

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 22, 2019

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
dorisstumpe@att.net

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 December 22-29:

Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. –L&D Gregory & Lucille Veit Fam.
Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. –Philip & Alma Boessen Family
Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes
Jeremy Luebbering

Friday 7:45 a.m. – Alex Heckman

Saturday 5:00 p.m. –August, Leona & Donald Loethen
People of our Parishes

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – L&D Anthony & Ida Schellman Fam.

Your Sunday Offering:

Offerory Budget for 2019-2020:	\$305,000.00
Offerory Goal through Month End:	\$152,502.00
Actual Collection for 2019-2020:	\$133,120.61
Offerory Difference Year to Date:	– \$ 19,381.39
Offerory Goal per month:	\$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

December 1	\$ 5,271.20
December 8	\$ 4,140.66
December 15	\$ 4,483.00
December 22	\$
December 29	\$

Collection Online: \$ 5,602.00

December total to date: **\$19,496.86**

Difference for December -\$ 5,920.14

St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund

Total Expansion Project expenses paid: \$2,273,475.34

Income from parishioners for FY 2019-2020

(via the yellow "Building Fund" envelope): **\$14,159.25**

Loan payments to date for FY 2019-2020: **\$46,138.70**

(Principal \$42,421.16 Interest \$3,717.54)

Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: **\$158,317.69**

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantor / Organist

Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. –Amanda Wooten / Annette Kehner

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

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

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Judy Schroeder / Annette Kehner

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering / Jackie Prenger

St. Thomas the Apostle Reader

Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle

Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. – Donna Luebbering

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Rosalyn Wieberg

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Tom Backes

St. Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of December 22-29:

Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m. – Lawrence "Larry" Stumpe
Christmas Day 8:00 a.m. –Hubert Brune

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – David & Phil Graessle

Your Sunday Offering:

Offerory Budget for 2019-2020:	\$62,000.00
Collection Total for 2019-2020:	\$26,349.25
Offerory Goal per month:	\$ 5,166.67

Collection in Church:

December 1	\$ 1,088.00
December 8	\$ 874.25
December 15	\$ 1,295.00
December 22	\$
December 29	\$

December total to date: **\$ 3,257.25**

Difference for December: -\$ 1,909.42

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

Christmas Eve – 7:00 p.m. –Cathy Borgmeyer

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

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff

St. Cecilia Altar Servers

Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m. –Skyla, Jesse & Tucker
Schroeder

Christmas Day 8:00 a.m. – Saige & Ava Werdehausen

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Ben, Henry & Annaline Schroeder

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

St. Thomas Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. - Paul & Jenny Becker, Betty Schellman

Christmas Eve - 10:00 p.m. – Glenn Prenger, Keith

Kliethermes, Jan Heckemeyer

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

Lackman, Millie Wieberg

December 28-29

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

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Glenn Prenger, Mike & Sheri Wieberg

St. Thomas Greeters/Ushers

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

Doug Stockman, Gilbert Schellman, Ryan Buschjost

Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. – Keith Kliethermes & Richard

Heckemeyer

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

December 28-29

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Dave Luebbering & Steve Schellman

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Art Groner & Alan Reinkemeyer

St. Thomas Presentation of Gifts at Mass

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

Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. - Lindsay & Kora Luebbering

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

December 28-29

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark & Lauri Luebbering

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina Strobe

St. Thomas Collection Counters

December 29 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes

January 5 – Jennifer Schroeder & Dunja Wieberg

January 12 – Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas:

Friday 7:20 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina Strobe – Sorrowful

Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Marilyn Herigon – Joyful

Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Tina Stockman – Joyful

St. Thomas the Apostle Altar Servers

Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. – Henry Buschjost, Abigail Verslues, Dorothy Lackman, Ava Morris

Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m. – Ely & Dawson Wieberg, Mason & Clint Luebbering

Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. – Brie Heckman, Luke Schroeder, Molly Suthoff, Colton Libbert

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ethan & Noah Luebbering, Cale Luebbert, Rowan Buechter

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Luke Schroeder, Lane, Kenzie & Avery Libbert

PASTOR'S MEDITATION: The 4th Sunday of Advent year A: LET'S PREPARE TO CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE AMONG US.

