

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

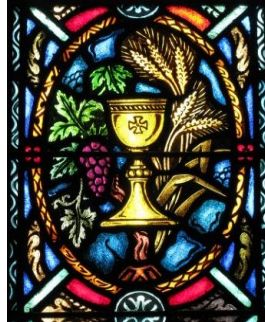
PO Box 146
St. Thomas, MO 65076

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 7, 2021

Administrator: 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. Jenny Becker
jbeckeroffice@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 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 February 7-14:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Tom & Clara Schmidt
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Bob Luebbering
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Mary Lou Bax
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Sylvanus Hoecker
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Alex Heckman

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021:	\$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	\$177,919.00
Actual Collection for 2020-2021:	\$158,249.00
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	– \$ 19,670.00
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

January 3	\$ 6,729.00
January 10	\$ 3,756.00
January 17	\$ 1,576.00
January 24	\$ 3,666.00
January 31	\$ 3,653.00

Collection Online: \$ 6,152.00
January total to date: **\$25,532.00**
Difference for January: +\$ 115.00

St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund

Income from parishioners for FY 2020-2021
(via the yellow "Building Fund" envelope): **\$14,205.00**

Cantor/Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Lisa Wieberg / Jackie Prenger
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jean Kliethermes / Jackie Prenger

St. Thomas the Apostle Reader

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Tom Backes

St. Thomas the Apostle Ushers

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Steve Schellman & Gilbert Schellman
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Richard Heckemeyer & Jim Lueckenhoff

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of February 7-14:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Hubert Brune

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Ben & Jason Hake

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021:	\$62,000.00
Collection Total for 2020-2021:	\$32,313.35
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 5,166.67

Collection in Church:

January 3	\$ 935.00
January 10	\$1,025.00
January 17	\$ 745.00
January 24	\$ 1,390.00
January 31	\$ 1,110.00

January total to date: **\$ 5,205.00**
Difference for January: +\$ 38.33

COLLECTION COUNTERS:

February – Dale & Margie Helton

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

St. Cecilia Reader:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Doris Stumpe
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Jennifer Even

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen -Glorious Mysteries
Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Margaret Brune– Glorious Mysteries

St. Cecilia Ushers

Sunday 8:00 a.m. –Leonard Schulte & Harold Libbert

Mass live streamers

February 14 – Jeannette Schroeder

Ash Wednesday, February 17 – Lauri Luebbering

February 21 – Karlie Reinkemeyer

February 28 – Dunja Wieberg

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

Thursday 7:20 a.m. - Viola Boessen – Luminous Mysteries

Friday 7:20 a.m. – Bob Schellman – Sorrowful Mysteries

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

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

SCRIP: Visit 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.

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.

Thursday, February 11 – Julie Francis & Jeannette Goeller **Thursday, February 18** – Erica Goeller & Barb Graessle

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.

VOTIVE CANDLES: \$2.50

MASS STIPENDS: \$10.00

CONGRATULATIONS to **Adelia Helen Hake**, daughter of Patrick & Corinn Hake, who became a child of God through baptism this weekend in St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S FEBRUARY PRAYER INTENTION: For Parents: May they have the spiritual and material resources they need to provide their children a home in which charity and mercy are practiced, and knowledge of our faith is shared.

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, **\$2,045.00** received so far

The CSA goal for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is \$10,000, **\$8,155.00** received so far

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE 2020 YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS: Thank you for your generosity this past year. Contribution statements are available in the back of Church.

ST. CECILIA 2020 YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS: Thank you for your generosity this past year. Contribution statements are available in the back of Church. If your statement needs to be mailed, please notify Doris.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES FEBRUARY 17: 7:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle, 7:00 p.m. St. Cecilia.

LENT IS COMING: Palms from previous years can be placed in baskets provided near the entrance of Church.

CONSTRUCTION WORK AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE: There is a new staircase being built going to the steeple/bells in church, and tuck pointing being done on the school. The clocks, bells and staircases to the steeple are out of bounds until further notice. Thank you to the parishioners for all their prayers and contributions. **Blessings, Fr. Leonard**

PASTOR'S MEDITATION: **5th Sunday in ordinary time year B: Accept life with hope and optimism as a precious gift from God.** (*Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1Cor. 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk. 1:29-39*)

Today's readings challenge us to avoid pessimistic and desperate view of life as a chain of pain and sufferings but to accept life with hope and optimism as a precious gift from God, using it to do good for others and spending our time, talents and lives for others as Jesus did and as St. Paul did.

