

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 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 3-10

Tuesday 7:45 am	L&D Norbert Boessen Family
Wednesday 7:45 am	Denis Plassmeyer
Thursday 7:45 am	Darlene Falter
Friday 7:45 am	Becky Strobe
Saturday 5:00 pm	People of our Parishes
Sunday 10:00 am	Kelsey Heckemeyer

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	\$342,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	\$285,000.00
Actual Collection for 2025-2026	\$314,212.96
Offertory Difference Year to Date	\$29,212.96
Offertory Goal for April	\$28,500.00

Collection in Church	
April 5	\$6,318.10
April 12	\$3,358.10
April 19	\$2,308.50
April 26	\$5,466.40

Collection Online	\$8,388.00
April Total to Date	\$25,839.10
Difference for April	-\$2,660.90

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of May 3-10

Wednesday 6:30 pm	Fritz & Margje Luebbert
Sunday 8:00 am	Marilyn Bax

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	\$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2025-2026	\$65,710.00
Offertory Goal per Month for April	\$5,833.33

Collection in Church	
April 5	\$2,958.00
April 12	\$1,962.00
April 19	\$ 671.00
April 26	\$900.00

April Total to Date	\$6,491.00
Difference for April	+\$657.67

WEEKDAY SERVERS:
Weekday: Emerald Fennwald

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: Dorothy Rehagen

Offertory Gifts – St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday 5:00 pm	Ushers
Sunday 10:00 am	Family of Kesley Heckemeyer

Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Sunday	Family of Marilyn Bax
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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.**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 Strobe 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.**Thurs. April 30-** Gina Luebbering & Emily Luebbering**Liturgical Role Schedule for May 9 & 10**

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Otto, Benjamin Otto, Haddie Otto, Luke Verslues, Max	Schroeder, Jesse Schroeder, Tucker	Heckman, Addyson Heckman, Lily Wieberg, Victoria Wieberg, William (Ryan)
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Boessen, Lora Wansing, Brenda Graessle, Barbara	Hagenhoff, Betty Libbert, Pam Stumpe, Doris	Lueckenhoff, Janet Luebbering, Ben Prenger, Glenn
Lector	Lackman, Lisa	Stumpe, Doris	Luebbering, Doug
Rosary Leader: Glorious	Herigon, Dale	Rehagen, Dorothy	Stockman, Tina
Greeters/Ushers	Boessen, Keith Boessen, Mark	Hagenhoff, Randy Stumpe, Mitch	Luebbering, Ben Loethen, Mark
Music Ministry	Stockman, Alanna Kliethermes, Kelsey	Borgmeyer, Emilie	Prenger, Jackie Wieberg, Lisa
Live Stream			Schellman, Jenny
Count Collections		Helton, Dale Helton, Margie	Henson, Sonya Wieberg, Millie
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	Boessen, Linda - Luebbering, Lauri - Luebbering, Lindsay - Reinkemeyer, Lynne		

