

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 4, 2022

Pastor: 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. 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 4-11:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Dennis Struempfler
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Lucy Luebbering
Thursday, 7:45 a.m. – Jim & Kathy Ewers
Thursday 7:00 p.m. – L&D Tom & Mary Loethen
Msgr. Bernard Boessen
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Lisa Heislen, Herb & Chris Verslues
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes
L&D Ernest & Rose Mary Buschjost Family
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Ben, Jim & Butch Engelmeyer
Donna Kirkweg

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2022-2023: \$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End: \$127,085.00
Actual Collection for 2022-2023: **\$125,435.09**
Offertory Difference Year to Date: -\$ 1,649.91
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

November 6 \$ 6,652.76
November 13 \$ 4,553.76
November 20 \$ 2,420.51
November 27 \$ 2,870.26

Collection Online:

November total to date: **\$23,469.29**
Difference for November -\$ 1,947.71

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations \$484,477.70
Total Collected \$453,273.60
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 \$158,696.45
Loan payments to date \$47,290.00
(principal) \$41,303.55 (interest) \$5,986.45

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists

Dec. 8 Thursday 7:00 p.m. – Doug Luebbering / Jackie
Dec. 10 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kelsey Kliethermes / Jeanette
Dec. 11 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Josh Luebbering / Alanna
Dec. 17 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kerry Meyer / Jeanette
Dec. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Amanda Wooten / Alanna

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers

Dec. 8 Thursday 7:00 p.m. – PSR Students
Dec. 10 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mary Kay Brand
Dec. 11 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Katie Luebbering
Dec. 17 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Bill Luebbering
Dec. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Richard Heckemeyer

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of December 4-11:

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. – Phil & David Graessle

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

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2022-2023: \$65,000.00
Collection Total for 2022-2023: **\$26,374.21**
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,416.67

Collection in Church:

November 6 \$ 1,586.00
November 13 \$ 2,054.00
November 20 \$ 1,161.00
November 27 \$ 1,059.50

November total to date:

\$ 5,860.50
Difference for November: +\$ 443.83

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

December – Pam Libbert & Marie Lueckenotto

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

St. Cecilia Readers

Wed. Dec. 7 7:00 p.m. – Eli Bock
Sunday, Dec. 11 8:00 a.m. – Jennifer Even
Sunday, Dec. 18 8:00 a.m. – Doris Stumpe

St. Cecilia Organist

Dec. 7 7:00 p.m. – Emilie
Dec. 11 8:00 a.m. – Emilie
Dec. 18 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. 8 Thursday 7:00 p.m. – PSR Students
 Dec. 10 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Boessen & Doug Stockman
 Dec. 11 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Eric & Roseanne Boessen
 Dec. 17 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Dave Luebbering & Eric Strobe
 Dec.18 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- T.J. Loethen & Mattheuw Prenger
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. 8 Thursday 7:00 p.m. – Glenn Prenger
 Dec.10 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Brenda Wansing
 Dec. 11 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Janet Lueckenhoff
 Dec. 17 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jenny Becker
 Dec. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Keith Kliethermes

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers

Weekday – Victoria Wieberg & Annaline Schroeder
Dec. 8 Thursday 7:00 p.m. – PSR Students
 Dec. 10 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Gregory Kirby, Ellie Boessen,
 Emerald Fennewald, Kora Luebbering
 Dec. 11 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Francie & Hannah Tallent,
 Ben Otto & Wyatt Otto
 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

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts

Dec. 8 Thursday 7:00 p.m.- PSR Students
 Dec. 10 Saturday:00 p.m. – Mark & Lora Boessen Family
 Dec. 11 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Bryan & Renee Braun Family
 Dec. 17 Saturday, 5:00 p.m. –Gilbert & Betty Schellman
 Dec. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Ryan & Kelley Buschjost Family

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters

Dec. 11– Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder
 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

Live Stream Mass (10:00 a.m. Sunday)

Dec. 11 Karlie Reinkemeyer
 Dec. 18 Lauri Luebbering
 Dec. 25 Brooke Schell
 Jan. 1 Dunja Wieberg
 Jan. 8 Jenny Becker

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
Thursday 6:35 p.m. – Barb Graessle – 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. – Tina Stockman – Joyful Mysteries

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners

Dec. 4: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Jackie Prenger, Amy Buechter
 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

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 Strobe at 573-477-3349.

