online: \$ 5,399.50

December total to date: **\$15,559.50**

Difference for December: -\$ 9,857.50

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations \$470,418.04

Total Collected \$377,914.62

Total Expenses Paid \$484,431.44

A total of 117 parishioners have returned pledge cards/or
Contributed to the renovation project.

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists

WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH

Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. – Choir / Jackie

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Lisa Wieberg / Jackie

Sunday, Dec. 26 – 10:00 a.m. – Jean Kliethermes / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Cecilia Readers

WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH

Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. – Jan Heckemeyer

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Alan Reinkemeyer

Sunday, Dec. 26 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of Dec. 19-26:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m.- Phil & David Graessle

Christmas Eve 6:00 p.m.- Larry Stumpe

L&D August & Leona Loethen Fam.

Christmas Day 8:00 a.m. – Lawrence & Scott Otto

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Alma & Henry Blomberg

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2021-2022: \$62,000.00

Collection Total for 2021-2022: **\$28,130.57**

Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,166.67

Collection in Church:

December 5 \$ 1,290.00

December 12 \$ 705.00

December 19 \$

December 26 \$

December total to date: **\$ 1,995.00**

Difference for December -\$ 3,171.67

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

December – Marie Lueckenotto & Pam Libbert

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

St. Cecilia Reader

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer

Christmas Eve 6:00 p.m. – Jennifer Even

Christmas Day 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer

Sun. Dec. 26 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff

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

St. Thomas & St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers
WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH
Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. – Richard Heckemeyer
Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Alan Reinkemeyer
Dec. 26 Sun. 10:00 a.m.- Eric & Keith Boessen

St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers
MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH
Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m.- Richard Heckemeyer
Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Lynne Reinkemeyer
Dec. 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Bill Luebbering

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers
WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH
Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m.-
Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Valerie & Zeke Verslues.
Francie & Hannah Tallent
Dec. 26 Sun. 10:00 a.m. – Avery Libbert, Miranda Meyer,
Ava Buschjost

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters
Dec. 26 - Ron & Theresa Veit
Jan. 2 – Ron & Theresa Veit
Jan. 9 - Paul Becker & Shara Buechter
Jan. 16- Keith & Jean Kliethermes
Jan. 23 – Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
Jan. 30 – Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas
WEEKDAY MASSES IN ST. THOMAS PARISH CENTER
Tuesday, Dec. 21 7:20 a.m.– Bob Schellman – Sorrowful Mysteries
Wednesday, Dec. 22, 7:20 a.m.– Pat Loethen– Glorious Mysteries
Thursday, Dec. 23, 7:20 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina – Luminous Mysteries
Sunday Dec. 26 9:35 a.m. – Tina Stockman – Joyful Mysteries

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 hours.

Tuesday, Dec. 21 – Kasie Luebbering & Dee Luebbering **Tuesday, Dec. 28** – Julia Luebbering & Karen Luebbering
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.

SCRIP: Visit www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip for more information about the Scrip program. Please contact Amanda Wooten 573-694-1735 or amandab_27@hotmail.com **Please remember to purchase Scrip Cards for your holiday shopping gift giving needs!**

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE ST. CECILIA CHURCH:

Mass will be celebrated on December 24, 6:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m. and December 25, 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE: Friday, Dec. 31, 7:00 p.m. & Saturday, Jan. 1, 9:00 a.m. St. Cecilia Church.

SATURDAY EVENING MASSES: THERE WILL BE NO SATURDAY EVENING MASSES ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25 & JANUARY 1, 2022.

BULLETIN NOTICES: Deadline for bulletin is Wednesday at noon.

ST. CECILIA PRAYER LINE REQUESTS can be made by calling Marie Lueckenotto at 573-229-4336.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PRAYER LINE REQUESTS should be emailed to Theresa Veit at tveitoffice@gmail.com or by calling 573-418-7301.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE WEBSITE: The St. Thomas the Apostle Website (www.stthomasapostle.net) has been updated and is now mobile friendly. Please visit the website for updates for upcoming events, renovation, and many more items.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHIONERS: The Parish Pastoral Council wants to update the current list of parishioners in St Thomas. If you are 21 years of age or working full time please visit the St. Thomas webpage to fill out the Parish Registration Form. You can email it back to Theresa Veit (tveitoffice@gmail.com) or put the completed form in collection basket at Church. Thank you!

2021 CHRISTMAS/SEMINARY ASSESSMENT: Our assessment for Seminarian Formation and Priest Retirement is \$699.00 for St. Cecilia and \$4,471.00 for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. Please support the formation and education of our Diocese's future priests.

