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 9, 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 Iheckemeyer@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 8-16:

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Joe & Teresa Kaiser Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Martina Goeller Wednesday 7:45 a.m. - L&D John H. Boessen Family Thursday 7:45 a.m - L&D Lawrence & Caroline Herigon Family Friday 7:45 a.m. - Rose Schmidt Saturday 5:00 p.m. – L&D Herb & Henrietta Kroll Family Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Joe & Antonia Schwartz

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2018-2019: \$305,000.00 Offertory Goal through Month End: \$152,502.00 Actual Collection for 2018-2019: \$123,851.02 Offertory Difference Year to Date: -\$ 28,650.98 Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church: December 2

\$6,428.00 December 9 December 16 \$ December 23 \$ December 30 **Collection Online:** \$ 4,742.00 December total to date: \$11,170.00 Difference for December: - \$14,247.00

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): \$14,180.00 Loan payments to date for FY 2018-2019: \$55,366.44 (Interest) \$6,289.66 (Principal) \$40,076.78 Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: \$<u>260,088.45</u>

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantor / Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Kelsey Kliethermes / Annette Kehner Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Amanda Wooten / Annette Kehner

St. Thomas the Apostle Reader

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Alfred Kaiser Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering

St. Thomas the Apostle Altar Servers

Weekday - Jack Libbert & Kenadi Braun Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Chase & Grace Luebbering, Owen Schellman, Lilly Schulte Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Ava & Claire Morris, Will Otto, Dorothy Lackman

St. Cecilia Mass Schedule for the Week of December 8-16:

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Josephine Werdehausen Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Lionel, Arharta, Bonnie & Sandy Libbert Adoration & Confessions before 6:30 p.m. Mass Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - Gus Kelly

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Joe Platt Sunday 8:00 a.m. - People of our Parishes

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2018-2019: \$62,000.00 Collection Total for 2018-2019: \$29,558.22 Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,166.67

Collection in Church:

December 2 \$1,101.12 December 9 \$ December 16 \$ December 23 \$ December 30 \$1,101.12 December total to date: Difference for December: - \$4,065.55

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. - Cathy Borgmeyer Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Betty Hagenhoff Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Don Wansing

St. Cecilia Altar Servers

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – servers needed Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Madalyn Veltrop, Skvla & Jesse 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 December 15-16

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. - Keith Kliethermes, Pat Kaiser,

Marshall Boessen

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Emily Luebbering, Janet Lueckenhoff,

Linda Lueckenhoff

December 22-23

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

Betty Schellman

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

St. Thomas Greeters/Ushers

December 15-16

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Gilbert Schellman & Richard

Schellman

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Eric & Keith Boessen

December 22-23

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

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

St. Thomas Presentation of Gifts at Mass

December 15-16

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

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Corey & Susan Wood Family

December 22-23

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

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

St. Thomas Collection Counters

December 15-16 - Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg

December 22-23 - Keith & Jean Kliethermes

December 29-30 – Jennifer Schroeder & Stephanie

Cortvrient

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. – Marilyn Herigon – Joyful

Sunday 9:40 a.m. - Pat Loethen - Joyful

St. Cecilia Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion December 15-16

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Dorothy Rehagen, Bonnie Kampeter, Lou Kloeppel

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

Janice Schanzmeyer

December 22-23

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Brenda Wansing, Doris Stumpe, Jennifer Even

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

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

December 15-16

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Randy Hagenhoff, Lou Kloeppel,

Mitch & Brendan Stumpe

Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Dominic Plassmeyer, Larry Lueckenotto,

Harold Libbert, Anton Libbert

December 22-23

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Darin Even, Randy Hagenhoff, Lou Kloeppel, Mitch Stumpe

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

Leon Schanzmeyer, Kenny Otto

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. - Florentine Hagenhoff - Glorious Saturday 6:40 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen - Joyful Sunday 7:40 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer – Joyful

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

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.

SNACKS FOR QUILTERS:

Thursday, December 13 – Jan Heckemeyer & Joann Heckman 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

The phrase "words cannot express" is the only way to begin to describe the gratitude we feel to our relatives, neighbors and friends who have done so much for us as we struggle to come to terms with and accept the loss of Steve. Overwhelmed by the outpouring of sympathy and support we extend to you our most heartfelt thanks and ask for your continued prayers. The Family of Steve Suthoff

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. \$7,130.00 (89% of goal) has been received from 38 donors. The CSA goal for St. Cecilia Parish is: \$2,500. \$1,201.00 (48% of goal) has been received from 11 donors

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 & at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 12 at St. Thomas the Apostle.

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.

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.

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

Margie Luebbert, 1899 Highway 63, Westphalia, MO 65085

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

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL & PSR DROP OFF & PICK UP REMINDERS: For the safety of all of our children, please remember to ENTER FROM PARK STREET and EXIT FROM THE CHURCH parking lot onto Highway B. This keeps our children safe and the traffic flowing smoothly.

SCRIP: December 15-16 - Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Karen Luebbering Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Amy Luebbering 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.

<u>ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS</u>:
Wednesday, December 12 – 2nd Grade First Reconciliation 7:30 p.m. Host basketball games

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



6:00 p.m. Sunday, December 9 - St. Cecilia, Meta

7:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 11 - Holy Family, Freeburg

7:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 11 – St. Louis of France, Bonnots Mill

7:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 12 - Our Lady Help of Christians, Frankenstein

7:00 p.m. Thursday, December 13 - Immaculate Conception, Loose Creek

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, December 11 at 7:30 p.m. A rosary will be prayed at 7:15 p.m. Please read the December newsletter attached to the 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., January 15, 2019 to be included on the April 2, 2019 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.)

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.

