The Roman Catholic Parishes of

St. Thomas the Apostle

in St. Thomas

St. Cecilia

in Meta

www.stthomasapostle.net

PO Box 146 St. Thomas, MO 65076 www.stceciliameta.net

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 4, 2016

Pastor: Very Reverend Jeremy A. Secrist, V.F.

jasecrist@yahoo.com Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315

St. Thomas Bookkeeper: Mrs. Jenny Becker jbeckeroffice@gmail.com

St. Cecilia Bookkeeper: Mrs. Doris Stumpe dorisstumpe@att.net



School Principal: Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer Iheckemeyer@embargmail.com

School: 573-477-3322 Fax: 573-477-3700

St. Thomas Secretary: Mrs. Diane Lueckenhoff stthomasoffice@embarqmail.com

School Website: www.stthomasapostleschool.net

St. Thomas Parish Office hours: Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Thursdays 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. School Office hours during school year: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. **Confessions**: Saturdays 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. at St. Thomas; Sundays 7:30 - 7:50 a.m. at St. Cecilia; or anytime by appointment, just call Father.

Saint Thomas the Apostle Mass Schedule for the Week of December 4-11: Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Gregory Veit Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Frank & Catherine Wieberg Family

Wednesday 7:45 a.m. - Margaret Godar

Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Jerome & Dorothy Buschjost Family Thursday 6:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes

Friday 7:45 a.m. -Sylvanus Hoecker

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ray, Sally & Sam Herigon Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Wm. & Rufina Boessen

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2016-2017: \$305,000.00 \$127,085.00 Offertory Goal through Month End: Actual Collection for 2015-2017: \$117,220.20 Offertory Difference Year to Date: 9,864.80 Offertory Goal per month: \$ 25,417.00

Collection in Church:

November 6 5,115.00 November 13 2,397.75 November 20 3,707.00 \$ November 27 5,154.00 5,244.00 **Collection Online:** November total to date: \$21,617.75 Difference for November - \$ 3.799.25

Saint Cecilia Mass Schedule for the Week of December 4-11:

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - John Wansing Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Vincent Reinkemeyer

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Mary Sidewell

*no Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament before Mass this week

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Lionel, Arharta, Bonnie & Sandy Libbert

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2016-2017: \$60,500.00 Collection Total for 2016-2017: \$26,452.99 Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,041.00

Collection in Church:

\$ 1,892.00 November 6 November 13 \$ 969.00 November 20 988.00 November 27 \$1,099.00 November total to date: \$ 5.022.00 Difference for November: - \$ 19.00

Please remember your parish in your last will & testament.

St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund

Total Expansion Project expenses paid: \$2,273,475.34 Income from parishioners for FY 2016-2017

(via the yellow "Building Fund" envelope): \$12,670.00 Loan payments to date for FY 2016-2017: \$46,138.70 (Principal) \$37,536.01 (Interest) \$8,602.69

\$<u>458,559.96</u> Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining:

St. Thomas Cantor / Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten/ Annette Kehner Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Lisa Wieberg

St. Thomas Reader/ Petitions

Thursday, 6:00 p.m. – Judy Schroeder Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Alfred Kaiser Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Larry Lueckenhoff

St. Thomas Altar Servers

Weekday - Grace Luebbering & Luke Schroeder Thursday 6:00 p.m. - Henry Buschjost, Ben & Emma Luebbering, Caleb Buechter Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Ethan & Noah Luebbering, Sam Schaefer, Andrew Luebbering Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Austin & Brie Heckman, Luke Schroeder, Gregory Kirby

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

December - Pam Libbert & Marie Lueckenotto

St. Cecilia Reader / Petitions

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Doris Stumpe Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Dominic Plassmeyer

St. Cecilia Altar Servers

December 7 – Zachary, Alex & Joshua Even Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Zachary & Alex Even, Carson Libbert & Gavin Holterman Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Nicholas & Shelby Wankum, Ava & Saige Werdehausen

> IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO FULFILL YOUR LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENT, IN YOUR KINDNESS & CHARITY, PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT.

