

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

March 1, 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 1-8

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of March 1-8

Tuesday 7:45 am	L&D Virgil Kirkweg Fam.
Wednesday 7:45 am	Tom, Clara & Dan Schmidt
Thursday 7:45 am	Harold Luebbering
Thursday – after Mass	Stations of the Cross
Friday – 7:45 am	Alex Heckman
Friday – 6:30 pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday 5:00 pm	L&D Anthony & Ida Schellman
Sunday 10:00 am	People of our Parishes

Wednesday 6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday 6:30 pm	Lawrence "Dick" Rehagen
Sunday 8:00 am	Marilyn Bax

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	\$342,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	\$228,000.00
Actual Collection for 2025-2026	\$256,430.52
Offertory Difference Year to Date	\$25,127.77
Offertory Goal for February	\$28,500.00

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	\$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2025-2026	\$53,361.00
Offertory Goal per Month for February	\$5,833.33

Collection in Church	
February 1	\$7,760.81
February 8	\$5,670.20
February 15	\$5,168.37
February 22	\$3,302.75

Collection in Church	
February 1	\$2,065.00
February 8	\$1,765.00
February 15	\$689.00
February 22	\$2,025.00

Collection Online	\$8,388.00
February Total to Date	\$30,290.13
Difference for February	+\$1,790.13

February Total to Date	\$6,544.00
Difference for February	+\$710.61

WEEKDAY SERVERS:

Weekday: Evelyn Wooten & Ava Buschjost

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 – No Rosary before Mass due to Stations of the Cross

Lector: Dorothy Rehagen

Offertory Gifts – St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday	Family of Anthony & Ida Schellman
Sunday	Ushers

Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Sunday	Family of Marilyn Bax
--------	-----------------------

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.

Thursday, March 5 – Tiffany Lackman & Linda Lackman

Thursday, March 12-Jessica Lackman & Lillian Lackman

Liturgical Role Schedule for March 7 & 8			
	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Akin, Noah Buschjost, Ava Luebbering, Hank Wooten, Evelyn	Stegeman, Kambrie Stegeman, Matthew	Libbert, Jayden Rackers, Emmett Tallent, Hannah Tallent, Levi
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Becker, Jenny Becker, Paul Boessen, Lora	Plassmeyer, Mary Plassmeyer, Dominic Stumpe, Doris	Heckemeyer, Jan Heckemeyer, Richard Kliethermes, Keith
Lector	Schroeder, David	Plassmeyer, Dominic	Tallent, Daffiny
Rosary Leader: Sorrowful	Herigon, Dale	Plassmeyer, Mary	Schroeder, Jennifer
Greeters/Ushers	Wooten, Michael Akin, Phil	Stumpe, Mitch Schulte, Leonard	Lueckenhoff, Larry Maasen, Matthew
Music Ministry	Stockman, Alanna Kliethermes, Kelsey		Prenger, Jackie Strope, Anne
Live Stream			Reinkemeyer, Karlie
Count Collections		Libbert, Pam Libbert, Terry	Schroeder, Jennifer Wieberg, Dunja
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	Buechter, Susan - Graessle, Barb - Henson, Sonya - Schell, Brenda		

A NOTE OF THANKS!

Thank you to everyone that sent cards or texts, said prayers, stopped by to visit, or asked about me when I was going through surgery and recuperation. When days were tough, it helped knowing I was in your thoughts and prayers. Thanks again.

Allan Libbert

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS NEXT SATURDAY, MARCH 7. Don't forget to set your clock forward one hour before bed time Saturday night.

BASKET FOR OLD PALMS: Please don't throw blessed palms away. There is a basket in the side entrance of church at St. Thomas and the entrance of St. Cecilia Church to collect them.

PASTORS MEDITATION 2nd Sunday of Lent: LISTEN TO HIM. Gen. 12:1-4a; 2Tim. 1:8b-10; Mt. 17:1-9)

Today's Liturgy of the Word invites us to encounter the transforming call of God, a call that leads us from faith to obedience and from glory to mission. In the First Reading, God calls Abram to leave his home, his familiar surroundings, and go to a land that God will show him. Abram's journey of faith is not easy, it is a call to trust in God's promise without knowing the destination. Abram became a blessing for all nations because he listened and obeyed that call. In the Second Reading, Saint Paul reminds us that we too are called into a life that participates in the Gospel. He encourages Timothy, and all of us, to "take your share of hardship for the Gospel" with the strength God provides. Paul emphasizes that salvation is not something we earn by our efforts, but a gift of grace made manifest in Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light. In the Gospel, Jesus leads Peter, James, and John up a high mountain where He is transfigured before them. His face shines like the sun, and His clothes become dazzling white. Moses and Elijah appear and speak with Him, a sign that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets. Then the Father's voice resounds: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him." The Transfiguration reveals something profound, that the glory of Christ is both a revelation and a promise. Jesus does not remain on the mountain in glory; He must descend and move toward the cross. The glory we glimpse on the mountain is a foretaste of what awaits, not only Jesus' resurrection but the glory that awaits all who follow Him. This Lent invites us to climb our own spiritual mountain:

