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 OF LENT

March 3, 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 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 March 3-10:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Tom & Clara Schmidt Wednesday 7:45 a.m. -Kevin & Mary Jane Lueckenotte Thursday 7:45 a.m. – L&D Anton Herigon Family Stations of the Cross immediately following Mass

Friday 7:45 a.m.- L&D Alex Heckman Family Friday 6:30 p.m. - Stations of the Cross

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Dave Volmert Sunday 10:00 a.m. – L&D John H. Boessen Family

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024: \$312,000.00 Offertory Goal through Month End: \$208,000.00 Actual Collection for 2023-2024: \$229,584.80 Offertory Difference Year to Date: +\$ 21,584.80 Offertory Goal per month: \$ 26,000.00

Collection in Church:

February 4 February 11 \$ 8,426.04 \$3,716.17 February 18 \$ 2,466.30 February 25 \$5,133.88 \$7,813.00 **Collection Online:** February total to date: \$27,555.39 Difference for February: \$ 1.555.39

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations \$491,247.89 **Total Collected** \$521,138.32 Total Expenses Paid \$699,195.95 A total of 131 parishioners have returned pledge cards/or Contributed to the renovation project.

Church Renovation Loan Balance \$55,396.74

Loan payments to date \$156,730.00

(principal) \$144,603.26 (interest) \$12,126.74

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists

March 9 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Judy Schroeder / Jeanette March 10 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Mary Kay Brand / Alanna March 16 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Lisa Wieberg / Alanna March 17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Josh Luebbering / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers

March 9 Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Kara Holterman March 10 10:00 a.m. - Jim Lueckenhoff March 16 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Paul Becker March 17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering

Saint Cecilia Mass Schedule for the Week of March 3-10:

6:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross before Wednesday Mass Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - Lawrence "Dick" Rehagen

Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Marsha Meyer

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024: \$67,000.00 Collection Total for 2023-2024: \$47,775.00 Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,583.34

Collection in Church:

\$ 2,226.00 February 4 February 11 889.00 468.00 February 18 February 25 \$1,393.00 February total to date: \$ 4,976.00 Difference for February: -\$ 607.34

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

March: Terry & Pam Libbert

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.

St. Cecilia Readers

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. – Samantha Helton Sunday, March 10 8:00 a.m. – Karyn Veltrop Sunday, March 17 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer

St. Cecilia Organist

Sunday. March 10 8:00 a.m. - Emilie Sunday, March 17 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

Mar. 9 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Glenn Reynolds & Gilbert Schellman Mar. 10 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Adam Holterman & Mark Boessen Mar. 16 Saturday 5:00 pm. – Eric Strope & Richard Schellman Mar. 17 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Craig Buechter & Michael Wooten 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. 9 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Paul Becker Mar. 10 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Keith Kliethermes Mar. 16 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jenny Becker Mar. 17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Glenn Prenger

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers

Weekday servers: Bradyn & Matthew Stegeman 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
Mar. 16 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ben & Luke Otto,
Gregory Kirby, JD Volmert

Mar. 17 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Francie, Hannah & Levi Tallent, Wyatt Otto

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts

Saturday, March 9 – Family of Dave Volmert Sunday, March 10 –Family of John H. Boessen

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters

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
April 14 - Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

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. – Dale Herigon – Sorrowful Mysteries Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Jim & Janet Lueckenhoff– Sorrowful Mysteries

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

March 10 Brooke Schell
March 17 Dunja Wieberg
March 24 Lauri Luebbering
March 31 Jenny Becker

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners

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 March 31: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman

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, March 7 – Dee Luebbering & Julia Luebbering Thursday, March 14- Karen Luebbering & Lauri 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.

<u>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS NEXT SATURDAY, MARCH 9.</u> Don't forget to set your clock forward one hour before bedtime Saturday night.

<u>LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE FOR ST. CECILIA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHES</u> is Tuesday, March 12, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

EASTER TRIDUUM MINISTRIES 2024 SIGN-UP SHEETS are available in both entrances of St. Cecilia & St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH is March 19. Please join us in praying the St. Joseph Novena beginning March 10 through March 19. Also, join us for Mass at 6:00 p.m. on March 19, St. Thomas the Apostle Church. You can go to praymorenovenas.com to sign up for the novena or printed copies are available in Church.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT MARCH PRAYER INTENTION: For those preparing for reception of the Easter Sacraments this year; may our whole Church be renewed and invigorated by the celebrations of baptism, confirmation and First Holy Communion, we pray to the Lord.

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers

March 10 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Doris Stumpe March 17 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

March 10 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Tony & William Derkum,
Terry Libbert, Leon Schanzmeyer
March 17 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Darin Even, Mitch Stumpe,
Brendan Stumpe, Randy Hagenhoff

St. Cecilia Servers

March 10 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Bradyn, Kambrie & Matthew Stegeman
March 17 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Reagan & Eli Bock

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts

March 10 Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Family of Marsha Meyer

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

March 10 Sunday 7:35 a.m. –Janice Schanzmeyer Sorrowful Mysteries March 17 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen Sorrowful Mysteries

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

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.