St. Thomas Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

December 8 – Glen Prenger, Lynne Reinkemeyer, Marshall Boessen

December 10-11

Saturday 5:00 p.m.-Carolyn Loethen, Mark & Barb Graessle Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Jan Carter, Mattheuw Prenger, Keith Kliethermes

December 17-18

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Lora Boessen, Mark Luebbering, Pat Kaiser

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Randy Buschjost, Rob Henson, Rosalyn Wieberg

St. Thomas Greeters/Ushers

December 8 - Doug Stockman & Mattheuw Prenger December 10-11

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Richard Schellman & Fred Luebbering Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Alan Reinkemeyer & Doug Stockman December 17-18

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Joe Buschjost & Carolyn Loethen Sunday 10:00 a.m. – TJ Loethen & Mattheuw Prenger

St. Thomas Presentation of Gifts at Mass

December 8 - Brian & Katie Luebbering Family December 10-11

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Steve & Katrina Schellman Family Sunday 10:00 a.m. - TJ, Andrew & Alex Loethen

December 17-18

Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Mike & Trish Green Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Alan & Stephanie Cortvrient

St. Thomas Collection Counters

December 10-11 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes December 17-18 – Richard & Jan Heckemeyer

December 24-25 – Jennifer Schroeder & Stephanie Cortvrient

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday 7:25 a.m. - Alex & Joann Heckman - Sorrowful Wednesday 7:25 a.m. - Pat Loethen - Glorious Thursday 7:25 a.m. - Viola Boessen - Luminous Thursday 5:40 p.m. – Barb Graessle – Luminous Friday 7:25 a.m. - Gilbert & Hermina Strope - Sorrowful Saturday 4:40 p.m. - Marilyn Herigon - Joyful Sunday 9:40 a.m. - Tina Stockman - Joyful

St. Cecilia Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

December 7 – Brenda Wansing, Jennifer Even,

Betty Hagenhoff

December 10-11

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Dorothy Rehagen, Lou Kloeppel, **Brenda Wansing**

Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer, Janice Schanzmeyer

December 17-18

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Doris Stumpe, Jennifer Even, Betty Hagenhoff

Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Gerald & Phyllis Rehagen, Karen Fick

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

December 7 - Dominic Plassmeyer, Leon Schanzmeyer, Larry Lueckenotto, Darin Even

December 10-11

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Darin Even, Randy Hagenhoff, Lou Kloeppel, Mitch Stumpe Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Leon Schanzmeyer, Kenny Otto,

Dominic Plassmeyer, Larry Lueckenotto

December 10-11

Saturday 7:00 p.m. - Brendan Stumpe, Darin Even, Randy Hagenhoff, Lou Kloeppel Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Harold Libbert, Anton Libbert, Terry Libbert, Tony Derkum

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:10 p.m. – Florentine Hagenhoff– Glorious Saturday 6:40 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer– Joyful Mysteries Sunday 7:40 a.m. - Mary Plassmeyer-Joyful Mysteries

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

BAPTISM PREPARATION: Please call Fr. Secrist to schedule a meeting and date for Baptism.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION: Please call Fr. Secrist at least six months prior to the desired date.

SCRIP: **December 10-11** Visit www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip for more information about the Scrip program. Saturday - Kerry Meyer Sunday - Sara Otto

Please remember to purchase Scrip cards for all your holiday shopping and gift giving needs! We have a large variety of cards in various denominations in stock and available for purchase. Scrip is available for purchase after every weekend Mass in St. Thomas and available during the week by contacting the school office at 573-477-3322. You can also contact Lindsay Luebbering at 573-680-4920 or Karen Luebbering at 573-301-5835 to purchase anytime.

LADIES TO BRING SNACK TO ST. THOMAS QUILTERS:

Thurs., Dec. 8 – Pat (Andrew) Luebbering & Katie (Brian) Luebbering Thurs., Dec. 15 – Gina Luebbering & Emily Luebbering Please bring to hall by 1:00 p.m.; snack served at 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Strope or Emily Luebbering.

ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKLETS: Magnificat Companion booklets with daily reflections are available for you at the entrances to Church to assist your daily prayer throughout the season of Advent.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:

Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m. (Vigil) at St. Cecilia Thursday, December 8 at 7:45 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle

RORATE MASS - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23: There is an ancient custom during the season of Advent to celebrate Mass in the early morning before sunrise in anticipation of the coming of the Light of the World at Christmas. Mass will be offered by candlelight at St. Thomas the Apostle at 6:00 a.m. on Friday, December 23. Hospitality will be offered in the Vitae House following the Rorate Mass.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE:

Mass will be celebrated on December 24, 5:00 p.m. & Midnight December 25, 10:00 a.m.

ST. CECILIA:

December 24, 7:00 p.m. December 25, 8:00 a.m.

2016-2017 CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP APPEAL (CSA): The Catholic Stewardship Appeal (CSA) videos for this year's Catholic Stewardship appeal is available at: **www.diojeffcity.org**. Please click on the YouTube logo button in the top right hand corner of the web page. The CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP GOALS for 2016 are:

St. Cecilia Parish: \$2,000.00. So far \$893.00 (45%) has been contributed.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish: \$8,000.00. So far \$4,699.00 (59%) has been contributed. Thank you for your generosity!

ST. THOMAS PRAYER LINE REQUESTS should be emailed to Jenny Becker at jbeckeroffice @gmail.com or by calling (573) 690-0642. The Prayer Line exists to communicate prayer intentions for those in need of healing. Out of respect for individuals' privacy, only necessary information is communicated.

FOOD DRIVE: The St. Thomas & Meta Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a food drive beginning through December 18. The food collected will be delivered to the Helping Hands of Central Missouri Food Pantry located near St. Elizabeth in Miller County. Food collection boxes are located in the entrances of St. Thomas & St. Cecilia Churches. As we approach the winter season, please take this opportunity to help those in need. Thank you!

MIDNIGHT MASS CHOIR PRACTICE: There will be choir practice for Midnight Mass in St. Thomas on Monday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 18 at 8:00 a.m. New choir members are welcome.

DVD'S OF THE PFEFFER PIPE ORGAN REDEDICATION held on October 2nd, are now available for \$15. These DVD's were recorded and edited by the videographer and sportscaster Rod Smith. Please contact Fr. Secrist or Diane Lueckenhoff to obtain a copy. Proceeds will go for the continued care and maintenance of the historic instrument.

PENANCE SERVICES AROUND THE AREA DURING ADVENT:

| December 6 | 7:00 pm | Argyle |
|-------------|---------|---|
| December 13 | 7:00 pm | Folk |
| December 13 | 6:30 pm | Wardsville |
| December 13 | 7:00 pm | St. Thomas (1st Reconciliation for younger parishioners and their parents) |
| December 14 | 7:00 pm | Westphalia |
| December 14 | 7:00 pm | Osage Bend |
| December 18 | 4:00 pm | St. Elizabeth |
| December 20 | 7:00 pm | St. Thomas |
| December 21 | 7:00 pm | Loose Creek |
| December 22 | 7:00 pm | Linn |
| | | |

ST. CECILIA CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: If you want to remember your loved ones during the Christmas season, you may make a monetary donation with their names (clearly printed) in an envelope marked "ST. CECILIA FLOWER DONATION". Please place the flower donations in the collection basket between now and December 18. The names of those to be remembered will be published in the December 24-25 bulletin.

ST. THOMAS CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Those wishing to make a monetary donation toward the Christmas flowers and decorations at St. Thomas are asked to place their donations, along with names (clearly printed) of those to be remembered in the envelope provided in the December packet. Please place donations in the collection basket between now and December 18. The names of those to be remembered will be published in the December 24-25 bulletin.

PRAYING A ROSARY FOR OUR COUNTRY will be prayed on Sunday, December 4 at 5:00 p.m. at St. Thomas Church.

ATTENTION ST. THOMAS QUILT GROUPS: We are working on the quilts for the 2017 picnic. If you have a quilt top along with lining ready, please let us know. The quilt top needs to be marked for quilting. If you have any questions, please call Emily Luebbering at 573-477-3459 or Kathy Strope at 573-477-3349. Batting is available for \$10.00. Additional quilt lists are available in the entrances of St. Thomas Church or on our web page.

