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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2024

Pastor: Fr. Leonard Mukiibi
frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315
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
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 December 8-15:

Monday 7:45 a.m. – People of our Parishes
Tuesday 7:45 a.m.– **No Mass**
Wed. 7:45 a.m.- Richard & Theresa Woehr
Thursday 7:45 a.m.- For the Dignity of Life & the Unborn
Friday 7:45 a.m. –L&D Lawrence & Caroline Herigon Family
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Thomas (Butch) Loethen
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes
Pat Kliegel

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$330,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	$165,000.00
Actual Collection for 2024-2025:	**$155,091.10**
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	-$ 9,908.90
Offertory Goal for December:	$ 27,500.00

Collection in Church:

December 1	$ 5,586.10
December 8	$
December 15	$
December 22	$
December 29	$
Collection Online:	$ 6,930.50
December total to date:	**$12,516.60**
Difference for December:	-$14,983.40

Church Renovation Loan Balance

Loan Balance	$23,435.08
Loan payments to date	$190,165.00
(principal) $176,564.92	(interest) $13,600.08

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists
Dec. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten /Jeanette
Dec. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Jean Kliethermes / Alanna
Dec. 21 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Judy Schroeder / Jeanette
Dec. 22 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Doug Luebbering / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers
Dec. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle
Dec. 15 Sunday – 10:00 a.m. – Judy Schroeder
Dec. 21 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kara Holterman
Dec. 22 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jennifer Schroeder

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of December 8-15

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. –Kenneth Otto

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Vince & Brad Reinkemeyer

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2024-2025:	**$26,459.25**
Offertory Goal per month:	$ 5,833.33

Collection in Church:

December 1	$ 494.00
December 8	$
December 15	$
December 22	$
December 29	$
December total to date:	**$ 494.00**
Difference for December:	-$5,339.33

St. Cecilia Collection Counters
December: Terry & Pam Libbert

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.

St. Cecilia Readers
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer
Sunday, Dec. 15 - 8:00 a.m.- Jennifer Even
Sunday, Dec. 22- 8:00 a.m.- Doris Stumpe

St. Cecilia Organist
Sunday, December 15 8:00 a.m. –Emilie
Sunday, December 22 8:00 a.m. – Lydia

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
Dec. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Phil Akin & Gilbert Schellman
Dec. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m.–Alan Reinkemeyer & Matthew Maasen
Dec. 21 Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Al Carter & Eric Strope
Dec. 22 Sunday 10:00 a.m. –Eric Boessen & Art Groner
Collection baskets choir loft by organ, please return after use.

St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Ministers
Dec. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Marshall Boessen,
Brenda Wansing, Marian Buschjost
Dec. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Janet Lueckenhoff,
Lynne Reinkemeyer, Glenn Prenger
Dec. 21 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Mark & Barb Graessle,
Lora Boessen
Dec. 22 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Keith Kliethermes,
Richard & Jan Heckemeyer

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers
Weekday: Miranda Meyer & Stella Volmert
Dec. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Sadie & Ellie Boessen
Luke & Ben Otto
Dec. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Fayeth Prenger, Erika Luebbering,
Isabella & Oliver Luebbering
Dec. 21 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Carmen Luebbering, JD Volmert
Emerald Fennewald, Gannon Reeves
Dec. 22 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Zeke & Max Verslues,
Aliyah Buechter & Angelina Veltrop

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts
Dec. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Family of Butch Loethen
Dec. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m.– Family of Pat Kliegel

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters
Dec. 15 - Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
Dec. 22 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder
Dec. 29 - Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman
Jan. 5 - Keith & Jean Kliethermes

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

Dec. 15	Brooke Schell
Dec. 22	Jenny Schellman
Dec. 29	Dunja Wieberg
Jan. 5	Lauri Luebbering
Jan. 12	Jenny Becker
Jan. 19	Karlie Reinkemeyer

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas
Monday, 7:25 a.m. – Bob Schellman – Joyful Mysteries
Tuesday, **- No Mass**
Wednesday 7:25 a.m. – Shirley Volmert– Glorious Mysteries
Thursday 7:25 a.m. – Dale Herigon – Luminous Mysteries
Friday 7:25 a.m. – Jim Lueckenhoff – Sorrowful Mysteries
Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Dale Herigon – Joyful Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m**.** – Jennifer Schroeder– Joyful Mysteries

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers
Dec. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer,
Janice Schanzmeyer
Dec. 22 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Jennifer Even,
Doris Stumpe, Betty Hagenhoff

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers
Dec. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte
Mitch Stumpe, Randy Hagenhoff
Dec. 22 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff
Brendan Stumpe, Mitch Stumpe

St. Cecilia Servers
Dec. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Reagan & Eli Bock
Dec. 22 Sunday 8:00 a.m. –Gavin Werdehausen &
Natalee Derkum

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts
Dec. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m.– Family of Vince & Brad
Reinkemeyrer

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia
Wednesday 6:05 p.m.–Dorothy Rehagen
Glorious Mysteries
Dec. 15 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer
Joyful Mysteries
Dec. 22 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer
Joyful 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.