- We are called to respond with obedience like Abram, trusting where God leads.
- We are called to bear our share of hardship as Paul teaches, relying on God's strength rather than our own.

And we are called to listen to Jesus, letting His words transform us and deepen our faith.

Often in life, we want a clear path, quick answers, and certainty. But God invites us to step out in faith, to trust in His promises even when the way is unclear. That trust leads us into a deeper transformation, a transformation that brings us closer to Christ in His suffering and in His glory. May this Lent be a time of listening and renewal, a time to hear God's voice saying to each of us as to Peter, James, and John: "This is my beloved Son, listen to Him." As we listen, may we find the grace to follow Him more closely, sharing not only in His glory but in His mission of love and salvation. **Have a Blessed Week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi**

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE FOR ST. CECILIA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHES is Thursday, March 12, 7:00 pm St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

MAGNIFICAT LENTEN COMPANION BOOKLETS are in the entrances of both Churches.

OPERATION RICE BOW: Operation Rice Bowl is a faith in action program that helps us experience Lenten spirituality by living in solidarity with people in

need around the world. **About 25% of the money raised stays in our Diocese.** Be sure to pick up your cardboard Rice Bowl in the entrances of both Churches.

ST. CECILIA PARISH PICNIC DESSERTS AND MORE AUCTION: We will once again be having the Desserts and More Auction following the Quilt Auction at our Picnic on July 12. If anyone would like to make a dessert or donate other items for the auction, please contact Betty Hagenhoff at 573-645-6565.

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! March 11- St. Cecilia, March 25 - St. Thomas, April 8- St. Cecilia.

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. **DEADLINE IS MARCH 1, 2026.** Any questions, please 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 HOLY HOUR & ANOINTING OF THE SICK is Friday, March 6, following the Stations of the Cross at St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS:

Thursday, March 5, End of 3rd Quarter, Early Release 12:50 pm car riders, 1:00 pm bus riders
Friday, March 6, No School Prek-8, Diocesan Professional Development Day

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

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.

A LIVING FAITH – YOUNG ADULTS LENTEN BIBLE STUDY – AGES 18-40 SOMETHING: Uncovering the practical steps to participate with God and his Church to experience a living faith. Discussion & Catechesis, Thursdays 2/26-3/26, 6:00-8:00 pm St. Joseph Cathedral, Cana Hall. Please contact Jared Horban (574) 400-9100.

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

FATIMA HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB PLAY: Please join us for our reminiscent trip back to the mall scene of the 1980s with the 2-act comedy *Mall Madness* by Todd Wallinger. Shows will begin at 6:00 PM on both Friday, March 6, and Saturday, March 7. Tickets for just the show either night are \$5 and can be purchased at the door. The Saturday performance will also offer the option for dinner theater with a meal of lasagna or white chicken lasagna, salad, dinner rolls, and cheesecake prepared by our FACS students. Tickets for both the show and the meal are \$15; doors will open at 4:30 with dinner service at 5:00. If you are interested in the dinner, please email Levi Maxwell at MaxwellL@fatimacomets.org by Friday, February 27, to reserve your spot. All tickets can be paid for at the door. Please come out and support our local students and enjoy a fun evening of entertainment!

"SENIOR CITIZEN'S DAY AT FATIMA" is Thursday, March 19. There will be a musical program by our students in the gym starting at 11:30 am. Lunch will then be provided to all attending starting at 12:40 pm in the cafeteria (courtesy of the Osage County R-III Board of Education. Bus Transportation will be provided from in front of Church, Meta 10:35 am/Folk at 11:00 am. The buses will drop off in front of the new gym entrance. We will have student escorts to guide you to the old gym. We encourage everyone to take advantage.

WESTPHALIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY FR. FERDINAND HELIAS: Please join the Westphalia Historical Society to hear featured speaker, Professor James Farris. He will discuss the life of Fr. Ferdinand Helias and his work in the translation of Helias' diary from Latin to English. Additionally, "The Memoirs of Fr. Ferdinand" provided by Jenny Smith of the Historic City of Jefferson will be for sale at the event. The Presentation is Sunday, March 22, 1:00 p.m. Norton Roo, 130 E. Main. Street, Westphalia. The Historical Society Business Meeting will take place following the presentation. There is no cost to attend, but donations are appreciated.