ST. CECILIA SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School classes for St. Cecilia is immediately following the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the Parish Center. Sunday School classes are open to any children in kindergarten, or those who will be entering kindergarten next year (fall of 2017). Please contact Jennifer Even at 680-6945, 229-8976 or evenfamily6@att.net to sign up or with any questions

St. THOMAS SUNDAY SCHOOL: St. Thomas the Apostle Sunday School is for children preschool age (2 years prior to Kindergarten) meet on Sunday's from 9:00-9:45 a.m. in the St. Thomas School Kindergarten room. Please contact Daffiny Tallent at 573-694-4408 or email ddtallent@embargmail.com for more information.

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL/PSR DROP OFF & PICK UP REMINDER: For the safety of everyone, please remember to ENTER from Park Street and EXIT from the Church parking lot ONLY. This will keep our children safe and the traffic flowing smoothly.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRESCHOOL: If you have a preschool aged child, please email Mrs. Kirkweg for information on how to get your child enrolled. mkirkweg@embargmail.com

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SAVE: Box Tops for Education, Coke Points & Best Choice Labels.

COPY PAPER: St. Thomas School is in need of copy paper, clean on one side and staple free. Please drop off paper at school or call the school office.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 13 - First Reconciliation for 2nd Graders 7:00 p.m.

15 - Advent Program 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center (DRESS REHEARSAL 10:00 a.m.)

21 – K-8 caroling at Mid-America Bank, bowling party, Early Release K-8 1:20 car-riders, 1:30 bus riders. End of 2nd Quarter

22 - Christmas break December 22 - Jan. 2 - K-8

3 - School Resumes K-8 January

META NATIVITY SCENE SETUP: The Meta Nativity will be set up Sunday, December 4, weather permitting. Anyone willing to help is asked to please meet at the church parking lot at 10:00 a.m. Please call Darin Even at 573-680-6946 with any questions.

THE META CITIZEN'S CIVIC LEAGUE will be hosting their annual Christmas appreciation party on December 4th at the Civic League hall. The Country Western Jammers will be playing music at 5:00 pm. Food will be served at 5:30 p.m. Come and enjoy a fun evening of music, food and socializing. Everyone is welcome.

ST. ANDREW PROLIFE AND COLUMBIA 40 DAYS FOR LIFE INVITATIONS: December 8, St. Andrew Church, Holts Summit, after 7:00 p.m. Mass, the National night of Prayer for the Unborn will begin at 8:00 p.m. until midnight with Eucharistic Adoration and each hour with specific prayers, intention and the rosary. Monday, December 12, Annual Peace in the Womb Pro-Life Christmas Caroling, at Columbia Planned Parenthood, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 14 at 11:30 to 2:00 p.m., Annual Nativity Scene & Christmas Program at the Missouri Capitol Rotunda. Contact Kathy at 573-821-5130 for more info.

META OVER 50 CLUB will meet on Thursday, December 8 at noon at the Parish Center. Fried chicken will be furnished, please bring a dish and join us for lunch and fellowship. Please bring a non-perishable food items and it will be delivered to the Good Shepherd Food Pantry.

RECOGNIZING OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES in the bulletin. If you are a college or technical school graduate this semester, please let us know by emailing or calling the school at 573-477-3322, or the Parish Office on Tuesday or Thursday mornings at 573-477-3315. The names will be published in the December 24-25 bulletin.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

<u>HOLY FAMILY PARISH FALL SUPPER, FREEBURG</u> is Sunday, December 4, serving fried chicken & sausage dinners from 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Adults \$11, children 6-12 \$5.00.

<u>JEFFERSON CITY CANTORUM'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT</u> is Saturday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Miller Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available at Samuels' Tuxedos & gifts; Central Bank West; Hawthorn Bank East or visit www.JeffersonCityCantorum.com or call 573-230-2715. Tickets are Adults \$10, youth (18 & under) \$5.00, Seniors (65 and over) \$8.00, Family (3-5 family members \$25.00. Tickets will be \$2.00 more at the door.

