

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

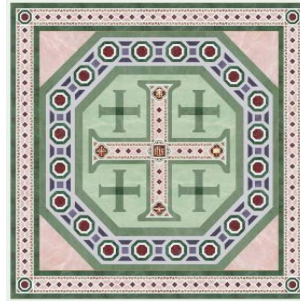
PO Box 146
St. Thomas, MO 65076

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 11, 2020

Administrator: 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. Jenny Becker
jbeckeroffice@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 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 October 11-18:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Harry & Norma Lueckenhoff Anniversary
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Curt Stockman
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Imogene Volmert
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Alan & Germaine Strope
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Wilfred & Virginia Libbert
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021:	\$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	\$101,668.00
Actual Collection for 2020-2021:	\$ 76,105.00
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	– \$ 25,563.00
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

October 4	\$ 3,689.00
October 11	\$
October 18	\$
October 25	\$

Collection Online: \$ 5,067.00
October total to date: **\$ 8,756.00**
Difference for October: –\$ 16,661.00

St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund

Total Expansion Project expenses paid: \$2,273,475.34
Income from parishioners for FY 2020-2021
(via the yellow “Building Fund” envelope): **\$7,941.00**
Loan payments to date for FY 2020-2021: **\$18,455.48**
Principal \$17,906.46 Interest \$549.02
Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: **\$77,926.99**

Cantor/Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jean Kliethermes / Jackie Prenger
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Anne Strope / Jackie Prenger

St. Thomas the Apostle Reader

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Judy Schroeder
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Daffiny Tallent

St. Thomas the Apostle Ushers

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Boessen & Dave Luebbering
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Keith Kliethermes & Mike Buschjost

Mass live streamers

October 18 – Brooke Schell
October 25 – Lauri Luebbering
November 1 – Karlie Reinkemeyer
November 8 – Jeanette Schroeder

If anyone is interested in helping livestream the 10:00 a.m. Mass, please contact Barbara Graessle at 573-680-2954.

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of October 11-18:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Susan Boeckman Mertens

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Daniel Scheulen
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Ben & Jason Hake

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021:	\$62,000.00
Collection Total for 2020-2021:	\$14,717.00
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 5,166.67

Collection in Church:

October 4	\$ 1,382.00
October 11	\$
October 18	\$
October 25	\$

October total to date: **\$ 1,382.00**
Difference for October: –\$ 3,784.67

COLLECTION COUNTERS:

October: Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

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

St. Cecilia Reader:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Doris Stumpe
Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Betty Hagenhoff
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer – Glorious Mysteries
Saturday 6:35 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen – Glorious Mysteries
Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer – Glorious Mysteries

St. Cecilia Ushers

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Darin Even & Randy Hagenhoff
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Tony Derkum & Leon Schanzmeyer

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle

Tuesday 7:20 a.m. – Joann Heckman – Sorrowful Mysteries
Wednesday 7:20 a.m. – Pat Loethen – Glorious Mysteries
Thursday 7:20 a.m. – Viola Boessen – Luminous Mysteries
Friday 7:20 a.m. – Bob Schellman– Sorrowful Mysteries
Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Barb Graessle – Glorious Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Pat Loethen - Glorious Mysteries

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. **We have new scrip that is now available to purchase: Culver's, Madison's Café, Oscar's Diner, Sonic.**

CONGRATULATIONS to **Morgan Brown & Derek Otto**, who were united in the bonds of Holy Matrimony this weekend at St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Emery Lynne Schellman**, daughter of Kelsi Schlotz & Patrick Schellman who became a child of God through Baptism this weekend in St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

A NOTE OF THANKS!

We wish to thank everyone in the St. Thomas & Meta communities who sent cards, food, letters, monetary donations, prayers and support of any kind during Marilyn's illness and passing. Thanks also to Fr. Leonard & Fr. Medina and all who took part in making Marilyn's services so special. Your kindness and support during this difficult time is appreciated and it is our prayer that God may bless you in return. **Dale, Corinn, Patrick, Bruno, Sophie, Henry & Adelia**

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH QUILTING will not be held until further notice.

OCTOBER is the month of the rosary. We are encouraged to pray the rosary more often than we did before.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S OCTOBER PRAYER INTENTION: For all citizens in our country, that our participation in the upcoming elections may lead to a world which places a preeminence on the dignity of all human life.

