The Roman Catholic Parishes of St. Thomas the Apostle

in St. Thomas

St. Cecilia in Meta

www.stthomasapostle.net www.stthomasapostleschool.net

PO Box 146 St. Thomas, MO 65076

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

February 25, 2024

Pastor: 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. Theresa Veit tveitoffice@gmail.com



School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer Iheckemeyer@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
<u>Confessions</u>: 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 <u>Mass Schedule for the Week of Feb. 25-March 3:</u> Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Herb & Imogene Volmert Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Gerald Luebbering Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Joe, Antonia & Richard Schwartz *Stations of the Cross immediately following Mass* Friday 7:45 a.m. – L&D Anthony & Ida Schellman Family **Friday 6:30 p.m. – Stations of the Cross** Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes Slim & Helen Strope Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Keith Luebbering

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024:	\$312,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month Er	nd: \$208,000.00
Actual Collection for 2023-2024:	\$224,450.92
Offertory Difference Year to Date	e: +\$ 16,450.92
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 26,000.00
Collection in Church:	
February 4	\$ 8,426.04
February 11	\$ 3,716.17
February 18	\$ 2,466.30
February 25	\$
Collection Online:	\$ 7,813.00
February total to date:	\$22,421.51
Difference for February:	-\$ 3,578.49

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations	\$491,247.89	
Total Collected	\$520,673.32	
Total Expenses Paid	\$699,195.95	
A total of 131 parishioners have returned pledge cards/or		
Contributed to the renovation p	roject.	
Church Renovation Loan Balar	se \$55,396.74	
Loan payments to date \$156,7	30.00	
(principal) \$144,603.26	(interest) \$12,126.74	

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists

March 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m.– Jean Kliethermes / Jeanette March 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering / Jackie March 9 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Judy Schroeder / Jeanette March 10 Sunday 10:00 a.m. –Mary Kay Brand / Alanna

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers

March 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten March 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Larry Lueckenhoff March 9 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kara Holterman March 10 10:00 a.m. – Jim Lueckenhoff Saint Cecilia Mass Schedule for the Week of Feb. 25-March 3:

6:00 p.m. – Stations of the Cross before Wednesday Mass Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Tom Kleffner

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Jason Hake

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024:	\$67,000.00
Collection Total for 2023-2024:	\$46,382.00
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 5,583.34

Collection in Church:

February 4	\$ 2,226.00
February 11	\$ 889.00
February 18	\$ 468.00
February 25	\$
February total to date:	\$ 3,583.00
Difference for February:	-\$2,000.34

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

March: Terry & Pam Libbert

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.

St. Cecilia Readers

Sunday, March 3 8:00 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen Sunday, March 10 8:00 a.m. – Karyn Veltrop

St. Cecilia Organist

Sunday, March 3 8:00 a.m. –Lydia Sunday. March 10 8:00 a.m. – Emilie

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

www.stceciliameta.net

St. Thomas the Apostle Greeters/Ushers Mar. 2 Saturday 5:00 pm. – Al Carter & Eric Boessen Mar. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Josh Schroeder & Kelly Stewart Mar. 9 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Glenn Reynolds & Gilbert Schellman Mar. 10 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Adam Holterman & Mark Boessen 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

Mar. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Barb Graessle Mar. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Richard Heckemeyer Mar. 9 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Paul Becker Mar. 10 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Keith Kliethermes

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers

Weekday servers: Brody Buschjost & Gannon Reeves Mar. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Emerald Fennewald, Jude Luebbering, Ellie & Sadie Boessen Mar. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Valerie, Zeke & Max Verslues, Angelina Veltrop Mar. 9 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Evelyn Wooten, Ava Buschjost, Carmen Luebbering, Gregory Kirby Mar. 10 10:00 a.m. – Will & Victoria Wieberg, Aliyah Buechter, Cadyn Libbert

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts

Saturday, March 2 – Family of Slim & Helen Strope Sunday, March 3 –Family of Keith Luebbering

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters

March 3 - Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman March 10 – Ron & Theresa Veit March 17 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes March 24– Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg March 31 – Ron & Theresa Veit April 7 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday, 7:25 a.m. – Shirley Volmert – Sorrowful Mysteries Wednesday 7:25 a.m. –Bob Schellman – Sorrowful Mysteries Thursday 7:25 a.m. – Dale Herigon – Sorrowful Mysteries Friday 7:25 a.m. – Jim Lueckenhoff – Sorrowful Mysteries Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Barb Graessle – Sorrowful Mysteries Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Tina Stockman– Sorrowful Mysteries