ST. THOMAS HERITAGE BOOK: In the near future, the Sesquicentennial Team will be asking each family household to write a short narrative for inclusion in the heritage book. There will be four topics that you choose to write about in less than 260 words: tell us about your family, tell us about your family's occupation, tell us about family traditions, and tell us about anything special that defines your family. We will also ask for two photos, one family photo and one of your choice. Have fun preparing your narrative and photos

<u>ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE MINUTES</u>: Because of the lack of available space in previous bulletins, our apologies for the delay in publishing these PPC minutes. –Fr. Secrist

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

September 27, 2016

PPC Goal: Develop a more inclusive sense of community in our Parish by encouraging the growth of our relationships with each other and with God.

Members present: Fr. Secrist, Jan Carter, Dan Lindenbusch, Fred Luebbering, Eileen Volmert, Simon Strope, Mike Groner, Marshall Boessen, Shane Verslues, Leroy Heckemeyer, Alan Reinkemeyer, and Theresa Veit

Absent: Charlene Buschjost, Amanda Wooten, Mike Green

Father led the Parish Pastoral Council in prayer.

Principal's Report (Leroy Heckemeyer):

The School Theme for this year: "Hooked on Christ". Enrollment this year is 87. We have a big fish bowl on the wall in the hall where we will put up students names for doing good deeds. We have our Reading wall out on the opposite side in the hall. Grandparents' Day was on September 16th, and we had a huge crowd. The students were very excited to spend the morning with their grandparents and other family members. Mid Quarter was September 16th. Achievement testing will be from September 26-30 for the 3rd – 8th grades. The diocese is using a new test this year-the lowa Test of Basic Skills. So we will have a different testing company to work with. Shakespeare's Pizza fundraiser kickoff will be on Friday, September 30th at 2:30 p.m. October 3rd – 7th will be Red Ribbon Week. October 12th is Picture Day. October 14th is the end of 1st Quarter. October 20th is Parent/Teacher Conferences. The flu shot clinic for our kids will be October 18th at 9:00 a.m. TEAM training for our 8th graders will be on October 19th. No school for K-8th graders on October 21st. K-4th grade will be going on a field trip to Uncle Buck's Pumpkin Patch in Dixon on October 27th. WI-FI has been added in the cafeteria. A color printer has been donated to school.

School Advisory Board Report:

Committee will be formed to discuss the celebration of the 30 year anniversary in 2019 of the reopening of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School.

Worship Committee Report:

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families book - ordered 350, only 15 left.

November 1st (All Saints) 7:45 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at St. Thomas, 7:00 p.m. at Meta

November 2nd (All Souls) Mass at cemetery at St. Thomas (weather permitting)

Christian Education Report:

PSR classes in the school are going great.

Social Concerns Report: No Report

Administration Report:

Water proofing and tuck-pointing of the church body exterior has been completed.

The new main stairwell window for school has been completed and installed.

Lightning rods on school are not grounded. They should be removed, if not properly installed.

Father has called about the flaking on the church windows. The windows are under warranty.

Two powered handicap doors on the side entrance of church will be installed. This has been donated by the family in memory of Sylvanus "Enie" Hoecker.

Old Business:

Sesquicentennial – The committee is planning on a number of celebrations throughout the year in 2019. On the last Sunday of June 2019, they are planning on having a catered dinner for parishioners only. A bigger celebration will be planned for later in 2019 for everyone. Also, a celebration in regard to the 30 year anniversary of the reopening of the St. Thomas Apostle Catholic School will occur early in 2019 (during the school year) for the school community. The Sesquicentennial Book will be about 500 pages. The Parish will do all the formatting to it. Father is working on a logo or design for the Sesquicentennial.

Re-dedication concert for the Pfeffer Pipe Organ will be on Sunday, October 2nd at 4:00 p.m.

Catholic Schools Week Dinner - January 28, 2017.

New Business:

Parish Picnic Review - general discussion held (good comments).

Parish Website Review - general discussion.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 29, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vitae House.

The meeting was adjourned and Father ended with a prayer.

Minutes of November 29th PPC Meeting will be published in next week's bulletin.