While the Gospel presents Jesus enthusiastically living out his Sabbath day of preaching and healing ministry, the first reading details Job's frustrations in striking contrast: Job complains of the tedium and futility of life and the miseries of human existence. But eventually his eyes are opened by God, Job surrenders himself, his suffering, his work and everything he had had and lost to God's greater wisdom (Job 42:1-6). Job's miseries also marked the condition of the people who came to Jesus for healing. Jesus overturns the human condition, bringing hope and healing then and now. The second reading reveals Paul to us as a true, dynamic follower of Jesus, moved as Jesus was, by concern for the lost which led him to preach the Gospel selflessly to the people, and to serve them as their slave with Jesus' love and fidelity. Pointing out the spontaneous response of Peter's mother-in-law after she had been healed by Jesus, today's Gospel teaches us that true discipleship means giving selfless, loving service to others. Mark shows us a typical Sabbath day in Jesus' ministry: taking part in the synagogue worship, teaching with authority, exorcising a demon, healing Simon's mother-in-law and, after sundown, curing "*many who were sick with various diseases, and driving out many demons*" a full day and evening of selfless ministry. Yet, Jesus rises early the next morning and goes off "to a deserted place" to pray, in order to assess his work before God his Father and to recharge his spiritual batteries.

Therefore we need to be instruments for Jesus' healing work. Bringing *healing and wholeness* is Jesus' ministry even today. We all need healing for our minds, our memories, and our broken relationships, and now Jesus is also using counselors, doctors, friends, or even strangers in his healing ministry. Let us ask for the ordinary healing we need in our own lives. When we are healed, let us not forget to thank Jesus for his goodness, mercy, and compassion by turning to serve others. Our own healing process is completed only when we are ready to help others in their needs and to focus on things outside ourselves. Let us also be instruments for Jesus' healing by visiting the sick and praying for their healing. But let us remember that we need the Lord's strength not only to make ourselves and others well, but to make us and others whole. We need to live for others as Jesus did: Jesus was a man for others, sharing what he had with others. In his life there was time for prayer, time for healing, and time for reconciliation. Let us take up this challenge by sharing love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness with others. Instead of considering life as dull and pointless, let us live our lives as Jesus did, full of dynamism and zeal for the glory of God.

Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukibi

JOB OPENING – ST. THOMAS PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: There is a job opening for an administrative assistant position in the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Office. The person in this position will work closely with Fr. Leonard. Job duties include: recording parishioners' giving envelopes and ACH contributions; pre-school billing and payments; sacramental record keeping; helping to set up baptisms, weddings, and funerals; website maintenance; scheduling Mass intentions; Parish hall rental, and others duties. Interested candidates should contact Jenny Becker at 573-690-0642 or Fr. Leonard at 573-477-3315 no later than February 15, 2021.

ST. CECILIA POINTSETTIAS: Anyone wishing to take them are welcome to take them home as they will be discarded when Lent begins February 17.

ST. CECILIA PARISHIONERS, WE NEED YOU! The St. Cecilia Pastoral Council is in need of 4 new members. Because we did not have council elections in 2020 due to the pandemic, we have 4 members that are due (and past due) to rotate off the council. Two of the positions will be for 2 year terms and two of the positions will be for 3 year terms. The council meets 6 times per year. We would like to have an election of new members in May. If you are interested in serving on the council or know of someone that you think would be willing to serve please contact one of the current Pastoral Council Members; Emilie Borgmeyer, Don Wansing, Mary Plassmeyer, Dorothy Rehagen or Betty Hagenhoff. Or you may contact Father Leonard or Doris Stumpe.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE & ST. CECILIA PARISHES: Any adults or young adults from both parishes that want to get baptized on Easter vigil or to join the Catholic Church can contact Fr. Leonard or Parish office to start preparations in the RCIA classes.

Looking for volunteers to be **LAY MARRIAGE FACILITATORS** from our two parishes to assist in preparing new couples for marriage, these volunteers will be trained by the diocese to equip themselves for this ministry.

