

**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

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

March 29, 2026

Pastor: Fr. Leonard Mukiibi
frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315
Mrs. Jan Heckemeyer
jheckemeyerooffice@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 March 29-April 5**

Tuesday 7:45 am	Donna Gnagi
Wednesday 7:45 am	L&D Vincent & Katie Loethen Family
Holy Thursday 7:00 pm	Msgr. Bernard Boessen
Holy Saturday 8:00 pm	Cassidy Rae Luebbering & Jeremy Luebbering
Easter Sunday 10:00 am	People of our Parishes

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	\$342,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	\$256,500.00
Actual Collection for 2025-2026	\$282,826.76
Offertory Difference Year to Date	\$26,326.76
Offertory Goal for March	\$28,500.00

Collection in Church	
March 1	\$6,452.81
March 8	\$3,807.10
March 15	\$2,711.10
March 22	\$5,037.23
March 29	

Collection Online	\$8,388.00
March Total to Date	\$26,896.24
Difference for March	-\$2,103.76

**Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of March 29-April 5**

Wednesday 6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday 6:30 pm	Fritz & Margie Luebbert
Good Friday Stations of the Cross 3:00 pm	
Good Friday 7:00 pm	
Easter Sunday 8:00 am	Urban, Ronald & Randy Voss

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	\$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2025-2026	\$58,307.00
Offertory Goal per Month for March	\$5,833.33

Collection in Church	
March 1	\$1,185.00
March 8	\$1,196.00
March 15	\$1,365.00
March 22	\$1,200.00
March 29	

March Total to Date	\$4,946.00
Difference for March	-\$887.33

WEEKDAY SERVERS:
Weekday: Kambrie Stegeman

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle

Tuesday 7:25 am	Bob Schellman - Sorrowful
Wednesday 7:25 am	Shirley Volmert - Glorious

Offertory Gifts – St. Thomas the Apostle

Holy Saturday	Family of Cassidy Rae Luebbering & Jeremy Luebbering
Sunday	Ushers

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia & Lector

Wednesday – No Rosary before Mass due to Stations of the Cross
Lector: Dorothy Rehagen

Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Sunday	Family of Urban, Ronald & Randy Voss
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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/scrip for more information about the Scrip program. Please contact Amanda Wooten 573-694-1735 or 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.

Tuesday, March 31 – Sheila Libbert & Sara Libbert **Thursday, April 9** – Carolyn Loethen & Pat (Andy) Luebbering

LITURGICAL ROLES SCHEDULE FOR HOLY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY

	Holy Thursday, 7:00 PM St. Thomas	Good Friday, 7:00 PM St. Cecilia
Altar Servers	Fennwald, Emerald Fennwald, Georgia Volmert, Jase Volmert, JD Please arrive 30 mins prior to Mass for special instructions	Schroeder, Jesse Schroeder, Tucker Derkum, Natalee Please arrive 30 mins prior to service for special instructions.
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Graessle, Barb Buschjost, Marian Prenger, Glenn	Plassmeyer, Mary
Lector	Herigon, Dale	Even, Jennifer – Narrator & Intercessions Plassmeyer, Dominic - Speaker
Rosary Leader	Herigon, Dale - Luminous	
Greeters/Ushers	Boessen, Keith Wooten, Michael	
Music Ministry	Schroeder, Jeanette Choir	Borgmeyer, Emile Choir
Washing of Feet	Keith Boessen, MaryKay Brand, Emily Luebbering, Larry Lueckenhoff, Kathy Rackers, Judy Schroeder, Eileen Brune, Kambrie Stegeman, Betty Hagenhoff, Eli Bock, Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer	

Stations of the Cross – Good Friday - 3:00 pm St. Cecilia – Servers: Jesse and Tucker Schroeder