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners
December 8: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Brenda Schell, Barb Graessle
December 15: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering
December 22: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer
December 29: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost
January 5: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lindsay 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. 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 Strope at 573-477-3349.
Thursday, Dec. 12 – Kathy Strope & Anne Strope **Thursday, Dec. 19 –** Marsha Strope & Karen Struemph

SCRIP: Visit *www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip* for more information about the Scrip program. Please contact Amanda Wooten 573-694-1735 or *amandab27@hotmail.com Please remember*

PARISH BULLETINS: If you are needing a bulletin and Church is locked at St. Thomas the Apostle, there are some on the Vitae House front porch.

CHRISTMAS ASSESSMENT FOR THE SEMINARIAN FORMATION AND INFIRM PRIEST FUND:
St. Cecilia Parish: $994.00, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish: $3,623.00.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL will meet on Thursday, Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Vitae House.

CATHOLIC STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL: It's not too late! As we continue our journey of faith and service, we kindly remind you to submit your Catholic Stewardship Renewal Packets. We would like to receive them soon as possible so we can compile our ministry lists. So far we have received about **25%** of the packets, and each one brings us closer to our goal of full participation. Together, we are called to be faithful stewards of God's gifts. Each of us has something beautiful to offer, and your response makes a difference. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and for being a vital part of this mission. God Bless.

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION is Tuesday, December 10, 6;00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

CANDELIGHT MASS is Friday, December 20, 6:30 a.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church. There will be no 7:45 a.m. Mass.

SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES are available in the front entrances of St. Cecilia & St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:
Mass will be celebrated on Christmas Eve – Tuesday, December 24, 5:00 & 10:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle
Christmas Eve – Tuesday, December 24, 7:00 p.m. St. Cecilia
Christmas Day- Wednesday, December 25, 8:00 a.m. St. Cecilia
Christmas Day – Wednesday, December 25, 10:00 a.m. St. Thomas the Apostle

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE: Tuesday, December 31, 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 1 8:00 a.m. St. Cecilia, 10:00 a.m. St. Thomas the Apostle

BISHOP MCKNIGHT DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION: For hope to find a home in our hearts as we embrace the joy of Christ's birth. Amid the jubilation, may we also find time in prayer to experience the calm and peace of God's presence in our lives., we pray to the Lord.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 2nd Sunday of Advent year C: JOHN THE BAPTIST PREPARES THE WAY FOR JESUS. (Bar. 5:1-9; Phil. 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk. 3:1-6) Advent is a time to prepare for the coming of Christ by setting right in our lives what needs to be set right. So, the Second Sunday of Advent challenges us to prepare a royal highway in our hearts so that we may receive Jesus as our saving God on Christmas. We should also be prepared for Christ's daily coming into our lives in the Holy Eucharist, in the Holy Bible, in everyone we encounter, and in the praying community. Finally, this should make us ready to meet Jesus as our Judge on His Second Coming, at the end of our lives and at the end of the world. In the first reading, the prophet Baruch introduces Yahweh, the God of Israel, preparing the way for, and leading the Babylonian exiles to, Jerusalem. Hence, the prophet invites the weeping Jerusalem to rejoice and go to high places to watch the return of the exiles. Baruch's prophecy announces the return of the whole human race to God. During this Advent season, we, too, are asked to return to the Lord from our slavery to sin. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 126) offers us a close-up of the exiles who had wept bitterly on leaving Jerusalem but are now returning home, rejoicing. Paul in the second reading, advises the Philippians to prepare themselves for Christ's Second Coming by practicing Christian love and by leading pure and blameless lives. John the Baptist, in today's Gospel, challenges the Jews to prepare their lives for receiving their long-awaited Messiah. They are to prepare a highway in their hearts for their Messiah by levelling the mountains of pride and the valleys of impurity, injustice, and neglect and straightening their crooked ways. They are to get ready by repenting of their sins, changing their lives, and expressing their repentance by receiving the baptism of repentance in River Jordan and living out the reformations they have promised. So, friends, this means we need to prepare our hearts and lives for Jesus our Savior to be reborn in us during this Christmas time. We have to fill in the "valleys" of our souls, formed from our shallow prayer life and a minimalist living out of our Faith. We have to straighten whatever crooked paths we've been walking, like involvement in some secret or habitual sins or in a sinful relationship. If we have been involved in some dishonest practices at work or at home, we are called to straighten them out and make restitution. If we have been harboring grudges or hatred, or failing to be reconciled with others, now is the time to clear away all the debris. As individuals, we might have to overcome deep-seated resentment, persistent fault-finding, unwillingness to forgive, dishonesty in our dealings with others, or a bullying attitude. And we all have to level the "mountains" of our pride and egocentrism by practicing the true humility of rendering humble service to others. We need to repent and seek forgiveness from God and those we have injured: John's message calls us to confront and confess our sins. We need to turn away from them in sincere repentance and receive God's forgiveness. Next, we need to forgive others who have offended us and ask forgiveness for our offenses. Jesus explicitly declares (Mt 6:14-15): "For if you forgive men their transgressions, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions
Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi

ST. CECILIA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE 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 OR ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE FLOWER DONATION."** Please place flower donations in the collection basket or mail to the Parish Ottice **between now December 22. The names will be published in the December 29 bulletin.**

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS: Tuesday, Dec. 17, Advent Program 6:30 p.m. Dress rehearsal 10:00 a.m.
Friday, Dec. 20 – Early Release 12:50 car riders, 1:00 p.m. bus riders, **NO EDP**
Christmas Break – December 23-January 5, school resumes January 6.

SEND SOME CHRISTMAS JOY: In your charity, please remember our parishioners who are residing in a nursing home or homebound with a Christmas card of note.
Rose Libbert, 1371 Highway B, Meta, MO 65058
Patricia Loethen, Jefferson Manor, 1720 Vieth Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65109
Marie Lueckenotto, Ashbury Place, 1425 Ashbury Way, Unit 205, Wardsville, MO 65101
Hermina Strope, Summitt Villa, 229 Karen Dr., Holts Summit MO 65043
Martha Strope, 14708 Rt. B, St. Thomas, MO 65076

THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, December 10, 7:30 p.m. A rosary will be prayed at 7:15 p.m. Please read the December newsletter attached to the bulletin.

ATTENTION OVER 50 GROUP: We will be celebrating our December get together on December 12 at Harold and Jeany Libbert's cabin off of Hoecker road, eating at 11:00 with a brunch/breakfast menu. For this month, please bring a breakfast/brunch dish and plan to have a good time.

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 office at 573-477-3322 or the Parish Office on Tuesday morning or Wednesday from 8:30 – 4:30 by December 22. The names will be published in the December 29 bulletin.

CHRISTMAS EVENT: Mark your calendars for our Ladies Auxiliary/ Knights Kids Christmas Event-Sunday December 8. Come down after Church and join us for fun 11-1 in the school cafeteria. Enjoy eating cookies, get your picture taken with Santa, decorate an edible Christmas tree, paint an ornament & make a pine cone bird feeder. Hope to see the kiddos there!

CITY OF ST. THOMAS COUNCIL ELECTIONS: Notice for any applicants interested in running for a two-year term City Council/Board position on the April 8, 2025, election. _If you interested in running for a two-year term City of St. Thomas position, please email saintthomascity@gmail.com. You must reside within the City Limits of St. Thomas to hold a Council position. **Must apply by December 30, 2024.**

BISHOP MCAULIFFE COUNCIL #12992 BREAKFAST is Sunday, December 8, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Cana Hall. Adults $10, children 6-11 $5.00, $30 maximum for immediate family. 50/50 drawing. Regular & Chocolate chip pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage & fruit cocktail. In loving memory of Frank & Kevin Kempker. Proceeds to benefit Special Olympics Mid-MO.

SAVE THE DATES:
Hometown Holiday Market is Sunday, December 15, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. St. Thomas Parish Center
St. Thomas the Apostle School Advent Program, December 17, 6:30 p.m. Dress rehearsal 10:00 a.m.
Totus Tuus will be at St. Stanislaus the week of June 22 – 27, 2025

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Notes - November 21, 2024

Meeting Called to Order

- Attendance: Father Leonard, Shane Verslues, Richard Heckemeyer, Leroy Heckemeyer, Lynne Reinkemeyer, Logan Peters,, Sonya Henson, Alanna Stockman, Brenda Schell, Erica Graessle
- Not in Attendance: Mike Wieberg, Linda Boessen, Andi Reynolds

