

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

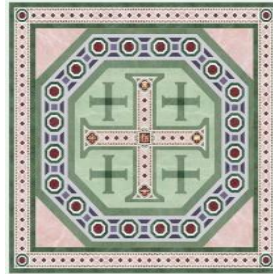
PO Box 146
St. Thomas, MO 65076

14th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 5, 2020

Administrator: 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. Jenny Becker
jbeckeroffice@gmail.com



School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer
lheckemeyerstacs@gmail.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
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 July 5-12:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Joe Lackman
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – No Mass (Summer Schedule)
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Alex Heckman
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Bob Luebbering
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jim Reinkemeyer
People of our Parishes
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Pat Kliegel

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2019-2020: \$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End: \$305,000.00
Actual Collection for 2019-2020: **\$282,979.43**
Offertory Difference Year to Date: – \$ 22,020.57
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,413.00

Collection in Church:

June 7 \$ 6,130.00
June 14 \$ 2,490.00
June 21 \$ 4,657.00
June 28 \$ 5,063.00

Collection Online:

June total to date: **\$24,392.00**
Difference for June: –\$ 1,021.00

St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund

Total Expansion Project expenses paid: \$2,273,475.34
Income from parishioners for FY 2019-2020
(via the yellow "Building Fund" envelope): **\$29,575.20**
Loan payments to date for FY 2019-2020: **\$110,732.88**
Principal \$104,905.40 Interest \$5,827.48
Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: **\$95,833.45**

Cantor/Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten / Annette Kehner
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Judy Schroeder / Annette Kehner

St. Thomas the Apostle Reader

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jim Lueckenhoff

St. Thomas the Apostle Ushers

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Dave Luebbering & Steve Schellman
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Larry Lueckenhoff & Ryan Buschjost

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Dale Herigon – Luminous Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Tina Stockman – Luminous Mysteries

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of July 5-12:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Harold Porting

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Alma & Henry Blomberg & Mary Clark

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2019-2020: \$62,000.00
Collection Total for 2019-2020: **\$56,464.25**
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,166.67

Collection in Church:

June 7 \$ 2,210.00
June 14 \$ 908.00
June 21 \$ 450.00
June 28 \$ 1,575.00
June total to date: \$ 5,143.00
Difference for June: –\$ 23.67

COLLECTION COUNTERS:

July: Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

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

St. Cecilia Reader:

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

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

Mass live Streamers

July 5 - Dunja Wieberg

July 12 - Lauri Luebbering

July 19 - Karlie Reinkemeyer

July 26 - Jennifer Schroeder

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.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH OFFICE will be closed Tuesday, July 7.

THE BLESSED HEART GROUP from the Holy Land selling spiritual items from the Holy land, Jerusalem, will be here on July 25 & 26 at St. Cecilia and St. Thomas the Apostle selling Holy items after Masses, you can plan to buy some of those items, their contact is (402 318 7164)

BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S JULY PRAYER INTENTION: For the unity of our country: that the God of truth may open our hearts to the truth of the Gospel, that peace may rule our hearts, and that justice may guide our nation of one people of many races.

ATTENTION USHERS: Usher assignments will return to the normal rotations. Please monitor the weekly bulletin.

Ushers – There will be a checklist in the back of each entrance that outlines some of the new duties and best practices that are required to help reduce any risks to our parishioners. Some of the new duties include wiping down pews, door handles, etc. Propping doors open before and after Mass. Collecting envelopes and assisting parishioners with seating. If you cannot attend Mass, please find a replacement as you would have done pre COVID 19. If you wish to be temporarily removed from the Usher rotation until after September 11, 2020, please contact Diane Lueckenhoff at 573-645-5794 or [dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com](mailto:dTueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com)

ATTENTION READERS: Reader assignments will return to normal pre COVID 19 rotations. Please watch the bulletin. If you cannot attend Mass, please find a replacement as you would have done pre COVID 19. If you wish to be temporarily removed from the Reader rotation until after September 11, 2020, please contact Diane Lueckenhoff at 573-645-5794 or [dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com](mailto:dTueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com).

