

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

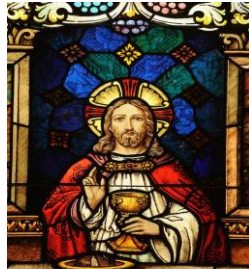
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 22, 2023

Pastor: Fr. Leonard Mukiibi
frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315

St. Thomas the Apostle Bookkeeper:
Mrs. Jan Heckemeyer
jheckemeyerooffice@gmail.com

St. Thomas the Apostle Admin. Secretary:
Mrs. Theresa Veit
tveitoffice@gmail.com



School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer
lheckemeyer@stacs.school
School: 573-477-3322 Fax: 573-477-3700

St. Thomas the Apostle Secretary:
Mrs. Diane Lueckenhoff
dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com

St. Cecilia Bookkeeper:
Mrs. Doris Stumpe
dstumpeoffice@gmail.com

St. Thomas Parish Office hours: Tuesdays 8:30-11:30 a.m.; Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.;
School Office hours during school year: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

St. Cecilia Rectory Office hours: Wednesdays 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. or by appointment

Confessions: Saturdays 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. at St. Thomas; Wednesdays 5:00 – 6:15 p.m. and
Sundays 7:00 - 7:45 a.m. at St. Cecilia; or anytime by appointment, just call Father.

Saint Thomas the Apostle

Mass Schedule for the Week of January 22-29:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Carol Pleus Riley
Wednesday 7:45 a.m.- Joe Kaiser
Thursday, 7:45 a.m. – Jim & Christine Luebbering
Friday 7:45 a.m. – David Borgmeyer
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – L&D Joe & Dorothy Luebbering Family
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes
L&D Herbert & Lucy Buschjost Family

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2022-2023: \$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End: \$177,919.00
Actual Collection for 2022-2023: **\$170,919.00**
Offertory Difference Year to Date: -\$ 7,730.28
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

January 1 \$ 5,150.01
January 8 \$ 4,270.07
January 15 \$ 2,863.26
January 22 \$
January 29 \$

Collection Online: \$ 5,849.50
January total to date: **\$18,132.84**
Difference for January -\$ 7,284.16

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations \$484,477.70
Total Collected \$462,613.06
Total Expenses Paid \$699,195.95

A total of 130 parishioners have returned pledge cards/or
Contributed to the renovation project.

Church Renovation Loan Balance \$152,322.68
Loan payments to date \$54,720.00
(principal) \$47,677.32 (interest) \$7,042.68

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists

Jan. 28 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kerry Meyer / Jeanette
Jan. 29 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Amanda Wooten / Alanna
Feb. 4 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mary Kay Brand / Jeanette
Feb. 5 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Doug Luebbering / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers

Jan 28 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle
Jan. 29 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jim Lueckenhoff
Feb. 4 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten
Feb. 5 Saturday 10:00 p.m. – Alan Reinkemeyer

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of January 22-29:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m.- L&D Bruemmer & Wansing Families

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Brian Wansing

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2022-2023: \$65,000.00
Collection Total for 2022-2023: **\$37,050.21**
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,416.67

Collection in Church:

January 1 \$3,230.00
January 8 \$ 715.00
January 15 \$ 3,555.00
January 22 \$
January 29 \$

January total to date: **\$ 7,500.00**
Difference for January: +\$ 2,083.33

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

January – Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

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

St. Cecilia Readers

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer
Sunday, Jan. 29 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff
Sunday, Feb. 5 8:00 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen

St. Cecilia Organist

Jan. 29 8:00 a.m. – Emilie
Feb. 5 8:00 a.m. – Lydia

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

St. Thomas the Apostle Greeters/Ushers

Jan. 28 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Dave Luebbering & Eric Strope
Jan. 29 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Craig Buechter & Doug Stockman
Feb. 4 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Eric & Roseanne Boessen
Feb. 5 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Simon Strope & Ryan Buschjost
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

Jan. 28 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Barb Graessle
Jan. 29 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Glenn Prenger
Feb. 4 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Graessle
Feb. 5 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Rosalyn Wieberg

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers

Weekday – Allie Siebeneck & Rowan Buechter
Jan. 28 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Evelyn Wooten, Ava Buschjost,
Kora Luebbering
Jan.29 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Valerie & Zeke Verslues,
Stella Volmert, Cadyn Libbert
Feb. 4 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Miranda Meyer, Ellie Boessen,
Carmen Luebbering, Emerald Fennewald
Feb. 5 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Fayeth Prenger, Erkia Luebbering,
Cadyn Libbert, Aliyah Buechter