First I want to convey my sincere thanks to you all for your love, care and pastoral support in my ministry you have showed me since I got here in May 2019 to minister to you, I now feel confident with my ministry due to your love, support and faith. Well I will take a short vacation back home in January but I will not leave you without shepherd, you will have the following priests fill in on the weekends

Jan. 4 – 5, 2020 - will be covered by Fr. James Finder

Jan. 11 – 12, 2020 - will be covered by Fr. Patrick Dowling

Jan. 18 – 19, 2020 - will be covered by Fr. Patrick Dowling

Jan. 25 - 26, 2020 - will be covered by Fr. Jason Doke

Feb. 1 - 2, 2020 - will be covered by Fr. Christopher Aubuchon

The weekdays will be communicated to you as priests shall avail themselves.

This week however, we thank the spirit of God for leading us into the preparations for the birth of his son. Like St. Joseph, we need to trust in God, listen to Him and be faithful. Although we may face life challenges (financial problems, job insecurity, tensions in the family and health concerns), let us try to be like St. Joseph, trusting and faithful. Instead of relying on our own schemes to get us through life, let us trust in God and be strengthened by talking to Him in fervent prayer and by listening to Him speaking through the Bible.

We need to experience *Emmanuel* in our lives and change the world: The Good News and the consoling message of Christmas is that the Child Jesus still waits today to step into our hearts to change us and the world around us by the beauty of God's love, kindness, mercy and compassion. Let us take some time to welcome Christ the Child into our hearts and lives this week, so that God may change our challenging world with the beauty of that love.

Let us check to see if Jesus is on *our* list this Christmas and if we have a special gift in mind for him. A heart filled with love for God and our fellow-human beings is the birthday gift which Jesus really wants from us. Hence, let us prepare our heart for Jesus, filling it with love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness on this Christmas and every day of our lives.

Let us be a Christmas gift to others: The greatest gift we can give to those we love, is to have faith in them, believe in their dreams and try to help them realize them. We need to believe in the dreams of our husband, wife, children, parents, heroes, leaders and friends, then try our best to help them realize those dreams. Have a blessed week, **Fr. Leonard Mukiibi**

BULLETIN NOTICES: Deadline for bulletin notices this week is noon Tuesday, December 24.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION: As we celebrate the mystery of the Holy Family, may our Churches and schools support parents in the raising of their children in the faith.

2019 CHRISTMAS/SEMINARY ASSESSMENT: Our assessment for Seminarian Formation & Priest Retirement is \$843.00 for St. Cecilia and \$3,199.00 for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. Please support the formation and education of our Diocese's future priests.

St. Cecilia Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

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

Kampeter, Doris Stumpe

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

Libbert

December 29

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Doris Stumpe, Jennifer Even, Betty

Hagenhoff

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

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

Darin Even, Randy Hagenhoff

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

Lueckenotto, Harold Libbert, Anton Libbert

December 29

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch Stumpe, Darin Even, Leonard

Schulte, Harold Libbert

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Margaret Brune - Joyful

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

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.

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE:

St. Thomas the Apostle

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

St. Cecilia

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

SCRIP: December 28-29 – Amy Luebbering

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Daffiny Tallent

Visit www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip for more information about the Scrip program. Please contact Daffiny Tallent at 573-694-4408 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.

CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL: The CSA goal for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is \$10,000. \$8,265.00 received so far. The CSA goal for St. Cecilia Parish is \$2,500. \$1,595.00 received so far.

ST. CECILIA PARISHIONERS – Fr. Leonard will be at the St. Cecilia Parish office (rectory) and be available to parishioners on Wednesdays from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m., or by appointment by calling 573-999-9927. Confession hours at St. Cecilia are Wednesdays from 5:00 - 6:15 p.m. and Sundays from 7:00 – 7:45 a.m., or by appointment.

ST. CECILIA HOLY HOUR is Friday, December 27 at 7:00 p.m. with anointing of the sick to follow.

ST. THOMAS PARISHIONERS please pick up your 2020 Time, Talent & Stewardship form in the back of church if you haven't done so already.

