

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

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 1, 2023

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
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 Oct. 1-8:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Tom & Clara Schmidt
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – L&D Andrew Strobe Family
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Gerald Luebbering
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Harry & Norma Lueckenhoff Anniversary
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes
Jane Lindenbusch
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Pat Kliegel

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024:	\$312,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	\$ 78,000.00
Actual Collection for 2023-2024:	\$ 78,690.24
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	+\$ 690.24
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 26,000.00

Collection in Church:

September 3	\$ 6,372.67
September 10	\$ 4,572.17
September 17	\$ 4,992.17
September 24	\$ 3,928.07

Collection Online: \$ 7,232.00

September total to date: **\$27,097.08**

Difference for September: +\$ 1,097.08

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations	\$488,039.70
Total Collected	\$505,072.17
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 \$72,645.97

Loan payments to date \$138,155.00

(principal) \$127,354.03 (interest) \$10,800.97

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists

Oct. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kerry Meyer / Jeanette
Oct. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Judy Schroeder / Jackie
Oct. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kelsey Kliethermes / Jeanette
Oct. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jean Kliethermes / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers

Oct. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jan Carter
Oct. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Tom Backes
Oct. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mary Kay Brand
Oct. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Larry Lueckenhoff

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of Oct. 1-8:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – L&D Bruemmer & Wansing Families

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Harold Veltrop

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024:	\$67,000.00
Collection Total for 2023-2024:	\$15,786.00
Offertory Goal per month:	\$ 5,583.34

Collection in Church:

September 3	\$ 542.00
September 10	\$ 1,095.00
September 17	\$ 908.00
September 24	\$ 1,272.00

September total to date: **\$ 3,795.00**

Difference for September: -\$ 1,788.34

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

October: Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

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

St. Cecilia Readers

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen
Sunday, Oct. 8 8:00 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen
Sunday, Oct. 15 8:00 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer

St. Cecilia Organist

Sunday, Oct. 8 8:00 a.m. – Emilie
Sunday, Oct. 15 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

Oct. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Eric & Roseanne Boessen
Oct. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m. Larry Lueckenhoff & Richard Heckemeyer
Oct. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Eric Boessen & Dave Luebbering
Oct. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Tom Backes & Craig Buechter

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

Oct. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Graessle
Oct. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Janet Lueckenhoff
Oct. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jan Carter
Oct. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Marshall Boessen

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers

Weekday – Miranda Meyer & Will Wieberg
Oct. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ellie & Sadie Boessen,
Ava Buschjost & Evelyn Wooten
Oct. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Valerie, Zeke & Max Verslues,
Angelina Veltrop
Oct. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Carmen Luebbering,
JD Volmert, Emerald Fennewald
Oct. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Francie, Hannah & Levi Tallent,
Ben Otto

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts

Oct. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m.–Family of Jane Lindenbusch
Oct. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Family of Pat Kliegel

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters

October 8 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes
October 15 – Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
October 22 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder
October 29 – Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

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

October 8 Karlie Reinkemeyer
October 15 Lauri Luebbering
October 22 Brooke Schell
October 29 Jenny Becker

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday 7:25 a.m. – Bob Schellman – Sorrowful Mysteries
Wednesday 7:25 a.m. - Bob Schellman – Glorious Mysteries
Thursday 7:25 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. – Gilbert & Hermina Strobe–Glorious Mysteries

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners

October 1: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost
October 8: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman
October 15: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Brenda Schell, Amy Buechter
October 22: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering
October 29: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer

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.

Thursday, October 5 – June Groner & Debbie Groner

Thursday, October 12 – Amy Hamacher & Jan Heckemeyer

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

BULLETIN NOTICES: Deadline for bulletin is Wednesday at noon.

