

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

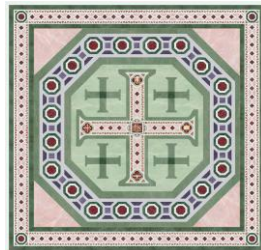
33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 19, 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 Nov. 19-26:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Sylvanus Hoecker

Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – **No Mass**

Thursday 9:00 a.m. – Shirley Luebbering

Friday 7:45 a.m. - L&D Vincent & Katie Loethen Family

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ida Schellman

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

Steve, David, Jim, Andrew & Celeste Suthoff &
Dan Wekenborg

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of Nov. 19-26:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – People of our Parishes

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Lawrence “Dick” Rehagen

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024: \$312,000.00

Offertory Goal through Month End: \$130,000.00

Actual Collection for 2023-2024: **\$128,795.59**

Offertory Difference Year to Date: -\$ 1,204.41

Offertory Goal per month: \$ 26,000.00

Collection in Church:

November 5 \$ 6,345.30

November 12 \$ 3,929.17

November 19 \$

November 26 \$

Collection Online: \$ 6,229.50

November total to date: **\$16,503.97**

Difference for November: -\$ 9,496.03

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations \$489,539.70

Total Collected \$511,951.63

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 \$65,790.11

Loan payments to date \$145,585.00

(principal) \$134,209.89 (interest) \$11,375.11

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists

Nov. 23 Thanksgiving 9:00 a.m. – Judy Schroeder/Jackie

Nov. 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jean Kliethermes / Alanna

Nov. 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering / Jackie

Dec. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten / Jeanette

Dec. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Lisa Wieberg / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers

Nov. 23 Thanksgiving 9:00 a.m. – David Schroeder

Nov. 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle

Nov. 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Katie Luebbering

Dec. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jan Carter

Dec. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jennifer Schroeder

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024: \$67,000.00

Collection Total for 2023-2024: **\$24,819.00**

Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,583.34

Collection in Church:

November 5 \$ 1,156.00

November 12 \$ 2,698.00

November 19 \$

November 26 \$

November total to date: **\$ 3,854.00**

Difference for November: -\$ 1,729.34

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

November: Dale & Margie Helton

December: Pam Libbert & Marie Lueckenotto

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

St. Cecilia Readers

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen

Sunday, Nov. 26 8:00 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer

Sunday, Dec 3 8:00 a.m. – Karyn Veltrop

St. Cecilia Organist

Sunday, Nov. 26, 8:00 a.m. – Emilie

Sunday, Dec 3, 8:00 a.m. - Lydia

**YOUR LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENT,
PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT. YOUR
FELLOW PARISHIONERS THANK YOU!**

St. Thomas the Apostle Greeters/Ushers

Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Day 9:00 a.m. – Shane & Zeke Verslues
Nov. 25 Saturday 5:00 pm– Eric & Roseanne Boessen
Nov. 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Larry Lueckenhoff & Doug Stockman
Dec. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Eric Strobe & Dave Luebbering
Dec. 3 Sun.10:00 a.m. –Craig Buechter & 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

Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Day 9:00 a.m.- Bill Luebbering
Nov. 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Barb Graessle
Nov. 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Mattheuw Prenger
Dec. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Graessle
Dec 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Janet Lueckenhoff

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers

Weekday – Kambrie Stegeman & Evelyn Wooten
Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Day 9:00 a.m. – Valerie, Zeke & Max Verslues

Nov. 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Carmen Luebbering,
Emerald Fennewald, Miranda Meyer
Nov. 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Will & Victoria Wieberg,
Angelina Veltrop, Isabella Luebbering
Dec. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ellie & Sadie Boessen,
Ava Buschjost & Evelyn Wooten
Dec. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Valerie, Zeke & Max Verslues,
Aliyah Buechter

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts

Nov. 25 5:00 p.m.- Family of Ida Schellman
Nov. 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Family of Suthoff's

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters

November 26 – Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman
December 3 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes
December 10 – Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
December 17 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder

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

November 26 Jenny Becker
December 3 Karlie Reinkemeyer
December 10 Lauri Luebbering
December 17 Brooke Schell

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday 7:25 a.m. – Bob Schellman – Sorrowful Mysteries
Wednesday 7:25 a.m. – **NO MASS**
Thanksgiving Day - Thursday 8:35 a.m. –Dale Herigon– Luminous Mysteries
Friday 7:25 a.m. – Shirley Volmert – Sorrowful Mysteries
Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Dale Herigon – Glorious Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Tina Stockman – Glorious Mysteries

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners

November 19: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Brenda Schell, Amy Buechter
November 26: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering
December 3: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer
December 10: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost
December 17: 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 Strobe at 573-477-3349.

Tuesday, November 21 – Pat Kaiser & Sharon Kirkweg **Thursday, November 30** – Sandy Kliegel & Jean Kliethermes

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

CONGRATULATIONS to ***Luke Simon Strobe***, son of Simon & Anne Strobe, who became a child of God through baptism this weekend in St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

SCAM ALERT: You may have received an email or text from Fr. Leonard Mukiibi requesting gift cards. ***THIS IS A SCAM!!!*** If you look at the email address, ***it is NOT Fr's.*** ***Please DO NOT RESPOND to such an email or text. FR. WOULD NEVER ASK FOR GIFT CARDS OR HELP via email or Facebook.***

BULLETIN NOTICES: ***DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN NOTICES THIS WEEK IS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22 8:00 A.M.***

2024 ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH CALENDARS are in the entrance of St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT NOVEMBER PRAYER INTENTION: For our family, friends and benefactors of our community who have passed from this world to the next; may they attain a share in eternal happiness through our Lord Jesus Christ risen from the dead, we pray to the Lord.

NOVEMBER PRAYERS FOR DEPARTED LOVED ONES: Note cards are provided (or bring your own 3x5 note cards) to place in the basket in the side entrance of Church (St. Thomas the Apostle) and entrance of Church (St. Cecilia) with names of your deceased loved ones. Fr. Leonard will collect the cards and will be placed on the altar.

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers

Nov. 26 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer
Dec. 3 Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Janice Schanzmeyer

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

Nov. 26 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Leon Schanzmeyer, Darin Even,
Mitch & Brendan Stumpe
Dec. 3 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Randy Hagenhoff, Kenny Otto,
Otto Wankum, Leonard Schulte

St. Cecilia Servers

Nov. 26 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Natalee Derkum
Dec. 3 Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Henry & Annaline Schroeder

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts

Nov. 26 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Family of Lawrence “Dick” Rehagen

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. –Cathy Borgmeyer–Glorious Mysteries
Nov. 26 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer
Glorious Mysteries
Dec. 3 Sunday 7:35 a.m.–Mary Plassmeyer–Joyful Mysteries

VOTIVE CANDLES: 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.

CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL Packets: Forms may be turned in to your parish by using the self-addressed envelope, collection basket, Church Office or place it in the box on table in the back of Church. **Please have forms in by November 17th.** Implementation of the Catholic Stewardship Renewal Time and Talent and Tithing forms will start January 1, 2024. St. Thomas parishioners may also fill out the Stewardship forms on our website to submit online.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE!!! St. Thomas the Apostle Parish has selected Universal Church Directories to help us with our new church directory. Universal is widely known for top quality directories and photography. Their photographer will take pictures and you will view your proofs electronically immediately following your photography. Our dates for photography are **January 3-6!** Schedule early for the time that best suits your family! Simply go to the St. Thomas Website or Universal website, www.ucdir.com, click on the box to the right that says "photography appointment scheduling login", enter mo253 in the Church Code field and enter photos in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. Please make sure to include your email so you will get a reminder closer to the picture date. Each family in the directory will receive a free 8X10 photo and a complimentary copy of the directory. Please see the flyer attached to the bulletin. Please contact Melissa Verslues 338-3433 or Theresa Veit 418-7301, if you have any questions or need assistance signing up.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHIONER NOTIFICATION TEXT: Several St. Thomas the Apostle Parishioners have notified us that they would like to receive a text when upcoming parish announcements need to be sent out and so we are going to use the Remind App which allows us to send a mass text to our parishioners. You do NOT have to have the app to receive text messages. You will receive an individual text. If you reply to the text, it will come only to the parish (other parishioners will not get it). Several groups in the parish are already using this and we are going to try to do it with the Parish. If you would like to receive a text message on upcoming parish announcements, please go to the following link and fill out your name and cell phone number. If you have any questions or need help, please contact Theresa Veit at (573) 418-7301.
<https://www.remind.com/join/c2chf2>