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

March 3	Jenny Becker
March 10	Brooke Schell
March 17	Dunja Wieberg
March 24	Lauri Luebbering

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners

February 25: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman

March 3 Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Brenda Schell, Barb Graessle

March 10: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering

March 17: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer

March 24: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost

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 snacks to the hall by 1:00 p.m.; snacks 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. **Thursday, Feb. 29** – Joyce Luebbering & Donna Luebbering **Thursday, March 7** – Dee Luebbering & Julia Luebbering

SCRIP: Visit *www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip* for more information about the Scrip program. Please contact, Amanda Wooten 573-694-1735 or *amandab* 27@hotmail.com

<u>BULLETIN NOTICES & PARISH BULLETINS</u>: Deadline for bulletin is Wednesday at Noon. If you are needing a bulletin and Church is locked at St. Thomas the Apostle, there are some on the Vitae House front porch.

A NOTE OF THANKS!

Harold's passing has left a big hole in our hearts but with our Church family's support, we will persevere. Thank you for everything from visitation, funeral Mass, singing, food donations to the hall and to the house, enrollments and Masses. Thank you to all who stopped to visit him at home in the past several months when he couldn't go anywhere. Father Leonard and Deacon Schwartz, you did a fantastic job in giving Harold a blessed send off. *Harold Libbert family.*

<u>BISHOP MCKNIGHT FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTION</u>: For the depressed and those suffering from mental illness; may the active compassion of the Church bring healing and consolation to those who are tempted to despair, we pray to the Lord.

BREAKING THE SILENCE OF ABUSE: As a Diocese, we are committed to breaking the silence of abuse. When someone is reporting abuse, we must acknowledge their pain and how difficult it is to talk about it. False allegations are very rare. Our initial response to someone who is disclosing abuse for the first time must be compassionate. For those who need to report abuse, encourage them to contact our Victims Assistance Coordinator, Jacqueline Baldwin, (573-694-3199) and to make use of the appropriate State of Missouri hotline (1-800-392-3738) or the Attorney General's clergy abuse online form. All of this information is also on our website, under the 'report abuse' tab. For those who want information or want to convey a message to Bishop McKnight, please encourage them to write to us at *reportabuse@diojeffcity.org*.

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers

March 3 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Jennifer Even March 10 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Doris Stumpe

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

March 3 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Randy Hagenhoff, Kenny Otto, Otto Wankum, Leonard Schulte March 10 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Tony & William Derkum, Terry Libbert, Leon Schanzmeyer

St. Cecilia Servers

March 3 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Sarah & Elizabeth Backes, Annaline Schroeder March 10 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Bradyn, Kambrie & Matthew Stegeman

<u>St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts</u> March 3 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Family of Jason Hake

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

March 3 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer Sorrowful Mysteries March 10 Sunday 7:35 a.m. –Janice Schanzmeyer Sorrowful Mysteries

VOTIVE CANDLES: The requested donation for lighting a votive candle in church is **\$3.00**.

MASS STIPENDS: \$10.00

<u>BAPTISM PREPARATION</u>: Please call the rectory to schedule a meeting and date for Baptism.

<u>MARRIAGE PREPARATION</u>: Please call the rectory *at least* six months prior to the desired date.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 2nd **SUNDAY of LENT (B). LISTEN TO HIM. (Gen. 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom. 8:31b-34; Mk. 9:2-10)** The readings today challenge us to transform our weak spiritual life into a dynamic Christian life during Lent by cooperating with the grace of God and the strengthening of the Holy Spirit through prayer, fasting, and sharing our blessings with those in need. We should then expect a renewal of our spiritual life during Lent, as our Spirit-filled lives begin radiating Christ's love and mercy around us. The first reading explains how Abraham's obedience and faith were transformed to blind obedience and trusting faith in his God, when Yahweh saved Isaac from being sacrificed on Mount Moriah, making Abraham the Father of Faith. In the second reading, St. Paul speaks about the Mount Calvary transfiguration of Jesus, the only begotten Son of God when instead of saving him from death as He spared Isaac, God the Father permitted Jesus to die a shameful death by crucifixion, suffering horrible pain and humiliation. In other words, God showed His love for us by allowing the transformation of the glorious preaching and healing ministry of His Son to a tragic end, proving that God's love has no limits.

Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 116) speaks of God's distress at the death of anyone. "Too costly in the eyes of the LORD is the death of His faithful." The Transfiguration story in today's Gospel, Jesus is revealed in His Heavenly glory, superior to the death of His faithful." Moses and Elijah on the Mountain of Tabor. The primary purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was to allow him to consult his Heavenly Father and ascertain His plan for His Son's suffering, death, and Resurrection. God's secondary aim was to make Jesus' chosen disciples aware of Jesus' Divine glory, so that they might discard their worldly ambitions and dreams of a conquering political Messiah and might be strengthened in their time of trial. A third aim was to give Jesus the conviction that he will continue to be the Son of God, his loving Father, even during his suffering and death. Finally, by describing the Transfiguration, the Gospel gives us a glimpse of the Heavenly glory awaiting those who do God's will by putting their trusting Faith in Him. So, friends, every sacrament we receive transforms our lives: Baptism, for example, transforms us into children of God and heirs of heaven while Confirmation transforms us into brave witnesses of and warriors for Christ and Reconciliation transforms sinners into saints. The "transfiguration" in the Holy Mass is the Source of our strength: In each Holy Mass, the bread and wine we offer on the altar are transformed into the crucified and risen, living body and blood of Jesus by transubstantiation. Just as Jesus' transfiguration strengthened the apostles in their time of trial, each holy Mass should be our Source of Heavenly strength against temptations, and our renewal during Lent. Our Holy Communion with the living Jesus should be the Source of our daily "transfiguration," transforming our minds and hearts so that we may do more good by humble and selfless service to others. Christ's Transfiguration gives us the message of encouragement and hope: In moments of doubt and during our dark moments of despair and hopelessness, pain and suffering, the thought of our future transformation in Heaven will help us to reach out to God and to listen to His consoling words: "This is my beloved son." Let us offer our Lenten sacrifices to our Lord so that, through these practices of Lent and through the acceptance of our daily crosses, we may grow closer to Jesus in his suffering, may share in the carrying of his cross, and finally may share the glory of his second "transfiguration," namely, his Resurrection. Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi

SYNOD (DIOCESAN PLANNING PROCESS): All are invited to participate in a special session for the Synod on Synodality and Shaping Our Future Together (our diocesan planning process). This 45-minute special session will focus on your experiences with the structures of our parishes and local Church. The session will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 27, 6:15-7 pm, at five locations in the diocese and via Zoom. For locations, to RSVP and for more information, please visit *diojeffcity.org/27FebruaryRSVP*

<u>ST. CECILIA PARISH GIVING STATEMENTS</u> St. Cecilia Parish Giving Statements will be available in the back of the Church in an envelope. If you need your copy mailed, please contact Doris Stumpe at 619-6125 or email at *dstumpeoffice@gmail.com*.

<u>ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE 2023 YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS</u>: Thank you for your generosity this past year. To receive your 2023 contribution statement, you may complete the statement request form on the St. Thomas the Apostle Church website or call the parish office at 573-477-3315 during parish office hours. The form can be found online at www.stthomasapostle.net/contribution-statement or by clicking the Contribution Statement tab at the top of the home page.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE HOLY HOUR & ANOINTING OF THE SICK is Friday, March 1, 7:15 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION is Tuesday, February 27, 6:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH HAM BREAKFAST NOTES: The parish breakfast is Sunday, March 10. Country Store workers and parish volunteers will be baking homemade pies at the hall, beginning at 7:00 a.m. Saturday morning. Anyone who could help with baking pies on Saturday morning, please contact Roseanne Boessen at (573) 477-0168. **Any help would be greatly appreciated!** Gooseberries and blackberries are needed for pies if anyone has any to donate. Additionally, please consider baking cinnamon rolls, sweet breads, and other homemade goodies at home, and drop off at the Country Store area on Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning. Thank you for your support and donations!

PARKING: Reminder to parishioners that parking is available at the Knights of Columbus Hall, with shuttle service available between the Knights Hall and Church parking lot. This service is convenient for workers, while leaving adequate reserve parking for our guests.

WORKLIST: The worklist is attached to the bulletin and may be found on the parish website.