Thursday, Dec.8 – Jenna Volmert & Shirley Volmert **Thursday, Dec. 15** – Eileen Volmert & Glenda Werdehausen

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 gift giving needs!**

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.

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.

SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES are available in front entrances of St. Cecilia and St. Thomas the Apostle Churches.

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers

Dec. 7 Thursday 7:00 p.m.- Pam Libbert
 Dec. 11 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Doris Stumpe
 Dec. 18 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

Wed. Dec. 7 7:00 p.m. – Mitch & Brendan Stumpe
 Dec. 11 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Randy Hagenhoff, Kenny Otto,
 Leonard Schulte, Tony Derkum
 Dec. 18 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – William Derkum, Terry Libbert,
 Harold Libbert, Leon Schanzmeyer

St. Cecilia Servers

Wed. Dec. 7 7:00 p.m. – Brian Wieberg, Lizzy Backes,
 Gavin Werdehausen
 Dec. 11 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Bradyn & Kambrie Stegeman
 Dec. 18 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Natalee Derkum
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 7 7:00 p.m. Family of Phil & David Graessle
 December 11 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Family of Henry & Alma
 Blomberg, Mary Clark

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:35 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer -Glorius
 Mysteries
 December 11 Sunday 7:35 a.m.- Mary Plassmeyer
 Joyful Mysteries
 December 18 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen
 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.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE is Tuesday, December 6, 7:00 p.m. St. Cecilia Church. This is for **BOTH** parishes.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:

Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. (Vigil) St. Cecilia
Thursday, December 8 at 7:45 a.m. St. Thomas the Apostle
Thursday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle

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 and clicking the "Donate Now" button.

***The CSA goal for St. Cecilia Parish is \$2,550
Received \$860.00***

***The CSA goal for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is \$10,404
Received \$3,350***

PASTORS MEDITATION: 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT: EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE:

Dear friends, Advent season obliges us to stay awake and be prepared for the second coming of the Lord, and the best way to prepare ourselves is to go before our loving father and seek his mercy and love by asking him to dispel the darkness of sin from our lives and hearts through the sacrament of reconciliation. Our Father knows all our failings but likes us to freely choose to quit all our sins so that we may seek out his forgiveness.

Since this Tuesday we will have our penitential service at St. Cecilia at 7:00pm, several dispensers of God's mercy (priests) will be here to lead us back to our father and believe me or not some of us have taken a long time without grabbing the opportunity to clean our blind spot or sin tags in life that disfigure our beautiful identity as children of God.

So, friends, I thought that for our meditation this week let us take an examination of conscience and see those blind spots or sin tags in our lives and seize this special moment to mend our identity as children of God by bringing light back in our lives to dispel the darkness and blind spots caused by sin.

Ø What is my attitude about the sacrament of reconciliation? Do I sincerely want to be set free from sin, turn again to God, and resolve to begin again?

Ø Do I pray daily? Do I offer God my difficulties, my joys, my sorrows? Do I turn to God in times of temptations?

Ø Do I keep Sundays and holy days sacred? Am I faithful to my communal prayer? Do I fulfill my commitments as a member of my faith community?

Ø Do I have a genuine love of my neighbor? Am I kind to strangers?

Ø Do I try to bring light to a world darkened by hatred?

Ø Do I look down on people who are different than I am?

Ø Do I treat people with disabilities with respect?

Ø In my household, have I contributed to the well-being and happiness of the rest of my family? Am I patient? Am I loving? Do I treat my parents with respect?

Ø Am I lazy? Do I dedicate too much time to play or to leisure? Do I work excessively? Do I neglect my family?

Ø In my work and in my relationships, am I honest and just? Have I been faithful to my promises and contracts?

