

The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Thomas the Apostle
in St. Thomas

St. Cecilia
in Meta

www.stthomasapostle.net

St. Cecilia website still under development

PO Box 146
St. Thomas, MO 65076

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 27, 2015

Pastor: Father Jeremy A. Secrist
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
lheckemeyer@embarqmail.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.

St. Cecilia Parish Office hours: Tuesdays 3:30 - 5:00 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 September 27-October 4:

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Butch Loethen
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Ida Schellman
Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Andrew & Anna Strope
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Shirley Prenger
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – William & Elizabeth Kirkweg Family
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Loreen Volmert (*Anointing of the Sick*)
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Tom & Clara Schmidt
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2015-2016:	\$305,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	\$76,251.00
Actual Collection for 2015-2016:	\$66,338.77
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	-\$9,912.23
Offertory Goal per month:	\$25,417.00

Collection in Church:

September 6	\$5,234.00
September 13	\$3,299.00
September 20	\$4,941.00
September 27	\$

Collection Online: \$5,244.00

September total to date: **\$18,718.00**

Difference for September: **-\$6,013.00**

St. Thomas the Apostle Expansion & Building Fund

Total Expansion Project expenses paid: \$2,273,475.34
Income from parishioners for fiscal year 2015-2016
(via the yellow "Building Fund" envelope): **\$6,699.00**
Loan payments to date for fiscal year 2015-2016: **\$27,683.22**
(Principal) 21,837.09 (Interest) \$5,846.13
Parish Building Expansion Debt remaining: **\$562,216.45**

St. Thomas Cantor / Organist

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Bill Luebbering/Lindsay
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Brooke Luebbering/Jackie

St. Thomas Reader/ Petitions

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jan Carter

St. Thomas Altar Servers

Weekdays – Noah Luebbering & Aiden Brenneke
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Bruno Puleo, Andrew Luebbering,
Abby Hoecker
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Caleb Buechter, Colton Libbert,
Luke Schroeder, Henry Buschjost

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of September 27-October 4:

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Roman & Geneva Plassmeyer

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Regina Heckman

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Lawrence & Scott Otto
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2015-2016:	\$60,471.51
Collection Total for 2015-2016:	\$13,011.50
Offertory Goal per month:	\$5,039.29

Collection in Church:

September 6	\$1,592.00
September 13	\$981.00
September 20	\$1,334.00
September 27	\$

September total to date: **\$3,907.00**

Difference for September: **-\$1,132.29**

Please remember your parish in your last will & testament.

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

October – Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

St. Cecilia Reader / Petitions

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Doris Stumpe
Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Doris Stumpe
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer

St. Cecilia Altar Servers

October 3-4

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Zachary & Joshua Even,
Carson Libbert & Gavin Holterman
Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Will & Melina Derkum, Skyla
Schroeder

St. Thomas Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**October 3-4**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Betty Schellman, Leeroy Budnik, Carolyn Loethen

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Glenn Prenger, Gilbert & Hermna Strope, Mike & Sheri Wieberg

October 10-11

Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Carolyn Loethen, Lora Boessen, Mark Luebbering

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Mike & Trish Green, Millie Wieberg, Ray & Shirley Volmert

October 17-18

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Pat Kaiser, Paul & Jenny Becker

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Bill & Betty Jo Luebbering, Bill Lueckenhoff, Lynne Reinkemeyer, Jan Carter

St. Thomas Greeters/Ushers * *please arrive at least 15 minutes before Mass begins to greet & assist parishioners*

October 3-4

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Dave Luebbering & Steve Schellman

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Art Groner & Eric Boessen

October 10-11

Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Gilbert Schellman & Richard Schellman

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Arthur McManus & Alan Reinkemeyer

October 17-18

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Fred Luebbering & Joe Buschjost

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Stockman & TJ Loethen

St. Thomas Presentation of Gifts at Mass**October 3-4**

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ralph & Kathy Graessle

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Leonard & Kathy Strope

October 10-11

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Paul & Jenny Becker

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Mike & Sheri Wieberg Family

October 17-18

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Gregg & Susan Boessen Family

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Mike & Trish Green

Collection Counters:

October 3-4 – Jennifer Schroeder & Stephanie Cortvriert

October 10-11- Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

October 17-18 – Bill Lueckenhoff & Paul Becker

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday 7:25 a.m.– Viola Boessen –Sorrowful Mysteries

Wednesday 7:25 a.m. – Pat Loethen – Glorious Mysteries

Thursday 7:25 a.m.– Martha & Celeste –Luminous Mysteries

Friday 7:25 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina – Sorrowful Mysteries

Saturday 4:40 p.m. – Dale Herigon – Glorious Mysteries

Sunday 9:40 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina – Glorious Mysteries

Scrip Sales-(October 3-4) Visit www.stthomasapostleschool.net/scrip for more information about the Scrip program.