WARDSVILLE/OSAGE BEND FISH FRY is Friday, March 6, serving fish filets, hush puppies, coleslaw, baked beans, baked potato, French fries, homemade rolls from 4:30-7:00 pm in the St. Stanislaus/St. Margaret Community Center (KC Hall). Dine in and drive thru. \$15 per meal.

ST. MICHAEL PARISH, RUSSELLVILLE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRIES are March 6 & 20, serving catfish filets, coleslaw, fried & boiled potatoes, baked beans, mac & cheese & dessert, from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Adults \$14, children 7-12 - \$6.00 in the Parish Hall.

LENTEN FISH FRIES EVERY FRIDAY IN LENT, INCLUDING GOOD FRIDAY, 11:00-1:00 pm, \$15 per plate, fish, fries, slaw and dessert at the American Legion Post 5, 1423 Tanner Bridge Rd.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BISHOP MCAULIFFE COUNCIL #12992 FISH FRIES, March 6 & 20, serving white fish fillets, mac & cheese, French fries, green beans, coleslaw, Ice cream & beverages from 4:30-7:00 pm in Cathedral Cana Hall. Drive thru, dine in & carry outs available \$15 for adults, \$6 children, 6-12, \$42 family maximum (family living in same household for dine in only)

ST. JOSEPH PARISH CHICKEN DINNER, WESTPHALIA is Sunday, March 8, serving fried chicken, real mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, corn, coleslaw, homemade bread and dessert from 11:00-6:00 pm. \$15.00 per meal, **DRIVE THRU ONLY.**

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE is Sunday, March 15, 8:00 am to 12:30 pm at the St. Stanislaus Gym, Wardsville. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter StStanislaus to schedule an appointment.

SAVE THE DATES: 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

DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMPS! Our Diocese offers multiple summer camps for our youth! These camps offer our youth an opportunity for a fun and fruitful experience to deepen their faith and make memories with the friends they meet. The week will be filled with

- Outdoor activities, like hiking and outdoor water activities
- Games
- Other activities depend on which camp
- The sacraments
- Small groups

There are three different camps based on age and gender:

Camp Lolek: Going into 6th-8th grade

Boys: June 7-11 (Camp MoVal, Union, MO)

Girls: July 14-18 (Camp MoVal, Union, MO)

Camp Siena: Young women going into 9th-12th grade of high school

Session 1: June 28 - July 3rd (North Location - Shelbina, MO)

Session 2: July 19 - 24 (South Location - Camdenton, MO)

Camp Macabee: Young men going into 9th-12th grade of high school.

Session 1: June 21 - 26 (North Location - Shelbina, MO)

Session 2: July 12 - 17 (South Location - Camdenton, MO)

For more information and to register visit, <https://diojeffcity.org/youth-camps/>

- If interesting in being a counselor/youth missionary or Adult Volunteer, you can also find information on this page or contact

Clara Lackman at 573-645-2360.

**Come Support St. Thomas
The Apostle School
THURSDAY • MARCH 5
PIZZA KWIK FOOD TRUCK
Parking Lot
4:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

10% of Proceeds will Benefit St. Thomas the Apostle School
Sponsored by: Home & School

PIZZA-KWIK
est. 1969
FOURTH GENERATION FAMILY PIZZERIA
BYO PIZZA MENU
BUILD YOUR OWN 12 INCH PIZZA
Cheese Pizza \$12.75
One Topping \$14.25

SPECIAL SAUCES
Spicy Red Sauce
Garlic Pesto Sauce
Buffalo Red Sauce Mix
Garlic Sauce

BUILD YOUR OWN TOPPING (+\$1.50)

Meats	Cheese Options	Veggies
Italian Sausage	Mozzarella (Default)	Mushrooms
Pepperoni	Extra Cheese	Green Peppers
Canadian Bacon	Provel	Jalapenos
... Bacon	10inch Cauliflower	Olives
		Black Olives
		Pineapple

PIZZA-KWIK
573.645.1894
PizzaKwikPizza.com
A FOURTH GENERATION FAMILY PIZZERIA

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[™]
excellence

INSPIRING A COMMUNITY
OF SAINTS AND SCHOLARS

**LEARN MORE
AND GIVE NOW**



HELIASCATHOLIC.COM/SPIRITOFEXCELLENCE

ONWARD *together*