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.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 3rd SUNDAY of LENT (B). JESUS VISITS AND PURIFIES THE TEMPLE. (Ex. 20:1-17; 1Cor. 1:22-25; Jn. 2:13-25) Today's readings teach us that Lent is the ideal time to clean out the Temple of our own hearts and to offer to God proper Divine worship by obeying the Ten Commandments. Today's first reading teaches us that the Ten Commandments are the basis of our religious and spiritual life. Instead of restricting our freedom, the Commandments really help us to love and respect our God and our neighbors. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 19) depicts the Mosaic Law's life-enhancing attributes: it refreshes the soul and rejoices the heart; it is pure and true, more precious than gold. The second reading reminds us that we must appreciate the Divine "foolishness" of the crucified Christ and obey His commandment of love as our expression of Divine worship. Today's Gospel gives us the dramatic account of Jesus' cleansing the Temple of its merchants and money changers, followed by a prediction of his death and Resurrection. The synoptic Gospels place the "cleansing of the Temple" immediately after Jesus' triumphant arrival in Jerusalem on the back of a colt on Palm Sunday, while John places it at the beginning of his Gospel. Jesus cleansed the Temple which King Herod began to renovate in 20BC. The abuses which kindled the prophetic indignation of Jesus were the conversion of God's Temple into a "noisy marketplace" by the animal merchants and into a "hideout of thieves" by the moneychangers with their grossly unjust business practices, sacrilege in God's Holy Place. Jesus' reaction to this commercialized Faith was fierce. Jesus constructed a whip of cords and used it to drive out the merchants and moneychangers from the Court of the Gentiles. Therefore, friends Let us remember that we are the temples of the Holy Spirit: St. Paul reminds us that we are God's temples, body and soul, because the Spirit of God dwells in us. Hence, we have no right to desecrate God's temple by impurity, injustice, pride, hatred, or jealousy. Let us be cleansed by asking God's forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Let us love our parish Church as our "Heavenly Father's house" and make it a holier place by our care for it, by our active participation in the liturgy, by offering our time and talents in the various ministries, and by our financial support for its maintenance and development. We need to avoid a calculating mentality in Divine worship: Our relationship with God must be that of a child to his parent, one of mutual love, respect and a desire for the family's good, with no thought of personal loss or gain. We are not supposed to think of God as a vending machine into which we put our sacrifices and good deeds to get back His blessings.

Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi

ST. CECILIA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE EASTER FLOWERS: Anyone interested in making a monetary donation for Easter Flowers in memory of loves ones is asked to place the donation along with PRINTED NAMES to be remembered in an envelope provided in your March monthly packet and place in the collection basket or mail to the Parish Office by March 24. The names will be published in the Easter Sunday bulletin, March 31.

<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.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE 2023 YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS: 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 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!

<u>PARKING:</u> 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 was attached to last week's bulletin or 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 THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS:

Thursday, March 7 – End of 3rd Quarter Friday, March 8 – No School Prek-8, Diocesan Professional Day

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL SILENT AUCTION: St. Thomas Home and School is hosting an online auction benefitting the school. This event will take place on March 13-16 at 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.

<u>ST. CECILIA CEMETERY NEWS:</u> 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.

PILGRIMAGE ON THE CAMINO DE SANTIGO & FATIMA WITH FR. MATTHEW FLATLEY SEPTEMBR 9-22: Experience a Pilgrimage like no other where you Walk the Camino de Santiago for the last 115 KM. (74 Miles) You will have daily Mass, much time for reflection among nature by taking a break from everyday concerns. The Pilgrimage is guided and supported but you must be able to walk at least 10 miles per day. By finishing the Camino, you will earn your Pilgrim Shell. After a few days in Santiago, we will then go to Fatima to thank Our Lady for a Spiritually Renewing Pilgrimage. George Hudson, the owner of Travel Tyme and who will also serve as our guide for this pilgrimage, will be on hand to present in detail the pilgrimage planned, and answer any questions. Please join us and bring a friend! "Information Night" on Wednesday, March 6, 7:00 p.m. at: Pleus Hall, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 1206 E McCarty St, Jefferson City MO 65101

<u>DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMPS:</u> Registration is now open for Diocesan 2024 Summer camps. Please visit. www.diojeffcity.org/youth-camps to register.

<u>HELIAS SUMMER CAMPS:</u> Registration is now open for Helias Catholic's Summer 2024 youth sports camps. Please visit www.heliascrusaderscamps.com to view Summer camp opportunities and register.

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. The 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!

SENIOR CITIZEN'S DAY AT FATIMA: Fatima's annual Senior Citizen's Day will be held on Thursday, March 21. There will be a musical program by our students in the gym starting at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will then be provided to all attending starting at 12:40 p.m. in the cafeteria, courtesy of the Osage County R-III Board of Education. Bus transportation will be provided from your Church according to the following schedule: Meta at 10:35 a.m./Folk at 11:00 a.m. Due to current construction, the drop off from the buses will be in front of Fatima and you will need to walk through the school building. We will have student escorts to guide you to the gym. We encourage everyone to take advantage of the free bus transportation as parking is very limited on Fatima's campus.

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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.

ST. ANTHONY KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS ST. PATRICK'S DANCE is Saturday, March 16, 8:00 to 11:00 p.m. in the St. Anthony Parish Hall, St. Anthony. Cost is \$10:00 per person, music by Morgan County Line. Available for purchase, soda, hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, and chips. Ice will be provided.

SAVE THE DATES:

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish – Ham & Sausage Breakfast – Sunday, March 10, 2024 Totus Tuus – June 23-28 – held at St. Stanislaus Church

<u>TOTUS TUUS - JUNE 23 - 28 -</u> 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.



