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 EASTER, DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

April 27, 2025

Pastor: Fr. Leonard Mukiibi
frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315
Mrs. Jan Heckemeyer
jheckemeyeroffice@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 April 27 – May 4

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. -	For Healing
Wednesday 7:45 a.m.	People of our Parish
Thursday 7:45 a.m.	Bob & Donnie Luebbering
Friday 7:45 a.m.	L & D Sylvanus Hoecker Family
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	L & D Gregory & Lucille Veit Family
Sunday 10:00 a.m.	People of our Parish
	L & D Alex & Joann Heckman Fam.

Your Sunday Offering

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025	$330,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	$275,000.00
Actual Collection for 2024-2025	**$298,893.42**
Offertory Difference Year to Date	$23,983.42
Offertory Goal for April	$27,500.00

Collection in Church

April 6	$5,065.10
April 13	$4,539.85
April 20	$5,640.82
April 27	
Collection Online	$8,448.00
April Total to Date	**$23,693.77**
Difference for April	-$3,805.23

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

Offertory Gifts – St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday	Family of Gregory & Lucille Veit
Sunday	Family of Alex & Joan Heckman

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of April 27 – May 4

Wednesday 6:30 pm	Danny Libbert
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Al & Leona Fick

Your Sunday Offering

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2024-2025	**$50,487.25**
Offertory Goal per Month	$5,833.33

Collection in Church

April 6	$922.00
April 13	$1,790.00
April 20	$2,027.00
April 27	
April Total to Date	**$4,739.00**
Difference for April	-$1,094.33

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

Wednesday 6:10 pm	Dorothy Rehagen – Glorious

Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Sunday	Family of Al & Leona Fick

Servers for the Weekday – Kenzie Siebeneck & Jase Volmert Benjamin Otto

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: Deadline for bulletin 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.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT MAY PRAYER INTENTION: For all vocations, and especially for those who will be ordained this year. That they may be strengthened by the grace of the Holy Spirit and remain faithful to the call of Christ, we pray to the Lord.

Liturgical Role Schedule for May 3rd & 4th

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Ben & Luke Otto Jayden Libbert, Miranda Meyer	Gavin Werdehausen Natalee Derkum	Will & Victoria Wieberg Stella Volmert, Emmett Rackers
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Marshall Boessen Paul Becker Jenny Becker	Jennifer Even Doris Stumpe Betty Hagenhoff	Jan Heckemeyer Richard Heckemeyer Keith Kliethermes
Lector	Jenny Becker	Karyn Veltrop	Jeff Cassmeyer
Rosary Leader	Dale Herigon - Glorious	Dorothy Rehagen - Glorious	Tina Stockman - Glorious
Greeters/Ushers	Phil Akin Keith Boessen	Leonard Schulte Randy Hagenhoff Mitch Stumpe Brendan Stumpe	Craig Buechter Richard Heckemeyer
Music Ministry	Jeanette Schroeder Jean Kliethermes	Lydia	Jackie Prenger Anne Strope
Live Stream			Lauri Luebbering
Count Collections		Dale & Margie Helton	Rosalyn Wieberg Donna Schellman
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering		

SNACKS FOR QUILTERS: 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. 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.
Thursday, May 1-Donna Boessen & Lora Boessen

A NOTE OF THANKS!
THANK YOU to all who supported the bake sale for the **Steubenville youth conference!** We raised **$1,105.** We are very gracious and appreciative of the overwhelming generosity of everyone!

ADDITIONAL EASTER FLOWER/DECORATION DONATIONS received this week: Rosemary Prenger, Richard and MaryAnn Prenger.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH: Lucas Blankenship, Carson Boessen, Catherine Braun, Shawn Hopkins, Isaac Luebbering, Haddie Otto, Amelia Rackers, Henry Veltrop, Barrett Wooten

CHURCH MINISTRY CHANGES: Church ministries will be published by month beginning with May. This will assist parishioners in planning their schedules and will allow parishioners time to find coverage when they are not available. We ask that you please review the schedule and if your name is listed and you are not able to fulfill your obligation, please find a replacement. This is a learning curve for us, so please be patient. Since the calendars will be made up for several months at a time, it will not be possible to always accommodate when the parishioners request to be taken off the list for vacations etc. All efforts will be made to try and accommodate these requests. We ask that you please find a replacement if you are not able to fulfill your obligations. We will be forwarding the list of church ministries to the appropriate groups after Easter. If you do not want your name and phone number sent to the individual groups you signed up for, please let Barbara Graessle know as soon as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please email *bgraessle1@gmail.com.*

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE HOLY HOUR & ANOINTING OF THE SICK is Friday, May 2, 7:00 p.m.