Liturgical Role Schedule for April 4 & 5 (Holy Saturday & Easter)			
	Holy Saturday, 8:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Verslues, Ezekiel Verslues, Max Volmert, Stella Please arrive 30 mins prior to Mass for special instructions.	Bock, Eli Schroeder, Tucker Werdehausen, Gavin	Akin, Noah Wieberg, Victoria Wieberg, William (Ryan) Wooten, Evelyn
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Wansing, Brenda Prenger, Glenn Kliethermes, Keith	Even, Jennifer Libbert, Pam Stumpe, Doris	Lueckenhoff, Janet Lueckenhoff, Linda Boessen, Marshall
Lector	Cassmeyer, Jeff 1&2, Epistle Brand, MaryKay 3&4 Schroeder, David 6&7	Plassmeyer, Dominic	Schroeder, Jennifer
Rosary Leader: Glorious	Stockman, Tina	Plassmeyer, Mary	Lueckenhoff, Jim
Greeters/Ushers	Boessen, Keith Luebbering, Doug	Schulte, Leonard Libbert, Pam	Maasen, Matthew Lueckenhoff, Larry
Music Ministry	Prenger, Jackie Choir	Hurst, Lydia	Stockman, Alanna Wooten, Amanda
Live Stream			Wieberg, Dunja
Count Collections		Plassmeyer, Dominic & Mary	Veit, Ron Veit, Theresa
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	Boessen, Linda - Luebbering, Lauri - Luebbering, Lindsay - Reinkemeyer, Lynne		

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2026

Palm Sunday, March 29 – 8:00 a.m. procession with palms from Parish Center into Church at St. Cecilia (weather permitting)
10:00 a.m. Procession with palms from St. Thomas the Apostle School **ENTRANCE** into Church at St. Thomas

Tuesday, March 31 – 7:45 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle Church
3:00 pm – Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of Jefferson City, all is welcome.

Spy Wednesday, April 1– 7:45 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle Church and 6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross & 6:30 p.m.
Mass at St. Cecilia Church

Holy Thursday, April 2 – 7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Adoration until 11:00 p.m.
Please return **RICE BOWL CONTRIBUTIONS** to Church, Holy Thursday. Thank you!

Good Friday, April 3 – 3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross, St. Cecilia Church; 7:00 p.m. Good Friday services, St. Cecilia Church

Holy Saturday, April 4 – 8:00 p.m. Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle Church

Easter Sunday, April 5 – 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Cecilia Church; 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle Church

LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR GOOD FRIDAY: Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence. Only one full meal is permitted along with two smaller meals, but no snacks are allowed for all ages between 18-59. No meat is permitted for 14 years of age and over. Liquids are allowed.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES FROM ST. CECILIA, ST. MARGARET'S, ST. STAINSLAUS AND ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHES WHO WERE CONFIRMED ON MARCH 26: Ellie Boessen, Aliyah Buechter, Jace Bunch, Ava Buschjost, Austyn Christian, Emerald Fennewald, Blake Fisher, Samuel Green, Chelsey Herigon, Isabell Hoffman, Lyza Lackman, Cadyn Libbert, Cami Libbert, Chloe Libbert, Kalli Libbert, Laci Libbert, Brenda Luebbering, Carmen Luebbering, Hattie Luebbering, Isabella Luebbering, Benjamin Otto, Sydney Peters, Emmett Rackers, Allie Siebeneck, Kambrie Stegeman, Jacob Stewart, Hannah Tallent, Stella Volmert, Daniel Wieberg, Victoria Wieberg, Nash Wilbers, Evelyn Wooten.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PPC MEETING is Tuesday, March 31, St. Thomas School library.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE & ST. CECILIA YOUTH GROUP: The St. Thomas and St. Cecilia Youth Group will meet the following dates and locations from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. All high schoolers are welcome to attend! April 8- St. Cecilia.

SPECIAL EASTER COLLECTION-OUR RETIRED PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS. This collection will be taken up in all parishes during the Easter Masses on April 4-5. This collection is to benefit our retired priests and religious. We ask that you prayerfully reflect and consider making this part of your giving this Easter. The Diocese will include a special envelope for this collection in an upcoming Catholic Missourian or please use the envelope in your April monthly packet. Thank you for your generosity.

