

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

**St. Cecilia**  
in Meta

[www.stthomasapostle.net](http://www.stthomasapostle.net)  
[www.stthomasapostleschool.net](http://www.stthomasapostleschool.net)

[www.stceciliameta.net](http://www.stceciliameta.net)

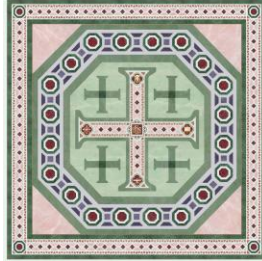
PO Box 146  
St. Thomas, MO 65076

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**February 8, 2026**

**Pastor:** Fr. Leonard Mukiibi  
[frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com](mailto:frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com)  
**Rectory Phone:** 573-477-3315  
**Mrs. Jan Heckemeyer**  
[jheckemeyerooffice@gmail.com](mailto:jheckemeyerooffice@gmail.com)

**St. Thomas the Apostle Admin. Secretary:**  
**Mrs. Theresa Veit**  
[tveitoffice@gmail.com](mailto:tveitoffice@gmail.com)



**School Principal:** Mr. Leroy Heckemeyer  
[lheckemeyer@stacs.school](mailto:lheckemeyer@stacs.school)  
**School:** 573-477-3322 **Fax:** 573-477-3700  
**Mrs. Diane Lueckenhoff**  
[dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com](mailto:dlueckenhoffoffice@gmail.com)

**St. Cecilia Bookkeeper:**  
**Mrs. Doris Stumpe**  
[dstumpeoffice@gmail.com](mailto: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 February 8-15**

Tuesday 7:45 am No Mass  
Wednesday 7:45 am No Mass  
Thursday 7:45 am No Mass  
Friday 7:45 am No Mass  
Saturday 5:00 pm Lucille Veit  
Sunday 10:00 am Becky Strope

**Your Sunday Offering**  
Offertory Budget for 2025-2026 \$342,000.00  
Offertory Goal through Month End \$228,000.00  
Actual Collection for 2025-2026 **\$233,901.20**  
Offertory Difference Year to Date \$5,901.20  
Offertory Goal for February \$28,500.00

**Collection in Church**  
February 1 \$7,760.81  
February 8  
February 15  
February 22

**Collection Online**  
**February Total to Date \$7,760.81**  
**Difference for February -\$20,739.19**

**WEEKDAY SERVERS:** No Masses

**Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle**

Tuesday 7:25 am No Mass  
Wednesday 7:25 am No Mass  
Thursday 7:25 am No Mass  
Friday 7:25 am No Mass

**Offertory Gifts – St. Thomas the Apostle**

Saturday Family of Lucille Veit  
Sunday Family of Becky Strope

**Saint Cecilia**  
**Mass Schedule for the Week of February 8-15**

Wednesday 6:30 pm No Mass  
Sunday 8:00 am People of our Parishes

**Your Sunday Offering**  
Offertory Budget for 2025-2026 \$70,000.00  
Collection Total for 2025-2025 **\$48,882.00**  
Offertory Goal per Month for February \$5,833.33

**Collection in Church**  
February 1 \$2,065.00  
February 8  
February 15  
February 22

**February Total to Date \$2,065.00**  
**Difference for February -\$3,768.33**

**Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia & Lector**

Wednesday 6:10 pm -No Mass  
Lector: No Mass

**Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia**

Sunday Ushers

**PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.**

**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.

**BULLETIN NOTICES** 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.

**SCRIP:** Visit [www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrif](http://www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrif) for more information about the Scrip program. Please contact Amanda Wooten 573-694-1735 or [amandab27@hotmail.com](mailto:amandab27@hotmail.com)

**SNACKS FOR QUILTERS:** Please bring snacks to the hall by 1:00 p.m.; snacks are 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. 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.

**Thursday, February 12** – Margie Kaiser & Melanie Kirkweg

**Thursday, February 19** -Sandy Kliegel & Jean Kliethermes

## Liturgical Role Schedule for February 14 & 15

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Buschjost, Ava Heckman, Addyson Heckman, Lily Wooten, Evelyn	Bock, Eli Schroeder, Annaline	Buechter, Aliyah Buechter, Gavin Libbert, Cadyn Rackers, Emmett
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Graessle, Barb Wansing, Brenda Graessle, Mark	Rehagen, Dorothy Plassmeyer, Dominic Plassmeyer, Mary	Wieberg, Rosalyn Heckemeyer, Jan Heckemeyer, Richard
<b>Lector</b>	Herigon, Dale	Plassmeyer, Dominic	Wieberg, Rosalyn
<b>Rosary Leader - Glorious</b>	Herigon, Dale	Plassmeyer, Mary	Stockman, Tina
<b>Greeters/Ushers</b>	Wooten, Michael Boessen, Keith	Libbert, Pam Schulte, Leonard	Lueckenhoff, Larry Maasen, Matthew
<b>Music Ministry</b>	Prenger, Jackie Strope, Anne	Hurst, Lydia	Schroeder, Jeanette Luebbering, Josh
<b>Live Stream</b>			Schell, Brooke
<b>Count Collections</b>		Helton, Dale Helton, Margie	Schellman, Donna Wieberg, Rosalyn
<b>St. Thomas Church Cleaners</b>	Boessen, Lora - Buechter, Darrel - Heckemeyer, Jan - Heckemeyer, Richard		

