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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 5, 2025

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 January 5-12:

Tuesday-Friday- No Masses
Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Joe, Antonia & Richard Schwartz
Sunday 10:00 a.m. –People of our Parishes
Alex & Joann Heckman

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$330,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	$165,000.00
Actual Collection for 2024-2025:	**$191,206.63**
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	$ 26,206.63
Offertory Goal for December:	$ 27,500.00

Collection in Church:

December 1	$ 5,586.10
December 8	$ 3,863.10
December 15	$ 6,598.10
December 22	$13,108.40
(includes collections from all Christmas Masses)	
December 29	$11,443.43
Collection Online:	$ 8,033.00
December total to date:	**$48,632.13**

Difference for December $21,132.13

Church Renovation Loan Balance

Loan Balance	$19,815.14
Loan payments to date	$193,880.00
(principal) $180,184.86	(interest) $13,695.14

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists
Jan. 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Kelsey Kliethermes / Jeanette
Jan. 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Lisa Wieberg / Jackie
Jan. 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten / Jeanette
Jan. 19 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Josh Luebbering / Alanna

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers
Jan. 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kara Holterman
Jan. 12 Sunday – 10:00 a.m. – Rosalyn Wieberg
Jan. 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jenny Becker
Jan. 19 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jennifer Schroeder

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of January 5-12:

Wednesday – No Mass

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Ben & Jason Hake

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2024-2025:	**$31,591.25**
Offertory Goal per month:	$ 5,833.33

Collection in Church:

December 1	$ 494.00
December 8	$1,103.00
December 15	$1,211.00
December 22	$1,196.00
December 29	$1,622.00
December total to date:	**$5,626.00**
Difference for December:	-$ 207.33

St. Cecilia Collection Counters
January: Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer
February: Dale & Margie Helton

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.

St. Cecilia Readers
Sunday, Jan. 12 - 8:00 a.m.- Dominic Plassmeyer
Sunday, Jan. 19- 8:00 a.m.- Don Wansing

St. Cecilia Organist
Sunday, January 12 8:00 a.m. –Emilie
Sunday, January 19 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
Jan. 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Mark Boessen & Adam Holterman
Jan. 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m.– Art Groner & Zac Stockman
Jan. 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Keith Boessen & Phil Akin
Jan. 19 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Mark Loethen & Zac Stockman
Collection baskets choir loft by organ, please return after use.

St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Ministers
Jan. 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Paul & Jenny Becker, Brenda Wansing
Jan. 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Rosalyn Wieberg, Linda Lueckenhoff, Mattheuw Prenger
Jan. 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Mark & Barb Graessle, Marshall Boessen
Jan. 19 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Janet Lueckehoff, Lora Boessen, Jan Heckemeyer

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers
Jan. 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ava Buschjost, Evelyn Wooten, Miranda Meyer, Austyn Christian
Jan. 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m. –Isabella & Oliver Luebbering, Victoria & Will Wieberg
Jan. 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ben & Luke Otto, Emerald Fennewald, Carmen Luebbering
Jan. 19 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Francie, Hannah & Levi Tallent, Virgil Lackman

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts
Jan. 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m.–Family of Joe, Antonia & Richard Schwartz
Jan. 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m.– Family of Alex & Joann Heckman

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters
Jan. 12 - Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
Jan. 19 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder
Jan. 26 - Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman
Feb. 2 - Keith & Jean Kliethermes

Live stream Mass (10:00 a.m.) Sunday
Jan. 12 Jenny Becker
Jan. 19 Brooke Schell
Jan. 26 Jenny Schellman
Feb. 2 Dunja Wieberg
Feb. 9 Lauri Luebbering

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas
Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Dale Herigon– Joyful Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m**.** – Jennifer Schroeder– Joyful Mysteries

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers
Jan. 12 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Jennifer Even, Betty Hagenhoff, Doris Stumpe
Jan. 19 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer, Dorothy Rehagen, Pam Libbert

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers
Jan. 12 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte Mitch Stumpe, Randy Hagenhoff
Jan. 19 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff Brendan Stumpe, Mitch Stumpe

St. Cecilia Servers
Jan. 12 Sunday 8:00 a.m. –Skyla, Tucker & Jesse Schroeder
Jan. 19 Sunday 8:00 a.m. –Bradyn, Kambrie & Matthew Stegeman

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts
Jan. 12 Sunday 8:00 a.m.– Family of Ben & Jason Hake

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia
Jan. 12 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Caty Borgmeyer Joyful Mysteries
Jan. 19 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer Sorrowful 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 29: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost
January 5: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lindsay Luebbering
January 12: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Brenda Schell, Barb Graessle
January 19: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering
January 26: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer

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, January 9 – Lynn Taggart & Daffiny Tallent **Thursday, January 16** – Deanne Twehus & Marilyn Veit

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

BULLETIN NOTICES: Deadline for bulletin is Wednesday at noon.

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.