PASTORS MEDITATION:

Notice: We will **not** have Masses on November 29 and 30; I will be having a procedure, and please add me to your prayers as I take that procedure, am sorry for the inconveniences caused. Blessings

ST. CECILIA.

I would like to congratulate and wish St. Cecilia parishioners a happy feast day today. I know and believe that St. Cecilia has mentored you in your faith life and intercedes for you all before God. Celebrate the love, care and unity with one another you have as a parish, and may God continue to bless your parish and all parishioners with a strong faith, charity and love for each other through the intercession of St. Cecilia. May you always take the example and lifestyle similar to that of St. Cecilia. Blessings.

33rd Sunday in ordinary time: NO RISK, NO REWARD. (Prov. 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1Thes. 5:1-6; Mt. 25:14-30)

We will be judged on how well we used our talents to work for God's kingdom. This second last Sunday reminds us of the end of the liturgical year and of the end of all things and of the preparations we need to make to reach Heaven. We are invited to live in such a way that we make the best use of the talents God has given us, so that at the hour of our death Our Lord will say: "Well done, my good and faithful servant! Come and share the joy of your master" (Mt 25: 21). The first reading suggests that we should be as diligent and industrious as a loyal and faithful wife, in the use of our God-given gifts and talents with "the fear of the Lord." Unlike the one-talent man, she takes her gifts and "brings forth good, not evil"; she "reaches her hands to the poor and extends her arms to the needy." In today's Responsorial Psalm, (Ps 128), the Psalmist echoes the concept of the blessedness of the faithful servant of the Lord. The Psalm affirms that the fear of the Lord is the key to human happiness and success. In the second reading, Paul advises us to keep awake and be sober, encouraging and building each other up as we wait for the "Day of the Lord." He challenges the Thessalonians to turn fear of the Lord into positive, constructive and life-affirming action. Today's Gospel challenges us to ask the questions: Are we using our talents and gifts primarily to serve God? Are we doing everything we can to carry out God's will? We are challenged to do something positive, constructive and life-affirming with our talents here and now. Therefore friends, we need to trust God enough to make use of the gifts and abilities we have been given. We may be especially talented in teaching children or cooking meals or repairing homes or programming computers. So, we should ask ourselves how we are using our particular gifts in the service of our Christian community and the wider society. We need to make use of our talents in our parish. In addition to our homes and families, the best place to do this is in our parish. This means that we should be always willing to share our abilities in creative worship in the Church and in various ministries of our parish, such as Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, lector, usher, Sunday school teacher, singer in the choir, volunteer, and member of one or more parish organizations and community outreach programs. We need to "trade" with our talent of Christian Faith: All of us in the Church today have received at least one talent namely, the gift of Faith. Our responsibility is not just to preserve and "keep" the Faith, but to work with it. We need to promote and add value to Faith by living it out. The way to preserve the Faith, or any other talent that God has given us, is to put it to work and make it bear fruit. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE is Tuesday, December 5, 7:00 p.m. St. Cecilia Church. **THIS IS FOR BOTH PARISHES!**

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, December 7 – 7:00 p.m. St. Cecilia

Friday, December 8 – 7:45 a.m. St. Thomas the Apostle

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

Mass will be celebrated on Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24, 5:00 & 10:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle

Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24, 7:00 p.m. St. Cecilia

Christmas Day – December 25, 8:00 a.m. St. Cecilia

Christmas Day – December 25, 10:00 a.m. St. Thomas the Apostle

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE: Sunday, December 31 – 5:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle

This year the Solemnity of Christmas falls on a Monday and is a holyday of obligation. All the faithful are obligated to participate in two Masses, from the anticipated Mass of the 4th Sunday of Advent on Saturday evening Dec. 23 through the evening of Dec. 25. In the "Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar," no. 34 states, "The Vigil Mass of the Nativity is used on the evening of December 24, either before or after First Vespers (Evening Prayer I). On the day of the Nativity of the Lord, following ancient Roman tradition, Mass may be celebrated three times, that is, in the night, at dawn, and during the day."