Principal's Report / School Advisory Council

- We have one girl's basketball team that will be competing in the CMPAL league this season.
- We have several boys who will be playing on other school teams.
- We have 23 archers signed up for the NASP Archery Program.
- There will be NO SCHOOL for Preschool-8th grade for November 27-29 (Thanksgiving Break)
- The First Reconciliation for our 2nd graders will be on Saturday, December 7th at 9:00 AM.
- The School Advent Christmas Program will be held on Tuesday, December 17th at 6:30 PM.
- Thurs., Dec. 19th will be our Christmas Bowling Trip for grades K-8 at Bowlmor Lanes, Osage Beach.
- Friday, December 20th will be the last day of school in the 2nd Quarter. We will start our Christmas Vacation after this day. This will be an Early Release and there will be NO EXTENDED CARE on this day!
- Christmas Vacation will run from December 21, 2024, through January 5, 2025. (There will be NO EXTENDED CARE on this day!)
- School will resume on Monday, January 6th for the start of the 3rd Quarter.
- The Show-Me-Players-Council for Drug Free Youth, will perform for our 3rd -6th graders Thurs. Jan. 16.
- There will be NO SCHOOL on Monday, January 20 (Martin Luther King Day).
- Our Archery Tournament will be on Friday, January 24.
- Catholic Schools Week will run from Sunday, January 26 – Saturday, February 1st.
- Valentine's Day will be on Friday, February 14th .
- There will be NO SCHOOL on Monday, February 10th and NO SCHOOL on Monday, February 17th.
- There will be a Home and School meeting on Thursday, February 20th at 6:30 PM.
- The end of the 3rd Quarter is on Thursday, March 6th.
- The Missouri State NASP Archery Tournament will be held on March 19-22 at the Branson Convention Center. We will not be in session on Friday, March 21st because of the state tournament.

Pastoral Council Commission Reports:

Worship

- Deer Season Saturday Night Masses – November 16 and 23, 2024: 5:00 pm – St. Thomas and 7:00 pm – St. Cecilia
- St. Cecilia Feast Day Mass – Sunday, November 17, 2024, normal 8 am Mass
- Christ the King Mass, November 24
- Thanksgiving Vigil Mass – Wednesday, November 27, 2024: 6:30 pm – St. Cecilia
- Thanksgiving Mass – Thursday, November 28, 2024: 9:00 am – St. Thomas
- Advent begins Dec. 1st - wreaths and candles need to be put out at St. Cecilia November 30th after Mass
- Immaculate Conception Monday December 9th 7:45 am – St. Thomas
- Third Sunday of Advent - December 15th - rose colored candle
- Advent season confessions: December 5th – St. Cecilia at 7pm
- 4 priests total including Fr. Leonard, St. Cecilia needs to prepare a meal for 5:30 pm at the rectory.
- Friday December 20th – Rorate Mass at St. Thomas 6:30am
- No morning Masses in St. Thomas week of Christmas
- Can decorate for Christmas after December 22nd Mass
- Christmas Eve Masses: 5pm – St. Thomas, 7pm – St. Cecilia, 10pm – St. Thomas
- Christmas Day Masses: 8am – St. Cecilia, 10am – St. Thomas
- New Years Eve – 5pm (St. Thomas)
- New Years Day- 8am (St. Cecilia) 10am (St. Thomas)
- Holy Hour – November 29th 7pm at St. Cecilia, December 6th (after morning Mass) at St. Thomas
- Christmas decorations are to be taken down after Jan. 12th Mass
- Fr. Leonard plans to go home in January and come back the first week of Feb.
- There are two people interested in taking a group to NCYC
- St. Thomas has new books for PSR
- Ash Wednesday Mass: March 5th: 7:45 am – St. Thomas, 5:30 pm – St. Thomas, 7:30 pm – St. Cecilia
- Stations of the cross: St. Cecilia – stations at 6 before Mass on Wednesday nights, St. Thomas - Thursday mornings following 7:45 mass and Fridays at 6:30pm
- Fr. Leonard acknowledged there will be a celebration for the Jubilee *next* year at the St. Joseph Cathedral at 10:00 am on December 29, 2024. The Jubilee year is celebrated with all of the world's Church.
- Talked about getting new books for stations of the cross
- Next meeting is February 18, 2024 at 6:30PM at St Thomas

Social Concerns

- Fall Fantasy-It was decided that all school families should be on the work list. This should be shared at the all parents meeting before school. Other parishes penalize families $50 if they do not work the events that benefit the school and parish.

Administration

- Soon to order metal trash cans for the playground
- There is a rain leak on the west wall of the school that has nothing to do with the new roof. MO builders will investigate.