PASTOR'S MEDITATION: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2020 – Year A. **“TAKE MY YOKE . . . AND YOU WILL FIND REST.”** (Zec 9:9-10; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30)

In the first reading, the prophet Zechariah consoles the Jews living in Palestine under Greek rule, promising them a “meek” Messianic King of peace riding on a donkey, who will give them rest and liberty. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 145) praises and thanks a kind and compassionate God Who “raises up those who are bowed down” under heavy yokes. In the second reading, Paul tells the first-century Christian community in Rome about two yokes, namely, the “flesh” and the “Spirit,” and he challenges them to reject the heavy and fatal yoke of the flesh and accept the light yoke of the Spirit of Jesus. Christian spirituality, according to Paul, proceeds from the initiative of the Holy Spirit and means living in the realm of the “Spirit” as opposed to the “flesh.” In the Gospel, Jesus offers rest to those “who labor and are burdened” if they will accept his “easy yoke and light burden.” By declaring that his “yoke is light,” Jesus means that whatever God sends us is made to fit our needs and our abilities exactly. The second part of Jesus’ claim is: “My burden is light.” Jesus does not mean that the burden is easy to carry, but that it is laid on us in love, that it is meant to be carried in love, and that love makes even the heaviest burden light. **Dear friends we need to unload our burdens on the Lord.** This “unloading” is the main purpose of our personal and family prayers and is one of the functions of Divine Worship in the Church. During our daily prayers in the evening, we ask God’s forgiveness for the sins and failures of the day and receive the consoling assurance that we are reconciled with God and our fellow human beings. During the Holy Mass in our parish Church, we place our stress-filled lives on the altar and allow Jesus to cool down the overheated radiators of our hectic lives. We also unload the burdens of our sins and worries on the altar and offer them and ourselves to God during the Holy Mass. **Friends we need to be freed from unnecessary burdens as well:** Jesus lays the light burden of his commandment of love on us and yokes us with himself, giving us his strength through the Holy Spirit to fulfill that commandment. Jesus is also interested in lifting off our backs the burdens that suck the life out of us, so that he can place around our necks his own yoke that brings to us and to others through us, new life, new energy, and new joy. We are called, not only to find peace, refreshment and rest for ourselves, but also to live the kind of life through which others too, may find God’s peace, God’s refreshing grace, and the joy of placing their lives in God’s hands. *Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi*

NOTE TO ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHIONERS “MASS CHANGES AFTER JUNE 16, 2020”:

As you may have heard, Governor Parson lifted the statewide health order beginning June 16, 2020. Shortly thereafter, the Diocese of Jefferson City issued an updated Decree On Pastoral Activities which loosens some of the previous restrictions. The Decree document is on page 4 of the bulletin and also on the website and Facebook page.

With these considerations in mind, the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish will be implementing new guidelines starting immediately:

- Masks are encouraged but are not required.
- If you are symptomatic for COVID-19 please do not enter church.
- **SEATING:**
- The Blessed Virgin Mary side of the church will remain roped off for the next few weeks to allow for continued social distancing for those who prefer it.
- The St. Joseph side of the church and balcony will be open for seating as normal. Usher and Reader assignments will return to normal. Please watch the bulletin. If you do not wish to be assigned, please contact Diane Lueckenhoff at 573-645-5794, dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com or the Parish Office. Special instructions (checklist) for Ushers will be in back of church at each entrance. You are responsible for finding a replacement.
- Please maintain social distancing during Communion. The floor is marked for this purpose.
- There will be no offertory procession or sign of peace.
- Stationary basket(s) are available for offertory collection envelopes. The baskets are currently located in the aisle near handicap pew.
- Communion ministers are to sanitize hands before **and** after distributing Holy Communion and must use facemasks during distribution of Holy Communion.
- Missals are at the back of church. If you take one, please take it home with you as this becomes your personal missal.
- Hand sanitizers and masks are available in back of church.
- Holy water fonts will remain empty.
- If you are uncomfortable in returning to Mass at St Thomas the Apostle, Bishop McKnight has dispensed the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligations until September 11, 2020 provided you follow one of the three (3) obligations found in his decree. St Thomas the Apostle will continue to live stream the Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass for you to view. Thanks for your patience!