St. Cecilia & St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Minister
Christmas Eve 6:00 p.m. – Doris Stumpe
Christmas Day 8:00 a.m. – Pam Libbert
Dec. 26 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers
Christmas Eve 6:00 p.m. – Mitch Stumpe & Darin Even
Christmas Day 8:00 a.m. – Doug Stockman & Dominic Plassmeyer
Dec. 26 Sunday 8:00 a.m. –Harold Libbert & Terry Libbert

St. Cecilia Servers
Christmas Eve 6:00 p.m.- Henry, Annaline & Tucker Schroeder
Christmas Day 8:00 a.m.- Skyla, Jesse & Tucker Schroeder
Dec. 26 Sunday 8:00 a.m. –

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia
Wednesday–6:05 p.m.-Cathy Borgmeyer–Glorious Mysteries
Sunday, Dec. 26 7:35 a.m. –Margaret Brune–Joyful Mysteries

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.

St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Cecilia Offertory
WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH
Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. – Richard & Jan Heckemeyer
Christmas Day 10:00 a.m.–Shane & Melissa Verslues Fam.
Dec. 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Doug & Tina Stockman Fam.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH WEEKLY BULLETINS may be found in St. Cecilia Church, Web page, St. Thomas Vitae House on front porch or school when in session.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION: For our children and youth: that the example of parents and other adults of the parish may foster a sense of openness to the Holy Spirit in their lives.

CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL: The CSA goal for St. Cecilia Parish is **\$2,550**. So far **\$1,440** has been collected. The CSA goal for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is **\$10,200**. So far **\$4,095** has been collected.

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS: St. Thomas the Apostle Sesquicentennial history books & glasses, Parish ornaments and cookbooks are available for purchase. Please contact the parish or school office if interested.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 4th Sunday of Advent year C: TWO FUTURE MOTHERS SHARE THEIR GOOD NEWS. (Mi. 5:1-4a; Heb. 10:5-10; Lk. 1:39-45) Today's readings remind us that Jesus is reborn every day in ordinary people living ordinary lives, who have the willingness to respond to God's call and the openness to do God's will. They suggest that Christmas should inspire us to carry out God's word as Mary and Jesus did, in perfect, loving obedience to His will, with cheerful kindness and unselfish generosity. In the first reading, the prophet Micah gives assurance to the Jews that God is faithful to His promises and that from the unimportant village of Bethlehem He will send them the long-expected ruler. The second reading, taken from Paul's Letter to the Hebrews, reminds us to be thankful for Jesus Christ's Self-offering, the perfect sacrifice of loving obedience that liberated us from sin. In obedient, willing eagerness to do God's will, Christ gave Himself in the place of all other ritual sacrifices offered as the means of sanctification. In the Gospel, Luke tells us how two seemingly insignificant women met to celebrate the kindness and fidelity of God. We see here how sensitive Mary was to the needs of Elizabeth, her older cousin who had miraculously become pregnant in her old age. For Luke, discipleship consists in listening to God's word and then carrying it out, and Mary does both, to become the most perfect disciple.

Dear friends, we need to carry Jesus to others as Mary did. Christmas is the ideal time for us to be filled with the Spirit of Christ, through Whom Christ is reborn in us and thus enables us to share His love with all whom we encounter. We do so by offering them all humble and committed service, unconditional forgiveness and compassionate, caring love. Let us take the time to visit others during this Christmas season, especially the sick and shut-ins, to bring some inspiration into their lives, and hopefully to bring them closer to God.

We need to bless and encourage the younger generation. Elizabeth demonstrates the responsibility of the older generation to inspire the younger generation. Grandparents, parents, teachers, and leaders are responsible for encouraging those around them. By complimenting and encouraging one's spouse, children and friends, let us make them know how valuable they are to us and to God.

We need to recognize the Real Presence of the Emmanuel (God is with us) in the Holy Eucharist, in the Bible, in the Sacraments and in the praying community. The hill country of Judea is right here in our surroundings. Let us convey Jesus to people around us by our acts of love, kindness and forgiveness. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

CHRISTMAS CHOIR: There will be practice Tuesday, Dec. 21 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Cecilia Church. Anyone is welcome to join the choir. Any questions please text Jackie at 573-291-3558.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE VIRTUAL WINTER FANTASY RAFFLE – Tickets are going fast! Tickets for the Winter Fantasy Facebook Live Drawing on Saturday, February 5, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. can be purchased for \$75 at Speedy B's or by contacting Kim Kliegel at 573-619-9188 or Jan Carter at 573-477-3640. **To enter the Early Bird drawing of \$100, purchase your ticket before December 31.** The raffle includes cash prizes of \$11,000, (1-\$5,000 Winner, 3-\$1,000 Winners, 4-\$500 Winners, 10-\$100 Winners) and additional door prizes. All proceeds benefit St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE VIRTUAL WINTER FANTASY SILENT AUCTION -We are currently accepting items with a value of \$50 or more for the Winter Fantasy Online Silent Auction, which will be held from Sunday, January 30-Saturday, February 5. Please bring your item(s) to the Vitae House during parish office hours or contact a committee member for pick up. We encourage families and friends to work together to create a basket or go together on an item. For additional details and auction item ideas go to www.stthomasapostle.net and click on the Event tab. We need your help in making this a success!