ST. CECILIA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE EASTER FLOWERS: Anyone interested in making a monetary donation for Easter Flowers in memory of loved ones is asked to place the donation along with **PRINTED NAMES** to be remembered in an envelope provided in your March Monthly packet and place in the collection basket or mail to the Parish Office by March 29. The names will be published in the Easter Sunday bulletin, April 5.

PASTORS MEDITATION: PALM SUNDAY: A FULFILLING DEATH (Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7, Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26: 14-27 or Mt 27: 11-54) The Church celebrates this sixth Sunday of Lent as both Palm Sunday and Passion Sunday. This is the point in the Liturgical year when the Church stops us so that we can remember and relive the events which brought about our redemption and salvation. What we commemorate and relive during this week is not just Jesus' dying and rising, but our own dying to sin, to selfishness and then rising in Jesus, which will result in our healing, reconciliation, and redemption. Attentive participation in this Holy Week liturgy will deepen our relationship with God, increase our Faith, and strengthen our lives as disciples of Jesus. Today's liturgy combines contrasting moments, one of glory, the other of suffering: the royal welcome of Jesus entering Jerusalem, and the rigged trial, culminating in the crucifixion, death, and burial of the Christ. Today's first reading, the third of Isaiah's four Servant Songs, foreshadows Jesus' own life and mission. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 22)," plunges us into the heart of Christ's Passion. The Second Reading, taken from Paul's letter to the Philippians, is an ancient Christian hymn representing a very early Christian understanding of who Jesus IS, and of how his mission saves us from sin and death. The first part of today's Gospel describes the royal reception Jesus received from his admirers, who paraded with him for a distance of the two miles between the Mount of Olives and the city of Jerusalem. In the second part of today's Gospel, we listen to/participate in a reading of the Passion of Christ according to Matthew. We are challenged to examine our own lives in the light of some of the characters in the Passion story, like Peter who denied Jesus, Judas who betrayed Jesus, Herod who ridiculed Jesus, Pilate who acted against his conscience as he condemned Jesus to death on the cross, and the leaders of the people who thought to preserve their position by getting rid of Jesus. Dear friends let us not cause Jesus to weep over us, instead, let us repent and weep over our sins remembering the Jewish saying, "Heaven rejoices over a repentant sinner and sheds tears over a non-repentant, hardhearted one." We need to imitate the prodigal son and return to God, our loving Father through the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this last week of Lent and participate fully in the joy of Christ's Resurrection. We need to be fruit-producing, not barren fig trees. God expects us to produce fruits of holiness, purity, justice, humility, obedience, charity, and forgiveness, instead of leading barren spiritual lives. Let us not desecrate our hearts, thus prompting Jesus to cleanse them with His whip. Jesus cannot tolerate the desecration of our souls, each a temple of the Holy Spirit, by our addiction to uncharitable, unjust and impure thoughts, words, and deeds. We need to welcome Jesus into our hearts in a special way during the Holy Week, as Jesus' supporters did on Palm Sunday, by welcoming Jesus into all areas of our life as our Lord and Savior, singing "Hosanna!" and surrendering our lives to Jesus during this Holy Week. We need to be ready to become like the humble donkey that carried Jesus. As we "carry Jesus" to the world, we may receive the same welcome that Jesus received on Palm Sunday, but we may also meet the same opposition, crosses, and trials later. Like the donkey, we are called upon to carry Christ to a world that does not know Him. Hence, let us become transparent Christians during this Holy Week, enabling others to see in us Jesus' universal love, unconditional forgiveness, and sacrificial service. ***Have a Blessed Week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

ST. CECILIA PICNIC DESSERTS & MORE: We only have several desserts and other items lined up for the auction at the July 12 picnic. We would like to have more if it all possible. If you are interested in contributing a dessert or another item, it would be most appreciated. Please contact Betty Hagenhoff at 573-645-6565.

