

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

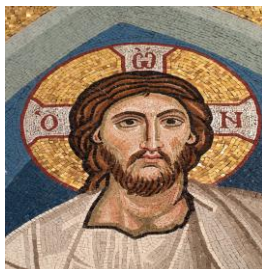
PO Box 146
St. Thomas, MO 65076

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

May 17, 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 May 17-24

Tuesday 7:45 am	L&D Lawrence & Caroline Herigon Family
Wednesday 7:45 am	No Mass, Summer schedule
Thursday 7:45 am	L&D Virgil Kirkweg Family
Friday 7:45 am	Laverne & Daniel Dubbert & Vic Wilde
Saturday 5:00 pm	People of our Parishes
Sunday 10:00 am	Tony Strope

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of May 17-24

Wednesday 6:30 pm	Martin & Addie Loethen Family
Sunday 8:00 am	L&D Members of the Brune Family

Your Sunday Offering
Offerory Budget for 2025-2026 \$342,000.00
Offerory Goal through Month End \$313,500.00
Actual Collection for 2025-2026 \$333,229.00
Offerory Difference Year to Date \$19,729.00
Offerory Goal for May \$28,500.00

Your Sunday Offering
Offerory Budget for 2025-2026 \$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2025-2026 **\$68,388.00**
Offerory Goal per Month for May \$5,833.33

Collection in Church
May 3 \$7,890.10
May 10 \$4,330.44
May 17
May 24
May 31

Collection in Church
May 3 \$1,029.00
May 10 \$1,649.00
May 17
May 24
May 31

Collection Online \$6,795.50
May Total to Date **\$19,016.04**
Difference for May -\$9,483.96

May Total to Date \$2,678.00
Difference for May -\$3,155.33

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle

Tuesday 7:25 am	Bob Schellman - Sorrowful
Wednesday 7:25 am	Shirley Volmert – Glorious
Thursday 7:25 am	Dale Herigon – Luminous
Friday 7:25 am	Jim Lueckenhoff - Sorrowful

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia & Lector
Wednesday – Dorothy Rehagen – Glorious

Lector: Samantha
Helton

Offerory Gifts – St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday 5:00 pm	Ushers
Sunday 10:00 am	Family of Tony Strope

Offerory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Sunday	Brune Family
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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.

Liturgical Role Schedule for May 23 & 24			
	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Akin, Noah Christian, Austyn Christian, Kaycie Reynolds, Jacob	Bock, Eli Schroeder, Annaline	Tallent, Hannah Tallent, Levi Veltrap, Angelina Veltrap, Henry
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Wansing, Brenda Boessen, Marshall Schanzmeyer, Janice	Even, Jennifer Hagenhoff, Betty Libbert, Pam	Heckemeyer, Jan Heckemeyer, Richard Kliethermes, Keith
Lector	Schroeder, David	Veltrap, Karyn	Tallent, Daffiny
Rosary Leader: Glorious	Schanzmeyer, Janice	Schroeder, Jennifer	Lueckenhoff, Jim
Greeters/Ushers	Holterman, Adam Akin, Phil	Hagenhoff, Randy Libbert, Pam	Heckemeyer, Richard Kliethermes, Keith
Music Ministry	Schroeder, Jeanette Schroeder, Judy	Borgmeyer, Emilie	Stockman, Alanna Luebbering, Josh
Live Stream			Becker, Jenny
Count Collections		Helton, Dale Helton, Margie	Schellman, Donna Wieberg, Rosalyn
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	Luebbering, Gina - Luebbering, Karen - Schell, Brooke - Stockman, Tina		

60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: Please join the Gene and Mary Pat Luebbering family for an open house on May 17 from 2:00-5:00 pm at the St Thomas KC Hall to celebrate their 60TH wedding anniversary.

MEMORIAL DAY MASS will be celebrated Monday, May 25, St. Thomas the Apostle Cemetery, weather permitting. In case of inclement weather, Mass will be celebrated in Church.