## Liturgical Role Schedule for Ash Wednesday: Wednesday February 18

	Wed 7:45 AM	Wed 7:00 PM	Wed 5:00 PM
<b>Altar Servers</b>	School	Schroeder, Jesse Schroeder, Tucker	PSR
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	School	Stumpe, Doris Hagenhoff, Betty Even, Jennifer	PSR
<b>Lector</b>	School	Helton, Samantha	PSR
<b>Rosary Leader Sorrowful</b>		Rehagen, Dorothy	PSR
<b>Music Ministry</b>		Borgmeyer, Emilie	Prenger, Jackie Kliethermes, Jean
<b>Live Stream</b>			Luebbering, Lauri

**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.

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES, FEBRUARY 18:** 7:45 am & 5:00 pm – St. Thomas the Apostle, 7:00 pm St. Cecilia

**The St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Ham/Sausage Breakfast surveys were received and reviewed and the consensus is we will NOT be having the breakfast on March 8, 2026. The Parish Council met on Tuesday, January 27 to discuss the ideas received from the survey. Thanks to everyone for being involved in the decision-making.**

**“MASS AND DINNER FOR ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHIONERS** is Saturday, February 21, 2026. Please see the flyer below for details. You can RSVP using the form on the last page of bulletin or online at the St. Thomas Website following [//www.stthomasapostle.net/mass--dinner.html](http://www.stthomasapostle.net/mass--dinner.html). Deadline to respond is February 13, 2026.”

**CONFIRMATION PRAYER PARTNERS:** On March 26, we will be confirming 30 students from St. Thomas and St. Cecilia. Praying daily for these students is one of the most impactful things our Parish can do. On February 7 and 8, we will have the names of the students printed on Doves and posted on a bulletin board in the side entrance of St. Thomas Church. Each student will have two Doves for parishioners to take and pray for them during their Confirmation journey. Thank you to Rosalyn Wieberg for coordinating the Prayer Partners.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH** will be unlocked from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays when Fr. Leonard is gone. If you need to be in Church other than that please let Keith Buechter or Theresa Veit know.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE 2025 YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS:** Thank you for your generosity this past year. To receive your 2025 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 <http://www.stthomasapostle.net/contribution-statement.html> or by clicking the Contribution Statement tab at the top of the home page.

**ST. CECILIA PARISHIONERS:** St. Cecilia is in the process of setting up auto transfer for monthly tithing to St. Cecilia Church. If anyone is interested in contributing monthly to St. Cecilia for their tithing electronically from their bank account to St. Cecilia through ACH, please contact Doris Stumpe. There is a form that needs to be filled out and signed by each parishioner in order for the transfer to be done. The form will be on St. Cecilia's website eventually. If you have access to the internet you can print off the form and fill out. If anyone wants their giving statement put in the back of St. Cecilia Church or email them, please let Doris know. Any questions, please feel free to reach out to Doris Stumpe by email at [dstumpeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:dstumpeoffice@gmail.com) or cell phone 573-619-6125.

**ST. THOMAS CEMETERY DUES:** Dues are \$10.00 per family and \$5.00 per year for a single person. Also, anyone after their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday must pay their own dues of \$5.00. Members who are 80+ years old and who have been members for at least 15 years will be exempt from paying dues. Please note: Anyone falling in areas over 5 years must pay \$100.00 to rejoin plus current dues. Please put payment in the collection basket at St. Thomas the Apostle Church or St. Cecilia Church marked "St. Thomas Cemetery Dues or mail to St. Thomas Cemetery Association, c/o Lisa Lackman, 2222 Upper Botto, Rd, St. Thomas, MO 65076. You may contact Lisa if you have any questions about your current or past dues at 573-338-2703.

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS:** Monday, February 9 – No School PreK-8 & Monday, February 16 – No School PreK-8.