UPDATED DECREE FROM BISHOP MCKNIGHT:

Decree on pastoral activities during the COVID-19 pandemic and after 11 September 2020.

August 20, 2020 | Health, Public Health Concerns

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; and Whereas having received the recommendation of the Presbyteral Council to extend the current norms with regard to the pandemic; 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 27 November 2020, provided that for days of precept they do one of the following:
 1. Prayerfully participate in the Sunday or holy day of obligation Mass livestreamed from their parish church or chapel, the Cathedral, the Vatican, or of any Mass of the day celebrated in communion with the Roman Catholic Church.
 2. Prayerfully read and meditate on the readings of the Mass for the Sunday or holy days of obligation, and recite the Rosary or Divine Mercy Chaplet.
2. Parishes are highly encouraged to livestream Masses for Sundays and holy days of obligation indefinitely.
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, especially 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. 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.
7. 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.
8. All other public health recommendations of state authorities should be followed whenever possible, especially with regard to singing in church, 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 required. If social distancing cannot be maintained in the pew, then the wearing of face masks is obligatory even in the pew.**
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. 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.
13. High use areas within the church must be sanitized before each service, including the pews used by the assembly, restroom facilities, door handles, push plates, and knobs. It is advisable to have entrance and exit doors propped open during high traffic volumes before and after Mass.
14. 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.
15. Holy water fonts shall remain empty.
16. Hand sanitizer should be made available throughout church and school facilities.

17. Other directives from the chancery for Catholic schools and religious education programs are to be followed. This decree is effective from 12 September 2020 and until 27 November 2020, anything to the contrary notwithstanding. Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Jefferson City on this 21st day of August 2020.

Most Rev. W. Shawn McKnight, Bishop of Jefferson City

PASTOR'S MEDITATION: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2020 Year A: **(Is.25:6-10a; Phil.4:12-14, 19-20; Mt.22:1-14) We need to keep wearing the wedding garment of holiness and righteousness.** Today's Scripture readings offer us a standing invitation to the everlasting joy of the *Heavenly Banquet* and a loving warning to stay ready always for this *Heavenly banquet* by constantly wearing the *wedding garment*, i.e., remaining in a state of grace by avoiding sins and by doing good.

In the first reading, Isaiah describes the Messianic banquet on the Lord's mountain in the Holy City of Jerusalem that Yahweh is preparing for His people. The "Good News" is that it is a great feast of "rich food and choice wines." But, for the children of Israel, the "bad news" is that Yahweh invites all people, including Gentiles, to the banquet. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 23), presents God as the Good Shepherd Who nourishes, leads, and protects His flock. In the second reading, St. Paul advises the Philippians to put their trust in the power and goodness of a providing God, Who, in Jesus, has given His Church everything His followers will need to participate in the Heavenly Banquet. In today's Gospel, by telling an allegorical parable of judgment in the Temple of Jerusalem two days before his arrest, Jesus accuses the Jewish religious and civil leaders of rejecting God's invitation to the Heavenly Banquet given to them through God's Own Son, Himself. They have rejected the invitation by not listening to the Good News preached by Jesus and by not reforming their lives. This invitation was repeatedly extended to Israel through the prophets, including John the Baptist. But the leadership has rejected the reality that Jesus was the fulfillment of all prophecies, refused to accept God's invitation to righteous living given through John the Baptist and through Jesus, and is now planning to kill God's own Son, Jesus. Hence, God is inviting the sinners and Gentiles for His banquet, and that is why Jesus is keeping the company of sinners.

We need to keep wearing the wedding garment of holiness and righteousness, the state of grace, all the time, do good for everyone, and appreciate and receive God's graces in the Church: We received the "*wedding garment*" of sanctifying grace in Baptism; the other Sacraments provide the additional graces we need to retain it. Our participation in the Eucharistic celebration and in personal and family prayers helps us to recharge our spiritual batteries and enables us to lead Spirit-filled, prayerful lives of doing good for all. Jesus nourishes us in the Church through the proclamation of the word of God and through His Body and Blood offered to us as spiritual Food and Drink in Holy Communion.