PASTORS MEDITATION: Ascension of the Lord: I AM WITH YOU UNTILL THE END. (AA. 1:1-11; Eph. 1:17-23; Mt. 28:16-20) Jesus commissioned us to be his witnesses to the world and his teachers to the nations. Today's readings describe the Ascension of the Lord Jesus into His Heavenly glory after promising to send the Holy Spirit to the Apostles as the source of Heavenly power and commanding them to bear witness to Him through their lives and preaching throughout the world. But the ascended Jesus is still with us because of His promise, "I am with you always; yes, to the end of time" (Mt 28-20). He is with us at all times and in all places, releasing a new energy upon the earth, the energy of the Holy Spirit. The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, presents the scene of Jesus' Ascension, the promise of the Holy Spirit, Jesus' instructions to the apostles to wait in Jerusalem for the Power from above, and missionary command to the apostles to bear witness to him. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 47) suggests that, by his Ascension, the risen Lord "mounts his throne" in glory. In the second reading, Paul teaches us that God revealed His might in the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ, thus exalting Him over all angelic forces. Jesus remains accessible to us now in the life-giving Holy Spirit, assuring us that one day we, too, will be ascending to Heavenly glory, provided that, with His grace, we live out our Faith in Him through the mission of loving service He entrusts to us. Today's Gospel tells us that, **with his return to the Father, Jesus completed his personal mission on earth. But just before his Ascension, Jesus entrusted to the disciples that same mission of preaching the Good News and evangelizing the whole world by bearing witness to him through their lives.** It is in his Ascension that we see Jesus entering fully into the Life and Glory of God. In the descriptions of Christ after his Resurrection, we are given a hint of what life will be like in Heaven. The prospect of sharing that glory should be the driving force of our lives. So dear friends, we need to be proclaimers and evangelizers: To be a Christian is to be a proclaimer and an evangelizer (preaching and proclaiming). We preach with words, but we proclaim with our lives. Let us ask the guidance of the Spirit of God to bear witness to Jesus by our transparent Christian lives.

We have a teaching mission: Jesus taught us lessons of Faith, Hope, Love, forgiveness, mercy, and salvation by his life and his preaching and gave us the same mission for the conversion of our brothers and sisters. Hence, let us learn about Jesus and his teachings through our daily study of the Bible and the teachings of the Church, experience Jesus in personal prayer, our reception of the Sacraments and our works of charity, and convey to others the Jesus whom we experience with the help of the Holy Spirit. We need Jesus as our source of strength and encouragement in doing His will: We will be able to overcome doubts about our Faith, as well as baseless fears, anxieties, and worries, by meditating on Jesus' Ascension and the lesson it teaches, that we, too, are called to share his Glory in Heaven. **Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi**

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

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND: If you would like to receive Holy Communion at home on another day other than Friday morning, please contact Father Leonard at 573-477-3315.

SHARE YOUR VOICE – HELP SHAPE OUR ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH: Your ideas matter; help guide our Parish forward. Please consider sharing your time and talent by running for Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) 2 year term. If interested, please call Shane Verslues 573-999-4314, Lynne Reinkemeyer 573-690-7113 or Linda Boessen 573-694-4239.

ST. CECILIA PRAYER LINE REQUESTS can be made by calling Katie Lueckenotto at 573-229-4318 or 573-619-6454.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PRAYER LINE REQUESTS should be emailed to Theresa Veit at veitoffice@gmail.com or by calling 573-418-7301.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING is Thursday, May 28, 7:00 pm in school library.

ST. CECILIA: Easter Lily plants are available for anyone who would like to plant them at home.

SILENT AUCTION: St. Thomas the Apostle School will be hosting a Spring Silent Auction in April of 2027. We will be taking donations next spring. Just putting the date out in case donors need to start making or preparing items now.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRESCHOOL: If you have a child, ages 3 or 4 and have been thinking about preschool, please call Lizzie Linhardt, linhardt@stacs.school 573-645-5605 or the school office 573-477-3322. If you have any questions or would like to set up a one on one meeting and school tour, please contact the school office. Please check out and like St. Thomas the Apostle Preschool Facebook page.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PICNIC QUILT AUCTION: If you have a baby quilt or t-towels for our parish picnic auction, please call Diane Lueckenhoff, 573-645-5794 or Charlene Buschjost, 573-690-9098 by June 1, 2026

ST. THOMAS & ST. CECILIA LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING is Tuesday, May 19 at 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus Hall.

COR GATHERING FOR CATHOLIC MEN: All Catholic men are invited to attend our next COR gathering on Tuesday, May 26 at 7:00 PM at the Wardsville/Osage Bend KofC Hall. COR, meaning "heart" and rooted in *courage*, centers on prayer, formation, and fraternity. This month we conclude the *Into the Breach* series with our final session, "The Cornerstone." Together, we will reflect on building our lives firmly on Christ as the foundation of authentic manhood, leadership, and faith. The evening includes prayer, a video presentation, group discussion, and fellowship. Bring a friend and join us for this powerful conclusion to the series.

