

**The Roman Catholic Parishes of**  
**St. Thomas the Apostle**  
in St. Thomas

**St. Cecilia**  
in Meta

[www.stthomasapostle.net](http://www.stthomasapostle.net)  
[www.stthomasapostleschool.net](http://www.stthomasapostleschool.net)

[www.stceciliameta.net](http://www.stceciliameta.net)

PO Box 146  
St. Thomas, MO 65076

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**DECEMBER 20, 2020**

**Administrator: Fr. Leonard Mukiibi**  
[frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com](mailto:frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com)  
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315

**St. Thomas the Apostle Bookkeeper:**  
**Mrs. Jan Heckemeyer**  
[jheckemeyerooffice@gmail.com](mailto:jheckemeyerooffice@gmail.com)

**St. Thomas the Apostle Admin. Secretary:**  
**Mrs. Jenny Becker**  
[jbeckeroffice@gmail.com](mailto:jbeckeroffice@gmail.com)



**School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer**  
[lheckemeyer@stacs.school](mailto:lheckemeyer@stacs.school)  
School: 573-477-3322 Fax: 573-477-3700

**St. Thomas the Apostle Secretary:**  
**Mrs. Diane Lueckenhoff**  
[dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com](mailto:dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com)

**St. Cecilia Bookkeeper:**  
**Mrs. Doris Stumpe**  
[dstumpeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:dstumpeoffice@gmail.com)

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 20-27:**

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Gerry Luebbering  
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Jim Reinkemeyer  
**Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m.** – August, Leona & Donald Loethen  
**Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m.** – Philip & Alma Boessen  
**Christmas Day 10:00 a.m.** – People of our Parishes  
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Harry & Norma Lueckenhoff Family

**Your Sunday Offering:**

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021: \$305,000.00  
Offertory Goal through Month End: \$152,502.00  
Actual Collection for 2020-2021: **\$123,577.00**  
Offertory Difference Year to Date: – \$ 28,925.00  
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

**Collection in Church:**

December 6 \$ 5,265.00  
December 13 \$ 2,420.00  
December 20 \$  
December 27 \$

**Collection Online:** \$ 5,117.00

**December total to date: \$12,802.00**

Difference for December: -\$12,615.00

**St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund**

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

Income from parishioners for FY 2020-2021

(via the yellow "Building Fund" envelope): **\$12,769.00**

**Cantor/Organist**

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

**Christmas Eve 10:00 p.m.**– Jean Kliethermes / Jackie Prenger

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

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jean Kliethermes / Jackie Prenger

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.** – Larry Lueckenhoff

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jim Lueckenhoff

**Saint Cecilia**

**Mass Schedule for the Week of December 20-27:**

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. –Hubert Brune  
**Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m.** – Larry Stumpe  
**Christmas Day 8:00 a.m.** – Lawrence "Dick" Rehagen  
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Lawrence & Scott Otto

**Your Sunday Offering:**

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021: \$62,000.00  
Collection Total for 2020-2021: **\$24,408.33**  
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,166.67

**Collection in Church:**

December 6 \$ 1,016.00  
December 13 \$ 1,575.00  
December 20 \$  
December 27 \$

**December total to date: \$ 2,591.00**

Difference for December: -\$ 2,575.67

**COLLECTION COUNTERS:**

December: Pam Libbert & Marie Lueckenotto

January: Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

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

**St. Cecilia Reader:**

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Doris Stumpe

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

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

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen

**Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia**

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. - Margaret Brune –Glorious Mysteries

Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen – Joyful Mysteries

**St. Cecilia Ushers**

**Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m.** – Mitch Stumpe & Darin Even

**Christmas Day 8:00 a.m.**–Larry Lueckenotto & Anton Libbert

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Tony Derkum & Leon Schanzmeyer

### **St. Thomas the Apostle Ushers**

**Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m.** – Doug Stockman & Gilbert Schellman

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

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

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Joe & Jonathon Buschjost

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Michael Wooten & Ryan Buschjost

### **Mass live streamers**

December 20 – Jennifer Schroeder

Christmas Mass 10:00 Mass – Jennifer Schroeder

December 27 – Karlie Reinkemeyer

January 3 – Dunja Wieberg

January 10 – Brooke Schell

**If anyone is interested in helping livestream the 10:00 a.m. Mass, please contact Barbara Graessle at 573-680-2954.**

### **Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle**

Tuesday, 7:20 a.m. – Joann Heckman – Sorrowful Mysteries

Wednesday 7:20 a.m. – Pat Loethen – Glorious Mysteries

Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Dale Herigon – Joyful Mysteries

Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Pat Loethen – Joyful Mysteries

**SCRIP:** Visit [www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip](http://www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip) for more information about the Scrip program. Please contact Daffiny Tallent at 573-694-4408 to purchase anytime. A large variety of cards in various denominations are in stock and available for purchase. We have new scrip that is now available to purchase: Culver's, Madison's Café, Oscar's Diner, Sonic.