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kelley Buschjost

Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Sara Otto

LADIES TO BRING SNACK TO ST. THOMAS QUILTERS:

Thursday, October 1 – Marilyn Veit & Theresa Veit Thursday, October 8 – Melissa Verslues & Sarah Volmert

Please bring to hall by 1:00 p.m.; snack served at 3:00 p.m. If you have questions, please call Kathy Strope or Emily Luebbering.

CONGRATULATIONS to ***Kara Graessle & Adam Holterman*** who were united in Holy Matrimony this weekend in St. Thomas Parish.

OCTOBER WEEKEND MASS COUNT: This fall our Diocese will again involve itself in a common practice across the United States 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 the ushers assigned for Mass to count all the faithful (including musicians & altar servers) at each weekend Mass.

USHERS are gently reminded to arrive in plenty of time before their assigned Masses in order to greet and welcome the faithful who come to our parish Mass. Also, ushers are encouraged to wait until the altar servers and Father have processed down the aisle at the end of Mass before propping open the doors at the entrance of Church.

MASS INTENTIONS...

The specific Mass intentions for each scheduled Mass are regularly published in this bulletin and are specifically requested by individual request. Every reasonable effort is made to accommodate particular times and dates, when so requested. However, when on occasion the date or time request cannot be met, the intention will be rescheduled for the next earliest date available.

MINISTRY TO THE ILL & INFIRM: If you are preparing for surgery, recovering from surgery, homebound or ill, please let Fr. Secrist (477-3315) and/or MaryPat Luebbering (477-3476) know so that you have the opportunity to receive the Sacraments and pastoral care.

CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN SUBSCRIPTIONS: when you are making out your check for your household's annual subscription to the diocesan newspaper, please make out your check for **\$14 to the parish**, not to the Catholic Missourian.

St. Cecilia Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**October 3-4**

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Lou Kloeppeel, Brenda Wansing, Doris Stumpe

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

October 10-11

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Jennifer Even, Betty Hagenhoff, Dorothy Rehagen

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

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

Saturday 7:00 p.m. – Tom Gragert, Lou Kloeppeel, Mitch & Brendan Stumpe

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 Mysteries

Saturday 6:40 p.m. – Alice Hake– Glorious Mysteries

Sunday 7:40 a.m.–Janice Schanzmeyer–Glorious Mysteries

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

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

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

“VISIONS OF FAITH” STAINED GLASS WINDOW RESTORATION: The restoration work on the St. Thomas stained glass windows is into its fourth full week. The original protective glass and aluminum flashing on all of the large nave windows has been removed. Rotten wood framing and sills have been repaired and/or replaced and new 4” trim has been installed and painted. The next step will be the installation of the ¼” tempered protective glass in the new framing. Any and all contributions to this important project are greatly appreciated. A single commemoration plaque will be created to list the names (or memorial) of all who have contributed to the restoration project. If you have questions, please contact Fr. Secrist.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 IN ST. THOMAS CHURCH:

The First Friday schedule is: 7:45 a.m. Mass, with Anointing of the Sick offered after Mass for those in need of the Sacrament. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Church throughout the day.

Confessions **4:30-5:30 p.m.** *Please note time change due to wedding rehearsal

Benediction **5:45 p.m.** *Please note time change due to wedding rehearsal

FIRST FRIDAY SOCIAL AT ST. THOMAS: Please join us in the Vitae House on Friday, October 2.

ST. THOMAS PSR CLASSES are held on Wednesday evenings 7:00-8:00 p.m. for grade & high school students.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION: **Wednesday, September 30, 7:30 p.m.** in the Parish Center basement at St. Cecilia.

ADULT SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: **Sunday, September, 27, 6:00 p.m.** in Vitae House. This meeting is for those adults who are interested in becoming Catholic and are willing to begin the journey. Questions? Please contact Fr. Secrist at 477-3315.