PLEASE READ: ST. CECILIA CHURCH- INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING ALL PUBLIC MASSES

We are re-establishing public Mass at St. Cecilia Church following Diocese guidelines. Please review Bishop McKnight's instructions on the parish website under the Resources page.

- Entrance is thru front door only. Side doors will be locked.
- We have limited seating (50-60) available and will be first come, first served. When the capacity limit is reached, no additional parishioners will be allowed to enter church.
- If you have a fever, cough, sore throat, symptomatic or been exposed to someone with the virus within the last 14 days – **PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND MASS**
- You are **required to wear a face mask or face covering** when entering and exiting church and going to and from Communion. Face masks or coverings are not required to be worn when you are in the pews. When receiving Communion, pull down your mask or covering, place the Eucharist in your mouth, and immediately replace your mask or covering before returning to your pew. Distribution of communion will be in a single row only by Fr. Leonard.
- Please **maintain appropriate social distancing of 6 feet**. Follow floor markings when receiving communion.
- Please sit in pews that are marked. Also, only the organist and cantors are allowed to be on the balcony.
- Family members may sit together.
- Place tithe/offertory in basket near entrance of church on table.
- Please refrain from using restroom if possible.
- Missals have been removed from the pews and are available on a table at the church entrance. If you want a missal, please take it home with you. Do not leave the missal in the pew. This will become your personal missal to use until after restrictions are released. Please bring back with you for the next Mass.

REMINDERS FOR PARISHIONERS that every First Friday of the month, we have a Holy Hour/Adoration followed by Benediction at St. Thomas and at St. Cecilia the last Friday of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH will be having a picnic on Sunday, August 16. We will be serving cafeteria style. Menu will be the same. If you cannot work or do not feel comfortable working, please contact Larry Lueckenhoff by text, phone or email 573-619-6783, lueckenhoff@embarqmail.com. The Picnic Committee will be reaching out to the Cole County Health Department for any input/restrictions that they might have.

THE WESTERN CATHOLIC UNION annual District BBQ will be held on Friday, July 17 at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center beginning with a catered meal at 6:00 p.m. and bingo immediately following for members and their families. **Reservations MUST BE MADE by Wednesday, July 15** to Lillian Lackman at 573-477-3472 or 573-645-2243 or Janice Boessen 573-455-2651 or Barbara Poetker 573-291-1415.

META OVER 50 CLUB: There will not be any over 50 meetings until further notice for the META CLUB.

ST. CECILIA CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL (CSA): St. Cecilia Parish's assessment goal is short around \$700. Any additional donations to help reach our goal would be greatly appreciated. Donations need to be put in an envelope marked "Catholic Stewardship Appeal" and checks need to be made payable the same. Donations can be dropped off in collection basket or mail to St. Cecilia Parish, P.O. Box 146, St. Thomas, MO 65076, to the attention of Doris Stumpe.

ST. CECILIA CEMETERY DUES were due in May. If you have not done so, please send your dues to Karyn Veltrop, 772 County Road 508, St Thomas, Mo 65076. If you have questions, call her at 573-229-4395.

ST. CECILIA PARISH WILL NOT have their picnic this July due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. The parish is asking each family to donate \$100 and each single household member to donate \$50 to the St. Cecilia Picnic Fund. A special collection will be taken up on Sunday, July 12 which would have been the date of the picnic. The Quilt Auction will be held at the Citizens Civic League Fall Supper in September. Proceeds from Quilt Auction will be split as usual. Please put donations in an envelope marked "St. Cecilia Picnic" and checks should be made payable to St. Cecilia Picnic also.