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts

Jan. 28 Saturday, 5:00 p.m. – Ralph & Kathy Graessle
Jan. 29 Sunday 10:00 a.m.-Craig Buechter & Doug Stockman
Feb. 4 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Alfred & Margie Kaiser
Feb. 5 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Brian & Katie Luebbering Family

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters

Jan. 29 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder
Feb. 5– Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman
Feb. 12 - Paul Becker & Shara Buechter
Feb.19 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes
Feb. 26 – Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg

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

Jan. 29 Brooke Schell
Feb. 5 Dunja Wieberg
Feb. 12 Jenny Becker
Feb. 19 Karlie Reinkemeyer
Feb. 26 Lauri Luebbering

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday, 7:25 a.m. – Bob Schellman – Sorrowful Mysteries
Wednesday 7:25 a.m.- Bob Schellman – Glorious Mysteries
Thursday 7:25 a.m. –Gilbert & Hermina – Luminous Mysteries
Friday 7:25 a.m. – Shirley Volmert – Sorrowful Mysteries
Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Dale Herigon – Luminous Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Tina Stockman– Luminous Mysteries

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners

Jan. 22: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer
Jan. 29: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering
Feb. 5: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman
Feb. 12: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Jackie Prenger, Amy Buechter
Feb. 19: 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 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 Strope at 573-477-3349.

Thursday, Jan. 26 – Felicia Williams & Amanda Wooten

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers

Jan. 29 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer
Feb. 5 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Jennifer Even

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

Jan. 29 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Darin Even, Mitch Stumpe,
Brendan Stumpe, Randy Hagenhoff
Feb. 5 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Kenny Otto, Otto Wankum,
Leonard Schulte, Tony Derkum

St. Cecilia Servers

Jan. 29 Sunday 8:00 a.m. –Sarah & Elizabeth Backes,
Jesse Schroeder
Feb. 5 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Bradyn & Kambrie Stegeman
Please arrive 10 minutes before Mass.
Servers who have questions or would like to practice,
may do so after 8:00 a.m. Mass. Please contact Joanne
Schroeder 573-229-8986.

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts

Jan. 29 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Family of Brian Wansing

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen–Glorius Mysteries
Jan. 29 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer
Luminous Mysteries
Feb. 5 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer
Joyful Mysteries

VOTIVE CANDLES: The requested donation for lighting a votive candle in church is **\$3.00**. **Please note the cost change for both parishes.**

MASS STIPENDS: \$10.00

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

MARRIAGE PREPARATION: Please call the rectory *at least six months prior to the desired date*

SCRIP: Visit www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip for more information about the Scrip program. Please contact Amanda Wooten 573-694-1735 or amandab_27@hotmail.com

BULLETIN NOTICES: Deadline for bulletin is Wednesday at noon.

CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL: **The CSA goal for St. Cecilia Parish is \$2,550 Received \$1,015.00**
The CSA goal for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is \$10,400 Received \$5,300

PASTORS MEDITATION: The message of Jesus this weekend is simple. It can be summed up in two sentences. "The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the good news." In today's gospel, Jesus appears in Galilee for the first time preaching the good news at the Lake of Tiberias, and he calls simple fishermen who drop everything to follow him. Their immediate and wholehearted response teaches us what it means to repent and believe in the good news. It means encountering the person of Jesus, following him and leaving everything behind. Believing in the good news means having an encounter with Jesus Christ. The apostles didn't leave their families, homes and jobs because they believed in an ideal, but rather it was coming face-to-face with Jesus that moved them. Meeting Jesus changed everything for them. We cannot have the same face-to-face encounter with Jesus that the apostles enjoyed. But we are still able to meet the Risen Lord when we read the Bible, receive the Sacraments and serve our sisters and brothers who are his living body. We are not on fire for our faith because we like to follow rules. Rather it is because we have met and fallen in love with Jesus Christ. This personal relationship with him that we have through faith and the ministry of the Church drives everything that we are about. Believing in the good news also means that we must follow him. Our life of faith can be understood as a journey with Jesus leading the way. It means that, like

the apostles, we have to give up our own plans and put our trust in God and His plan for us. It is not easy because very often the road is steep and the pathway rocky. We will not always see where it is headed and we will stumble frequently along the way. We will see our friends walking a different way that seems easier and we will be tempted to join them. But God will give us the strength and the courage to follow Him. And we will be blessed with joy because we are with Jesus.