We need to participate in the Eucharistic banquet with proper preparation by repenting of our sins and by actively participating in the prayers and singing during the Holy Mass. Participating in Holy Mass is the best preparation and greatest Source of power for our future participation in the Heavenly banquet. **Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi**

PRAYER HOUR WITH MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION is Tuesday, October 13, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH FALL FANTASY EVENT UPDATE: The Parish Pastoral Council has decided that our second largest fundraiser will be **CANCELLED** this year due to COVID concerns. However, it was decided to explore hosting a "Virtual Event" in January 2021. The PPC is looking for anyone who would like to serve on the event planning committee. Please contact the parish office or one of the PPC members if you are interested. Tech savvy and marketing parishioners particularly needed. We hope to bring the traditional Fall Fantasy back in November 2021.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE FALL FESTIVAL COLLECTION: There was an envelope in your September packet. Each family or single wage earner is asked to contribute \$50.00. This collection was instituted years ago to replace the Fall Festival which St. Thomas Parish used to have. It is part of our overall parish budget, helping with ongoing expenses.

ST. THOMAS CHURCH CLEANING TEAM ROTATION FOR UPCOMING WEEKS:

Week of October 11th: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Jackie Prenger, Amy Buechter

Week of October 18th: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost

Week of October 25th: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter

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 October 12: Paul & Jenny Becker, Eric & Shara Buechter

Week of October 19: Alan Reinkemeyer, Richard Heckemeyer and Dave Schroeder.

Week of October 26: Mark Luebbering, Antone Luebbering and Nick Luebbering

Week of November 2: Mark Graessle, Jeff Cassmeyer and Fred Luebbering

THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, October 13, 7:30 p.m. A rosary will be prayed at 7:15 p.m. Please read the October newsletter attached to the bulletin.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS: All Students at St. Thomas the Apostle School will receive FREE breakfasts & lunches through the DESE Seamless Summer Option and the USDA. According to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), this program is scheduled to run through December 31, or until funding runs out – whichever occurs sooner. This program is also available to all children in the community from the ages of 1-18. If you wish to order meals for children 1-18 in the community, you will need to contact Mrs. Diane Lueckenhoff at 573-477-3322 by 9:00 a.m. Then you may pick up your meals at 11:30 a.m. by the cafeteria door, which is next to the Parish entry double doors. If you have any questions, please call the school office at 573-477-3322 for more information.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL STUDENTS is selling Mrs. Fields cookie dough and more baked goods. If you are interested in looking through a brochure or want to order, please call the school office at 573-477-3322, Mrs. Siebeneck 573-301-7508 or Mrs. Tallent 573-694-4408. Thank you for your support.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, October 16 – End of First Quarter

Tuesday, October 20 – Picture retake day

Thursday, October 22, Early Release 12:50 p.m. car riders, 1:00 p.m. bus riders K-8, PAT Conferences to be determined.

Friday, October 23, No School K-8

EWTN TRIP: Join Fr. Joe Corel on a 4 daytrip to EWTN (Eternal Word Televised Network) April 20-23, 2021. Enjoy a studio tour & Mass, taping of "EWTN LIVE", tour of Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament, "Lourdes Grotto" and John Paul II Museum. Includes motor coach transportation from Jefferson City, three nights hotel, five meals. Cost is \$680.00 per person based on double. Please call Travel Answers (573) 893-5262 for more details or to reserve a spot.

10TH ANNUAL PREGNANCY HELP CENTER PANDEPIC VIRTUAL BANQUET is October 29, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Drive through to pick up a boxed dinner and receive instruction for connecting to the virtual banquet program. Keynote speaker Kirk Walden. Register online by October 22 at www.friendsofphc.org or call 573-644-6635.

GUARDIAN ANGELS PARISH FALL DINNER, BRINKTOWN Curbside Pick Up & Carry-Out (no indoor seating is Sunday, October 11, serving sausage, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, sweet potatoes, sauerkraut & coleslaw from 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$12 per plate.

ST. JOSEPH PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, WESTPHALIA is Sunday, October 18, serving German pot roast, sausage, real mashed potatoes, sauerkraut & green beans, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. DRIVE THRU ONLY \$12.00 per meal. Live quilt & pie auction 2:00 p.m. School gym. To view quilts or obtain bid forms, please go to www.stjosephwestphalia.org

THE ANNUAL WARDSVILLE WALK FOR LIFE will be held on Sunday, October 18. Walk begins at 11:30 a.m. at St. Stanislaus Church and proceeds to the Lions Club. Activities will be held outdoors, in the back of the Lions Club building, under the pavilion. Please support this cause to defend the lives of the unborn! Thank you!