Ø Am I preoccupied with money or worldly goods? Am I too concerned with possessions? Have I stolen or damaged the property of others?

Ø Do I share my resources with those less fortunate? Do I regularly give to charities?

Ø Have I done violence to others? Have I injured anyone with my actions or my words?

Ø Have I tried to grow in grace? Do I read the Word of God and meditate on it? Do I receive the sacraments? Do I strive to be closer to God each day of my life? ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukibi***

A ROSARY FOR OUR COUNTRY will be prayed on Sunday, December 4, 5:00 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.

ALL 8TH THRU 12TH 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. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL, ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PSR, ST. CECILIA PSR, ST. CECILIA SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE & KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOOD FOR FAMILIES DRIVE:

The St. Thomas the Apostle School, St. Thomas the Apostle PSR, St. Cecilia PSR, St. Cecilia Social Concerns Committee & Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a food drive (non-perishable items, such as canned foods, peanut butter, whole-grain cereals, bagged rice or pasta, or other similar items would be greatly appreciated) beginning now through December 11. The food collected will be delivered to the Helping Hands of Central Missouri Food Pantry located near St. Elizabeth. Food collection boxes are located in the entrances of St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Cecilia Churches. Food donations can also be dropped off during Wednesday night PSR classes at the St. Cecilia Parish Center or St. Thomas the Apostle School. As we approach the winter season, please take this opportunity to help those in need. Thank you!

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 OVER 50 GROUP is having their monthly get together on December 8 at the cabin of Harold and Jeany Libbert @ 150 Hoecker Rd. If you need directions to our cabin, please call me at 573-229 4248 or 644 4499. Please bring a covered dish. We will be eating around noon.

HELPING HANDS in St. Elizabeth is hosting a "Christmas Open House" on Sunday, December 4, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. As always, EVERYONE is invited to shop at our store. Prizes given every hour, plus cookies & punch provided by the St. Elizabeth Community Center Board for this special event. Location 784, Hwy 52, St. Elizabeth, MO

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.

NATIVITY AT THE CAPITOL: Celebrating the Real "Reason for The Season" is Tuesday, December 6, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Singing, music and traditional Christmas carols provided by area schools. In case of inclement weather, alternate date is December 15. Nativity scenes in the Capitol Rotunda and on the South Lawn. For more information, please contact 573-690-1218.

JEFFERSON CITY CANTORUM CONCERT is Saturday, December 10, 7:00 p.m. at the Miller Performing Arts Center, Jefferson City. Tickets \$10-Adults, \$5 Youth (18 & under), \$8-Senior (65&over) \$25-Family (3-5 family members). Tickets will be \$2.00 more at the door. Please purchase tickets prior to the concert: Central Bank West, Hawthorn Bank East, Capital Music, Hawthorn Bank Downtown, or from any Cantorum members. For more information, please call 573-920-0696.

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.

CITY OF ST. THOMAS 1ST ANNUAL PARADE & TREE LIGHTING CELEBRATION is Friday, December 9 as we ring in the holiday season! Festivities will begin with a parade through the streets of St. Thomas. Parade will start at 6:15 p.m. in the school parking lot and will travel down to Park St., National St, up to Walther St. and then down Fowler St. to conclude at City Hall. Immediately following the parade, join us at City Hall for the tree lighting celebration. No need to worry about what's for dinner! Come enjoy Prison Brew's food trailer. They will be onsite before the parade. Bring your holiday cheer and come enjoy hot chocolate and cookies donated by the St. Thomas 4H. If you are entering a float or plan to be in the parade, you must sign up by December 1. Please notify Debby Buschjost at dbuschjost@hotmail.com to register. (See last week's bulletin for the attachment).

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 HOSTS A

KIDS CHRISTMAS EVENT

**SUNDAY
DEC 11**

St. Thomas KC Hall
Come anytime between 2-5

Santa will be there for pictures!
Cookies for a snack
Ornament making, pine cone bird feeders
& gingerbread house decorating

Accepting Coats for Kids
(new and gently used)
and Food for Families