ST. CECILIA CEMETERY ASSOCIATION will be holding its annual meeting on Monday, March 30 at 7:00 pm in the basement of the St Cecilia School. All members are encouraged to attend as we will be discussing upcoming projects and electing a new board member. We will also be accepting bids for lawn care and maintenance for the next year. If you, or someone you know, are interested in placing a bid, please have it turned in to a member of the board at or before the start of the meeting. If you have any questions regarding the meeting or the cemetery committee, please contact one of our current board members. Thank you! Dominic Plassmeyer, President, Will Derkum, Vice President, Eileen Brune, Treasurer, Michelle Derkum, Secretary

ST. CECILIA PARISHIONERS: St. Cecilia Parishioners - If you are interested in doing an ACH Authorization for your monthly tithing to the church, the form is now loaded on St. Cecilia's website. If you are unable to retrieve the document on the website, please contact Doris Stumpe for a form. There has been a delay on the starting date for the ACH due to a new online banking product with Mid America Bank. The deduction will not start until May 3. That will give enough time for the conversion to be finalized and the deductions will start on the new system versus on the old and then convert to the new system. I apologize for any inconveniences this may have caused in the plan to start March 3 for ACH. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Thank you for your patience. Feel free to reach out to Doris Stumpe by email at 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 21st 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: No School, April 2, 3, 6 & 7 Easter Break. School resumes Wed., April 8

TOTUS TUUS - July 12 - 17: Sign-up for Totus Tuus is now available. You can do this online at <http://www.stthomasapostle.net/totus-tuus.html>. If you have any questions, please contact Theresa Veit (573) 418-7301. Thank you for your continued support and participation in this summer program.

TOTUS TUUS VOLUNTEERS: We are looking for volunteers to help provide evening meals for our Totus Tuus missionaries and/or help them during the day program with things like check in/out, serve snacks, apply a band aid etc. The program starts on July 12. We will need evening meals for 5-6 that Sunday through Thursday. The day program starts July 13. We will need 1-2 adult helpers Monday through Friday from 7:15am to 1:45 pm. To volunteer, please contact Cathy Singer at 573-690-1491.

ST. CECILIA PARISH is looking for bids for someone to mow the grass this summer. Please contact Lydia at 573-821-1370.

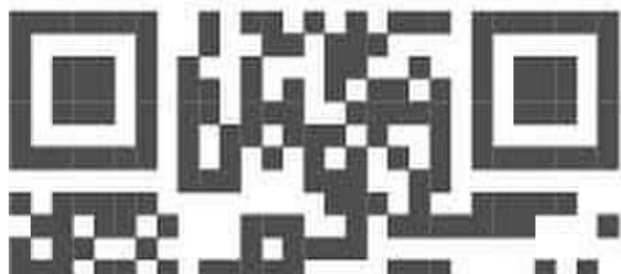
PLEASE REMOVE ALL FLOWERS & ARRANGEMENTS from in front of the stones in the St. Thomas Cemetery during the grass cutting season. Thank you for your cooperation.

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.

THIS IS THE HOUR – LIVING THE CATHOLIC FAITH WITH COURAGE, CLARITY & CONVICTION is Wednesday, April 29, 6:00-8:00 pm at the Cathedral of St. Joseph. A powerful one-night parish mission to awaken hearts, renew faith, and inspire Catholics to live the Gospel boldly in today's world. Speakers: Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers and Dr. Marcus Peter.

QUILTS, QUILT TOPS & VARIETY OF CRAFTS is Saturday, April 11, 8:00-12:00 (noon) at the St. Mary's School Hall, Frankenstein. Bake sale provided Frankenstein 4-H.

*Support Our Retirees
Priests & Religious
Through the Easter Special Collection*



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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 heliascatholic.com/spiritofexcellence or contact Helias+ Catholic President Ron Vossen at rvossen@heliascatholic.com or 573-635-6139.

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