A NOTE OF THANKS! Thanks to everyone for the Christmas Gifts, Cards, prayers and food that was sent to me during this Christmas Season. Special thanks to Fr. Leonard for coming to my home and administering me communion, also prayers for all of the shut-ins in our area. I appreciated everything that everyone has done for me. ***Rose Libbert***

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE 2024 YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS: Thank you for your generosity this past year. To receive your 2024 contribution statement, you may complete the statement request form on the St. Thomas the Apostle Church website or call the parish office at 573-477-3315 during the parish office hours or by calling or texting Theresa Veit at 573-418-7301. The form can be found online at *www.stthomasapostle.net/contribution-statment* or by clicking the Contribution Statement tab at the top of the home page.

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

IN NEED OF A PRIEST WHILE FR. LEONARD IS GONE ON VACATION, please contact Theresa Veit, 573-418-7301, Doris Stumpe, 573-619-6125, Jan Heckemeyer, 573-619-8432 or Diane Lueckenhoff, 573-645-5794.

ADDITIONAL CHRISTMAS FLOWER/DECORATION DONATIONS received this week**:** Alfred & Angeline Berhorst, Leo & Rose Luebbering, Mary Jane Lueckenotte, Kevin Lueckenotte, Roman Wieberg, Jr., Msgr. Bernard Boessen, Thomas Loethen, Mary A. Loethen, Jim Loethen, Tom Loethen, Stanley & Sophie Lada, Frank & Stella Schroeder, Mary Ann Turner.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT JANUARY PRAYER INTENTION, For our civic leaders, that they may be guided by wisdom and integrity in their decisions. May they seek the common good, foster unity in our communities, and lead with compassion and justice, we pray to the Lord.

PASTORS MEDITATION: EPIPHANY OF THE LORD: (Is. 60:1-6; Eph. 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt. 2:1-12) Happy 2025, we commend our lives, our activities, our families, friends and plans into the care of God, may God bless you all. Epiphany means appearance or manifestation, the Feast of the Epiphany celebrates Jesus' first appearance to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi. Today's Gospel teaches us how Christ enriches those who bring him their hearts. The adoration of the Magi fulfills the oracle of Isaiah, prophesying that the nations of the world would travel to the Holy City following a brilliant light and would bring gold and incense to contribute to the worship of God. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps. 72) includes a verse about kings coming from foreign lands to pay homage to a just king in Israel. Paul's letter to the Church of Ephesus, expresses God's secret plan in clear terms: "the Gentiles are co-partners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel." Today's Gospel reminds us that if God permitted the Magi, foreigners and pagans to recognize and give Jesus proper respect as the King of Jews, we should know that there is nothing in our sinful lives that will keep God from bringing us to Jesus. There were three groups of people who reacted to the Epiphany of Christ's birth. The first group, headed by King Herod the Great, tried to eliminate the Child, the second group, priests and scribes, ignored him, and the third group, represented by the shepherds and the Magi, came to adore him. Therefore, friends let us make sure that we belong to the third group, by worshiping Jesus at Mass with the gold of our love, the myrrh of our humility, and the frankincense of our adoration, by giving a new direction to our lives. As the Magi chose another route to return to their homes, we need to choose a better way of life, abstaining from proud and impure thoughts, evil habits and selfish behavior, by becoming stars leading others to Jesus as the star led the Magi to Jesus removing the darkness of the evil around us and radiating Jesus' love through selfless service, unconditional forgiveness, and compassionate care. On this feast of the Epiphany, let us, like the Magi, offer Jesus our grateful use of his gifts to us: (a) His gift of friendship with God in the form of wholehearted love and devotion; (b) His gift of friendship with others by leading them to Jesus through our exemplary lives of Christian charity in action; (c) His gift of reconciliation with God by making use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation frequently, by asking daily for His pardon and forgiveness for our sins and by giving unconditional forgiveness to those who wound us; and (d) His gift of peace by seeking God's peace in our own lives through prayer, leading a Sacramental life, and meditation daily on the Word of God. **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE / ST. CECILIA YOUTH GROUP: The St. Thomas and St. Cecilia Youth Group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m., alternating between St. Cecilia parish basement and St. Thomas school library. All students in 8th-12th grade who have been confirmed are welcome to attend. The dates and locations are listed below. **January 8**- St. Thomas, **January 22**- St. Cecilia, **February 12-** St. Thomas, **February 26**- St. Cecilia, **March 12**- St. Thomas, **March 26**- St. Cecilia, **April 9**- St. Thomas, **April 23**- St. Cecilia.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS: School resumes January 6. January 20- No School P-8, Martin Luther King

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL SNEAK PEEK: On Thursday, January 30, please join us as we celebrate Catholic School Week! We will have activities for in-coming Kindergartners and children of families considering future enrollment. Information will be provided for parents about new programs and initiatives. This will be a great time for you to see St. Thomas the Apostle and answer any questions you may have about the upcoming school year. If you have been curious about what you may be missing in a faith based school close to home, please RSVP by calling 573-477-3322 or email *lheckemeyer@stacs.school* to schedule a more workable time to see what our Catholic School may offer you!