**Please remember to purchase Scrip Cards for your holiday shopping gift giving needs!**

### **SNACKS FOR QUILTERS:**

Anyone entering the St. Thomas Parish School building must wear a mask at all times, except when quilting. Must be fever free or no temperature of 100 or higher. Please take your temperature at home.

**Tuesday, December 22** – Lauren Buechter & Cindy Buschjost **Tuesday, December 29** – Debby Buschjost & Marian Buschjost  
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.

**BULLETIN NOTICES: Deadline for bulletin notices this week, is 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, December 23.**

**A NOTE OF THANKS! ADOPT A FAMILY: THANK YOU SO MUCH** for all your generosity for the five families St. Thomas adopted this year for Christmas. What a blessing to have a community that gives so much! The gifts were delivered, along with a wonderful food basket, and a blessing at each home by Fr. Leonard. Thank you again for your gifts, cash donations, and prayers.

**ST. CECILIA SATURDAY EVENING MASSES:** The 7:00 p.m. Saturday evening Masses at St. Cecilia have been suspended until further notice.

**BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION:** For the sons and daughters of the Church: that we may be the light of God's love for the world by our sacrificial gifts for those in need, especially the children of our world.

### **UPDATED DECREE FROM BISHOP MCKNIGHT:**

Whereas the case numbers of COVID-19 infections remain at their highest levels for many counties of Mid-Missouri; and  
Whereas the common good demands that the public health requirements and recommendations of the state are to be observed whenever possible; and

Whereas the Presbyteral Council has provided their advice with regard to the ongoing reality of the pandemic; and

Whereas the current DECREE governing pastoral activities during the pandemic expires on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020; I therefore declare, as the diocesan bishop, the following:

1. **All dispensations, obligations and guidance of the previous DECREE of 21 August 2020**, originally effective until 27 November 2020, shall now be extended until further notice.
2. All the faithful of the Diocese of Jefferson City, and those who are present in the territory of the diocese, are therefore dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass in person on Sundays and holy days of obligation until further notice, provided that for days of precept they do one of the following:
  - o Prayerfully participate in the Sunday or holy day of obligation Mass live streamed from their parish church or chapel, the Cathedral, the Vatican, or of any Mass of the day celebrated in communion with the Roman Catholic Church.
  - o Prayerfully read and meditate on the readings of the Mass for the Sunday or holy day of obligation, and recite the rosary or Divine Mercy chaplet.
  - o The faithful still have the obligation to keep the Lord's Day holy and "to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, the performance of the works of mercy, and the appropriate relaxation of mind and body" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2185)
3. Parishes are highly encouraged to live stream Masses for Sundays and holy days of obligation to maintain a pastoral connection with their parishioners during and after the pandemic.
4. Celebrations of penance services, as well as other seasonal services that entail extra gatherings of the faithful apart from Mass, are to be avoided. Instead, parish priests are asked to make themselves more available, even on a daily basis during the last week of Advent, to hear the confessions of the faithful.
5. Whenever possible, the faithful should present themselves to their parish priest for the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick before they depart for the hospital. Because of pandemic protocols at hospitals throughout the diocese, priests may not have access to patients at the hospital.
6. The vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord [Christmas] on 24 December 2020 may be celebrated as early as 3 pm to accommodate an ample Mass schedule for social distancing requirements. Whenever possible, every active priest of the diocese shall celebrate a vigil Mass of Christmas at 3 pm with the faithful so as to minimize large numbers congregating at the most popular Mass of the season. The allowance for a 3 pm vigil Mass of Christmas is only for this year and not to be presumed for the future.

**This decree is effective from 28 November 2020 and until further notice, anything to the contrary notwithstanding. Most Rev. W. Shawn McKnight, Bishop of Jefferson City**

**DIOCESAN CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL:** Thank you to all who have made a gift or pledge. If you have not done so, please know that we benefit greatly by the services and support provided through diocesan ministries. We appreciate any gift you are able to make.