FR. STEVEN JONES will be coming to lead masses on the weekend of October 7 and 8, he will share more information about the stewardship renewal way of life that we embraced last July in the whole Diocese, and how Jesus applied stewardship to grow and strengthen the faith of his followers and how we too can strengthen our faith. I kindly encourage every one of you to be present at any of those weekend masses to listen to him. ***Blessings, Fr. Leonard***

CONGRATULATIONS to ***Megan Werdehausen & John Berhorst*** who were united in the bonds of Holy Matrimony this weekend at St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: Please join us in celebrating Alfred and Margie Kaiser's 50TH wedding anniversary. We will be having an open house at the Saint Thomas Knights of Columbus Hall on October 8, noon to 2:00 p.m.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT OCTOBER PRAYER INTENTION: For those who have experienced trauma in their lives; may the Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal their wounds and may the Church, like a loving mother, show the way to justice and wholeness, we pray to the Lord.

A ROSARY FOR OUR COUNTRY will be prayed on Wednesday, October 4, 5:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

HOLY HOUR & ANOINTING OF THE SICK is Friday, October 6, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers

Oct. 8 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer
Oct. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

Oct. 8 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Terry Libbert, Harold Libbert,
Leon Schanzmeyer, Darin Even
Oct. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch Stumpe, Brendan Stumpe,
Randy Hagenhoff, Kenny Otto

St. Cecilia Servers

Oct. 8 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Bradyn & Kambrie Stegeman
Oct. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Sophie, Reagan & Eli Bock

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts

October 8 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Family of Harold Veltrop

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer
Glorious Mysteries
Oct. 8 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer
Glorious Mysteries
Oct. 15 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer
Sorrowful 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.

KOFC TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE & BAKE SALE: The St. Thomas Knights of Columbus will hold their annual Drive for Persons with Developmental Disabilities, also known as the Tootsie Roll Drive, during the weekend of October 7 & 8 following all of the Masses at St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Cecilia Parishes. The KofC Ladies Auxiliary will also have a bake sale following the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Thomas as part of the Drive to raise funds for the Developmentally Disabled.

All donations and proceeds from the Drive will be donated 50% to the Knights of Columbus Developmental Center at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis and 50% to the Special Learning Center in Jefferson City. If you wish to make a charitable donation to the St. Thomas KofC Drive, another option allows you to do so by credit or debit card by using your smart phone to scan the QR Code below. Thank you for your generosity to help those in need.



PASTORS MEDITATION: 26th Sunday in ordinary time: ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS. (Ezek. 18:25-28; Phil. 2:1-11; Mt. 21:28-32) Our final decision for or against God, our choosing to obey Him gracefully by doing His will or our choosing to go against His will, will decide our eternal reward or punishment! Gifted with free will, we are the ones who choose our eternal destiny. In the first reading, Ezekiel corrects two incorrect Jewish beliefs i) Children inherit the guilt of their ancestors and are punished for their sins. ii) God is more strict than merciful. Jesus explains through the gospel parable that God will punish us only for our sins and that God's mercy overrules strict justice. The Responsorial Psalm today (Ps 25) appeals to God's compassion and mercy, begging Him to wipe away our sins and extend his mercy to us. In the second reading, our final choice for God, made by perfect obedience to Him, will be rewarded. It is because of Christ's perfect obedience to God's will in "emptying himself, taking human form" and humbling himself by accepting "even death, death on a cross, that God the Father "exalted Christ, bestowed on him the Name above every other name, and made Jesus the recipient of universal adoration. In today's Gospel parable, a man with two sons tells both to go out to work in the vineyard. The first son says he will not go, but later he regrets his refusal and goes to work. He represents tax collectors and public sinners who refused to obey God's commandments, but after listening to John the Baptist and Jesus, repented and became eligible for eternal reward. The second son says that he will go but does not. He represents the chief priests and the elders, the Scribes, and the Pharisees. By their pride, and their refusal to obey God's call to repentance through John the Baptist and Jesus, these so-called "religious" people excluded themselves from eternal reward. The lesson taught in this is the necessity for offering a continual "yes" to the saving act of God. Even when we say no, God gives us many chances of conversion, repentance, and doing His will. The first son can imply a repentant alcoholic, drug addict, chronic gambler, sexual-deviant. Members of a poor village parish who reach out to the needy in the community. A Pastor who calls parishioners to true repentance. A Church member who decides to tithe or a young person who decides to remain abstinent until marriage. All these choose to obey Christ sacrificially. The second son is a regular church goer who refuses Christ, entry into his or her heart and life and lives a pagan life on weekdays. A Christian who refuses to obey Christ in the sensitive areas of sex, money, and power. A priest whose sermon is designed to please people rather than to please God. A Church that ignores issues of justice and mercy. A Sunday School that neglects to teach children the great Biblical stories. In short, all people who appear to be faithful but, deep down in their hearts, are not. So dear friends we need to do God's will every day: Each one of us is responsible to God for every action, and the just-God will punish or reward one according to one's actions. Since we are not sure about the moment of our death, our only guarantee of dying in God's friendship is to live in that friendship always, saying "Yes," to God by doing His will cheerfully and daily. Secondly, it is never too late for us to repent, be converted, and allow the Holy Spirit to renew our life: If we have been disobedient to God in our past life, we need to knock at the door of God's mercy. God can, and will, do for us what, in his mercy, He, did for the repentant tax-collectors and harlots in the parable. Hence, every morning we must pray for the strengthening power of the Holy Spirit to do God's will and every night we need to repent of our sins and ask God's pardon and forgiveness. If we are in serious sin we need to get reconciled with God, the Church and our brothers and sisters through the Sacrament of Reconciliation as soon as possible. Let us remember that it is never too late for us to turn back to God, ready to do His will. Conversion is a process; it is an ongoing journey that will end only at death. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRESCHOOL: If you have a child, ages 3 or 4 and have been thinking about preschool, please call Lizzie Linhardt, llinhardt@stacs.school 573-645-5605 or the school office 573-477-3322. If you have any questions or would like to set up a one on one meeting and school tour please contact the school office. Please check out and like St. Thomas the Apostle Preschool Facebook page.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS:

