

**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

**25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**September 22, 2019**

**Administrator: Fr. Leonard Mukiibi**  
[frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com](mailto:frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com)  
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315

**St. Thomas the Apostle Bookkeeper:**  
**Mrs. Jan Heckemeyer**  
[jheckemeyeroffice@gmail.com](mailto:jheckemeyeroffice@gmail.com)

**St. Thomas the Apostle Admin. Secretary:**  
**Mrs. Jenny Becker**  
[jbeckeroffice@gmail.com](mailto:jbeckeroffice@gmail.com)



**School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer**  
[lheckemeyerstacs@gmail.com](mailto:lheckemeyerstacs@gmail.com)  
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**  
[dorisstumpe@att.net](mailto:dorisstumpe@att.net)

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 September 22-29:**

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Rose Schmidt  
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Joe Schwartz  
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Roy & Ludwina Brockman  
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Roman & Geneva Plassmeyer  
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Wilfred & Virginia Libbert  
People of our Parishes  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Herb Verslues & Chris Verslues

**Your Sunday Offering:**

Offertory Budget for 2019-2020: \$305,000.00  
Offertory Goal through Month End: \$ 76,251.00  
Actual Collection for 2019-2020: **\$ 61,815.45**  
Offertory Difference Year to Date: –\$ 14,435.55  
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

**Collection in Church:**

September 1 \$ 4,266.00  
September 8 \$ 3,712.00  
September 15 \$ 4,518.00  
September 22 \$  
September 29 \$

**Collection Online:** \$ 5,802.00  
**September total to date:** **\$ 18,298.00**  
Difference for September: -\$ 7,119.00

**St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund**

Total Expansion Project expenses paid: \$2,273,475.34  
Income from parishioners for FY 2019-2020  
(via the yellow "Building Fund" envelope): **\$ 6,441.25**  
Loan payments to date for FY 2019-2020: **\$9,227.74**  
(Principal \$7,942.19 Interest \$1,285.55)  
Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: **\$192,796.66**

**St. Thomas the Apostle Cantor / Organist**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten / Annette Kehner  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering / Jackie Prenger

**St. Thomas the Apostle Reader**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Carolyn Loethen  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – K of C Member

**St. Thomas the Apostle Altar Servers**

Weekday – Jackson Braun & Valerie Verslues  
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Cameron & Chesney Luebbering,  
Courtney Luebbering  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jack Libbert, Grace & Belle Boessen,  
Luke Schroeder

**St. Cecilia**

**Mass Schedule for the Week of September 22-29:**

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Larry Bock

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Lawrence & Scott Otto

**Your Sunday Offering:**

Offertory Budget for 2019-2020: \$62,000.00  
Collection Total for 2019-2020: **\$ 9,822.00**  
Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,166.67

**Collection in Church:**

September 1 \$ 955.00  
September 8 \$1,172.00  
September 15 \$1,348.00  
September 22 \$  
September 29 \$

**September total to date:** **\$3,475.00**  
Difference for September: -\$1,691.67

**St. Cecilia Collection Counters**

September – Marie Lueckenotto & Pam Libbert  
October – Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

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

**St. Cecilia Reader**

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Doris Stumpe  
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer

**St. Cecilia Altar Servers**

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Saige & Ava Werdehausen

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

**St. Thomas Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**  
**September 28-29**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Carolyn Loethen, Mark & Barb Graessle  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – K of C Members

**October 5-6**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Lora Boessen, Mark Luebbering,  
Pat Kaiser  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Sesquicentennial Committee

**St. Thomas Greeters/Ushers**

**September 28-29**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Eric Strobe & Dave Luebbering  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – K of C Members

**October 5-6**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Steve Schellman & Mike Green  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Larry Lueckenhoff, Doug Stockman,  
Ryan Buschjost, Cash McManus

**St. Thomas Presentation of Gifts at Mass**

**September 28-29**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Paul & Jenny Becker  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – K of C Members

**October 5-6**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Steve Schellman Family  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Sesquicentennial Committee

**St. Thomas Collection Counters**

September 29 – Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg  
October 6 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes  
October 13 – Jennifer Schroeder & Dunja Wieberg

**Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas:**

Tuesday 7:20 a.m. – Joann Heckman - Sorrowful  
Wednesday 7:20 a.m. – Pat Loethen - Glorious  
Thursday 7:20 a.m. – Viola Boessen – Luminous  
Friday 7:20 a.m. – Bob Schellman - Sorrowful  
Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Paul Becker – Joyful  
Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina Strobe - Joyful

**PASTOR'S MEDITATION: 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in ordinary time year C, September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019, we should be shrewd for God**

Today's readings remind us that we are God's stewards and that God expects faithful and prudent stewardship from us. We are challenged to use our God-given talents and blessings, like wealth, knowledge, etc... to wisely attain Heavenly bliss (complete happiness).

This presupposes a need to be faithful in the little things of life, as Saint John Chrysostom warns us, "Faithfulness in little things is a big thing" and the reminder of Mother Teresa of Calcutta "Do little things with great love." Hence, let us not ignore doing little things, like acknowledging a favor by saying a sincere "thank you," or congratulating others for their success, or sharing in their sorrows or offering them help and support in their needs.

We need to use our spiritual resources wisely. The manager in Jesus' story used all his resources to secure his future. We must be no less resourceful. We have at our disposal the Holy Mass and the Seven Sacraments as sources of Divine grace, the Holy Bible as the word of God for daily meditation and practice, the teaching authority of the Spirit-guided Church to direct us in our Christian life. We need to use these resources in such a way that it will be said of us, "*And the master commended them because they acted so prudently.*"

We need to be prepared to give an account of our stewardship. We insure our houses against fire, storms, flood, and thieves, just as we insure our lives buying life insurance, health insurance and car insurance. In the same way, let us insure ourselves for the one thing that most certainly will happen, namely, our meeting God to give Him an account of our lives. What really matters, at that time of our *Private Judgment* by God at the moment of our death, is how wisely we have used our blessings during our life, lovingly and generously sharing them with others in need.

Have a blessed week, **Fr. Leonard Mukiibi**

**BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S SEPTEMBER PRAYER INTENTION:** For first responders; that God's Holy Angels may watch over and protect those who place themselves in harm's way to serve their neighbors.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Erica Graessle & TJ Loethen** who were united in the bonds of Holy Matrimony on Saturday, September 21 at St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

**BULLETIN NOTICES:** Deadline for bulletin notices is noon on Wednesdays.

**SNACKS FOR QUILTERS:**

Thurs., Sept. 26 – Rose Mary Luebbering & Betty Jo Luebbering Thursday, October 3 – Sarah Luebbert & Janet Lueckenhoff  
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.

**SCRIP: September 28-29** Saturday – Karen Luebbering Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Kerry Meyer

Visit [www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip](http://www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip) for more information about the Scrip program. You can 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.

**OCTOBER WEEKEND MASS COUNT:** This fall our Diocese will again participate in a common practice across the U.S. known as the 'October Count.' Each individual who attends the weekend Mass across our Diocese during the month will be counted in order to allow for better pastoral planning. Throughout the month of October, we ask ushers assigned for Mass to count all the faithful (including musicians and altar servers) at each weekend Mass. **We will begin the parish count October 5-6.**

**LECTORS:** Please come to the podium to read the petitions as soon as the Apostles Creed is over.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:** Please return the chalices to the altar when finished so Fr. Leonard can purify them.

**St. Cecilia Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**  
**September 29**

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer, Jennifer Even

**October 6**

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff, Dorothy Rehagen,  
Pam Libbert

**St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers**

**September 29**

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Darin Even, Leonard Schulte,  
Harold Libbert, Anton Libbert

**October 6**

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Terry Libbert, Tony Derkum,  
Leon Schanzmeyer, Kenny Otto

**Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia**

Wednesday, **6:05 p.m.** – Dorothy Rehagen– Glorious

Sunday **7:35 a.m.** – Cathy Borgmeyer -Joyful

**VOTIVE CANDLES:** The requested donation for lighting a votive candle in church is **\$2.50.**

**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. CECILIA PARISHIONERS** – Fr. Leonard will be at the St. Cecilia Parish office (rectory) and be available to parishioners on Wednesdays from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m., or by appointment by calling 573-999-9927. Confession hours at St. Cecilia are Wednesdays from 5:00 - 6:15 p.m. and Sundays from 7:00 – 7:45 a.m., or by appointment.

**ST. CECILIA PRAYER LINE REQUESTS** can be made by calling Florentine Hagenhoff at 573-298-2372. Please leave a message if no answer. Additional Prayer Line Ministers are needed. For more information, please call Florentine.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRAYER LINE REQUESTS** should be emailed to Jenny Becker at [jbeckeroffice@gmail.com](mailto:jbeckeroffice@gmail.com) or by calling (573) 690-0642. The Prayer Line exists to communicate prayer intentions for those in need of healing.

**ST. CECILIA HOLY HOUR:** September 27 at 7:00 p.m., with anointing of the sick to follow.

**SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE MEETING** is Wednesday, September 25 at 6:00 p.m. in the school library.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING** is Tuesday, September 24 at 6:00 p.m. Vitae House.

**ST. THOMAS PARISH PASTORIAL COUNCIL MEETING** is Tuesday, September 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vitae House.

**PRAYER HOUR WITH MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION** is Tuesday, September 24, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

**A ROSARY** will be prayed in honor of Our Lady of Fatima on Sunday, October 13 at St. Thomas the Apostle. More information will follow.

**ST. CECILIA RELIGION CLASSES:** Religion classes for 1st through 9<sup>th</sup> grade are planned to start on Wednesday, October 2, at 7:00 in the parish center. All students are asked to please sign up. Accurate counts are needed for ordering books and materials. Please contact Jennifer Even at 680-6945 or [evenfamily6@att.net](mailto:evenfamily6@att.net) to sign up or with any questions.

**ST. CECILIA SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Sunday School classes for St. Cecilia will begin on Sunday, October 6, immediately following the 8:00 a.m. mass (approximately 9:00) in the parish center. Sunday School classes are open to any children currently in kindergarten, or those who will be entering kindergarten next year (fall of 2020). Please contact Jennifer Even at 680-6945 or [evenfamily6@att.net](mailto:evenfamily6@att.net) to sign up or with any questions.

**THE META CITIZENS CIVIC LEAGUE** monthly meeting will be held on September 23 at 7:00 p.m.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Monday, September 16 – NO SCHOOL – K -8, Diocesan Profession Day

Tuesday, September 24 – Parish School Advisory Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. Vitae House

Monday, September 30 – Flu Shot Clinic 9:00 a.m. in the Library

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PSR** classes begin September 25. All students must be registered for classes. If you have not done so, please visit the “St. Thomas the Apostle PSR” Facebook page or the church website to access the Google Form to register. We are looking forward to getting the year started!!

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES FOR ST. CECILIA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE** All parishioners in **grades 10, 11, and 12** are eligible to be confirmed. The next meeting will be September 25 at St. Thomas the Apostle at 7:30 p.m.

**ST. THOMAS FALL FESTIVAL COLLECTION:** There is an envelope in your September packet. Each family or single wage Parish used to have. It is part of our overall parish budget, helping with ongoing expenses.

**THE ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH GROUNDS “GRASS CUTTING TEAM ROTATION” FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK:**

Week of Sept 23 - Mark Luebbering, Antone Luebbering and Nick Luebbering Team

Week of Sept 30 - Paul and Jenny Becker and Eric and Shara Buechter Team

***Grass cutting teams are reminded to try to cut grass “as needed” each week with the goal of having things looking good for weekend mass, weddings, etc. Many thanks to all of our parish volunteers and should anyone else be interested in putting together a “Grass Cutting Team” please contact Alan Reinkemeyer at 573-694-6984.***

**ST. THOMAS 4-H:** The first meeting of the new year will be Sunday September 22 at 11:15 a.m. at the St. Thomas KC Hall. Enrollment is open to youth ages 5-18 as of January 1, 2020. The Clover Kid program is for ages 5-7 while 4-H is for ages 8-18. New and current members, along with parents and any adult interested in being a project leader are welcome to attend.

**ST. THOMAS BABY QUILTS:** If anyone is interested in quilting baby quilts for our 2020 parish picnic, please call Diane Lueckenhoff at 573-645-5794 or Charlene Buschjost at 573-477-3480.

**MISSOURI RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE** will be available to the St. Thomas Community on Monday, September 23 from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. in the St. Thomas the Apostle Church parking lot off Park Street.

**COLE COUNTY PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT NO. 5** is looking for candidates to fill empty seats on the Board. Please contact Sheri Wieberg at 573-477-3497 if interested or for more information. (Candidates must be at least 25 years of age to hold a seat on the Board and reside within the district.)

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FALL FANTASY** is Saturday, November 2 beginning at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$110 and are on sale now at Speedy B's in St. Thomas, or contact Joanie Prenger at 573-477-0187. One ticket includes: prime rib and pork loin dinner for two people; dance with music by Shiloh; complimentary beer, wine, gin rickeys and soda; and a chance to win \$10,000 with over \$15,000 in cash prizes given away! Please purchase tickets by September 30 to be included in the Early Bird drawing.

**2019 ST. THOMAS FALL FANTASY:** If anyone or any business would like to make a monetary donation to help offset the cost of tickets for the Raffles (2<sup>nd</sup> chance to be entered for Grand Prize), Food or Hunter's Raffle, please contact Lynne Reinkemeyer at 573-690-7113 by October 24, 2019. Thank you!

**SAVE THE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR:**

Sunday, October 6, 2019 – St. Thomas the Apostle Parish 150<sup>th</sup> Heritage Celebration for the public

Saturday, November 2, 2019 – St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Fall Fantasy

**BIRTHRIGHT-JEFFERSON CITY "BABY SHOWER"** - St. Thomas Parish will be conducting a "Baby Shower" for mothers and babies in need for Birthright of Jefferson City. Collections of goods and monetary donations will be collected through the weekend of September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. There are donation boxes and monetary donation canisters at the side entrance of church as well in the back of church on the right side behind the pews. Some of the items the organization needs are as follows:

Diapers: newborn, 3, 4, and 5  
Socks for babies newborn to age 2  
Pacifiers and bottles (regular, without inserts)  
Infant head supports for car seats  
Personal care items for moms (body wash, soap, shampoo, deodorant)

Baby wipes  
Baby care items (soap, baby wash, lotion)  
Pack and play sheets  
Laundry detergent

Thanks in advance for your donation towards this organization in need.

**OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, FRANKENSTEIN** is Sunday, September 22, serving whole baked turkey and country sausage dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Adults \$12, children (5-12) \$5, children under 5 free. Dessert auction at 3:00 p.m.

**VISITATION PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, VIENNA** is Sunday, September 29, serving sausage & fried chicken dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Adults \$12.00, children \$5.00. Kiddie tractor pull 3:00 p.m.

**THE FAITH HOPE & FAMILY RELAY TEAM:** Let's Raise some Dough, on Wednesday, October 9, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at West Main Pizza, Jefferson City. The relay team will receive a % of sales. Dine in or carry out.

**THE CITIZENS CIVIC LEAGUE** will be sponsoring a blood drive on Tuesday, September 24 from 2:30 to 7:00 (new hours). Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter CivicLeagueMeta to schedule an appointment. Refreshments will be served and a t-shirt will be available.



## DIocese OF JEFFERSON CITY

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

14 September 2019  
Feast of the Exultation of the Cross

Dear Faithful of the Diocese of Jefferson City,

On Friday, the Missouri Attorney General issued a report based on a 13-month investigation on clergy sexual abuse of minors in the four Roman Catholic dioceses of Missouri. The report is more than 300 pages long and involved a review of records of more than 2,000 priests serving in Missouri since 1945. It provides a list of 163 priests who had reports of an offense against a minor under Missouri Criminal Law, and it reports that the Attorney General will refer 12 priests now removed from ministry to local prosecutors for criminal investigation and possible prosecution. Whether any prosecutions will result from these referrals remains to be seen, but, as with any investigation by law enforcement, the Diocese of Jefferson City will be fully cooperative.

The report finds that since 2002, when the US bishops enacted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, "the four dioceses in Missouri have implemented a series of reforms that have improved their response to, and reporting of, abuse. This report recommends additional reforms to strengthen oversight and protect victims from future abuse."

It is my sincere hope this report assists the Church in achieving our goals of accountability and transparency, while respecting the legal standards for privacy of all affected by the report. Let me be clear: we must understand sexual abuse, whether by clergy or others, is still a present reality in society. This requires a proper vigilance and the necessity to follow through with safe environment protocols to ensure our children and youth grow and flourish in a healthy Church environment and a societal culture that protects the vulnerable.

To all survivors who suffered clergy sexual abuse in the Diocese of Jefferson City, and to their friends and family members, I offer you an apology from the depths of my heart.

My staff and I are carefully reviewing the report and its recommendations. I am grateful for what each of you do to make our communities safe, healthy and holy places, and for your encouragement and support of these efforts. We can only be a holy people, a people who are better together, if we have confidence in our priests and if you trust me as your shepherd.

May Mary, the Immaculate Conception and our Mother, intercede for us as we strive to follow her Son and Our Lord, Jesus. I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight, S.T.D.  
Bishop of Jefferson City