# 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

# 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

### **SEPTEMBER 19, 2021**

Administrator: 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 Iheckemeyer@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: Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Thursdays 8:30 to 11:30 a.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 <u>Confessions</u>: Saturdays 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.; 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 Sept. 19-26: WEEKDAY MORNING MASSES IN PARISH CENTER

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. - Donald Schaefer Wednesday 7:45 a.m.- Curt Stockman Thursday 7:45 a.m. -L&D Alex Heckman Family Friday 7:45 a.m. - Gerald Luebbering

WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Don & Marian Becker Sunday 10:00 a.m. - People of our Parishes Marilyn Herigon

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2021-2022: \$305,000.00 Offertory Goal through Month End: \$ 76,251.00 Actual Collection for 2021-2022: \$ 59,646.50 Offertory Difference Year to Date: \$ 16,604.50 Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

\$ 4,951.00

**Collection in Church:** September 5

September 12 4,332.00 September 19 \$ September 26 \$ **Collection Online:** \$ 5,304.50 September total to date: \$14,587.50 Difference for September: -\$10,829.50

**Church Renovation Capital Campaign** 

Total Pledges/Donations \$202,064.01 Total Collected \$120,478.01

#### St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists **WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH**

Sept. 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten / Jackie Sept. 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Luke Schroeder / Jackie Oct. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Mary Kay Brand / Jackie Oct. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Doug Luebbering / Jackie

#### St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Cecilia Readers **WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH**

Sept. 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle Sept. 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jan Heckemeyer Oct. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen Oct. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jan Heckemeyer

Saint Cecilia Mass Schedule for the Week of Sept. 19-26:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - Randy & Nikki Libbert

Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Larry Bock

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2021-2022: \$62,000.00 \$12,358.82 Collection Total for 2021-2022: Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,166.67

**Collection in Church:** 

September 5 \$1,445.00 September 12 716.82 September 19 \$ September 26 September total to date: \$ 2,161.82

Difference for September -\$ 3,004.85

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

September - Marie Lueckenotto & Pam Libbert

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT

#### St. Cecilia Reader

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - Dorothy Rehagen Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Don Wansing

IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO FULFILL YOUR LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENT, PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT. YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS THANK YOU!

# St. Thomas & St. Cecilia Ushers

# WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH

Sept. 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Fred Luebbering & Mark Boessen

Sept. 26 Sun. 10:00 a.m.- Eric & Keith Boessen

Oct. 2 Sat. 5:00 p.m. - Eric Strope & Dave Luebbering

Oct. 3 Sun.10:00 a.m.-Doug Stockman & TJ Loethen

#### St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH

Sept. 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Graessle Sept. 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Bill Luebbering

Oct. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Barb Graessle

Oct. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Jan Heckemeyer

#### St. Thomas the Apostle Servers WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH

Sept. 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m. -

Sept. 26 Sun. 10:00 a.m. - Erika Luebbering & Francie Tallent

Oct. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. -

Oct. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Klint & Kora Luebbering

#### St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters

Sept. 26- Keith & Jean Kliethermes

Oct. 3 - Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg

Oct. 10 - Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

Oct. 17 - Jennifer Schroeder & Dunja Wieberg

Oct. 24 - Paul Becker & Shara Buechter

#### Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas: **WEEKDAY MASSES IN ST. THOMAS PARISH CENTER**

Tuesday, 7:20 a.m.-Joann Heckman - Sorrowful Mysteries Wednesday 7:20 a.m. - Dale Herigon- Glorious Mysteries Thursday 7:20 a.m.-Gilbert & Hermina-Luminous Mysteries Friday 7:20 a.m. – Bob Schellman Sorrowful Mysteries

### WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH

Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Dale Herigon– Joyful Mysteries Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina Strope – Joyful Mysteries

St. Cecilia & St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Minister

Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Doris Stumpe

<u>St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers</u> Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Leon Schanzmeyer & Kenny Otto

#### St. Cecilia Servers

Sunday 8:00 a.m. -

#### Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday–6:05 p.m.-Dorothy Rehagen–Glorious Mysteries Sunday 7:35 a.m. - Cathy Borgmeyer- Joyful 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.

#### St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Cecilia Offertory WEEKEND MASSES IN ST. CECILIA CHURCH

Sept. 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark & Lora Boessen Family Sept. 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m.–David & Judy Schroeder Oct. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Gilbert & Betty Schellman Oct. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Allan & Lynne Reinkemeyer

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 hours.