TO ALL COMM-UNITY AMBULANCE MEMBERS: The annual meeting will be held as an **Open House** at the Comm-Unity Ambulance building on **Sunday, July 19, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. – Noon**. Refreshments will be served and if there is no parking available, a shuttle from the Civic League Hall to the Comm-Unity Ambulance building will be available. If you are interested in becoming a board member, please contact DJ Schroeder at 573-301-1737 or current board member by July 12th to ensure your name will be included on the ballot. Please come by the ambulance building to take a tour, enjoy some refreshments and place your vote. Bring a friend and invite anyone who may be interested in becoming a member for a small annual fee. The raffle drawing will be held at 11:30 a.m.

ST. THOMAS CHURCH CLEANING TEAM ROTATION FOR UPCOMING WEEKS:

Week of July 5th: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter

Week of July 12th: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman

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.

GRASS CUTTING ROTATION: THE ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH GROUNDS "GRASS CUTTING TEAM ROTATION" FOR THE UPCOMING WEEKS:

Week of July 6: Alan Reinkemeyer, Richard Heckemeyer and Dave Schroeder.

Week of July 13: Mark Luebbering, Antone Luebbering and Nick Luebbering

Week of July 20: Mark Graessle, Jeff Cassmeyer and Fred Luebbering

SAVE THE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR: St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Picnic – August 16, 2020

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE IMPORTANT COVID-19 PANDEMIC REMINDERS: Please check the Diocesan webpage at <https://diojeffcity.org/public-health/Information> can be found on the St Thomas Parish website at <http://www.stthomasapostle.net/> and St. Cecilia website at <http://www.stceciliameta.net/>

Tithe/Financial Commitment: Please strive to keep up with your **financial commitment** to the parish during this time when public worship and events have been restricted or suspended. The work of our parishes and staff continues with ongoing expenses and financial obligations. There will be a basket in Church to place your envelope in if you attend Mass." **St. Thomas the Apostle parishioners** can mail contributions to the parish office at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, PO Box 146, St. Thomas, MO 65076. Or you may sign up for electronic giving through ACH payments. Blank ACH forms are available in St. Thomas the Apostle Church entrances and on the parish website. Call or email the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish office if you have questions about ACH payments.

For St. Cecilia Parishioners that would like to contribute towards their weekly/monthly Tithe, please feel free to do so. The contribution envelope can be mailed to St. Cecilia Parish, P.O. Box 146, St. Thomas, MO 65076 to the attention of Doris Stumpe. Your contribution will be graciously appreciated to keep the upkeep/expenses of the parish going during this time of COVID-19.

Outreach to our parish community/vicinity: Please contact the parish offices, Father Leonard or a PPC member of your needs or the needs of others. If you wish to volunteer, the Diocese enrollment is at <https://diojeffcity.org/parish-disaster-responders-team-volunteer-form>. If you know of someone needing assistance, please don't hesitate to call.

Updates and Communications: Ongoing updates will be communicated through the following: St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Cecilia parish websites, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and School Facebook pages, marquee signs at both churches, and church bulletins.

Other Information: The CDC's COVID-19 page is an accurate, credible source that is consistently updated with directives from the White House. The webpage is found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PARKBOARD CONCESSION STAND WORKERS

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Tuesday, July 7 | 8:00 p.m. | 10U Boys | Amy Buechter & Marty Libbert |
| Friday, July 10 | 6:30 p.m. | 8U Girls | Michael & Dawn Herigon |
| Tuesday, July 14 | 6:30 p.m. | 8 U Girls | Lizzie Lindhart & Micky Libbert |

Decree on pastoral activities following the governor's declaration lifting statewide restrictions for the COVID-19 pandemic

June 15, 2020 | Public Health Concerns: Whereas Governor Mike Parson has lifted the statewide health order beginning 16 June 2020, leaving the determination of public health requirements to local governments; and Whereas the Department of Health and Senior Services of the State of Missouri and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States Federal Government continue to recommend: the observance of social distancing and the use of face masks when in gatherings; that persons 65 years of age and older, as well as those with certain medical conditions, avoid public gatherings as much as possible; and the practice of frequent handwashing or use of hand sanitizers; and Whereas the common good demands that the public health requirements and recommendations of the state are to be observed whenever possible; I therefore declare, as the diocesan bishop, the following:

