

**The Roman Catholic Parishes of**  
**St. Thomas the Apostle**  
in St. Thomas

**St. Cecilia**  
in Meta

[www.stthomasapostle.net](http://www.stthomasapostle.net)  
[www.stthomasapostleschool.net](http://www.stthomasapostleschool.net)

[www.stceciliameta.net](http://www.stceciliameta.net)

PO Box 146  
St. Thomas, MO 65076

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

**May 29, 2022**

Administrator: Fr. Leonard Mukiibi  
[frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com](mailto:frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com)  
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315

St. Thomas the Apostle Bookkeeper:  
Mrs. Jan Heckemeyer  
[jheckemeyerooffice@gmail.com](mailto:jheckemeyerooffice@gmail.com)

St. Thomas the Apostle Admin. Secretary:  
Mrs. Theresa Veit  
[tvaitoffice@gmail.com](mailto:tvaitoffice@gmail.com)



School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer  
[lheckemeyer@stacs.school](mailto:lheckemeyer@stacs.school)  
School: 573-477-3322 Fax: 573-477-3700

St. Thomas the Apostle Secretary:  
Mrs. Diane Lueckenhoff  
[dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com](mailto:dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com)

St. Cecilia Bookkeeper:  
Mrs. Doris Stumpe  
[dstumpeoffice@gmail.com](mailto: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 May 29-June 5:**

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – George & Margaret Buechter

**Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – No Mass, Summer Schedule**

Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Bob & Donnie Luebbering

Friday 7:45 a.m. –L&D Anton Boessen Family

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Joe Veit

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes  
Herb Kroll

**Your Sunday Offering:**

Offertory Budget for 2021-2022: \$305,000.00

Offertory Goal through Month End: \$279,587.00

Actual Collection for 2021-2022: **\$266,150.81**

Offertory Difference Year to Date: – \$ 13,436.19

Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

**Collection in Church:**

May 1 \$ 4,412.52

May 8 \$ 6,013.76

May 15 \$ 3,520.00

May 22 \$ 4,046.76

May 29 \$

**Collection Online:** \$ 7,072.00

**May total to date:** **\$25,065.04**

Difference for May: -\$ 351.96

**Church Renovation Capital Campaign**

Total Pledges/Donations \$484,407.70

Total Collected \$420,166.49

Total Expenses Paid \$695,920.95

A total of 127 parishioners have returned pledge cards/or  
Contributed to the renovation project.

Church Renovation Loan Balance \$194,916.13

Loan payments to date \$7,430.00

(principal) \$5,083.87 (interest) \$2,346.13

**St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists**

June 4 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kerry Meyer / Jeanette

June 5 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Luke Schroeder / Jackie

June 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kelsey Kliethermes / Jackie

June 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Mary Kay Brand / Jackie

**St. Thomas the Apostle Readers**

June 4 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – David Schroeder

June 5 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jennifer Schroeder

June 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Bill Luebbering

June 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jan Heckemeyer

**Saint Cecilia**

**Mass Schedule for the Week of May 29-June 5:**

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Ben & Jason Hake

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Alma Blomberg

**Your Sunday Offering:**

Offertory Budget for 2021-2022: \$62,000.00

Collection Total for 2021-2022: **\$54,899.96**

Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,166.67

**Collection in Church:**

May 1 \$ 865.00

May 8 \$1,145.00

May 15 \$1,430.00

May 22 \$1,280.00

May 29 \$

**May total to date:** **\$4,720.00**

Difference for May: -\$ 446.67

**St. Cecilia Collection Counters**

June – Pam Libbert & Marie Lueckenotto

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

**St. Cecilia Readers**

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer

June 5 8:00 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer

June 12 8:00 a.m. – Jennifer Even

**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**

June 4 Saturday 5:00p.m.-Eric & Roseanne Boessen  
June 5 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Josh Schroeder & Simon Strope  
June 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Gilbert Schellman & Mark Boessen  
June 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Larry Lueckenhoff & Alan Reinkemeyer  
**Collection baskets choir loft by organ, please return after use.**

**St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Ministers**

June 4 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Graessle  
June 5 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Marshall Boessen  
June 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Brenda Wansing  
June 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Lynne Reinkemeyer

**St. Thomas the Apostle Servers**

June 4 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Gregory Kirby, Miranda Meyer  
June 5 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Erika Luebbering, Victoria Wieberg,  
Jacob Stewart  
June 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Gregory Kirby & Kora Luebbering,  
Ava Buschjost & Evelyn Wooten  
June 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Wyatt Otto, Benjamin Otto  
Francie & Hannah Tallent

**St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts**

June 4 Saturday, 5:00 p.m. – Bill & Betty Jo Luebbering  
June 5 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Mike & Sheri Wieberg  
June 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Mark & Lora Boessen Family  
June 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Brian & Katie Luebbering Fam.