**Thursday, Sept. 23** – Sharlet Kroll & Tiffany Lackman Thursday, Sept. 30 – Linda Lackman & Jessi Lackman 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 Strope at 573-477-3349.

**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 notices is noon on Wednesday's.

ST. CECILIA PRAYER LINE REQUESTS can be made by calling Marie Lueckenotto at 573-229-4336.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH WEEKLY BULLETINS may be found in St. Cecilia Church, Web page, St. Thomas Vitae House on front porch or school when in session.

OCTOBER COUNT, ATTENTION USHERS: The Diocese has involved itself in a common pastoral practice across the United States known as the 'October Count.' The month of October provides a time when attendance is a good indicator of average attendance. This year it is the First Four Weekends and will begin October 2-3. This is a practical tool for pastoral planning. <u>USHERS</u>, please count all people (including children and infants) who enter into the Church at each Mass for the month with the count ending at or about the First Reading. In smaller Churches it may be simpler for the ushers to make the count during the homily. Also, please remember to count all ministers who serve at the Altar as well. The form to fill out is in the back of St. Cecilia Church on table to the right.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHIONERS: The Parish Pastoral Council wants to update the current list of parishioners in St Thomas. If you are 21 years of age or working full time please visit the St. Thomas webpage to fill out the Parish Registration Form. You can email it back to Theresa Veit (<u>tveitoffice @gmail.com</u>) or put the completed form in collection basket at Church. Thank you!

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PRAYER LINE REQUESTS should be emailed to Theresa Veit at tveitoffice@gmail.com or by calling 573-418-7301.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH RENOVATION:** For the safety of everyone, no one should go into the church while the renovation is taking place unless you have been instructed by a renovation committee member or are accompanied by a committee member. Some of the contractors are working, so we want to keep everyone safe.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: Thank you to the 44 parishioners who have pledged money towards our renovation and those who have made donations! We are 50% of the way to meet our goal. While much has changed since the Church was officially dedicated in 1884, the one thing that members of the community have been able to consistently rely on for nearly 137 years has been the parish home of St. Thomas the Apostle Church. This is a very exciting time to be a member of the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish since we are making history in preserving our Church. We ask everyone to pray for a successful renovation and to please consider making a pledge or donation towards this effort. The deadline for our capital campaign has been extended to November 15, 2021. Gentle reminders will be sent out to our parish families soon since we understand the hectic times we live in. If anyone has a family member or friend who may be interested in making a donation, please let us know by calling or texting Lauri Luebbering at 573-619-6090 or by calling the Parish Office and we will gladly send out a letter informing them of our project. Payments

can be made by going to the "Renovation" link on the Parish website for PayPal donations and ACH debit sign up, or by using the yellow "Building Expansion & Renovation" church envelopes. You can also mail checks directly to St. Thomas the Apostle Church, PO Box 146, St. Thomas MO., 65076. While we give thanks for our forefathers, we also thank you for also enduring difficult and challenging times to continuously support the St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH RENOVATION UPDATE: Pictures and videos of our renovation will be continuously published on the St. Thomas the Apostle Facebook page and our parish website www.stthomasapostle.net. Check it out!

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE FALL FESTIVAL COLLECTION: There is 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. CECILIA AND ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SERVERS TRAINING (FROM FR. LEONARD): I am proposing the following dates to train servers after the Sunday Masses on September 19 (beginners) and 26 (beginners), their parents shall wait on them and the practice should last 30 minutes after greeting the people. They will be trained in two categories, 1) those that have served before (ongoing) and 2) those that have never served at all (beginners) but have reached the age of serving. I can have a group of 3 or 6 or 9 per session for a particular category, a sign- up sheet will be placed at the back of the church for those that will join a particular group.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT'SEPTEMBER PRAYER INTENTION: For a greater appreciation for the gift of friendship; that bonds of friendship may strengthen our resolve to be a people of communion in divisive times.

# PASTORS MEDITATION: 25th Sunday in ordinary time, year B: WHOEVER WANTS TO BE FIRST MUST PLACE ONESELF LAST OF ALL AND BE SERVANT OF ALL. (Wis. 2:12, 17 – 20, Jas. 3:16 – 4:3, Mk. 9:30 – 37) Today's scripture readings invite us to become great in the sight of God by doing God's will as Jesus did, surrendering our

lives to Him in the service of others.

The passage from the Book of Wisdom sounds like a messianic prophecy like the "Suffering Servant" prophecy in Isaiah referring to Christ's passion. It urges us to choose the path of righteousness despite painful consequences. In today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 54), the psalmist prays for help against the insolent people who rise against the upright. The second reading is in tune with the dispute among the apostles about who is the greatest. In it, James warns us that selfish ambitions destroy peace and cause conflicts and war. So, James advises us to choose the path of righteousness and humble service which leads to lasting peace.

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us a glimpse of what walking the path of righteousness mentioned in the first and second readings is, namely: welcoming and serving the vulnerable in our midst, the defenseless children, the despairing poor, the mentally ill and the marginalized. Jesus also teaches his apostles that child-like humility and selfless service make one great in the eyes of God.

Therefore dear friends we must become great through humble, self-giving service. Greatness, in Jesus' view, is found in our willingness to accept, welcome and serve those who are considered unacceptable by reason of class, color, religion, wealth or culture. We must welcome people the way a child welcomes them before he is taught discrimination. If we are to be truly great, we must be ready to accept four challenges: (i) to put ourselves last, (ii) to be the servant of all, (iii) to receive the most insignificant human beings with love and (iv) to expect nothing in return. During the holy Mass let us pray for the true spirit of service and for an attitude of love for those around us. May the Holy Spirit help us to become truly great through humble,

Friends, we need to practice humility in thoughts, words, and actions. "Learn from Me, for I am meek and humble of heart." "What is the essential thing in the religion and discipline of Jesus Christ?" St. Augustine asks, and then responds, "I shall reply: first humility, second humility, and third humility." We should not seek recognition and recompense for the service we do for Christ and the Church as parents, teachers, pastors, etc. Trusting Faith resulting from true humility is essential for all corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Since children reflect the innocence, purity, simplicity and tenderness of our Lord and since they are given the protection of a guardian angel, we are to love them, train them, and take care not to give scandal to them. We need to try to treat everyone with love and respect because, "Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life" (St. Basil). Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi

CONFIRMATION - ST. CECILIA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE: Confirmation will be for 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students this year. Students attending St. Thomas the Apostle School will have confirmation preparation during their school religion classes. All other students from both parishes will have confirmation class on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be in the back of Church for all students attending the Wednesday evening classes or you can text the information to Jennifer Even at 573-680-6945 (student name and grade, parent name, e-mail). The first class will be Wednesday, October 6 at St. Cecilia parish center. Classes will alternate each month between St. Cecilia parish center and St. Thomas KC Hall. More information will be sent to students and parents based on who signs up for class.

**RELIGION CLASSES – ST. CECILIA**: Religion classes for 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade are planned to start on Wednesday, September 29, at 7:00 p.m. in the parish center. All new/first time students are asked to please sign up. Accurate counts are needed for ordering books and materials. Please contact Jennifer Even at 573-680-6945 (text or call) to sign up or with any questions.

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

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

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

#### ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS! UPCOMING EVENTS!

October 4-8 – Achievement Testing week

Thursday, October 7 – Early release 12:50 car riders, 1:00 p.m. bus riders

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRESCHOOL: If you have a child ages 3 or 4 and have been thinking about preschool, please call Lizzie Linhardt 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.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE AND ST. CECILIA PARISHIONERS - VIRTUS/SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING: The Safe Environment Policy of the Diocese of Jefferson City requires Employees, Clergy, Religious, Seminarians, Deacons and

Volunteers in the Church to be compliant with Safe Environment Regulations. The volunteers include those who work with minors and/or who participate in any ministry in the church (Greeters/Ushers, Lectors, Eucharist Ministers, Choir/Canters), working at parish fundraisers and all parents of students attending St. Thomas the Apostle Parish. Information may be found on our parish websites under Resources, Resources Home, and Safe Environment. Please follow the steps

#### This is MANDATORY, effective August 1, 2021

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the parish or school office. Remember, it is important that we comply with the Diocesan Policy for Safe Environment and the Diocese will be coming in September to conduct a Safe Environment Audit.

**Safe Environment Instructions** For First Time Registrants **Volunteering with Minors** 

Go to www.virtusonline.org website.

Click on the "First Time Registrant" button and enter your profile information.

It is vital this information remains current, ESPECIALLY your email address. Your email address is how the system will communicate with you in the future.

Next, sign up for a Protecting God's Children workshop. This workshop may be done online or in person (if offered) and only needs to be completed one time. However, if you choose the online version, you MUST commit to the entire two hours required. If you leave the workshop prior to completion, you may have difficulty resuming.

Next, you will be prompted to read the "Code of Conduct" form (which you will sign electronically).