SNACKS FOR QUILTERS:

Thursday, January 2 – Brenda Schell & Betty Schellman Thursday, January 9 – Carol Schellman & Donna Schellman

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.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK is January 27-31 a lot of activities are being planned. We are also asking for any donations which can be used for Bingo prizes for our VIP day Friday, January 31. Thanks in advance for helping out with the prizes for the bingo games. There will be more information to follow at a later date.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 21-January 5 – Christmas Vacation

Monday, January 6 – School resumes

Wednesday, January 8 – Advent program (rescheduled) 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. Dress rehearsal 10:00 a.m.

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 Miss Jaycine Bax at jbaxstacs@gmail.com

ST. THOMAS CHURCH CLEANING TEAM ROTATION FOR UPCOMING WEEKS!

Week of December 22: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert and Darrel Buechter

Week of December 29: 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!

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS: St. Thomas the Apostle Sesquicentennial history books and commemorative glasses are still available for purchase. History books are \$50 and glasses are \$5. These items would make wonderful Christmas gifts.

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

Florentine Hagenhoff, 239 Karen Dr., Holts Summit, MO 65043

Delphine Luebbering, 1002 W. Main St., Jefferson City, MO 65109 St. Joseph's Bluff

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

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

Jackie Luebbert, 1899 Highway 63, Westphalia, MO 65085

Margie Luebbert, 1899 Highway 63, Westphalia, MO 65085

Celeste Suthoff, 229 Karen Dr. Summit Villa, Room 22, Holts Summit, MO 65043

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 8:30-5:00 p.m. at 573-477-3315. The names will be published in the December 29 bulletin.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOPS: The Catholic Church in the United States is committed to providing safe environments in all of our ministries and activities, especially those involving children and youth. One aspect of our commitment is that anyone who works with minors in our parishes, schools and other Catholic organizations in the Diocese of Jefferson City receive training. For a full list of trainings currently available, please visit our [Virtus site](#) and select "Jefferson City, MO (Diocese)," or go to our Events page and filter by "Protecting God's Children."

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. 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

STEVE ANGRISANO IN CONCERT is Sunday, February 9, 3:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Lake Church in Lake Ozark. Tickets are now available \$8.00 adults, \$5.00 students. Please call 573-365-2241, ext 13 for tickets.

SNOW REMOVAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: It is hard to believe, but winter is just around the corner. The St. Thomas Parish and School will be in need of snow removal services for the church/school entrances, parking lots and sidewalks. If you are willing to assist, please contact Alan Reinkemeyer at 573-694-6984 or Mark Luebbering at 573-694-6393.

OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS, MARY HOME DANCE is Saturday, January 18, 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. in the gym. Must be 18 to attend, \$15.00 per person, \$25 per couple. Concessions will be available for purchase, BYOB, cups & ice provided. Music by Shiloh.

SAVE THE DATE! The Blair Oaks FFA Alumni & Supporters is hosting a "Cowboy Boots & Country Roots" Dinner & Dance on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at the Wardsville Lions Club with music from Shiloh. Tickets will be available in January 2020. Tickets \$40 per person or \$320 for a table of 8. For more information contact Linda Lackman @ 573-375-0001, Jennifer Borgmeyer @ 573-338-0049 or TJ Loethen, 573-690-8809. We hope to see you there!

BLOOD DRIVE: The American Red Cross will have a blood drive at Blair Oaks High School on Wednesday, January 8, 11:00 – 4:00 p.m. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: BlairOaks to schedule an appointment.

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 7, 2020 election the City will have three 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. Please 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 January 19, 2020.

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 pm, January 21, 2020 to be included on the April 7, 2020 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.)

LOOSE CREEK LADIES CLUB NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE: There will be a New Year's Eve Dance at the Loose Creek Community Center. Point 08 will be playing from 8:30 PM - 12:30 AM, Doors open at 7:30 PM, BYOB, Late evening heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served, \$30 per person, Must be 21 or older, Proceeds raised will be donated to the Immaculate Conception 175th Parish Celebration. For tickets, contact Tricia Orscheln at 573-694-6762, Kim Jansen at 573-619-4279 or tickets will be available at Loose Creek Oil, Legends Bank in Loose Creek, or at TK's.

SAVE THE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:

TOTUS TUUS – June 14-19, 2020

St. Thomas Parish Ham Breakfast – Sunday, March 8, 2020

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