In accordance with the new Catholic Stewardship Renewal guidelines, **there is no envelope for breakfast meat donations** in the monthly envelope packet. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the meat for the breakfast, please place your donation in the collection basket in an envelope labeled, **"St. Thomas Breakfast Meat Donation."**

ST THOMAS CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE: If you have not had your photo taken for the parish directory, **Wednesday**, **February 28** is the last day of available time slots. Please go to *www.stthomasapostle.net* to find "Universal Church Directories" or Universal's website, *www.ucdir.com*, click on the box to the right that says "photography appointment scheduling login", enter <u>mo253</u> in the Church Code field and enter <u>photos</u> in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. Please make sure to include your email so you will get a reminder closer to the picture date. **Each** family in the directory will receive a free 8X10 photo and a complimentary copy of the directory. This is also an opportunity to purchase additional family photos, without the sitting fee. Contact Melissa Verslues 338-3433 or Theresa Veit 418-7301, if you have any questions on signing up. Thank you for your participation for a successful parish directory!

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS:

Thursday, February 29 – Early Release 12:50 p.m. car riders, 1:00 p.m. bus riders Friday, March 1 – Diocesan Science Fair Thursday, March 7 – End of 3rd Quarter Friday, March 8 – No School Prek-8, Diocesan Professional Day

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED: St. Thomas Home and School is hosting an online auction benefitting the school. If you would like to donate a basket or items to the auction, please contact Jessica Braun (573) 301-8163 or Amanda Wooten (573) 694-1735. All donations need to be collected by March 1. **St Thomas the Apostle School Silent Auction:** This event will take place on March 13-16 on Bidding Owl. Bidding starts at 8:00 a.m. on the 13th and closes at 3:00 p.m. on the 16th. The link to the auction will be posted on the school website under upcoming events and on the parish Facebook page.

ST. THOMAS CEMETERY DUES: Dues are \$10.00 per family and \$5.00 per year for single persons. Also, anyone after their 21st birthday must pay their own dues of \$5.00. Members who are 80+ years old and who have been members for at least 15 years will be exempt from paying dues. Please note: Anyone falling in areas over 5 years must pay \$100.00 to rejoin plus current dues. Please put payment in the collection basket at St. Thomas the Apostle Church or St. Cecilia Church marked "St. Thomas Cemetery Dues or mail to St. Thomas Cemetery Association, c/o Lisa Lackman, 2222 Upper Bottom Rd, St. Thomas, MO 65076. You may contact Lisa if you have any questions about your current or past dues at 573-338-2703.

ST. CECILIA CEMETERY NEWS: The annual meeting of the St Cecilia Cemetery Association will be held in the basement of the parish center on Monday, March 11 at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss current business and elect one new committee member to replace Karyn Veltrop whose term as Treasurer will expire in March. If you are interested in serving on the committee or have any other questions, please contact Dominic Plassmeyer, President.

The St Cecilia Cemetery Association is also taking bids for grass cutting/grounds maintenance for 2024. Anyone interested in submitting a bid should do so in writing at the annual Association meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Dominic Plassmeyer.

FATIMA HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB PLAY: Please join us for our presentation of two 1-Act comedies, "Gossip" by Brian Hampton and "Alienated" by Ken Preuss. Shows will be Friday, March 8, at 6:00 for our regular performance, and Saturday, March 9, for our first ever dinner theater! Our FACS students will be serving lasagna or white chicken lasagna, salad, dinner rolls, and cheesecake at 5:15, with the show starting at 6:00. If you are interested in the dinner, please email Levi Maxwell at MaxwellL@fatimacomets.org by March 4th to reserve your spot. All tickets can be paid for at the door. Show only is \$5; dinner theater is \$15 (includes dinner and the show). Please come out and support our local students and enjoy a fun evening of entertainment!

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (BABBTOWN)) CHILI SUPPER is Sunday, February 25, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. chili, chili dogs, chicken noodle soup, hot dogs & dessert. Dine in or carry out. For more information, please call 573-229-8829.

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ST. ANTHONY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, ST. ANTHONY is Friday, March 8, serving fried fish, fried potatoes, baked beans, hush puppies, cole slaw and applesauce from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Adults \$12.00, children 6-12 \$6.00, carry outs available.

<u>SAVE THE DATES:</u> St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Fish Fry – February 23 – St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Pictorial Directory – <u>February 28 & 29.</u> St. Thomas the Apostle Parish – Ham & Sausage Breakfast – Sunday, March 10, 2024

TOTUS TUUS - JUNE 23 - 28 - Due to the rising cost of Totus Tuus, we have decided to join with St. Stanislaus and St Francis Xavier this year. Totus Tuus will be held at St. Stanislaus the week of June 23- 28. We will have sign-ups available in the next few weeks both online and paper. Thank you for your continued support and participation in this summer program.