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRESCHOOL: If you have a child ages 3 or 4 and have been thinking about preschool, please call Lizzie Linhardt 573-645-5605 or the school office 573-477-3322. If you have any questions or would like to set up a one on one meeting and school tour please contact the school office.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS! UPCOMING EVENTS!

Monday, Dec. 20 – Advent Program 7:00 p.m. **Dress rehearsal 10:00 a.m.**

Tuesday, Dec. 21 – Early Release 12:50 p.m. car riders, 1:00 p.m. bus riders

Christmas break – December 22-January 3. Classes resume Tuesday, January 4, 2022

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 Libbert, 1361 Hwy B, Meta, MO 65058

Delphine Luebbering, 1306 W. Main St., Jefferson City, MO 65109 St. Joseph's Bluff

Bernadine Otto, 1030 Edmonds St., Jefferson City, MO 65109

Wilbert Wankum, Sr., The Timbers, Room 142, 239 Karen Dr., Holts Summit, MO 65043

HELIAS CATHOLIC OPEN HOUSE: Mark your calendar for Helias Catholic High School's Open House on **Saturday, Jan. 29**, from 10 a.m. to noon. Families and students of all ages are invited to come meet teachers, tour facilities, explore activities and clubs, and learn about how Helias Catholic is building a community of saints and scholars for Christ. All are welcome! Please call 573-635-6139 with any questions.

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 Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by December 19. The names will be published in the December 26 bulletin.

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., December 28 to be included on the April 5 election ballot. Please notify Sheri Wieberg at 573-477-3497 if interested. (You must reside within the district one whole year before the election and be at least 25 years of age to hold a seat on the Board.

CITY OF ST. THOMAS COUNCIL ELECTIONS: Notice for any applicants interested in running for a two-year term City Council/Board position on the April 5, 2022 election. If you interested in running for a two-year term Board position, please email saintthomascity@gmail.com. You must reside within the City Limits of St. Thomas to hold a Council position. Must apply by December 28, 2021.

SAVE THE DATE:

Sunday, January 16, 2022 – St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Breakfast 8:00-11:30 a.m. K C Hall
Saturday, February 5, 2022 – St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Virtual Winter Fantasy
Saturday, February 19, 2022 – Blessing & Celebration of Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle Church newly renovated Church.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Becoming a Knight of Columbus can transform your life. As a Knight, you have the opportunity to support our parishes and communities, and to grow in your faith. You can also gain access to top-rated insurance programs to protect your family. Plus, you are joining a band of brothers, a network of men in communities around the world dedicated to doing good in the service of God and our neighbors. As Pope St. John Paul II said: "The Knights of Columbus is the strong right arm of the Catholic Church." If you would like more information or to join, please contact Jeff Cassmeyer at (573) 690-7546.

CARMELITE NUNS: The ministry of our Carmelite Nuns is to offer prayer and sacrifice for the Church and the people of the Diocese of Jefferson City. To make a prayer request, write or email the Carmelite Nuns at carmelofic.prayers@gmail.com 31920 State Highway P, Clyde, MO 64432.

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. Thanks to 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

DIocese OF JEFFERSON CITY: 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, the FBI website address to file an online Internet crime complaint is <https://www.ic3.gov>.

THE OSAGE SENIOR CENTER has an opening at its location in Wardsville, MO. The Senior center is located close to the Catholic Church, two restaurants, 2 gas stations, a Dollar General and is close the Jefferson City. Call 573-632-2712 if interested in applying for this opening or to be placed on the wait list. Applications can be mailed to you or picked up at our office at the Osage Senior Center located 1815 Albert Place, Wardsville, MO.

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**St. Cecilia Church
Budget Summary
July 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021**

Income:

General (Sunday Collections) (Includes Memorial Donations of \$1248.00)	17,109.07
Special Income (Parish Center Rental, Misc)	100.00
Diocesan Collection Income	420.00
Universal Church Collection	205.00
Special Church Receipts	841.05
Regular Checking Interest	<u>11.64</u>

Total Income: \$18,686.76

Expenses:

Church & Rectory General	9,832.66
Church & Rectory Special	5,605.28
Religious Education (Tuition Paid)	1,166.67
Diocesan Collections	<u>0.00</u>

Total Expenses: \$16,604.61

Net Income (Loss) \$2,082.15