October 2-6 – Achievement Testing Week – Grades 2-8

Friday, October 13 – End of 1st Quarter

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

ST. CECILIA PARISH IS SEEKING BIDS FOR THE FOLLOWING REMODELING PROJECTS IN THE RECTORY:

Bid #1 -Blue Guest Bathroom & Tan Guest Bathroom: Complete remodel of the two bathrooms. Remove tub/shower area and tile along with remaining tile on the walls. Replace tub/showers with a walk-in shower with doors in the blue bathroom. The tan bathroom replace with a tub/shower kit. Repair walls where other tiles are removed as needed (sheet rock, etc) and paint all areas that need to be painted. Replace vanity and toilet in blue bathroom and toilet only in tan bathroom. Toilets to be replaced by chair-height toilets. **Bid #2 – Blue Guest Bathroom (complete remodel) and Tan Guest Bathroom (partial remodel):** Complete remodel of blue bathroom. Remove Tub/shower area and tile along with remaining tile on the walls. Replace with walk-in shower only with doors. Replace vanity and toilet with chair-height toilet. Tan Guest Bathroom – Remove shower/tub and all tile inside tub area. Replace with tub/shower kit and shower door. Paint ceiling of shower area. Replace toilet with chair-height toilet. If interested in placing a bid, please contact Janice Schanzmeyer, Parish Council Buildings & Grounds Representative or Doris Stumpe, Bookkeeper.

A WALK THROUGH MASS: THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER with Fr. Clark, October 25, Cathedral of St. Joseph 5:30 p.m. Dinner to follow.

HOT TOPICS: The Cathedral Faith Formation Committee presents: The Current Moral Issues and our Catholic Faith on **Thursday, Oct. 12, 7:00 p.m.** in Cana Hall. Missouri Catholic Conference Director Jamie Morris and Fr. Nelen will be exploring faithful citizenship and the Church's view on public policies. For ages 12 and over.