ST. CECILIA (PSR) RELIGION CLASSES: Religion classes for 1st-10th grade will start on Wednesday, September 23, at 7:00 p.m. 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 573-680-6945, 573-229-8976 or evenfamily6@att.net to sign up or with any questions. Volunteers are still needed to help teach religion classes at St. Cecilia. Please contact Jennifer Even at 573-680-6945, 573-229-8976 or evenfamily6@att.net to volunteer or with any questions.

ST. CECILIA SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School classes for St. Cecilia will begin on Sunday, September 27, 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 2016). Please contact Jennifer Even at 573-680-6945, 573-229-8976 or evenfamily6@att.net to sign up or with any questions.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School is for children preschool age (2 years prior to Kindergarten) and will meet on Sundays from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m. in the St. Thomas School Kindergarten room. Please contact Daffiny Tallent at 573-694-4408 or email ddtallent@embarqmail.com if interested and/or for more information.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL is still accepting registrations for the fall of 2015-2016 enrollment for **Preschool through 8th grade**. Please call the school office to register at 573-477-3322.

ST. THOMAS CYO BREAKFAST PROFIT: The profit from the August 23rd breakfast was \$1,250.00. The funds raised from this event help our high school parishioners attend the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) in November.

ST. THOMAS CYO will be selling baked goods after all Masses on the weekend of October 17-18. Profits will go toward the cost of their trip to Indianapolis to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, October 13, 7:00 p.m. in Vitae House.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE YARD SIGNS & WINDOW STICKERS: Show your support for our local Catholic school by purchasing a sign for your front yard and a window sticker for your vehicle, boat or tractor. Yard signs and window stickers are \$5.00 each. Please contact the School Office at 573-477-3322.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL UPCOMING EVENTS

September 28-October 2 – Achievement Testing Week

October 2 – Adoration, confessions

October 14 – Picture Day

October 19 – Pizza Delivery

BOX TOPS: Please continue to save Box Tops for Education, Coke Points & Best Choice labels.

VIRTUS TRAINING: The Diocese of Jefferson City will hold a VIRTUS® *Protecting God's Children* session on October 15, 2015 at 6:30 pm at St. Margaret of Antioch parish in Osage Bend. Please arrive early so that the class may begin and end on time. Due to the nature of the subject, children are discouraged from attending.

This program is one component of the overall effort to protect God's children and vulnerable adults. All employees and volunteers with ongoing and unsupervised contact with children and youth are required to attend a *Protecting God's Children* session. All parents, grandparents and other adults in the parish community are encouraged to attend. To register for the session or to view valuable resources regarding the protection of children and vulnerable adults, please go to www.virtusonline.org.

MISSOURI CATHOLIC CONFERENCE: **Don't be fooled, Mizzou is still in the abortion business.** You may have read or heard media reports indicating that the University of Missouri has severed all its ties with Planned Parenthood. This is only partially correct. It is true MU has cancelled several contracts with Planned Parenthood; however, the most important link has **NOT** been severed. Abortion “doctor” Colleen McNicholas still has hospital privileges with the University of Missouri hospital. Because MU has granted these privileges, McNicholas can legally perform abortions at Columbia Planned Parenthood. Visit www.mocatholic.org to take action now to get the University of Missouri completely out of the abortion business

MISSOURI RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE will be available to the St. Thomas Community on Monday, September 28 from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. in the K of C Parking lot, and 7:15 to 8:00 p.m. at Bee Line, Meta.

THE META CIVIC LEAGUE will hold its September monthly meeting on September 28th, at 7:00 pm.

CRAFT STAND: Anyone interested in quilting baby quilts for next St. Thomas Parish Picnic quilt auction to please call Diane Lueckenhoff at 573-645-5794.

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

ST. THOMAS PARISH FALL FANTASY \$10,000 BANQUET – October 24, 2015 at St Thomas Parish Center. This year's theme is Country/Western. Tickets are \$110/couple, doors open at 6:00 p.m. & dinner served at 6:30 p.m. Music by Shiloh. No persons under 21 years of age will be admitted. Tickets are on sale now! ***The early bird drawing will be Monday, September 28.*** Please contact Lynn Taggart at 573-477-0133 or stop by B&K Quick Shoppe to purchase tickets.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE AREA:

VISITATION PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, VIENNA is this Sunday, September 27, serving sausage & fried chicken dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Adults \$11.00, children 6-12 \$5.00.