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.

PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND AND CENTRAL EUROPE: March 1 - 16, 2027 with Fr. Matthew Flatley. **Walk Where Saints Walked; A Journey of Divine Mercy: Poland, Prague, Vienna.** John Paul II, Black Madonna, St. Faustina, Infant Jesus of Prague. Rediscover the beauty of the Church and the depth of God's mercy. To learn more call Fr. Matt @ 573-202-3590 or e-mail: mflatley@diojeffcity.org to receive a full color brochure. We will gather for an information night at IC-n-JC on Wed June 10, 2026 @ 6 pm.

DIOCESAN CAMP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN: Camp Registration is NOW Open and Registration is coming in quickly! Please help spread the word on this great opportunity for our young people, entering 6th through 12th grade. Volunteer signups are also now available. If parishes are interested in covering a portion of the cost for their parishioners who go to camp the Youth Office can now set up coupon codes. Please reach out to the Youth Office at diojeffcity.org

DIOCESAN SUMMER MISSIONARIES: Any young Adult Catholics between 18-25, who would be interested in helping out the Diocese this Summer with various youth activities, please visit <https://diojeffcity.org/summer-missionaries/> to find out more.

RECOGNIZING OUR 2026 GRADUATES: If you are a 2026 graduate or promotion (elementary, high school, college, or technical school), please let us know by emailing or calling the school office at 573-477-3322 or the Parish Office, Tuesday mornings (8:00-11:30 am) or Wednesday's (8:00 am to 4:30 pm) 573-477-3315. The names will be published in the May 24 bulletin.

ST. CECILIA CEMETERY annual assessment is due in the Month of May, \$5 per person age 21 to 75. Please use provided envelope or write St Cecilia Cemetery on a plain envelope and place in collection.

ST. CECILIA CEMETERY: Please remove all flowers, arrangements, etc from in front of the stones during grass cutting season. Thank you for your cooperation.

CIVIC LEAGUE CLEAN-UP DAY: Civic League clean-up day is May 17 at 10:00 a.m. All help is welcomed and encouraged. Various clean-up tasks need to be completed, such as pressure washing the building, cleaning gutters, dusting, scrubbing floors, cleaning windows, and other general indoor clean-up. Thanks in advance for your time and help!

PLEASE REMOVE ALL FLOWERS & ARRANGEMENTS from in front of the stones in the St. Thomas Cemetery during the grass cutting season. Also, flowers that have blown off with the wind were placed in shed, you are welcome to check out if they are yours. Rest will be discarded. Thank you for your cooperation.

BREAKING THE SILENCE OF ABUSE: As a Diocese, we are committed to breaking the silence of abuse. When someone is reporting abuse, we must acknowledge their pain and how difficult it is to talk about it. False allegations are very rare. Our initial response to someone who is disclosing abuse for the first time must be compassionate. For those who need to report abuse, encourage them to contact our Victims Assistance Coordinator, Jacqueline Baldwin, (573-694-3199) and to make use of the appropriate State of Missouri hotline (1-800-392-3738) or the Attorney General's clergy abuse online form. All of this information is also on our website, under the 'report abuse' tab. For those who want information or want to convey a message to Bishop McKnight, please encourage them to write to us at reportabuse@diojeffcity.org

SAVE THE DATES: Sunday, July 12 – St. Cecilia Parish Picnic
Totus Tuus - St. Stanislaus Parish - July 12 through July 17
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Picnic – Sunday, August 16, 2026
St. Thomas the Apostle 30th Annual Fall Fantasy – Saturday, November 7, 2026

Totus Tuus 2026

*Parish summer
catechetical
program*



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Monday - Friday : 8 am - 1:30 pm
Dropoff in Gym - 7:30 - 7:45 am
Mass @ 8am
Grades : 1st - 6th
Pricing: \$50/Student or \$100/Family Max

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

Sunday - Thursday : 6:30 - 8:00 pm
St. Stanislaus Parish Center
Grades : 7th - 12th
Evening Program: Free

Please contact your Director of Religious Education with questions

**TO BE HELD AT
ST. STANISLAUS PARISH
JULY 12 - 17, 2026**



**DIOCESE OF
Jefferson City**

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

INSPIRING A COMMUNITY
OF SAINTS AND SCHOLARS

**LEARN MORE
AND GIVE NOW**



[HELIASCATHOLIC.COM/SPIRITOFEXCELLENCE](https://heliascatholic.com/spiritofexcellence)

ONWARD *together*