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Wednesday, May 6 but will be open on Thursday, May 7.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER: JESUS IS THE WAY THAT IS TRUTH AND LIFE. (AA. 6:1-7, 1Pt. 2:4-9, Jn. 14:1-12) Because Jesus is the son of God, we have a privileged insight into God and privileged access to him. Today's readings tell us how the early Church accepted the challenge of keeping Jesus' memory alive by remaining a dynamic Christian community, bearing witness to Christ by their unity, fidelity in worship and the spirit of loving, humble service. The first reading, taken from Acts, shows us the early Church as a loving, serving, and worshipping community (AA. 6:1-7). Hence, it easily solved a problem of perceived discrimination by instituting the Diaconate for the service of the community. In the second reading, St. Peter advises the early Christians to renew the memory of Jesus by allowing God to make of them "living stones," and to build them into a spiritual edifice, a community of believers, with Christ for its "Living Cornerstone" (1Pt. 2:4-5). Peter praises Christians, both Gentile and Jewish, as "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and God's own people." Today's Gospel introduces Jesus as the Way to God, the Truth to be accepted, and the Life to be shared and lived. Jesus consoles his apostles (who are sad and disheartened at His announcement that He will be leaving them soon), by assuring them that he is going to prepare an everlasting accommodation for them in his Father's House in Heaven. He gives them the assurance that he will come back to take them to their Heavenly abodes. It is then that Thomas says, "Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus answers Thomas' question with, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me." The basic doctrine of Judaism is that Yahweh is the Way the Truth and the Life. Hence, Jesus is making a revolutionary claim that he is equivalent to Yahweh. Jesus also declares that he, himself, is the safest and surest way to God, discrediting the modern notions that all religions are equally sure ways to reach God, and that no organized religion but only living a good life of sharing love is necessary to reach God. But Jesus is the Way which he calls narrow because it is the way of focused, loving, humble, sacrificial service. Jesus is the Truth who teaches revealed truths about God and God's relation to man. Jesus also teaches moral truths and demonstrates them in his life. Jesus is the Life because, as God, he possesses the eternal life of God and shares his Divine life with his disciples through the Word of God and the Sacraments. In short, Jesus reveals the Father in the Way he lives, in the Truth of his word and in the new Life that he brings. Dear friends we need to accept Jesus as the Way, the Truth, and the Life and we accept Jesus as the Way by walking his narrow way of loving, humble, sacrificial service. We accept Jesus as the Truth by learning and practicing what he has taught us, as given in the Bible and in the teachings of the Church. We accept Jesus as the Life by sharing in the Divine Life of God in His Church, making use of the means Jesus has established. We do all of this by actively participating in the Eucharistic celebration and properly receiving the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion; by the worthy reception of the other Sacraments; by the meditative, daily reading of the Word of God; by allowing the Holy Spirit, living in the Church and within us, to guide and strengthen us; and by communicating with God, the Source of Life, in personal and family prayers. **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 AND 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: Easter Lily plants are available for anyone who would like to plant them at home.

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. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS:

Tuesday, May 5 – Diocesan 8th Grade Mass
Wednesday, May 6- 6th Grade Vocation Day
Thursday, May 7- 8th Grade Promotion Mass 6:30 pm
Friday, May 8 – Preschool Graduation
Monday, May 11 -Field Day
Wednesday, May 13 – Last Day of School, Awards after Mass, 11:05 dismissal PreK-7

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, llinhardt@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.

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.

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.

CURSILLO: Our next School of Leaders gathering is on May 9, at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Flanagan Hall, Columbia MO. We plan to gather immediately following 8 AM Mass at 8:45 am with treats and a social gathering. Program will begin at 9:10 am with Leader's grouping followed by a couple of inspiring and informative presentations. John Keener from Columbia will speak on "general principles and teaching techniques during the 3 day weekend" and Gary Wilbers from Jefferson City will speak on "the make up of a leader. " The presentations will be followed by section work on Pre, 3 Day and Post Cursillo and we will close with a visit to the Blessed Sacrament at 11 AM. Hope you can join this wonderful group of cursillistas for a fun and faith filled Saturday morning.

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

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.

BLAIR OAKS BLOOD DRIVE: The blood drive is scheduled to take place on May 11 at the Blair Oaks Middle School, from 1:30pm to 5:30 pm. We are partnering with the Red Cross, and all eligible donors are welcome and encouraged to participate. As we collect more blood at this donation, multiple students at Blair Oaks will receive scholarship money.

SAVE THE DATES: Sunday, July 12 – St. Cecilia Parish Picnic
Totus Tuus - St. Stanislaus Parish - July 12 through July 17

ST. THOMAS LADIES AUXILIARY-Meeting Minutes – March 17, 2026

The meeting was called to order by Jennifer and the members prayed a Hail Mary.

16 members were in attendance.

District Deputy Stan Strope inducted our new officers. The new officers are Jennifer Even as President, Lynne Reinkemeyer as Vice President, Sonya Henson as Treasurer, and Karlie Reinkemeyer as Secretary. We are so grateful to our outgoing officers for their dedication and service, and we extend a big thank you to District Deputy Stan Strope for leading the induction ceremony.