**St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters**

June 5 – Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg  
June 12 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder  
June 19 – Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman  
June 26 – Paul Becker & Shara Buechter  
July 3 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes

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

June 5 Brooke Schell  
June 12 Jenny Becker  
June 19 Karlie Reinkemeyer  
June 26 Lauri Luebbering  
July 3 Dunja Wieberg

**Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas**

Tuesday, 7:20 a.m. – Bob Schellman – Sorrowful Mysteries  
Thursday 7:45 a.m. –Gilbert & Hermina – Luminous Mysteries  
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Shirley Volmert – Sorrowful Mysteries  
Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Bob Schellman – Glorious Mysteries  
Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Shirley Volmert– Glorious Mysteries

**St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners**

May 29: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering  
June 5: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman  
June 12: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Jackie Prenger, Amy Buechter  
June 19: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost  
June 26: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer

**SCRIP:** Visit [www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip](http://www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip) for more information about the Scrip program. Please contact Amanda Wooten 573-694-1735 or [amandab\\_27@hotmail.com](mailto:amandab_27@hotmail.com)

**BULLETIN NOTICES:** Deadline for bulletin is Wednesday at noon.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH BULLETINS:** If you are needing a bulletin and Church is locked there are some on the Vitae House front porch.

**A NOTE OF THANKS!**

Thank you for your prayers, cards and words of comfort during the loss of our brother and uncle, Tim Otto. The support of our parish community has been a great blessing during this difficult time.

**Charlene & Randy, Jason and Mike Buschjost and families**

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

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE HOLY HOUR** is Friday, June 3, 7:00 p.m.

**A ROSARY FOR OUR COUNTRY** will be prayed on Saturday, June 4, 3:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PICNIC QUILT AUCTION:** If you have a baby quilt or t-towels for our parish picnic auction, please call Diane Lueckenhoff, 573-645-5794 or Charlene Buschjost 573-690-9098 by June 5.

**St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers**

June 5 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Jennifer Even  
June 12 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff

**St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers**

June 5 Sunday 8:00 a.m. –Leonard Schulte & Harold Libbert  
June 12 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Anton Libbert & Terry Libbert

**St. Cecilia Servers**

June 5 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Natalee Derkum  
June 12 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Henry & Annaline Schroeder  
**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**

May 29 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Family of Alma Blomberg

**Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia**

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. – Margaret Brune  
Glorious Mysteries  
June 5 Sunday 7:35 a.m.– Margaret Brune  
Glorious Mysteries  
June 12 Sunday 7:35 a.m.- Dorothy Rehagen  
Glorious Mysteries

**VOTIVE CANDLES:** The requested donation for lighting a votive candle in church is **\$2.50.**

**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.

**BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S JUNE PRAYER INTENTION:** For all fathers; that through the intercession of St. Joseph they will be able to use their skills and gifts to love and provide for their children and raise them in the faith.

