

**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)

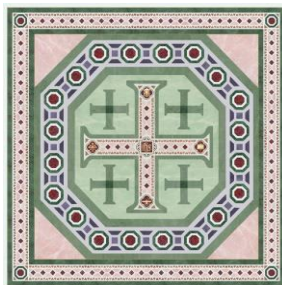
PO Box 146  
St. Thomas, MO 65076

**30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**OCTOBER 25, 2020**

**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. Jenny Becker**  
[jbeckeroffice@gmail.com](mailto:jbeckeroffice@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 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 25-November 1:**

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Bob Luebbering  
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Clem & Rose Kempker  
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Sylvanus Hoecker  
Friday 7:45 a.m. – David Suthoff  
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Herb & Chris Verslues

**Your Sunday Offering:**

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021: \$305,000.00  
Offertory Goal through Month End: \$101,668.00  
Actual Collection for 2020-2021: **\$ 84,540.00**  
Offertory Difference Year to Date: – \$ 17,128.00  
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

**Collection in Church:**

October 4 \$ 3,689.00  
October 11 \$ 4,140.00  
October 18 \$ 3,310.00  
October 25 \$

**Collection Online:** \$ 6,052.00

**October total to date:** **\$17,191.00**

Difference for October: -\$ 8,226.00

**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): **\$8,366.00**

Loan payments to date for FY 2020-2021: **\$27,683.22**

Principal \$26,736.04 Interest \$947.18

Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: **\$69,097.41**

**Cantor/Organist**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mary Kay Brand / Annette Kehner  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering / Annette Kehner

**St. Thomas the Apostle Reader**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Katie Luebbering (Brian)

**St. Thomas the Apostle Ushers**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Gilbert Schellman & Richard Schellman  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Eric & Keith Boessen

**Mass live streamers**

November 1 – Karlie Reinkemeyer  
November 8 – Jeanette Schroeder  
November 15 – Tom Backes  
November 22 – Karlie Reinkemeyer

**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 25-November 1:**

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Hubert Brune

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Phil & David Graessle

**Your Sunday Offering:**

Offertory Budget for 2020-2021: \$62,000.00  
Collection Total for 2020-2021: **\$16,182.00**  
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,166.67

**Collection in Church:**

October 4 \$ 1,382.00  
October 11 \$ 365.00  
October 18 \$ 1,100.00  
October 25 \$

**October total to date:** **\$ 2,847.00**

Difference for October: -\$ 2,319.67

**COLLECTION COUNTERS:**

October: Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

November: Dale & Margie Helton

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

**St. Cecilia Reader:**

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

**Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia**

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. –Cathy Borgmeyer–Glorious Mysteries  
Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Margaret Brune– Luminous Mysteries

**St. Cecilia Ushers**

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch Stumpe & Darin Even

### **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. – Dale Herigon – Luminous Mysteries  
Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Pat Loethen – Luminous Mysteries

**FALL BACK:** Daylight savings ends next Saturday, October 31, so remember to set your clock back one hour.

**THE DIOCESE OF JEFFERSON CITY** warns the public of what appears to be an ongoing phishing scam involving emails and texts purportedly from priests or parish/Chancery staff. This scam has hit many parishes across the United States. The email or text purports to be from a person the target knows, such as one's pastor, a parish staff member, the bishop or someone else from the Church. If the target responds to the fake email or text, the sender will follow up with a request for some sort of monetary assistance, often for gift cards or iTunes cards. It is truly unfortunate cyber criminals will attempt to exploit the generous nature of our community. Sending emails or texts asking for cash or gifts cards is not how priests, parishes or the Diocese of Jefferson City seeks financial assistance for our work. If you receive an email or text from a trusted church personnel asking for assistance, confirm by calling that person and do NOT respond to the email or text. For more information on phishing scams and email security, or The FBI website address to file an online Internet crime complaint is <https://www.ic3.gov>.

**SCRIP:** Visit [www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip](http://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.**

### **SNACKS FOR QUILTERS:**

Anyone entering the St. Thomas Parish School building must wear a mask at all times, except when quilting. Must be fever free or no temperature of 100 or higher. Please take your temperature at home.

Thursday, October 29–Susan Boessen & Janet Boessen Thursday, November 5 – Joyce (Kenny) Boessen & Donna Boessen  
Please bring snack to hall by 1:00 p.m.; snack 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.

**ST. CECILIA SATURDAY NIGHT MASSES IN NOVEMBER:** The first Saturday of the month Mass at St. Cecilia (Nov. 7) is cancelled, there will be Saturday night 7:00 p.m. Masses at St. Cecilia on November 14 and Nov. 21 for the deer hunters.

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

**COMMEMORATION OF ALL SOULS:** Mass will be offered at St. Thomas Cemetery on Monday, November 2 at 9:00 a.m. weather permitting, if inclement weather Mass will be held in St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

**A ROSARY FOR OUR NATION** will be held on Monday, November 2, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

### **NOTES OF THANKS!**

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and any act of kindness while I was in the hospital.

***Lillian Lackman***

Thank you Western Catholic Union for matching fund of \$500.00 for Quilting Groups.

**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 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 2020.  
*Most Rev. W. Shawn McKnight, Bishop of Jefferson City*

**DIOCESAN CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL:** This weekend we begin our Catholic Stewardship Appeal at our parishes. This annual appeal is the primary source of funding for sustaining ministry and assistance for the 104 Catholic Churches in the 38 counties that make up the Diocese of Jefferson City. The CSA theme, "For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to vie you a future of hope." (Jeremiah 29:11), encourages each of us to give back to God for what we have received. Please pray and give consideration on how you can help with this year's Catholic Stewardship Appeal.

The CSA goal for St. Cecilia Parish is \$2,500

The CSA goal for St. Thomas the Apostle Parish is \$10,000

**PASTOR'S MEDITATION:** 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 2020 Year A: As we meditate on the two greatest commandments today, we also launch our Catholic Stewardship appeal (CSA) and this time we want to go a step ahead from understanding it as an appeal but instead understand it as the Spirituality of Stewardship and embrace that Spirituality, that is, the trust God has invested in you and me so to bless you so abundantly.

The greatest commandment is to respond to God's love for us by loving Him, and then to express that love in action by loving Him in our neighbor. Our love for God is tested and put into practice by the way we love our neighbor.

The first reading explains the second greatest commandment, namely, loving one's neighbors, especially the underprivileged. The chosen people of Israel needed to remember that once they were once aliens in the land of Egypt. Just as God protected them and treated them kindly, so they are to protect others and treat them with kindness. They were to become a humane society rooted in the basic religious concept of loving God living in their neighbor. In the second reading, St. Paul congratulates the Thessalonians on the positive effects of their example of loving one another as Jesus had commanded them to do. Their mutual love and their loving reception of Paul and response to his preaching bolstered the Faith of Christians elsewhere who have heard about them. In the Gospel, Jesus combines the commandment to love God with the commandment to love one's neighbor and gives the result as the one Commandment of supreme importance in Christian life. Jesus underlines the principle that we are to love our neighbor as we love ourselves because, as God's children, both of us bear God's image, and to honor God's image is to honor Him. Love for our neighbor should not be a matter of feelings, but of deeds by which we share with others the unmerited love that God lavishes on us.

**Therefore friends we need to love God** with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, in response to His total love for us, means that we should place God's will ahead of ours, seek the Lord's will in all things and make it paramount in our lives. There are several means by which we can express our love for God and our gratitude to Him for His blessings, acknowledging our total dependence on Him. We must keep God's Commandments and offer daily prayers of thanksgiving, praise and petition. We also need to read and meditate on His word in the Bible and accept His invitation to join Him in the Mass and other liturgical functions. **Friends we need to love our neighbor**, God's will is that we should love everyone, seeing Him in each of them. Since every human being is the child of God and the dwelling place of the Spirit of God, we are giving expression to our love of God by loving our neighbor as Jesus loves him or her. This means we need to help, support, encourage, forgive, and pray for everyone without discrimination based on color, race, religion, gender, age, wealth, or social status. Forgiveness, too, is vital. We love others by refusing to hold a grudge for a wrong done to us. Even a rebuke can be given as an act of love, if it is done with the right heart. We also express love through encouragement and by helping others to grow. We express *agápe* love in meeting the needs of others by using the talents and blessings that God has given us to comfort each other, to teach each other and to share the Gospel with each other, in deeds and in words. **Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukibi**

**PRAYER HOUR WITH MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION** is Tuesday, October 27, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** will meet 7:30-9:00 P.M. most Wednesdays. For the remainder of October, classes will be held at St. Thomas Knights of Columbus hall. On Wednesdays in November, classes will be held in St. Cecilia Parish Center basement. Class will **NOT** be held Wednesday, November 25th.