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, falls on a Monday (Jan. 1) and so is NOT a holyday of obligation. As a Solemnity, however, it still outranks the Feast of the Holy Family, which will be celebrated that Sunday Dec. 31. Any Masses celebrated on the evening of Dec. 31 should be for Mary, Mother of God.

SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES are available in front entrances of St. Cecilia and St. Thomas the Apostle Churches.

HOLY HOUR & ANOINTING OF THE SICK is Friday, November 24, 7:00 p.m. St. Cecilia Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING is Tuesday, November 28, 7:00 p.m. school library.

ST. THOMAS PARISH SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING is Tuesday, November 28, 6:00 p.m. in school library.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL is looking for a part time music teacher, either one full day or two half days.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS:

Tuesday, November 21 – Grades 5-8 Three Rivers Presentation

Wednesday, November 22, Thursday, November 23 & Friday, November 24 – No School PreK-8 – Thanksgiving Break

Thursday, November 30 – Picture retakes

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL, PSR & CONFIRMATION STUDENTS, ST. CECILIA PSR & CONFIRMATION STUDENTS, ST. CECILIA SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AND LADIE'S AUXILIARY ARE SPONSORING A FOOD FOR FAMILIES DRIVE are sponsoring a food drive (non-perishable items, such as canned foods, peanut butter, whole grain cereals, bagged rice or pasta, or other similar items would be greatly appreciated) beginning now through December 10. The food collected will be delivered to the Helping Hands of Central Missouri Food Pantry located near St. Elizabeth. Food collection boxes are located in the entrances of St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Cecilia Churches. Food donations can also be dropped off during Wednesday night PSR classes at the St. Cecilia Parish Center or St. Thomas the Apostle School. As we approach the winter season, please take this opportunity to help those in need. Thank you!!

HELIAS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWS: **Helias Catholic Alumni:** Attention, all graduates of Helias Catholic High School! Keep up on what's happening in the Crusader community by registering to receive alumni updates. Sign up at heliascatholic.com/alumni or email Mr. Ron Vossen, Helias Catholic president and director of alumni relations, at rvossen@heliascatholic.com.

ARGYLE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FALL CHICKEN DINNER is Sunday, November 19, serving fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce & dessert from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. \$14.00 per person, carry-outs/drive thru, inside seating available at the Argyle K C Hall.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BLOOD DRIVE is Thursday, November 30, 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Hall. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter StThomasParish to schedule an appointment.

WESTERN CATHOLIC UNION DISTRICT CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held on Saturday, December 2 at St. Joseph's School in Westphalia with a meal at noon. Reservations must be made to Lillian Lackman 573-477-3472 to Janice Boessen 573-433-5653 **by November 28.**

CHRISTMAS ON 3RD ST in Meta, MO will be held on December 3, 2023. The starting time will be posted later.

ST. THOMAS CITY: Mark your calendars for Friday, December 8, the 2nd annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Parade. Details can be found on Facebook on the City of St. Thomas page. If wanting to enter a float please email saintthomascity@gmail.com.

ST. THOMAS HOMETOWN HOLIDAY MARKET is Sunday, December 10, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center. Free admission, over 30 vendors, raffle for prizes, Pizza Kwik 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Proceeds to benefit St. Thomas the Apostle School. For more information, please contact Kim Kliegel, 573-619-9188.

SAVE THE DATES: St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Pictorial Directory – January 3-6, 2024

After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, "Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more." His master said to him, "Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy."

Matthew 25:19-21

We know that all the gifts we have are from God who entrusted them to us for our good and we are called to give these gifts back for His glory.