Finally, believing in the good news means leaving everything behind. The apostles could not follow Jesus and stay fishermen. We cannot follow Jesus and continue to live the same way we did before. When we choose to follow Jesus, some things will have to stay behind. We may have to end bad friendships because they lead us to bad behavior. We may have to change our business practices because they are deceitful. We will all be called to live simpler lives so that we will have more left over to give to the poor. Some will even be called to sell everything and to give their lives totally over to Jesus in religious life. For all of us, gaining Jesus will mean the loss of something or someone we love. It was that way for the apostles, and it continues to be that way for us. There is no other way if we are to put our lives in the hands of our loving Father. The Kingdom of God is among us. The Risen Lord is present in our midst. His presence soothes our fears. His words touch and heal our hearts. His Sacraments nourish and strengthen us. We meet him in one another and we fall in love with the one who died for us. We gladly leave everything behind to follow after the one our heart longs for. Despite the difficulties, we know that it is the path of life. We walk with ever growing strength because we have met Jesus and our lives can never be the same.

Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Anointing of the Sick will be held every month after benediction during the Holy Hour. St. Thomas will have the Anointing on the First Friday of each month and St. Cecilia will have the Anointing on the last Friday of the month.

ST. CECILIA HOLY HOUR/ADORATION FOLLOWED BY BENEDICTION is Friday, January 27, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING is Tuesday, January 31, 6:00 p.m. school library.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING is Tuesday, January 31, 7:00 p.m. school library.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE WEBSITE: Please visit the website (www.stthomasapostle.net) for updates for upcoming events and many more items.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL SNEAK PEEK: On Thursday, February 2, please join us as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week! We will have activities for in-coming Kindergartners and children of families considering future enrollment. Information will be provided for parents about new programs & initiatives. This will be a great time for you to see St. Thomas the Apostle and answer any questions you may have about the upcoming school year. If you have been curious about what you may be missing in a faith based school close to home, please RSVP by calling 573-477-3322 or email lheckemeyer@stacs.school to schedule a more workable time to see what our Catholic School may offer you!

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK INVITATION: On Friday, February 3, we will be celebrating all our VIP's – parents, grandparents, parishioners, volunteers and friends – by starting our day with Mass at 7:45 a.m. followed by refreshments and BINGO in the Parish Center. All are welcome! To RSVP, please call St. Thomas the Apostle School office at 573-477-3322. It's that time of the year when we may be cleaning things or have some items (new or used) laying around that would make excellent Bingo prizes. You can also donate candy, chips, soda, Gatorade, juice pouches, etc. for prizes. Please call the school office if you have any items to donate. Thanks in advance for helping out with the prizes for the Bingo games.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS: Thursday, Jan. 26 – Early Release, 12:50 p.m. car riders, 1:00 p.m. bus riders
January 27&28 – St. Thomas the Apostle School Archery Tournament (Hosting)
Sunday, January 29-February 3 – Catholic Schools Week

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRESCHOOL: If you have a child, ages 3 or 4 and have been thinking about preschool, please call Lizzie Linhardt, lilnhardt@stacs.school 573-645-5605 or the school office 573-477-3322. If you have any questions or would like to set up a one on one meeting and school tour please contact the school office. Please check out and like St. Thomas the Apostle Preschool Facebook page!

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 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 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.

VISIT HELIAS CATHOLIC: Interested in learning more about Helias Catholic High School and experiencing life as a student? Visit the school as a Crusader for a Day! Junior high students are invited to attend classes, meet teachers, tour the school and have lunch while partnered with a current student on any regular school day. Sign up by clicking "Visit the School" on the homepage at www.heliascatholic.com and completing the Crusader for a Day form. Please call Sharon Fennwald at 573-635-6139 with any questions.

HELIAS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI: Graduates of Helias Catholic High School are invited to stay informed about Crusader alumni news! Visit www.heliascatholic.com/alumni to sign up for email updates.