Karlie opened the meeting by reading the January 20, 2026 meeting minutes, which were approved as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Sonya then shared the Treasurer's Report. The balance as of January 20, 2026 was \$1,232.54. Since then, a \$292.50 check for dues was cashed, a \$585 deposit was made for member dues and t-shirts, and an additional \$30 deposit was made in February. The current balance as of March 17, 2026 is \$1,555.04.

OLD BUSINESS

Membership Dues: We were happy to report that dues have been collected, and anyone who hasn't yet had the chance to pay is still welcome to do so. Dues were also collected during the Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast.

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

The Knights of Columbus Fish Fry was a wonderful success, and our Ladies Auxiliary did an amazing job providing desserts and helping throughout the event. A big thank you goes out to everyone who played a part—your time and effort truly made a difference!

February Social: Our February social had a smaller turnout, likely due to the weather, but we appreciate those who braved the cold to attend and spend time together. We are looking forward to a great turnout at our next gathering!

Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Breakfast: The Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Breakfast on March 15 was another fantastic success, serving nearly 60 people. We received many compliments on the meal and hospitality. A special thank you goes to Jayne Luebbering for her thoughtful planning and to Janet Lueckenhoff for making everything look so beautiful with her decorating talents. Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time—every contribution, big or small, helped make the morning so special!

The event brought in \$748 from attendees and \$110 from to-go meals, with \$238 in expenses, resulting in a \$620 profit for the Ladies Auxiliary. After discussion, a motion was made and unanimously approved to split the proceeds, donating \$300 to the Hanna Retreat and \$300 to Vocations. Jennifer Even will look into the proper process for donating to Vocations.

Movie in May: Karlie also shared plans for a special event in May—a public showing of the movie "Broken Mary" in honor of the Month of Mary. The event is scheduled for May 3, starting around 11:30 a.m. or noon. Light snacks, popcorn, water, and lemonade will be provided. Be on the lookout for a flyer with more details soon!

NEW BUSINESS

Youth Group: The Youth Group is composed of St. Thomas and St. Cecilia students have asked for baked goods for their bake sale on March 28–29, and we gladly agreed to help. The youth will handle the sale and accept by donation only. If you need to drop off baked goods early, please reach out to Jennifer Even or Samantha Helton. Items can also be dropped off at the Vitae House before weekend Masses. This year, 18 students will be attending, including eight new participants. A big thank you Samantha Helton for her continued dedication and hard work with our youth.

Membership Dues: A brief discussion about membership dues was had, including how long to allow for unpaid dues and whether dues should eventually be phased out at a certain age. No decisions were made at this time, and Jennifer will look into any guidance from the State.

Communication: Communication through the Remind app continues to have some challenges, and Jennifer and Brooke will work together to help transition roles so Jennifer can send messages out instead of Brooke. Thank you to Brooke for all her help navigating the app through the years!

April Social: Our April Social will be held on April 21. In past years, this has been a plant potting event with Kerry Meyer. While appreciation was expressed for Kerry's past efforts, Karlie suggested reaching out to Kipp's Gardens to Go in Jefferson City to explore hosting the event this year. Karlie will follow up on availability and pricing and report back. It was also suggested that the group go out to dinner following the event, with a restaurant to be determined.

Kipp's Gardens to Go is owned and operated by Emma and Quin Kipphut. Emma is Tom Hurst's youngest daughter. Emma and Quin took over Gardens to Go when the previous owner passed away.

Meeting Minutes in the Bulletin It was suggested to include our meeting minutes in the parish bulletin, similar to the Knights of Columbus. This idea was well received, and we're excited to begin sharing updates and what we are up to in this way. Karlie will send the minutes to Diane and Theresa for publication. The meeting closed with an Our Father and the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM



Totus Tuus 2026
Parish summer catechetical program



Scan Me to Register

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	MIDDLE/HIGH 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	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 heliacatholic.com/spiritofexcellence or contact Helias+ Catholic President Ron Vossen at rvossen@heliacatholic.com or 573-635-6139.

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ONWARD *together*