**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.

**GRASS CUTTING ROTATION: THE ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH GROUNDS "GRASS CUTTING TEAM ROTATION" FOR THE UPCOMING WEEKS:**

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

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

**ST. THOMAS CHURCH CLEANING TEAM ROTATION FOR UPCOMING WEEKS:**

Week of October 25<sup>th</sup>: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter

Week of November 1<sup>st</sup>: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman

Week of November 8<sup>th</sup>: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Jackie Prenger, Amy 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.*

**REMINDERS FOR PARISHIONERS** that every First Friday of the month, we have a Holy Hour/Adoration followed by Benediction at St. Thomas and at St. Cecilia the last Friday of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**ST. CECILIA HOLY HOUR** is Friday, October 30 at 7:00 p.m., with anointing of the sick to follow.

**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 June 30, 2021, 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 UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Sunday, October 25 – Trunk or Treat 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Monday, November 2 – No School K-8, Diocesan Professional Day

Thursday, November 5 – Early Release K-8, 12:50 car riders, 1:00 p.m. bus riders

Wednesday, November 18- Mid-Quarter

**OUR LADY OF SNOWS PARISH & SCHOOL FALL BBQ PORK STEAK DINNER** (Drive-thru dinner & 50/50 raffle) is Saturday, November 7 serving 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Pork Steak meal \$12.00 includes pork steak, baked potato, baked beans, cole slaw, dinner roll & dessert. Hot Dog Meal \$5.00 includes hotdog, chip bag, applesauce & dessert. All proceeds go to Our Lady of the Snows Parish. For tickets, please contact Our Lady of the Snows School 1-573-498-3574 or Mary's Home Bank 573-4980.

**BLAIR OAKS CLASS OF 2021 PROJECT GRADUATION DRIVE-THRU BBQ** is Sunday, November 8 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pork steak plate or bratwurst plate, advanced tickets can be purchased for \$10.00 by contacting a senior from the Class of 2021 and tickets will also be available on site.

**9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ST. THOMAS TRUNK OR TREAT** is Sunday, October 25, 4:00-5:30 p.m. 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/are in Halloween decorations or a theme. No interactive trunks this year. **Face masks are strongly encouraged for all attendees.** In order to make this event safe for all, please follow the guidelines below:

1. Trunks will be spaced out every other parking spot to allow for more space to social distance. We will need to use the lower lot as well, so no parking thru unless you are handing out candy.
2. All trunks need to have a table set up in front of trunk to allow a safe distance between trunks & trick-or-treaters.
3. All candy must be prepackaged. No homemade goods. Please avoid kids grabbing candy from bowls. Hand out to kids or have individual bags kids can grab from the table.
4. Please stay in family pods as you visit the trunks and practice social distancing. Avoid congregating in large groups.
5. There will be NO hayride or refreshments provided this year.

**St. Thomas the Apostle Church  
Budget Summary  
July 1, 2020 – September 30, 2020**

<b>Income</b>	
General (Sunday collections, fundraisers, gifts from benefactors) (Includes Picnic profit of \$63,366.35)	\$135,864.36
Special (Includes Building & Improvement Fund contributions and CARES Act Paycheck Protection Program funding)	\$ 50,555.91
Diocesan collections	\$ 895.00
Universal Church collections	\$ 1,183.00
Parish School (includes gifts from benefactors)	\$ 65,160.83
Pre-School	<u>\$ 18,711.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>\$272,370.10</u></b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Church & Rectory General (Includes \$5,058.38 for Rectory deck replacement)	\$ 40,022.87
Church & Rectory Special (loan payment, improvements projects)	\$ 40,290.26
Diocesan collections	\$ 915.00
Universal Church collections	\$ 555.00
Parish School	\$136,849.52
Pre-School	\$ 15,855.10
Religious Education (PSR)	\$ 348.60
Vitae House	\$ 1,038.24
Parish Center (Includes \$5,160.00 for new A/C unit)	<u>\$ 21,578.44</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$257,453.03</u></b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b><u>\$ 14,917.07</u></b>