META OVER 50 CLUB will meet on Thursday, December 13 at noon in the Parish Center. Fried chicken will be furnished, please bring a dish and join us for lunch and fellowship. Please bring non-perishable items and it will be donated to Helping Hands food pantry.

<u>RECOGNIZING OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES</u> 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.

FOOD DRIVE: The St. Thomas / Meta Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a food drive beginning this week through December 16. The food collected will be delivered to the Helping Hands of Central Missouri Food Pantry located near St. Elizabeth in Miller County. Food collection boxes are located in the entrances of St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Cecilia Churches. As we approach the winter season, please take this opportunity to help those in need. Thank you!

OSAGE COUNTY SUICIDE AWARNESS GROUP will meet on December 11 & 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. We will provide light refreshments and a safe place to find confidential support. For more information, please call the Osage County Health Department, 573-897-3103.

ST. CECILIA PARISH CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES BEFORE CHRISTMAS

- 1.) During our November 28th St. Cecilia Parish Pastoral Council meeting, a discussion was held regarding our Advent preparations for the coming of the Child Jesus. How could we as parish reach out to others in need? As a result we contacted the Helping Hands of Central Missouri Food Pantry at St. Elizabeth, MO. They had two families that had just come to them for Christmas holiday assistance. We as a parish can make a difference for seven children ranging in age from 6 to 14. We have their "wish list" for a few items to put under their Christmas tree, but would also like to give them gift cards for clothing. We would appreciate any help you could provide by giving a monetary donation. Please mark your donation "Advent Project" and place it in the collection basket next weekend or contact any of the Parish Council members. May God bless us as we prepare for his coming.
- 2.) The St. Cecilia PSR students, in cooperation with Osage Caring Projects, have adopted a family with <u>three children</u> this Advent season and are asking for your help in fulfilling their wish lists. They appreciate any help you could provide by giving a monetary donation or by picking up these items:

8 year old boy (winter coat, shirts, board games, remote control car)

10 year old girl (coat, socks, long sleeve shirts, friendship bracelet maker, doll)

11 year old boy (long sleeve shirt, pants, socks, remote control car, board games)

Please drop of items at entrance of St. Cecilia Church by December 12th or mark your donation "PSR Advent Project" and place it in the collection basket or contact Joann Schroeder at 229-8986.

ST. CECILIA PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES:

The St. Cecilia Parish Pastoral Council held a meeting on November 28, 2018 in the parish rectory. Those in attendance were: Fr. Secrist, Mitch Stumpe, Don Wansing, Emilie Borgmeyer, Mary Plassmeyer, Betty Hagenhoff and Dorothy Rehagen. The meeting opened at 7:17 p.m, with a prayer led by Fr. Secrist.

Minutes from the September 19, 2018 meeting were distributed.

Prayer Line: Betty reported that a prayer line meeting was held at Florentine Hagenhoff's home to discuss updating and reactivating the line and its present standing. Florentine will continue to be the land-line contact for people needing prayers and Cathy Borgmeyer will continue to be the e-mail communications contact person for funeral, food/prayers. A message in the bulletin will be issued in an effort to get more people in the chain.

Parish Center Bathrooms: Father contacted Verslues Construction Company regarding questions about the air conditioning of the restrooms. Verslues informed Father that an additional \$5,000 would be needed to provide the A/C unit. Discussion followed and it was decided that an exhaust fan would take the place of the A/C unit in the bathrooms. The current radiators would just need to be rearranged and could still be used for heat.

Church ground trees: Mitch said he contacted Harold Libbert and he agreed, when weather permitted, to cut the trees and clean up the area between the church and parish center. Discussion followed and input was given per questions that were asked of several parishioners as to what to put in the place after the trees were down. Some suggestions from them and parish council members were given: Stations of the Cross, a prayer garden, grotto, stepping stones rosary. Prices and tree types information was also discussed per information gathered by: Mary, Emilie and Betty. Father will contact Boessen Underground to provide us with a map of where the wells are located that serve the heating and cooling of the church. It was decided to wait at least until spring and see what the lot looks like after the trees are gone.

Advent Project: Father asked about the possibility of our parish doing something for Advent. He asked what the Council thought about helping people who are truly in need this time of year. Mary and Betty will explore some possibilities and Father will address this issue in church soon.

Parish Interaction: Father asked about are parishioners lack of doing their jobs as assigned at church and maybe we need to reevaluate more people getting involved in Mass participation. He will address this issue during Mass and hand out the Time and Talent sheets in the following weeks. This will allow people to think about how they can better our parish.

FORMED Program: FORMED Program is an on-line video/library designed as a way to better our faith in every aspect of life. Father said that both St. Thomas and Meta could have this opportunity to explore this new program. The subscription cost could be split by the two parishes. Father will see about getting it started.

Church Bulletin Changes: Mass intentions section of the weekly bulletin might be revised slightly for clarification as to when such Masses are being said because of some recent complaints about the dates.

Christmas Masses: Christmas morning Mass times were discussed because some people were concerned about why we weren't having a morning Mass at 8:00 a.m. Low attendance at prior Christmas morning masses was cited as the reason.

New Year's Mass: New Year's Eve Mass time will be: 6:00p.m. at St. Thomas and New Year's day Mass will be at 9:00 a.m. at Meta.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2019 at 7:15 pm. at the Parish Center.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. with a prayer.

Submitted by Dorothy Rehagen

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH MISSION:

In order to kick off the Sesquicentennial Year, a parish mission will be offered by Msgr. Bartholomew Smith from Silver Spring, MD **January 12-15, 2019**. More details will be in next week's bulletin.

<u>POSSIBLE PARISH TRIP TO CONCEPTION ABBEY</u>: 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!