GRATEFUL LIVING FAITH SHARING: Prayer is one of the three aspects of the Catholic Stewardship Renewal in our diocese. The program Grateful Living: The Joy of Stewardship is a small group (6-10 people) faith sharing opportunity that will begin during the Lenten season of 2023. It consists of six sessions during Lent and another six sessions in the Fall of 2023, although the book contains all of the sessions and so your group can meet as you wish. Each session lasts about an hour. In the next few weeks sign-up sheets will be available for anyone interested in this opportunity of sharing your faith in a small group. Books are provided to guide the sessions. Please indicate whether you would like to be a small group leader, if you would like to host sessions in your home, meeting time preferences, or any other pertinent information. Please contact Jackie Prenger at 573-291-3558 if you have any questions.

ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH, WARDSVILLE PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL OPEN HOUR is 1:00-2:00 a.m. Sunday morning. Please call Donna at 573-680-1470 if you are interested in joining our chapel program.

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 carmelofic.prayers@gmail.com

31920 State Highway P, Clyde, MO 64432.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Becoming a Knight of Columbus can transform your life. As a Knight, you have the opportunity to support our parishes and communities, and to grow in your faith. You can also gain access to top-rated insurance programs to protect your family. Plus, you are joining a band of brothers, a network of men in communities around the world dedicated to doing good in the service of God and our neighbors. As Pope St. John Paul II said: "The Knights of Columbus is the strong right arm of the Catholic Church." If you would like more information or to join, please contact Jeff Cassmeyer at (573) 690-7546.

DIVINE MERCY SIGNS: St. Thomas Knights of Columbus will be stocking the following sizes: Small 8 x 12 one-sided \$15, Medium 20 x 27 two-sided \$35, Large 24 x 48 two-sided \$90. The signs will be available at the Knights or Ladies Auxiliary meetings or by calling Janet Lueckenhoff 573-690-5682.

JEFFERSON CITY MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: Get away for the weekend, just you and your spouse, to celebrate how far you've come and look for areas to improve in your marriage. This is not exclusive to the Catholic faith, but does focus on putting Christ at the center of your marriage. The next weekend is February 11-12, 2023, in Jefferson City, Missouri. Cost is \$75 which includes 1 night hotel stay and all meals and materials. Register at jeffcityme.com (Scholarships are available) Questions? Visit website jeffcityme.com, call 573-619-7416, or email info@jeffcityme.com

THE OSAGE SENIOR CENTER located in Wardsville, MO, is looking for interested people who are 62 and above years old or have confirmed disabilities to be placed on our waiting list. The Senior Center is located close to St. Stan Catholic Church, gas stations, a restaurant and a Dollar General store. If interested call or email for a tour and talk with our manager. Phone: 573-632-2712, email: osageseniorcenter@gmail.com.

BLAIR OAKS FFA ALUMNI ANNUAL DINNER & DANCE is Saturday, February 4. \$40 per person or \$320.00 for a received table of 8 at the Wardsville Lions Club. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., dinner served at 6:30 p.m., dancing from 8:00-11:00 p.m., BOYB. Music by Shiloh. Please contact Jennifer Borgmeyer at 573-338-0049 for tickets.

ARGYLE/KOELTZTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL PANCAKE, SAUSAGE & EGG BREAKFAST is Sunday, February 5, 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Dine in & carry out available at the Argyle K of C Hall. Adults \$12, children under 12 \$6. Proceeds to benefit the maintenance of all fire equipment.

ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS VALENTINE'S DANCE is February 11 at the Parish Center - featuring Shiloh playing from 7:30 - 11:30 p.m. \$35 per couple or \$20 per single person. **NO ONE UNDER 21 ALLOWED.**

PASTA NIGHT FUNDRAISER BENEFITTING DONNA VERSLUES is Saturday, January 28, 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas K of C Hall. Spaghetti, chicken Fettuccini, salad, bread and dessert (Drinks for dine in) Dine in or carry-outs available. \$15 Adults, kids (6-10) \$8.00. Raffle tickets are also available for purchase. Please contact 573-694-1628 for more information.

SAVE THE DATES: Totus Tuus – June 4-9

Stewardship

For now the LORD has spoken
who formed me as his servant from the womb,
That Jacob may be brought back to him
and Israel gathered to him;
I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
and my God is now my strength!

Isaiah 49:5

Jesus' saving mission began the first moment of his
conception in the womb of our Blessed Mother,
thus making it true for us.

We have each been called by the Father to further
His kingdom on earth.