**2026 WILLIAM H. (BILL) SIMON SCHOLARSHIP:** The Diocese of Jefferson City is pleased to offer our parish families college scholarship opportunities through a generous donation from the family of William H. (Bill) Simon, funding is available to high school seniors or current college students with financial needs who commit to practicing their faith. The deadline to apply is March 27. Find eligibility details and application at [diojeffcity.org/scholarships](http://diojeffcity.org/scholarships)

**HEART OF A HERO MEN'S CONFERENCE** is April 10 & 11 at Cana Hall, Cathedral of St. Joseph, Jefferson City. Featuring presenters Pete Burak from Renewal Ministries in Michigan, Msgr. Morris, Rector of the Oratory of Ss. Gregory & Augustine in St. Louis, Fr. Jones, rector of the Cathedral of St. Joseph & young men Thomas McCauley, Austin Stewart and Alex Mittendorf from the St. John Newman Catholic Church in Columbia.

**DIOCESAN MARRIAGE RETREAT** is March 13-14 at the Cathedral of St. Joseph. Our retreat will be led by two inspiring couples from the Marianist Retreat Center. Registration is now open for married couples. Childcare will be available.

**VITAE FOUNDATION ANNUAL PRO-LIFE LUNCH & DINNER** is Thursday, March 26 at the Capital Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City. Keynote speaker Riley Gaines, NCAA Swimmer & Advocate for Women. For information or questions re: attendance/table sponsor etc., please contact Jenn Hammann at [jenn.hammann@vitaefoundation.org](mailto:jenn.hammann@vitaefoundation.org)

**THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING** is Tuesday, February 10, 7:00 p.m. A rosary will be prayed at 6:45 p.m. Please read the February newsletter attached to the bulletin.

**LADIES AUXILIARY INFORMATION:** Our next social will be Tuesday Feb 17 at the KC hall. Come anytime after 6. Bring your own drink and a snack to share with others for good food and fellowship! Also please consider making a dessert for the knights of Columbus fish fry on Feb 27. Items can be dropped off at the parish hall anytime after 4:00. We also are looking for a few people to help serve desserts at the fish fry. If interested, please let Brooke know (573-694-8753).

**THE OVER 50 GROUP** will be meeting on February 12, for our monthly get together at the St Cecilia Parish Center. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish to enjoy with fellow members eating at noon. Annual dues of \$5.00 are due if you didn't have a chance to pay in January. New members are welcome to join at any time. We meet on the second Thursday of the month.

**THE ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE** is Saturday, February 14, 8:00-11:00 p.m. St. Thomas Parish Center. \$20 per person or \$30 per couple, BYOB, Shiloh country band, not responsible for accidents.

**THE CITIZEN'S CIVIC LEAGUE OF META** is sponsoring a Blood drive on February 19, between the hours of 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. There is a severe shortage of blood. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: CivicLeagueMeta to schedule an appointment. Give blood 1/26-2/28 for a \$20 e-gift card to your choice of merchant.

**K OF C COUNCIL #2027 FISH FRIES** are Friday, February 13 & Friday, March 13 (Drive through only) at the Loose Creek School. Serving fish, hush puppies, parsley potatoes, cole slaw, baked beans meals from 4:30 -7:00 p.m. \$14 per meal. Funds raised will be donated to your local Catholic Schools.

**ARGYLE VFW POST 8045 ANNUAL BREAKFAST** is Sunday, February 15, from 7:30 AM to 11:30AM, serving sausage, scrambled eggs, biscuits & gravy, hash browns and coffee cake at the VFW Post Home in Argyle. \$13.00 per meal. This event is Drive Thru, Carry Out, with seating available.

**WESTPHALIA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SOCCER** is conducting spring soccer sign ups through google forms. Players ages 3-14 are welcome! Please sign up by February 15. Please email [wkcsooccerclub@gmail.com](mailto:wkcsooccerclub@gmail.com) to receive a link to the form or if you have questions. The link is *2026 Spring soccer registration form*

**WESTPHALIA KOFC #1171 FISH FRIES** are February 13 (Drive through only) and March 20 (Dine in) from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at the Westphalia KC Hall on Hwy 63. Fried fish, applesauce, baked beans, hush puppies, cole slaw and buttered potatoes, \$15 per meal. Proceeds to benefit Westphalia KC and St. Joseph School.

**ST. ANTHONY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST** is Sunday, February 22, serving sausage, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs and applesauce from 7:30 am -11:30 am. Adults \$12.00, children 6-12 \$6.00. Dine in or carry outs available.

**SAVE THE DATES: Saturday, February 21, St. Thomas the Apostle Stewardship Dinner**

**Friday, February 27, K of C Fish Fry, St. Thomas Parish Center**

**Thursday, March 26, Confirmation at St. Thomas the Apostle Church**

**Thursday, April 30, – Midwest March for Life, Jefferson City**

**Sunday, July 12 – St. Cecilia Parish Picnic**

**Totus Tuus - St. Stanislaus Parish - July 12 through July 17**

#### **St. Thomas the Apostle Pastoral Parish Council Meeting Notes - January 27, 2026**

**Meeting Called to Order :** Attendance: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Shane Verslues, Brenda Schell, Jenny Becker, Marian Buschjost, Anthony Luebbering, Sonya Henson, Leroy Heckemeyer. Not in Attendance: Alanna Stockman, Logan Peters, Erica Graessle, Father Leonard