K OF C WESTPHALIA ANNUAL PUMPKIN FESTIVAL is this Sunday, September 27. Crafts, pumpkins, hayrides & washer tournament.

MISSOURI CATHOLIC CONFERENCE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY: Saturday, October 3 at the State Capitol and St. Peter's church in Jefferson City.

ST. ANDREW FALL FESTIVAL, HOLTS SUMMIT is Sunday, October 4, serving turkey & sausage dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Adults \$10, children 6-12 \$5.00. Shooting match.

SACRED HEART PARISH FISH FRY, RICH FOUNTAIN is Friday, October 9, serving fish, hush puppies, cole slaw, fried & parsley potatoes, pork 'n beans, homemade bread & pie or cake from 4:30-7:00 p.m. Adults \$9.00, children 6-12 \$4.00.

ST. STANISLAUS PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, WARDSVILLE is Sunday, October 11, serving fried chicken & sausage dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Adults \$11.00, children 6-12 \$6.00

CATHOLIC 101: THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Penance, otherwise known as Confession, is an experience of the gift of God's boundless mercy. Not only does it free us from our sins but it also challenges us to have the same kind of compassion and forgiveness for those who sin against us. We are liberated to be forgivers. We obtain new insight into the words of the Prayer of St. Francis: "It is in pardoning that we are pardoned." Jesus entrusted the ministry of reconciliation to the Church. The Sacrament of Penance is God's gift to us so that any sin committed after Baptism can be forgiven. In confession we have the opportunity to repent and recover the grace of friendship with God. It is a holy moment in which we place ourselves in His presence and honestly acknowledge our sins, especially mortal sins. With absolution, we are reconciled to God and the Church. The Sacrament helps us stay close to the truth that we cannot live without God. "In him we live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28). While all the Sacraments bring us an experience of the mercy that comes from Christ's dying and rising, it is the Sacrament of Reconciliation that is the unique Sacrament of mercy. -*From the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*

Are you seeking to recover your friendship with God? Has it been a while since your last confession? No matter how long it has been or what your questions may be, we invite you to join us on a journey to rediscover the Sacrament of Penance.

Confession has benefits. Here are ten:

1. Confidentiality guaranteed. There's nothing like confessing your sins to someone guaranteed not to tell anyone else. Sometimes you need to talk in absolute confidence. Even under subpoena, a priest can't tell anyone what's said to him in confession. He can't even hint at it. Now that's confidentiality.
2. Housekeeping for the soul. It feels good to be able to start a clean life all over again. Like going into a sparkling living room in your home, it's nice when clutter is removed – even if it's your own.
3. A balm for the desire for revenge. When you have been forgiven you can forgive others. If the perfect Jesus forgives me, who am I to want to avenge the slights in my life. Think: "Why did they promote him over me?" or "Mom played favorites!"
4. Low cost therapy. It's free, which makes it cheaper than a psychiatrist for dealing with guilt.
5. Forced time to think. Socrates said that the unexamined life is not worth living. To examine our lives and acknowledge failings marks the first step of making things right with God, others and ourselves. Life can be more worth living when you ponder the meaning of your own life.
6. Contribution toward world peace. *Gaudium et Spes*, the Second Vatican Council's Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, said that the imbalances in the world that lead to war and tensions "are linked with that more basic imbalance which is rooted in the heart of man." Peace of soul leads to peace of heart leads to peace beyond oneself.
7. A better neighborhood. Confession leaves you feeling good about yourself, thereby cutting back the inclination to road rage and aggressive shopping cart driving. With the grace of the sacrament you're energized to, as Jesus said to the woman caught in adultery, "go and sin no more."
8. Realistic self-perception. Confession helps overcome arrogance when you have to admit you're as much of a sinner as anyone else. It helps build tolerance for others' perceived shortcomings.
9. One more benefit of being Catholic. There are lots of benefits, including a sense of community, liturgical rites to help us encounter God in prayer, and the wonderful sense of humanity exemplified in the saints, from Mary, the loving Mother of God, to Augustine, the exasperating son of Monica. The sacrament that leads us to inner peace is among the greatest boons.
10. Closeness to God. Confession helps you realize that you have a close connection to God and receive his grace through the sacraments. What can be better than knowing God's on your team, or, to be less arrogant about it, that you are on God's.