BINGO PRIZES NEEDED FOR VIP DAY (CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK): Tis the season for cleaning and bargain shopping! If you have or find items that would make great BINGO prizes for VIP Day (January 31), please drop them off at school. You can also donate candy, chips, soda, Gatorade, juice pouches, etc for prizes. Please send to school by January 27.

PENNY WAR: We will once again have our Penny War during Catholic Schools Week, January 27-31. All money raised will benefit the Pregnancy Help Center of Jefferson City. Start saving your Pennies!!

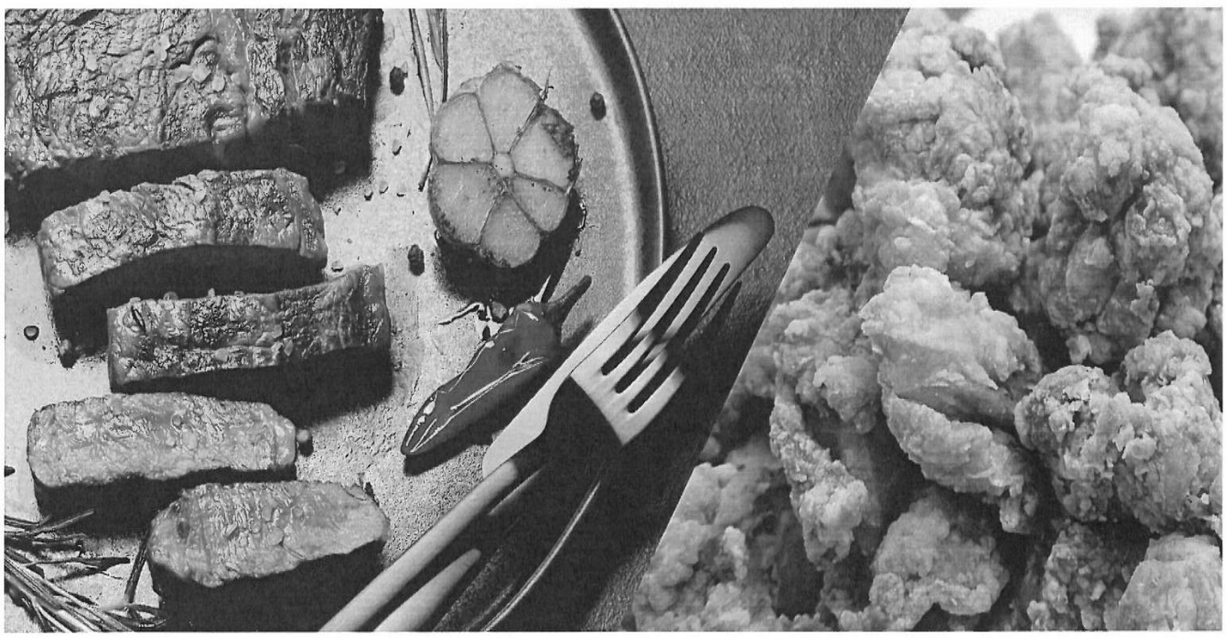
OVER 50: There **will not** be an "OVER 50 get together in January in the parish center due to surgery. We will resume again in February.

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH HANDBELL RINGERS CHOIR will host the community wide "Bells of Christmastide" concert Sunday, January 5, at 2:00 p.m. at the Cathedral. There will be choirs or small ensembles from 5 different churches presenting music from their Christmas repertoire. All are welcome. Admission is a non-perishable food item or a cash donation to be given to the Samaritan Center.

ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST: St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Pancake, Sausage and Egg Breakfast with Biscuits and Gravy, at St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Hall, Sunday, January 19, 8-11:30 a.m., Adults – $10, Children ages 6-12 – $5.

SAVE THE DATE: St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast – January 19, 2025 KC hall
Totus Tuus will be at St. Stanislaus the week of June 22 – 27, 2025

Mass & Dinner for St. Thomas the Parishioners on Saturday, February 22, 2025. Please see the flyer below and you can also RSVP and pay on the St. Thomas Website. ***http://www.stthomasapostle.net/mass--dinner-22225.html***



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2025

Mass & Dinner

for St. Thomas the Apostle Parishioners

Join us for a Mass of Thanksgiving at 5:00 pm, followed by a catered meal by Annie's Station featuring gluten-free roast beef, fried chicken, and all the fixings.

Reserve your spot with a donation of
$7 per person / $20 per family

Submit the form below with payment in an envelope marked "Stewardship RSVP" in the collection basket:

RSVP Form

Name: _____

Number Attending: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Signature: _____

Or mail to:

St. Thomas the Apostle Church
Attn: Jan Heckemeyer
PO Box 146,
St. Thomas, MO 65076

RSVP by February 1st

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.