**PASTORS MEDITATION:** 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter. THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD JESUS: A NEW FORM OF PRESENCE. (AA. 1:1-11; Eph. 1:17-23) Jesus gave to his followers the task of completing his work by sharing the good news with the rest of the world. Today's readings describe the Ascension of the Lord Jesus, his Heavenly glory after promising to send the Holy Spirit to the Apostles as the source of Heavenly power and commanding them to bear witness to Him through their lives and preaching throughout the world. But the ascended Jesus is still with us because of His promise, "I am with you always; yes, to the end of time" (Mt 28-20). He is with us at all times and in all places, releasing a new energy upon the earth, the energy of the Holy Spirit. The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, presents the scene of Jesus' Ascension, the promise of the Holy Spirit, his instructions to the apostles to wait in Jerusalem for the Power from above, and the missionary command to the apostles to bear witness to him. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 47) suggests that, by his Ascension, the risen Lord "mounts his throne" in glory. In the second reading, Paul teaches us that God revealed His might in the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ and in exalting Him over all angelic forces. Jesus remains accessible to us now in the life-giving Holy Spirit, assuring us that one day we, too, will be ascending to Heavenly glory, provided that, with His grace, we live out our Faith in Him through the mission of loving service He entrusts to us. Today's Gospel tells us that, with his return to the Father, Jesus completes his mission on earth. But just before his Ascension, Jesus entrusted to the disciples the mission of preaching the Good News and evangelizing the whole world by bearing witness to him through their lives. It is in his Ascension that we see Jesus entering fully into the life and glory of God. In the descriptions of Christ after his Resurrection, we are given a hint of what life will be like in Heaven. The prospect of sharing that glory should be the driving force of our lives. Therefore, friends we need to be proclaimers and evangelizers, that is, to be a Christian is to be a proclaimer and an evangelizer. There is a difference between preaching and proclaiming. We preach with words, but we proclaim with our lives. Let us ask the guidance of the Spirit of God to bear witness to Jesus by our transparent Christian lives. We have a teaching mission, that is to say, Jesus taught us lessons of Faith, Hope, Love, forgiveness, mercy, and salvation by his life and his preaching and gave us the same mission for our brothers and sisters. Hence, let us learn about Jesus and his teachings through our daily study of the scriptures and the teachings of the Church, experience Jesus in personal prayer, our reception of the Sacraments and our works of charity and convey to others Jesus whom we experience with the help of the Holy Spirit. We need Jesus as our source of strength and encouragement in doing His will: We will be able to overcome doubts about our Faith and baseless fears, anxieties, and worries by meditating on Jesus' Ascension and the lesson it teaches, that we, too, are called to share his glory in Heaven.

***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukibi***

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE GRASS CUTTING ROTATION:** Spring is here and so is the green grass! The grass cutting rotation for the St Thomas the Apostle is as follows:

Week of May 30	Paul & Jenny Becker, Eric Buechter, Josh Schroeder
Week of June 5	Mark Luebbering, Nick Luebbering and Anthony Luebbering, Jason Otto
Week of June 12	Dick Schellman, Patrick Schellman, Paul Struempf, Rob Henson
Week of June 19	Alan Reinkemeyer, Richard Heckemeyer and Dave Schroeder
Week of June 26	Fred Luebbering, Mark Graessle and Jeff Cassmeyer

**Important Note: We would like to have a few additional people join in with some of these teams. Only requires an hour or two a month and the pay and benefits are great! Call Alan Reinkemeyer at 573-694-6984 if interested.**

**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.

**WESTERN CATHOLIC UNION DISTRICT BARBECUE AND MEETING** will be held June 25, K of C Hall in Westphalia. Meal will be served at noon for members and families with a short meeting afterwards. Reservations must be made by June 20 to Lillian Lackman 573-477-3472 or 573-645-2243 or Janice Boessen 573-455-2651 or 573-433-5653. Door prizes will be given out.

**SAVE THE DATES:** June 26 - July 1, 2022 – Totus Tuus  
July 10, 2022 – St. Cecilia Parish Picnic

**ST. THOMAS PARISH PARK BOARD CONCESSION STAND WORKERS:**

Tuesday, May 31	6:30 p.m.	10U Girls 1	Mike & Amanda Wooten
Tuesday, May 31	8:00 p.m.	8U Boys	Alan & Jessica Braun
Wednesday, June 1	6:30 p.m.	10U Girls 1&2	Gary & Amanda Veltrop
Thursday, June 2	6:30 p.m.	7U Boys	Sam & Katie Luebbering
Thursday, June 2	8:00 p.m.	15U Girls	Adam & Debbie Schulte
Friday, June 3	6:30 p.m.	8U Boys	Shane & Melissa Verslues

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH PICNIC - LOOSE CREEK** – is Sunday, June 12, Offering 2 options to better serve you  
**Option 1** - Carry Out @ I.C. Loose Creek Church Grounds - 11 am - 7 pm Plates include Fried Chicken, German Pot Roast, Potatoes, Green Beans, Slaw, & Dessert Tables will be set up for you to eat and enjoy the entertainment! • Live Music 11:30 am-10 pm • Beer Garden 11 am-10 pm • Quilt & Dessert Auction 5 pm • Raffle & 50/25/25 • Free Games for Kids • Bingo & Silent Auction, and all Dinner Plates \$15. Entertainment schedule: 11:30 am - 1:30 pm - Osage Angels • 2:00 - 4:00 pm - Hubert Backes • 7:00 - 10:00 pm - SoulRoot Band – Shuttle Service available from Loose Creek Community Center.