The CSA goal for St. Cecilia Parish is \$2,500, **\$1,645.00** received so far

The CSA goal for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is \$10,000, **\$7,990.00** received so far

**2020 CHRISTMAS/SEMINARY ASSESSMENT:** Our assessment for Seminarian Formation and Priest Retirement is \$793.00 for St. Cecilia and \$4,212.00 for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. Please support the formation and education of our Diocese's future priests.

**PASTOR'S MEDITATION: 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B: ANNUNCIATION OF GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION**

(2 Sam.7:1-5, 8-11, 16; Rom.16:25-27; Lk.1:26-38) Today's readings focus on the circumstances leading up to the first coming of Jesus, the event which sets the pattern for his coming to us now and at the end of time. The Gospel stresses the key role of Mary in the work of our salvation. In addition, today's Scripture texts describe God's promise to David and its fulfillment in Jesus, the Son of David. They also tell us that God's preparation for the coming of Jesus was full of surprises.

The unfolding of God's plan of salvation through history has contained many surprises. The first reading surprises us by telling of God's promise to David that he would have a long line of royal descendants culminating in a final King, Jesus Christ. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 89), recalls all of God's promises and surprises us, describing God's promise to David and his descendants in terms of a Covenant. The second reading surprises us with Paul's explanation of the unveiling of God's plan for human salvation through Jesus. In today's Gospel, the Angel Gabriel surprises Mary with seven announcements. i) Even as a virgin betrothed to Joseph, she will become a mother. ii) She will become a mother through "*the Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the Power of the Most High will overshadow you.*" iii) The angel continues, "Therefore, the Child to be born will be called Holy, the Son of God." iv) She is to "*name the child Jesus,*" which means Savior. v) God will make Him a King and, as a descendant in the line of David, vi) "*He will rule over the House of Jacob forever, and of His Kingdom there will be no end.*" vii) As a Divine sign, Elizabeth, Mary's aged barren cousin is six months pregnant, "*for nothing shall be impossible with God!*" The narrative also surprises us by reminding us that God's promise is best fulfilled not in buildings, or even in great kings like Solomon, but rather in humble souls like Mary who trusted in God's promise.

Therefore friends we need to say a courageous and generous "yes" to God: True obedience comes from a free choice made in the light of what is true and good. Such a self-surrender often requires a great deal of courage because it can involve going against the tide of social expectations. True obedience also aims at putting oneself at the service of something/Someone that is greater than oneself, accepting what God clearly wants us to do or what He wants to do through us. It is by saying, **with** Jesus and Mary, a wholehearted and totally unconditional "*Yes*" "*Fiat! May it be done in me,*" to Jesus that he will be re-born in each of us, or maybe even born in me for the first time. By my saying "Yes," Jesus will be born or re-born in others, too.

2) We need to try to learn God's plan for our lives: The Good News in today's Scripture message is not only that God is making provision for the salvation of His people, but also that He has a plan for each individual person. In many cases, our work for God seems rather ordinary, but each ordinary task which we carry out fits into God's plan in ways that we cannot yet understand. **God desires not only the skill of our hands and talents but the love of our hearts.** The Babe in the Manger reminds us of what God has done and is still doing for us. What are we doing for Him in return? Let us show our gratitude to God by living as true followers of Christ. **MERRY CHRISTMAS! Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi**

**CONFIRMATION CLASS:** In December, classes will be held at St. Thomas Knights of Columbus hall. Classes will NOT be held December 23 and December 30. In January, Confirmation classes will be held in St. Cecilia parish center.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:**

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

December 24, 5:00 p.m.

December 24, 10:00 p.m.

December 25, 10:00 a.m.

**St. Cecilia**

December 24, 7:00 p.m.

December 25, 8:00 a.m.

**MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE:**

**St. Cecilia**

January 1, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

December 31, 7:00 p.m.

**DECORATING THE CHURCHES FOR CHRISTMAS ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20:** St. Cecilia Church will begin following the 8:00 a.m. Mass and St. Thomas the Apostle following the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

**PRAYER HOUR WITH MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP** at St. Thomas the Apostle Church will not be held until further notice.