#### **Principal's Report / School Advisory Council**

- The Diocesan 7th Grade Academic Bowl will be held on Friday, February 6th.
- There will be NO SCHOOL Monday, February 9th.
- Valentine's Day Parties will be held on Friday, February 13th from 2-3 PM.
- There will be NO SCHOOL on Monday, February 16th, President's Day.
- There will be a Home and School meeting on Tuesday February 17th.
- Ash Wednesday is February 18th.
- We will host basketball games on Thursday, February 19th. This is 8th Grade Recognition night.
- There will be an early release on Thursday, March 5th. This is also the Diocesan Science Fair at Taos.
- The end of the third quarter is Thursday, March 5th.

- There will be NO SCHOOL on Friday, March 6th for the Diocesan Wide Professional Development Day.
- The NASP-MO State Archery Tournament will be held on March 18-21 in Branson. We will have NO SCHOOL on March 20th due to the tournament.
- There will be NO SCHOOL on Monday, March 23rd due to a Professional Development Day.
- Confirmation will be held on Thursday, March 26th.
- There will be NO SCHOOL on April 2nd through April 7th for Easter break. School resumes on Wednesday, April 8th.
- First Communion is Sunday, April 12th, 1:00 PM.
- Our Panoramic Photo and Sports/Club pictures will be taken on Wednesday, April 15th.

**CSR**

- The St. Thomas Parish Mass and Dinner will be February 21, 2026. Details are in the bulletin and on the website. \$7/person or \$20/family.

**Pastoral Council Commission Reports:**

**Worship:** The next meeting will be on February 24th.

**Social Concerns**

- Due to the bad weather, the kick off to Catholic Schools Week "Donuts and Juice" was cancelled until a future date.
- The results of the Ham Breakfast vote were 100 in favor of getting rid of the breakfast to 20 in favor of keeping the breakfast.
- The committee reviewed the comments left by parishioners. All comments are being considered and discussed. Several ideas were generated by parishioners and greatly appreciated. One suggestion by parishioners was an envelope to collect money instead of having a Ham Breakfast. This idea is not supported by the Diocese.
- The PPC will be meeting on February 11th, 7:00 PM to discuss what we will replace the Ham Breakfast with.

**Administration**

- Another call for warranty work on the Church roof occurred after the high winds blew off some ridge caps. The roofing contractor will/has fixed it.
- Extra speakers for the back of the church have been installed. It is not possible to get audio in the cry room/confessional.
- We want to thank Paul Struempf for donating a very nice picnic table and also for his hard work in refinishing the current picnic table that was donated in Diane Kroll's memory! Thank you so much, Paul!
- After putting Christmas lights up at Father's House, it was discovered the need for safe/modern plug-ins and a new light fixture. A parishioner has offered to do this work for free. He wanted to remain anonymous, but we want him to know we appreciate his work!

**Finance Committee**

- Ballfield lights is the next big project. The plan is to do something like a Capital Campaign to raise the funds for this. Alan Reinkemeyer and Shane Verslues will be meeting about this.

**Pastor's Report**

- Father is gone January 12th - February 12th to visit his family.

**New Business**

- Signage that asks those sitting upstairs to limit their walking around during Mass has been installed. The cost to try and fix the shaking of the live streaming was going to cost \$1000 by Will West Sounds. He did not think we would like the leveling mount. It would not get us the expected results and cost quite a bit.
- Parish Wish List (wants and needs) suggestions are always welcome!

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, February 11th at 7:00 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026

# 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 Argyle Catering featuring gluten-free roast beef, fried chicken, and all the fixings including Mac-and-Cheese for kids.

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

By February 13, 2026

Submit the form below with payment in an envelope marked "Parish Dinner RSVP" in the collection basket

**RSVP Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adults Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Kids Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Or mail to:

**St. Thomas the Apostle Church**

Attn: Jan Heckemeyer

PO Box 146

St Thomas, MO 65076

# ST. THOMAS FISH FRY



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL # 2149



Gluten Free Hand-breaded,  
Fish fillets  
Hushpuppies (Not Gluten Free)  
Baked potatoes  
French fries  
Baked beans  
Coleslaw  
Dessert

*All You Care to Eat*  
*Dine In or Carry Out*

Adults: \$14  
Children: \$6  
5 & younger: free

**February 27, 2026**      **4:30-7:00 pm**  
ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH CENTER ST. THOMAS, MO 65076

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**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 [heliacatholic.com/spiritofexcellence](http://heliacatholic.com/spiritofexcellence) or contact Helias+ Catholic President Ron Vossen at [rvossen@heliacatholic.com](mailto:rvossen@heliacatholic.com) or 573-635-6139.

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**ONWARD** *together*