**Option 2** - Drive Thru @ Loose Creek Community Center 12 - 6 pm. Plates include Fried Chicken, German Pot Roast, Potatoes, Green Beans, Slaw, & Dessert.

**RELAY EVENT:** Join us for our Relay event, a Drive Thru BBQ, on Friday, June 17. This event will be held at the Westphalia Knights of Columbus Hall. Pork burger meals are \$5 and include chips and a choice of drink. Single pork burgers will also be available for \$3. Our Luminaria Ceremony honoring those who we have lost to cancer and those still fighting, will begin at 8pm. Luminaria can be purchased before or at the event. We will also have raffle chances available before our event and at the event. We will have the event rain or shine! Any questions, please contact Nicki at (573) 301-6944.

**TOTUS TUUS SUMMER CAMP:** The Totus Tuus Summer Camp is a dynamic and fun program for children and teens conducted by four person teams usually comprised of two college age girls and two seminarians. Songs, games, skits, food, teaching about the Faith, and the Sacraments occur every day during Totus Tuus. The camp will be held June 26-July 1 in our parishes. The form is attached to the bulletin, web pages or online. If you need any additional information, please contact Diane or Theresa. Forms can be dropped in the collection basket (attention Totus Tuus) or brought to the Parish Office on Tuesday morning or Wednesday.

The Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight  
Bishop of Jefferson City

DECREE

Implementing Policy on Inactive Catholics and Tuition in Catholic Schools

“The duty and right of educating belongs in a special way to the Church, to which has been divinely entrusted the mission of assisting persons so that they are able to reach the fullness of the Christian life.” Canon 794 §1

In the course exercising my vigilance over Catholic schools according to canon 806 §1 and during the implementation of the Stewardship Model throughout the Diocese of Jefferson City the need to implement a consistent rule on inactive Catholics and tuition in Catholic schools has become apparent. Having considered all the relevant factors, consulted the Presbyteral Council, the Diocesan Finance Council, the Diocesan Finance Officer, the Director of Stewardship, the Superintendent of Schools and all other interested parties, I now wish to introduce this new policy on *Inactive Catholics and Tuition*.

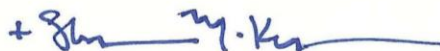
I therefore,

DECREE

that this Policy shall be promulgated by being published on the Diocesan website, and that it will take effect on 1 July 2022, *ad experimentum*, for a period of one year. All things to the contrary notwithstanding. At the end of the *ad experimentum* period this Policy will be reevaluated. I furthermore order that a copy of this Policy be sent to all concerned parties.

Given at the Chancery on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May in the Year of Our Lord 2022.





The Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight, S.T.D.  
Bishop of Jefferson City



Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse, J.D., J.C.L.  
Chancellor

Inactive Catholics and Tuition

The Diocese of Jefferson City, in accordance with the diocesan Pastoral Plan, is implementing a pastoral effort to deepen the spirituality of stewardship in our diocese.

The Stewardship Way of Life recognizes the need for clergy and faithful alike to foster an intentional and co-responsible approach to discipleship under the Lord Jesus, answering the call to freely give of themselves to the mission of the Church and others out of gratitude and love for Christ. This spirituality of Christian stewardship is manifested in the Church’s partnership with parents in the education and formation of their children in the parish’s Catholic School.

Discipleship calls us to more than membership; it calls us to an active stewardship. Thus, all parishioners are asked to support the work and ministry of their local parish.

No more and no less is asked of Catholic school parents and students than of any other parishioner. All parishioners are asked to:

- Commit to **pray**. That is, actively and regularly attend Mass on weekends and Holy Days of Obligation.
- Commit to **participate**. That is, offer their talents and a portion of their time to serve the parish community and be a part of its fellowship and opportunities for ongoing Christian formation.
- Commit to **sacrificially give**. That is, generously and proportionately pledge a portion of the “first fruits” of material treasure to support the operation and ministry of the parish church. The goal for Christians is the Biblical tithing (10%) and all are called to strive toward that goal.