1. All the faithful of the Diocese of Jefferson City, and those who are present in the territory of the Diocese, are dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation until 11 September 2020, provided that for days of precept after 1 July 2020 they do one of the following:

- a. Participate in the Sunday or holy day of obligation Mass livestreamed from their parish church or chapel, the Cathedral, or the Vatican.
- b. Prayerfully read and meditate on the readings of the Mass for the Sunday or holy day of obligation, and recite the rosary.
- c. Prayerfully read and meditate on the readings of the Mass for the Sunday or holy day of obligation, and recite the Divine Mercy chaplet.

2. Parishes are highly encouraged to livestream Masses for Sundays and holy days of obligation through Labor Day weekend.

3. Those who are symptomatic for COVID-19 are not permitted to enter church properties, in accordance with national, state and local health directives. All are asked to check their temperature at home before going to church.

4. Those who are 65 years of age or older, and those with medical conditions, are highly encouraged not to go to Mass when it is likely that there will be a large number of the faithful in attendance or if social distancing and the wearing of face masks are not observed.

5. Those who do not attend Mass on Sundays are encouraged to attend Mass on a weekday if it would be easier to observe the proper social distancing and other health recommendations.

6. Pastors, parochial administrators, parish life collaborators, and the presidents and principals of Catholic schools are strictly obliged to follow the public health requirements, directives or orders of local government officials for gatherings of the faithful, including for the celebrations of Mass, weddings and funerals, other liturgies, devotions, school and catechetical activities, social events, sports activities, and meetings.

7. The celebration of weddings outside of Mass may take place outdoors on the grounds of and in proximity to the parish church or chapels, according to the judgement of the pastor, parochial administrator, or parish life collaborator.

8. The observance of social distancing, the use of face masks, and all other public health recommendations of state authorities should be followed whenever possible, according to the judgment of the pastor, parochial administrator, parish life collaborator, president or principal. Consultation with the bishop, vicar general, moderator of the curia, local dean, liturgy commission chairman, or superintendent is recommended.

9. The use of face masks upon entering the church, during the celebration of Mass except when in place in the pew, during the Communion procession, and upon leaving the church is highly encouraged.

10. The offertory procession, the sign of peace, and Holy Communion from the chalice shall continue to be suspended. One or more stationary collection baskets are to be used rather than baskets passed or taken up by ushers. Where it has been the practice, the holding of hands during the Our Father must not be done.

11. Communion ministers are to sanitize their hands before and after distributing Holy Communion, and they must use face masks during the distribution of Holy Communion.

12. Communicants are encouraged to wear face masks during the reception of Holy Communion, and it is requested that Holy Communion be received in the hand.

13. Those who persist in their desire to receive Holy Communion on the tongue may do so but only after those who receive Holy Communion in the hand, or in a Communion line designated solely for Holy Communion on the tongue. Communion ministers must purify and then sanitize their fingers after distributing Holy Communion on the tongue to each household.

14. High use areas within the church must be cleaned after each service:

- a. The pews used by the assembly shall be cleaned after each use.
- b. Restroom facilities and door handles, push plates, and door knobs are to be sanitized after each service.
- c. It is advisable to have entrance and exit doors propped open during high traffic volumes before and after Mass.

15. Hymnals and other books are to remain stored for the duration of the pandemic. No materials may be left in the pews or adoration chapels. The faithful are encouraged to bring their own missals, hymnals and devotional books.

16. Holy water fonts shall remain empty.

17. Hand sanitizer should be made available throughout church and school facilities.

This decree is effective from 16 June 2020 and until 11 September 2020, anything to the contrary notwithstanding. Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Jefferson City on this 15th day of June 2020.

Most Rev. W. Shawn McKnight
Bishop of Jefferson City