Please contact Father Leonard if you or someone you know is interested in joining the Catholic Church and participating in RCIA classes. For St. Cecilia Parish, please contact Fr. Leonard, Mary Plassmeyer, Betty Hagenhoff.

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Confirmation classes will be held in the St. Thomas K of C Hall in February. There will be **NO CLASS** on February 17, Ash Wednesday. **Instead, Candidates are strongly encouraged to attend Ash Wednesday Mass.** In March, classes will be held in St. Cecilia parish center.

SPIRIT FM (CHRISTIAN RADIO STATION) is holding a baby shower for the Pregnancy Help Center. Anyone wishing to donate can put items in boxes at the side entrance of St. Thomas the Apostle Church. Items requested are diapers, wipes, and baby soaps/lotions. Monetary donations are also accepted. Please put these in the weekend church collection basket. Items will be brought in to the PHC on February 12.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH HAM BREAKFAST/SPRING EVENT: Due to ongoing concerns with COVID-19 and COVID protocols for social events, it has been decided to host a Spring Event, but to forego the traditional Ham Breakfast in favor of a Drive-Through-only Bar-B-Que Event, for Spring 2021 only. This type of event will limit both community and visitor proximity and exposure, while requiring far fewer workers than the traditional Ham Breakfast. The Picnic/Ham Breakfast Committee is in the process of planning this event. The event will be scheduled for Sunday, March 14, with serving times between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. As was the case with the 2020 Picnic, preliminary worklists will be posted in the Bulletin in advance of the event, with a few versions anticipated. Workers with conflicts or unwilling to serve due to COVID concerns are asked to notify their Stand Chair, or contact Larry Lueckenhoff at (573) 619-6783, at their earliest opportunity. Please monitor upcoming Church Bulletins for worklists. Thank you.

ST. THOMAS CEMETERY DUES: Dues are \$10.00 per year 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 further dues. Please note: Anyone falling in arrears over 5 years must pay \$100.00 to rejoin plus current dues. Please put payment in the collection basket marked "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 questions about your current or past dues at 573-338-2703.

ST. THOMAS CHURCH CLEANING TEAM ROTATION FOR UPCOMING WEEKS:

Week of February 7th: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost

Week of February 14th: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter

Week of February 21st: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman

Week of February 28th: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Jackie Prenger, Amy Buechter

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.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE VIRTUAL WINTER FANTASY & SILENT AUCTION:

The drawing for the money and door prizes will be streamed live on the St. Thomas the Apostle Church Facebook page Saturday, February 6 starting at 6:30 p.m. The Silent Auction will remain open until Saturday night at midnight, after the online event. Below is the link to the auction website: <https://www.biddingowl.com/Auction/home.cfm?auctionID=25605>

Pick up times for cash prizes, door prizes & Silent Auction items are 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Vitae House Monday, Feb. 8; Tues. Feb. 9; Wed. Feb. 10; or during normal Parish Office hours. All items must be picked up at this time or other arrangements made. Please be sure your item is paid for online before picking up, or plan to bring a check or cash with you. For additional information go to the St. Thomas the Apostle Website under the "Events" tab and the church Facebook page. Thanks to all for your contributions in helping to make this event a success!

VIRTUAL ROSARY: There are hundreds of very holy people praying the rosary together every day. It is prayed at 6:00 a.m. every morning and 9:30 p.m. every night. They pray one mystery at these times except on Saturday evening. All four mysteries are prayed on Saturday evenings, also all four mysteries are prayed at 6:00pm on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. You can participate by logging on to your tablet or computer or by phone at the following address: Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/891579205> You can also dial in using your phone. United States: +1 (646) 749-3122 Access Code: 891-579-205 Audio Pin – 1000. There is power in numbers. Have a great New Year! If you have questions, please call Cathy Borgmeyer at 573-229-4688.

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

BOX TOPS: Please send in Box Tops by February 21 for submission. Please continue to save Box Tops for Education, Coke Points & Best Choice labels. Please drop them off at school or in the boxes I the entrances of St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, February 15 – No School P-8

CARMELITE NUNS: The ministry of our Carmelite Nuns is to offer prayer and sacrifice for the Church and the people of the Diocese of Jefferson City. To make a prayer request, write or email the Carmelite Nuns at carmelofjc.prayers@gmail.com 31920 State Highway P, Clyde, MO 64432.

THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, February 9 at 7:30 p.m. A rosary will be prayed at 7:15 p.m. Please read the February newsletter attached to the bulletin.

THE CITIZEN'S CIVIC LEAGUE OF META is sponsoring a blood drive on February 18 between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. **(NOTE THE TIME)** Appointments are required. You may call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: CivicLeagueMeta to schedule an appointment.

ARGYLE/KOELTZTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT DRIVE-THRU BREAKFAST is Sunday, February 7, serving sausage, scrambled eggs and hash browns from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Argyle K of C Hall. Cost is \$8.00 per plate and proceeds to benefit the maintenance of all Fire Equipment.

ARGYLE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DRIVE THRU FISH FRY is Friday, February 12 serving fish fillets, Au Gratin potatoes, baked beans & slaw from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. \$10.00 per meal at the K of C Hall, Argyle

ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE is Saturday, February 13 at the St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Hall from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Must be 21 or older. \$10.00 per person. Music by Shiloh.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #2027 OF BONNOTS MILL FISH FRIES: The Knights of Columbus Council #2027 of Bonnots Mill will be having two drive through Fish Fries on Friday, February 12 and March 12, 2021 at the Loose Creek School. Meals will be served from 5:00 – 7:00 pm on both dates. Meals will be \$10, for Fish, Hush Puppies, Parsley Potatoes, Cole Slaw and Baked Beans. Please help spread the word to make these events a success. Money raised at these events is given to the local Catholic Schools. See flyer posted in back of church for more details.

ST. ANTHONY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CARRY OUT BREAKFAST is Sunday, February 14, serving sausage, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs and applesauce from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the St. Anthony Parish Hall. Adults \$9.00, children 6-12 \$4.00. Raffle will be held.

WESTPHALIA LIONS CLUB PANCAKE, EGG & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST is Sunday, February 14 at the Lion's Den in Westphalia from 7:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. There will be dine in and drive thru.

ST. MARGARET'S PARISH DRIVE THRU ONLY FISH FRY, OSAGE BEND is Friday, February 19, serving catfish fillets, hush puppies, French fries, baked beans and cole slaw from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. \$12.00 per plate.

ST. ANDREW KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DRIVE THRU FISH FRIES are February 19, 26, March 5, 12 & 19 serving catfish, French fries, baked beans, spaghetti, slaw, applesauce, cornbread & dessert from 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$12.00 per meal.

DRIVE THROUGH FISH FRY - The AK Crusaders Relay for Life team will be having a Drive Through Only Fish Fry on February 19 & March 5 at the St. Boniface Center in Koeltztown. We will be serving fish, potatoes, Mac & cheese, salad and cookies from 4 to 7:30 p.m. Price is \$12/plate, there will be no substitutions. Please follow signs for the drive through entrance.

ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DRIVE THRU FISH FRY is Friday, February 26, 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Gluten Free Meal \$11.00. Serving Fish fillets, Hushpuppies (Not gluten free) Baked Potatoes, French Fries, Baked Beans and Coleslaw **Drive Thru Only** at the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center.

WKCSO SPRING SOCCER sign-ups will be held at the Westphalia KC hall on Wednesday evening, February 10 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. All kids ages 3-14 (on 8/1/20) welcome. Please email wkcsooccerclub@gmail.com with any questions

THE WILLIAM SIMON SCHOLARSHIP FUND awards scholarships to Catholic students in the Jefferson City Diocese who are in financial need for attending an accredited college of the student's choice. The scholarship is \$1,000 per semester. Please see Jan, Jenny, Diane or Doris for the application or www.diojeffcity.org/scholarships. Students from St. Thomas have been awarded this scholarship in the past. Applications must be returned to the Chancery by March 31, 2021. All applicants will be notified of the results by May 1, 2021.

SAVE THE DATE:

Friday, February 26- St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Drive thru Fish Fry, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center

Sunday, March 14 – St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Drive thru BBQ Event

June 27-July 2 – Totus Tuus

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