All parish families are expected to enshrine these 3 sacrificial commitments through the completion of annual stewardship forms.

Families who strive to live as active stewards may have their children sponsored through the stewardship of the people of the parish for enrollment in the Catholic school. It is understood that parish sponsored enrollment in a Catholic school is contingent upon the family's practice of their faith.

Catholic families who refuse, after many invitations, to live as active stewards must meet with the Pastor to discuss the following options in order to retain enrollment in the parish school:

1. Begin living as active stewards in the parish by consistently attending Mass on weekends and Holy Days, being active in the life of the parish, and staying current on a pledge of material treasure to support the work of the Church.
2. At the discretion of the pastor, these families would be moved to "tuition status" but only for their children already enrolled in the school prior to the parish's transition to the CSR model. The tuition rate would be set by the pastor, and will likely be comparable to the cost of education at private schools in the area. The bishop recommends this tuition to be at least 110% of the cost of education per pupil. This income will be considered ordinary income for the parish (as opposed to non-Catholic tuition, which is considered extraordinary). Children from inactive Catholic families not currently enrolled in the Catholic school will no longer be eligible to enroll via tuition, only as active stewards.
3. Unenroll from the parish school.

Catholic families who are not living as active stewards and who attend and/or register in another ecclesial community are not eligible for enrollment in the parish school until they begin the process of living as active stewards in the Catholic parish.

In some places, on the borders of our diocese, parishioners from parishes in another diocese also register in our parishes in order to send children to parish schools in the Diocese of Jefferson City. However, we discourage Catholics from registering in more than one parish community at a time. Therefore, families in this situation should either:

1. Enroll and strive to live as active stewards at the parish which is sponsoring their children for enrollment in the parish Catholic school.
2. Contact the pastors of both parishes and ask for a plan to be developed with the home parish to sponsor their child for enrollment.
3. Pay a tuition rate determined by the pastor of the enrolling school.

It is the responsibility of the pastor of the parish to educate and form the faithful of the parish, as well as school administrators and staff, on the difference between a Catholic school and a private school. All parishioners need to understand that the parish school is not separate and distinct from the parish but instead a ministry of it! The Catholic school exists to form and educate the children of active parishioners. While non-Catholic students may be admitted from time-to-time on a tuition basis, and as space allows, the priority is always given to the children of active stewards of the parish or other sponsoring parishes.

It is understood that many different situations may arise which are not explicitly addressed in this document. The addressing of various pastoral situations is left to the discretion of the pastor using this document as a guide and in collaboration with the Offices of Stewardship and Catholic Schools.

The Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight  
Bishop of Jefferson City

DECREE

Implementing Diocesan Policy on Capital Campaigns and Fundraisers in the Stewardship Model

“The Christian faithful are obliged to assist with the needs of the Church so that the Church has what is necessary for divine worship, for the works of the apostolate and of charity, and for the decent support of ministers.” Canon 222 §1

“The diocesan bishop is bound to admonish the faithful of the obligation mentioned in canon 222 §1 and in an appropriate manner to urge its observance.” Canon 1261 §2

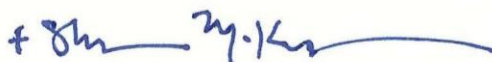
In the course exercising my duty according to canon law and during the implementation of the Stewardship Model throughout the Diocese of Jefferson City, the need to further define how capital campaigns and fundraisers are undertaken has become clear. Having considered all the relevant factors, consulted the Presbyteral Council, the Diocesan Finance Council, the Diocesan Finance Officer, the Director of Stewardship, and all other interested parties, I now wish to introduce this new policy on Capital Campaigns and Fundraisers.

I therefore,

DECREE

that this Policy shall be promulgated by being published on the Diocesan website, and that it will take effect on 1 July 2022, *ad experimentum*, for a period of one year. All things to the contrary notwithstanding. At the end of the *ad experimentum* period this Policy will be reevaluated. I furthermore order that a copy of this Policy be sent to all concerned parties.

Given at the Chancery on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May in the Year of Our Lord 2022.



The Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight, S.T.D.  
Bishop of Jefferson City



Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse, J.D., J.C.L.  
Chancellor

**Capital Campaigns & Fundraisers in the Stewardship Model**

The Diocese of Jefferson City, in accordance with the diocesan Pastoral Plan, is implementing a pastoral effort to deepen the spirituality of stewardship in our diocese.

The Stewardship Way of Life recognizes the need for clergy and faithful alike to foster an intentional and co-responsible approach to discipleship under the Lord Jesus, answering the call to freely give of themselves to the mission of the Church and others out of gratitude and love for Christ. This Christian spirituality of stewardship is manifested concretely in the way Catholics support the ministry of their parishes, in the way parishes support the ministry of diocesan ministries, and in the way the diocese supports the ministry of the universal Church.

This biblically-based model of tithing, embraced at every level of the diocese, openly and transparently embodies our intentional response as disciples of our Lord.

In this model, the Sunday offertory collection shall be the primary means of funding the operations of the parish, as the parishioners are expected to fund their own mission (cf. c. 222). In addition, there are three diocesan special collections at Christmas, Easter and in July to fund the obligations we share together; the education of our seminarians and priests, our infirm and retired priests, and for the missions.

Parish special event fundraisers are to be limited in this tithing-based model in order to respect the parishioners' tithe to the parish as the primary means of supporting the mission of the parish. Otherwise, the proliferation of unapproved second collections or fundraisers will have the effect of eroding the intentional commitment of the parishioners in their annual stewardship pledge. Many present parish special events are billed as fundraisers but need not be, as they fulfill a social and community-building need in the parish. Serious consideration should be given to eliminating the fundraising aspect of these parish social events and emphasizing their community dimension.

Therefore, a special event fundraiser may take place no more than once a year in the parish and once a year for the parish school, and the funds generated must not be used to fund the regular operations of the parish or school. The proceeds of the fundraiser may be designated by the pastor to build a restricted parish fund or endowment, such as a deferred maintenance fund to off-set the need for future capital campaigns. In the case of the school, proceeds must be used for endowed funds or a special project, not operational expenses. The proceeds of this fundraising event will be considered extraordinary income and be geared toward assisting the parishioners to rounding out their biblically-based tithe (8% for the parish offertory; 2% for a charity of their choice).

### **Capital Campaigns**

It is understood that from time-to-time parishes will need to undertake capital campaigns in order to accomplish major projects that expand the parish complex or significantly address critical issues beyond regular deferred maintenance and upkeep.

### **Capital Campaigns & Fundraisers in the Stewardship Model**

It is critical that funds given and pledged to these capital campaigns not diminish or replace the pledged tithe of parishioners but should be presented to the parish as an opportunity to give "over and above" what is sacrificially given in and through a yearly tithing pledge to support the operations of the parish. For this reason, capital campaigns in the parish should be infrequent and may only begin with the Bishop's written permission. **Deferred Maintenance** campaigns are discouraged, as the upkeep and repairs of facilities should be included in the regular operating budget of the parish. The diocesan policy governing deferred maintenance projects and campaigns must be followed, and any funds obtained for them are considered ordinary income and subject to the 10% tithe. In a well-run parish **Deferred Maintenance** campaigns will be rare and only the result of unusual and unforeseeable circumstances.

The construction or substantial expansion of a church, parish hall, school, or other parish facility may qualify as a **Major Capital** campaign and not a **Deferred Maintenance** campaign. Efforts to restore and beautify existing church structures undertaken to enrich the worship and faith of the parish may also qualify as a **Major Capital** campaign.

### **Major Capital Campaigns and the Tithe**

Approved campaigns supporting projects of major expansion/beautification/restoration are required to tithe 5% of their campaign receipts to the diocese, in keeping with the spirituality of stewardship and the practice of sharing all our gifts. However, the pastor may apply for permission from the Bishop to divert some or all of their tithing proceeds from a **Major Capital** campaign to:

- One or more of the diocesan Special Collections (Christmas, Easter, Missions).
- A new diocesan fund to assist struggling parishes in the diocese who meet defined benchmarks of the practice of stewardship.
- Or any combination of the above.

As many campaigns combine elements of major expansion/beautification/restoration and deferred maintenance, the Bishop will determine the percentages of the tithe that will be considered **Major Capital** campaign and **Deferred Maintenance** campaign.