Finance Committee

- Nothing new to report

Pastor's Report

- For the Rorate Mass, we need to communicate to parishioners where to park for this event.
- Adoration will be after Mass on the first Friday of December-morning Mass.
- We need to replace/fix a water spigot at Father's house.
- We will put the Parish Pastoral Plan on the website.
- Father will be on vacation-leaves in January (up to 4 or 5 weeks).
- The following is the 11-12-24 Deanery Meeting information:

1) There are 4 Stages of Seminarians (10 currently in the various stages)

- 7 out of 10 attended youth programs in the Diocese.
- How do we get youth programs in the Diocese?
- How do we reach the hearts of the youth?

2) What can we do?

- Prayer - Ask God - Incorporate prayer for vocations at Masses, classrooms, home, meetings and have a holy hour each month devoted to vocations
- Formation - Ask Self - Form a ministry team
- Service - Ask Others - On February 9 parishioners will share names of those we feel could be called to vocation "CALLED BY NAME"
- After which parents will receive a letter thanking them for raising a child that can be called.
- The young man will receive a letter with information about the vocation camp.
- Fifth Sunday of ordinary time, priests will preach on vocations.

3) What does the Formation look like? What is the purpose? How to begin?

- We have a Pastoral Plan (separate from the Deanery plan to be written) already in place that was written a few years ago, before COVID, when we had various groups in the parish who met to come up with ideas of how to bring people, especially the young, back to the Catholic faith
- Our Diocese has a small group study guide called the Parish Beatitudes-Being a Community of Beatitudes which seeks to answer the questions of : Where are we? Where can we be?
- Pastors are to identify people that can head/facilitate distributions of the booklets for small group study. Pastors are to make the Parish Pastoral Plans available to the group(s).
- The small groups would work with the PPC to give them feedback on their study. The feedback could be in various forms such as at a PPC meeting, a Google form, email, town hall type of meeting, etc.
- The study is 4 weeks any time of the year. A session is typically 1 ½ hours. It would be beneficial to be a diverse group. The idea is for community building, for each to bring their own ideas/suggestions, new or old, that can benefit our goal of bringing youth back to church and to increase our vocations.
- The Diocese has a home page (maybe a search at the bottom of the page) that can direct groups to an online facilitator guide. St. Martins has about 400 booklets if we need some.
- The study group(s) focus attention on the Jr. High and High School youth, to come up with events that could be of interest to youth not only in our parish but open events to youth in all of our surrounding area. Ideas such as movie night, pickleball, kickball, bowling, dodgeball, escape room, survival videos, etc. How can this be set up? What would it look like?
- Need to advertise the events to other parishes. Need to have facilitators of the events. Parents of Jr. High and High School youth may have the best ideas/events of interest. Time is always the challenge, sport schedules, etc.
- OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation Adults) will meet on November 20 at 6:00 pm at St. Joseph if you are interested to learn more.
- Next Deanery Meeting is February 25, 6:30-8:00.

Other Business- Erica Graessle was in attendance at the September meeting. Her name was accidentally left off.
Next meeting - January 28, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.

Philippians 1:9-10

St. Paul's words to the Philippians continue to ring true to us today as disciples of Christ. We are each on our own journey of faith. Through formation and prayer, we are able to grow in knowledge and love as we grow closer to God.

Marriage Retreat

Living in the Trinity with Mary

March 14-15, 2025

Cathedral of St. Joseph
Jefferson City, MO

Inspiring talks,
prayer experiences,
and quality reflection time for
married couples

Register online at
diojeffcity.org/marriage-retreat

Register by March 1
to receive
free childcare
during the event!

DIOCESE OF Jefferson City

CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH

MARIANIST Retreat & Conference Center

St. Thomas

Hometown Holiday Market

FREE ADMISSION

PIZZA KWIK
11:00 am - 7:00 pm

OVER 25 VENDORS

RAFFLE FOR PRIZES

Sunday, December 15th
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
St. Thomas the Apostle School Gym

Proceeds to benefit:
St. Thomas the Apostle School

For more information contact:
Kim Kliegel @ 573-619-9188

HELIAS CATHOLIC'S SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE CAMPAIGN. Helias has launched its Spirit of Excellence Campaign to raise $14 million to build a performing arts center, a baseball/softball complex and an addition to the existing James L. Rackers Field house including necessary updates to its athletic and strength conditioning facilities. The campaign will run through the end of August. For more information and to support the campaign, please visit *heliascatholic.com/spiritofexcellence* or contact Helias+ Catholic President Ron Vossen at *rvossen@heliascatholic.com* or 573-635-6139.

COMPLETING THE HELIAS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS FOR

EVERY GENERATION OF CRUSADERS

SPIRIT OF *excellence*

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