**ST. CECILIA HOLY HOUR** is cancelled on Friday, December 25.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS:**

December 22 –Early Release 12:50 car riders, 1:00 p.m. bus riders

December 23-January 3- Christmas Vacation

**ATTENTION ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE QUILT GROUPS:** We are working on the quilts for the 2021 picnic. If you have a quilt top along with lining ready, please let us know. The quilt top needs to be marked for quilting. If you have any questions, please call Emily Luebbering at 573-477-3459 or Kathy Strobe at 573-477-3349. Batting is available for \$10.00. Additional quilt lists are available in the entrances of St. Thomas the Apostle Church or on our web page.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE VIRTUAL WINTER FANTASY:** The Virtual Winter Fantasy will include a raffle for \$11,000 in cash prizes, door prizes and a silent auction. More information is available at <https://spark.adobe.com/page/6EqhJ4qePwjOg/>. Purchase your tickets after Mass this weekend, at Speedy B's, or by contacting Kim Kliegel at 573 619 9188. There is no limit to the number of tickets you purchase which make great Holiday gifts! Please support your parish by purchasing your tickets before December 31 and be entered in the early bird drawing for \$100.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE VIRTUAL WINTER FANTASY SILENT AUCTION ITEMS:** The 2021 Virtual Winter Fantasy needs St. Thomas parishioners and local businesses to donate items for the silent auction. The planning committee is asking each individual/family to make a donation. The donations can be individual items or services or baskets. There is a list of ideas along with additional details on the Winter Fantasy website, found at <https://spark.adobe.com/page/6EqhJ4qePwjOg/>.

**THE STANISLAUS LEGION OF MARY** is sponsoring a prayer service including Rosary, Novena, Chaplet of Divine Mercy and songs on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday nights of each month. The intention is the end of the Coronavirus. Service begins at 7 p.m. and will be held in St. Stanislaus Church, Wardsville. If you can't stay for the whole time (approximately one hour), please come and join us for whatever time you are available! Thank you!

**ST. THOMAS CHURCH CLEANING TEAM ROTATION FOR UPCOMING WEEKS:**

Week of December 20<sup>th</sup>: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter

Week of December 27<sup>th</sup>: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman

Week of January 3<sup>rd</sup>: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Jackie Prenger, Amy Buechter

Week of January 10<sup>th</sup>: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost

*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.*

**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 19, 2021 to be included on the April 6, 2021 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.)

**ST. THOMAS CITY COUNCIL:** If you are interested in running for a two-year term City 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 January 19, 2021.

**META FIRE & RESCUE FPD BOARD:** Is seeking candidates interested in serving on the Board of Directors to fill 2 positions, each one for a term of six years. Candidates must be a registered voter for at least one year, and must file by 5 p.m. on January 19, 2021 to be on the April 6, 2021 election ballot. PLEASE contact Board Secretary, Allen Wansing, at 573-690-8442 if interested.

**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](mailto:director@stnick.org)

**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 on phishing scams and email security, or The FBI website address to file an online Internet crime complaint is <https://www.ic3.gov>.

**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, StoneBridge Westphalia, 1899 Highway 63, Westphalia, MO 65085-2215

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

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

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

Jackie Luebbering, 1899 Highway 63, Westphalia, MO 65085

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

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

**BENEFIT:** Tina Bischoff Family Benefit- Tina adopted her nephew Coty when he lost both of his parents back in 2010-2011. In 2015, her son Josh was diagnosed with aplastic anemia. This year 2020, Josh had to have a bone marrow transplant. Tina's other son, John, was a match. In August this year, Coty passed away from an UTV accident and John had surgery to be the donor for his brother. In September, 2020, Josh had his transplant in St. Louis. Tina and Josh will have to stay in St. Louis until January, 2021 so the hospital can monitor his progress. We are asking the community to please join "WE GOT THIS BISCH" by providing any donations (items and/or cash) to be auctioned or to go towards a meal during the benefit which will be held **January 30, 2021** at the St. Thomas Parish Hall. Your donations will assist in raising funds to help a wonderful family with their travel, lodging, medical and funeral expenses. Call or text Loree Libbert at (573) 619-7359 or email her at [Loree.Libbert@gmail.com](mailto:Loree.Libbert@gmail.com) if you would like to donate. More information will be forthcoming regarding the meal and live/silent auctions. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**FATIMA FCCLA MEMBERS** have recorded themselves reading children's books and compiled the readings at this link <https://flipgrid.com/libbert2864>. The link is available for anyone to listen to the stories at their convenience.

**PRAYER TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY FOR PROTECTION FROM THE CORONAVIRUS**

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, we entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross, you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

Patroness of the Diocese of Jefferson City, you know what we need.

We are certain of the power of your intercession, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who taught us to "love one another, as I have loved you" took our sufferings upon Himself and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

Bring under your mantle of protection all who provide care for the sick and minister to their needs, as your Son implores us to do for one another.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen