

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

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 24, 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 Sept. 24-Oct. 1:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Roman & Geneva Plassmeyer
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Bernard & Betty Stegeman
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Wilbert & Rosalyn Wankum
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Herb & Imogene Volmert
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mass of Thanksgiving
Marshall & Joyce Boessen 25th Wedding Anniversary
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes
David A. Boessen

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024:	\$312,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	\$ 78,000.00
Actual Collection for 2023-2024:	\$ 74,762.17
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	-\$ 3,237.83
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	\$

Collection Online: \$ 7,232.00

September total to date: **\$23,169.01**

Difference for September: -\$ 2,830.99

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations	\$487,889.70
Total Collected	\$504,617.17
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 \$76,100.38
Loan payments to date \$134,440.00
(principal) \$123,899.62 (interest) \$10,540.38

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists

Sept. 30 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten / Jeanette
Oct. 1 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering / Jackie
Oct. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kerry Meyer / Jeanette
Oct. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Judy Schroeder / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers

Sept. 30 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle
Oct. 1 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Katie Luebbering
Oct. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jan Carter
Oct. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Tom Backes

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of Sept. 24-Oct. 1:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Larry Bock

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

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024:	\$67,000.00
Collection Total for 2023-2024:	\$14,514.00
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	\$

September total to date: **\$ 2,523.00**

Difference for September: -\$ 3,060.34

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. – Cathy Borgmeyer
Sunday, Oct. 1 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff
Sunday, Oct. 8 8:00 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen

St. Cecilia Organist

Sunday, Oct. 1 8:00 a.m. – Lydia
Sunday, Oct. 8 8:00 a.m. – Emilie

**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

Sept. 30 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Boessen & Phil Akin
Oct. 1 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Alan Reinkemeyer & Ryan Buschjost
Oct. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Eric & Roseanne Boessen
Oct. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m. Larry Lueckenhoff & Richard Heckemeyer
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

Sept. 30 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Lora Boessen
Oct. 1 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Keith Kliethermes
Oct. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Graessle
Oct. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Janet Lueckenhoff

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers

Weekday – Kora Luebbering & JD Volmert
Sept. 30 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Carmen Luebbering,
JD Volmert, Emerald Fennewald
Oct. 1 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Fayeth Prenger, Erika Luebbering,
William & Victoria 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

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts

Sept. 23 Saturday 5:00 p.m.–Family of Marshall & Joyce
Boessen
Sept. 24 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Family of David A. Boessen

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters

October 1 – Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman
October 8 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes
October 15 – Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
October 22 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder

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

October 1 Jenny Becker
October 8 Karlie Reinkemeyer
October 15 Lauri Luebbering
October 22 Brooke Schell

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 – Joyful Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Tina Stockman–Joyful Mysteries

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners

Sept.24: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer
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

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. ***Evening quilting begins Wed. Sept. 6.*** 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, Sept. 28 – Leslie Green & Trish Green **Thursday, October 5** – June Groner & Debbie Groner

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.

A NOTE OF THANKS!

Thank you everyone for all of your prayers, support, kind words, donations of food, and help with setting up and cleaning up the hall after the luncheon. Thank you to Fr. Leonard for such a warm and welcoming Mass. I know that Dave felt honored that everyone came together and made it special. Thank you to everyone for making such a sad situation one of love and peace. We are proud to live and have roots in a small town. Words cannot express how special you all are. ***The Dave Volmert Family***

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 SEPTEMBER PRAYER INTENTION: For the police fire, and EMS workers serving their communities in uniform; may all first responders be preserved from harm as they serve to keep us safe, we pray to the Lord.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING is Tuesday, September 26, 7:00 p.m. in the school library.

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers

Oct. 1 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer
Oct. 8 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

Oct. 1 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Otto Wankum, Leonard Schulte,
Tony & William Derkum
Oct. 8 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Terry Libbert, Harold Libbert,
Leon Schanzmeyer, Darin Even

St. Cecilia Servers

Oct. 1 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Sarah & Elizabeth Backes
Tucker Schroeder
Oct. 8 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Bradyn & Kambrie Stegeman

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts

October 1 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Family of Lawrence,
Bernadine & Scott Otto

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:05 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer
Glorious Mysteries
Oct. 1 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen
Joyful Mysteries
Oct. 8 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer
Glorious 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.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 25th Sunday in ordinary time: **GOD'S JUSTICE COMES AS A SURPRISE.** (Is. 55:6-9; Phil. 1:20-24, 27; Mt. 20:1-16a) The important thing in life is not what we achieved, but the love that went into our work.

An engineer was working in a construction firm that builds houses. He told himself: "I have been working hard for this company and what do I get? "I'm about to retire and all my life, I have been making beautiful mansions for the rich people." One day the owner of the construction firm said to him: "I want you to construct a large and lovely house. I don't care about the budget. I just want it done well." But since the engineer was filled with resentment towards his work, he wanted to embarrass the owner. "Anyway," he reasoned, "I would be retiring soon." So, he built the house with substandard materials: rusty steel and roofs, old wood and fixtures. The façade was so impressive, but he knew it would not last because of the poor quality of work and materials. The time came for him to retire. He was summoned by the owner who said: "As my gratitude to you for your services in the company, I'm giving you the house that I instructed you to build. It was meant as a surprise for you." He was shocked and wanted to complain but it was late. **How** much love do we give to our Christian duty, this is the question from this Sunday's gospel. **Let us** bear this in our mind that what is paramount goal is not the amount of service that we render but the love in which the service is carried out. In God's eyes, all services, big or small are important and accounted for. In this parable, it seemed like what the landowner had done is unfair. Are those who labor longer deserving higher pay? Is it unfair also for the latecomers to get the same wages as those who come earlier? For the landowner the meaning of justice is to give what is due. Let us start with the workmen who were hired first. See how their faces light up when the landowner finds them at dawn and offers the usual wages for a day's work in his vineyard. Their children will not sleep hungry. Now look at the laborers who were hired late in the afternoon. They were not lazy, only less lucky. They just stayed in the market because nobody hired them. But this landowner saw them and paid them with a day's wage. For us maybe, an hour's work is equivalent to an hour's pay also, if not, we lose. Today's readings invite us to stop comparing ourselves to other people. We are invited to accept ourselves as we are. Ultimately, the important thing in life is not what others think of us or how hard we work in God's vineyard, the important thing is what God thinks of us and the love that motivates our work. God has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another, I have my mission, I may never know it in this life but I shall be told in the next life, therefore we all need to trust in God, he does nothing in vain, he may prolong our life, he may shorten it, he knows what he is about.

Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukilibi

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:

Monday, September 25 - No School, Diocesan Professional Development Day

Wednesday, September 27 – Picture Day

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

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.

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.

META QUILTING: Quilting for the 2024 St. Cecilia Parish/Citizens Civic League Quilt Auction is in session at the Quilters' Cottage Tuesdays and Thursdays during the day and on Thursday evenings. If you are interested in quilting, come join us and we will try our best to answer your questions. For further information, contact Katie Lueckenotto 573-619-6454 or Mary Plasmeyer 573-694-0127.

META QUILTING: We have some baby quilts that we need quilted for the 2024 auction. If you would be interested in quilting one for us to help us out it would be greatly appreciated. If you are interested, please contact Karyn Veltrop 573-644-3724.

CURSILLO: Deep down do you feel dissatisfied, like something may be missing in your life?? A Cursillo, which is a 3 day weekend for adult Catholics, often helps people identify areas to work on, solutions you've not considered, that then open up more joy and offer a deeper meaning to life. For more information and to find a sponsor contact: (insert your name as Parish Contact, email/phone number); and/or Becky Sander, sander.becky@gmail.com; 573-808-3758 Upcoming Cursillo weekends will be in beautiful Edina, MO on these dates: Men's September 28 - October 1, 2023 Women's October 19 - 22, 2023

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!

CITIZENS CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING: The September monthly meeting of the Citizens Civic League will be held on September 25 at 7:00 p.m. These meetings are open to the public and are always held on the 4th Monday of the month, March thru October, always at 7:00 p.m.

OUR LADY OF HELP OF CHRISTIAN PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, FRANKENSTEIN is Sunday, September 24, serving turkey & sausage dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. \$15.00 meals. Dessert & Specialty items auction 3:30 p.m. Free bingo 12:00-3:00 p.m.

VISITATION PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, VIENNA is Sunday, September 24, serving sausage & fried chicken dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. \$15, drive-thru & carry-out outdoor & indoor seating available, no table service.

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.

ST. ANTHONY PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, ST. ANTHONY is Sunday, October 15, serving sausage & roast beef dinners from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Adults \$15.00, children 6-12 \$7.00, carry-outs \$15.00.

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