HELIAS YOUTH SOFTBALL DEVELOPMENTAL LEAGUE: Beginning in the Spring/Summer of 2024, we would like to invite girls in the 1st and 2nd grade to join in the inaugural season of the Youth Softball Developmental League. The league will be aligned toward developing the basic skills, fundamentals, and knowledge needed to become a better softball player. Additionally, we will provide coaching clinics for those interested in volunteering at practices and games. If your daughter is interested in learning, developing, and having fun with the game of softball, please attend an informational meeting on Tuesday, October 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Commons at Helias Catholic High School.

NEW ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL PLAYGROUND: St Thomas Knights of Columbus/ Ladies Auxiliary invites you to a playground blessing at the NEW KC hall playground. Sunday October 1 at 11:30 a.m. Enjoy the day with hotdogs, cookies/ birthday cake, play on the playground, Pickleball, beanbag toss, & outdoor games. We will celebrate Fr. Leonard’s birthday. Hope to see you there!

ST. ALOYSIUS & ST. BONIFACE FALL FESTIVAL, ARGYLE is Sunday, October 1, serving fried chicken dinner, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. \$14.00 plate. Dine in or carry out.

ST. GEORGE PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, LINN is Sunday, October 1, serving sausage & turkey dinner from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. \$15.00 per meal. Dessert auction 5:00 p.m.

ST. STANISLAUS FALL SUPPER, WARDSVILLE is Sunday, October 8, serving fried chicken and sausage dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Adults \$15, children 6-12 \$7.00, serving cafeteria style & carry-outs.

GUARDIAN ANGELS PARISH FALL DINNER, BRINKTOWN is Sunday, October 8, serving sausage & fried chicken dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Adults \$15.00, children 6-12 \$7.00. All carry out plates \$15.00. Quilt & Dessert auction 2:30 p.m.

ST. GEORGE PARISH FALL DINNER, HERMANN is Sunday, October 8, serving sausage & turkey dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Adults \$15, children 6-10 \$6.00. Polka Mass at 10:30 a.m.


13TH ANNUAL PREGNANCY HELP CENTER BANQUET is Thursday, October 26, 6:30 -8:30 p.m., Capitol Plaza Hotel. Keynote speaker Dan Kulp, comedian. Emcee, Mike Bernskoetter, Senator. To register online by October 12 at www.friendsofphc.org or call 573-644-6635.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH FALL FANTASY is Saturday, November 4. Tickets are \$125 which provides: dinner for two, (Prime Rib or Chicken Cordon Bleu), baked potato, slaw & dessert. All you can drink – beer, wine, soda, water and Gin rickey. A chance to win \$10,000 – a total of over \$15,000 will be given out that night (based on 300 tickets sold). Dance following. Tickets are on sale now. Please contact Joanie Prenger (573-659-0304 or Kim Kliegel (573-619-9188 or at the St. Thomas the Apostle Vitae House – Tuesday’s 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Wednesday from 8:00 to 4:30 **To be entered in the Early Bird Drawing and a chance to win \$125, tickets must be purchased by October 1.**

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 K of C Playground Dedication and Social** – Sunday, October 1, 11:30 a.m. at the St. Thomas K of C Hall.
 - St. Thomas the Apostle Trunk or Treat** – Sunday, October 22, 3:00-4:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church Parking lot.
St. Stanislaus Trunk or Treat is Sunday, October 22, 2:00-3:30 p.m.
 - St. Thomas the Apostle Parish 27th Annual Fall Fantasy** – November 4, 2023
 - St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Pictorial Directory** – January 3-6, 2024

Join us for the 12th Annual
St. Thomas Trunk or Treat



October 22nd, 2023~ 3:00–4:00 PM
St. Thomas Church Parking Lot

In order to make this a huge success. we need trunks to hand out candy! Plan for 200 trick-or-treaters. Decorate your trunk/area in Halloween decorations or a theme or bring a table!

RSVP by Wednesday, October 18th

Please call the school office at 573–477–3322, send an email to kmorris@stacs.school or blueckenhoff@embarqmail.com, or return the form below to sign-up for a spot!!

It is our hope to provide a safe and fun time for our kids and community members! Please come out and support this fun event!!

_____ Yes. we will hand out candy at the Trunk-or-Treat!!

Name