Within one day of completing the training, the Office of Child and Youth Protection will approve your account. At this time you will receive an email from Virtus stating to log into your account to complete the background check screening process.

If you have used the site in the past and simply don't remember your information, we can help you find your information and give you a chance to update the system.

#### THE ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH GROUNDS "GRASS CUTTING TEAM ROTATION" FOR THE UPCOMING

WEEKS: It is once again time for care and maintenance of the parish property. Many thanks to all those who volunteer their time and effort to keep our parish property looking nice. The following dates are assigned for grass cutting.

Mark Graessle, Jeff Cassmeyer and Fred Luebbering Week of September 19 Week of September 26 Richard Schellman, Pat Schellman and Paul Struemph Alan Reinkemeyer, Richard Heckemeyer and Dave Schroeder Week of October 3 Week of October 10 Mark Luebbering, Antone Luebbering and Nick Luebbering Week of October 17 Paul & Jenny Becker, Eric & Shara Buechter

**CURSILLO WEEKENDS COMING SOON!** Please note the fall men and women's Cursillo Weekends are quickly approaching.

Men's Weekend will be Sept 30-Oct 3 and the Women's will be Nov 4-7. Both to be held in Moberly. Please get those applications in asap. For more information please see your parish contact or call Marcia Doll at 573-999-5066.

ST. NICHOLAS ACADEMY is a supportive living experience for boys from families that are under-resourced who want to give their sons every opportunity to succeed in school and life. Thanks to St. Nick's partners with families and St. Peter Interparish School to provide this opportunity. St. Nick's is seeking Christian, married couples or single individuals who are willing to be part of a pool of relief parents. The role of relief parents is to care for the boys and home when the full-time house parents are off duty or away. Typically, the full-time house parents are off duty every fourth weekend from 9:00 AM Friday through 7:00 PM Sunday. Relief parents, on a rotational schedule, fill in during this time. They may also be asked to be on a call list to help fill in when the house parents are on vacation and/or sick. Relief parents receive an hourly wage, all legally mandated benefits and a compensation package that includes a private suite and all meals for the days on duty. Please contact Sister Susan Renner, SSND at 573-635-7719 or director@stnick.org

**CARMELITE NUNS:** The ministry of our Carmelite Nuns is to offer prayer and sacrifice for the Church and the people of the Diocese of Jefferson City. To make a prayer request, write or email the Carmelite Nuns at <u>carmelofic.prayers@gmail.com</u> 31920 State Highway P, Clyde, MO 64432.

MARIAN CONFERENCE ST. JOSEPH CHURCH, WESTPHALIA: You are invited! Please join us for a FREE two-day Marian Conference at St. Joseph Church in Westphalia on November 12&13. This conference will feature a great lineup of guest speakers as well as Mass, Adoration, Confession, fellowship & food! This is a free event for the entire family. For more information on registration & for an event flyer, please visit our website at www.stjosephwestphalia.org

ST. STANISLAUS PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL OPEN HOURS: Tuesday- 1:00-2:00 a.m. (3,4,5), Sat. 11-12:00 noon (1,2,4,5), Sat. 1:00-2:00 p.m. Need a sub for Sunday night 11:00-12 Midnight until January 1. (Please call Donna at 680-1470 if you would like to take one of these hours, or let me know if you can sub periodically. Thank you!)

WALK FOR LIFE: The annual Walk for Life will be held on Sunday, September 26 following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The Walk progresses from St. Stanislaus Church to the Wardsville Lions Club, where there will be refreshments, prizes and Pro-life displays. Bus transportation available to and from event. If you have a pro-life T-shirt, please wear it! Pledge forms for donations are in the vestibule and chapel library of St. Stanislaus, or you may drop it in the Sunday collection basket, labeled "Walk for Life." Thank you for supporting this annual pro-life event!

BLOOD DRIVE: Blood drive is scheduled September 21, 2021 at the Citizen's Civic League in Meta between the hours of 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: CivicLeagueMeta to schedule an appointment. Limited edition college football t-shirts while supplies last. Refreshments will be served.

CITIZEN'S CIVIC LEAGUE FALL FESTIVAL, META is Sunday, September 19, serving sausage & fried chicken dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. \$14.00 per meal. Carry-out or spaced dine in. All meals served in carry-out containers.

**OUR LADY OF HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH, FRANKENSTEIN** is Sunday, September 26 serving sausage dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Drive thru and to go meals \$12.00, covered pavilion seating. Dessert & Specialty items auction 3:30 p.m.