PASTORS MEDITATION 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER C: DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY.
WITNESS OF A NEW LIFE IN JESUS. (Acts 5:12-16; Rev. 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; Jn. 20:19-31)
Each of us must make a personal act of faith in Jesus and say, "My Lord and my God." The readings for this Sunday are about God's mercy, the necessity for trusting Faith, and our need for the forgiveness of our sins. The opening prayer addresses the Father as "God of everlasting Mercy." In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 118), we repeat several times, "His mercy endures forever!" God revealed His mercy, first and foremost, in sending His only begotten Son to become our Savior and Lord through His suffering, death, and Resurrection. Divine Mercy is given to us also in each celebration of the Sacraments (all instituted to sanctify us), especially that of Reconciliation. The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, explains how the Risen Lord continued to show His Divine Mercy to the sick through the healing and preaching ministry of the apostles in the early Church. The Faith of the apostles enabled them to minister to the people, giving them the Lord's healing love in "signs and wonders." The second reading, taken from the Book of Revelation (given by Jesus to the Apostle John in exile on Patmos), was intended to comfort and bolster the Faith of persecuted Christians for all time. Today's selection assures us of the presence of the merciful Lord in our lives and encourages all of us to fight fear with Faith, and trepidation about the future with trust and Hope. Today's Gospel recalls Jesus' institution of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a Sacrament of Divine Mercy. The Risen Lord gave his apostles and their successors the power to forgive sins with the words, "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained" (Jn. 20:19-23). Presenting the doubting Thomas' famous profession of Faith, "My Lord and my God," the Gospel illustrates how Jesus showed his mercy to the doubting apostle and emphasizes the importance of Faith. So friends we need to accept God's invitation to celebrate and practice mercy in our Christian lives: One way the Church celebrates God's mercy throughout the year is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Finding time for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is another good way to receive and give thanks for Divine Mercy. But it is mainly through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy that we practice mercy in our daily lives and become eligible for God's merciful judgment. Let us ask God for the Faith that culminates in self-surrender to God and that leads us to serve those we encounter with love. Living Faith enables us to see the risen Lord in everyone and gives us the willingness to render to each our loving service. The Fathers of the Church prescribe the following traditional means to grow in the living and dynamic faith of St. Thomas the Apostle: a) First, we must come to know Jesus personally and intimately by our daily and meditative reading of the Bible. b) Next, we must strengthen our Faith through our personal and community prayer. c) Third, we must share in the Divine Life of Jesus by frequenting the Sacraments of Reconciliation and receiving the Holy Eucharist. St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) presents it this way: "If we pray, we will believe; if we believe, we will love; if we love, we will serve. Only then we put our love of God into action." ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

TOTUS TUUS - JUNE 22 – 27: Sign-up for Totus Tuus is now available. You can do this either online at http://www.stthomasapostle.net/totus-tuus.html or use the paper form that is a part of the bulletin. If you have any questions, please contact Theresa Veit (573) 418-7301. Thank you for your continued support and participation in this summer program.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS:
Monday, April 28- K-8 Field Trip Tuesday, April 29- Diocesan Sketch Day

ST. CECILIA PICNIC, DESSERTS AND MORE AUCTION: We are starting to make plans for the St. Cecilia Picnic on July 13, 2025. In addition to the quilt auction, we will also have a **Desserts & More Auction**. If you would like to donate a homemade dessert or other item (examples: gift basket or homemade items, meal for a group of people, personalized homemade craft or woodworking item, etc.) Please contact Betty Hagenhofff at 573-645-6565.

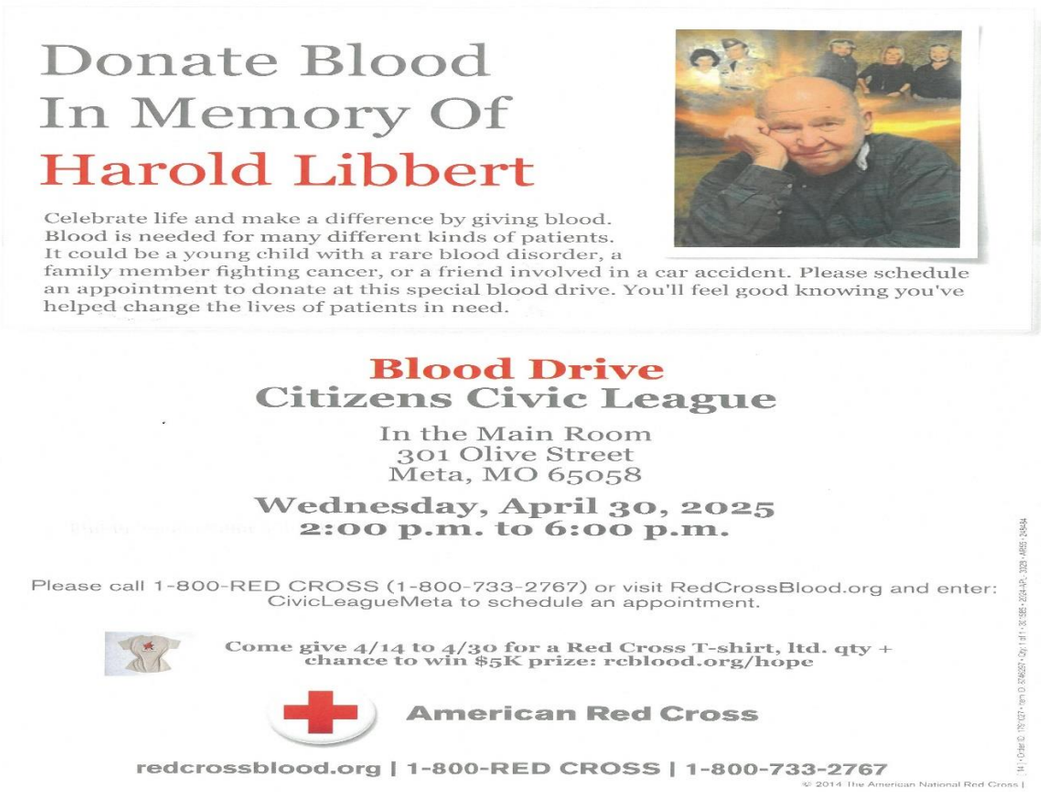
MIDWEST MARCH FOR LIFE is Thursday, May 1, at the Missouri State Capitol. Activities planned from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The March begins at 11:30 a.m. Rally speakers include: David Bereit, Christina Bennett, Missy Martinez-Stone, Toni McFadden, Brandy Meeks. Holy Mass at St. Peter's Proto-Cathedral, Bishop Edward Rice as Celebrant. Fundraising lunch 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. donated by the Knights of Columbus, St. Peter Church, Fulton. Please wear RED for LIFE!

GUARDIAN ANGELS PARISH, BRINKTOWN SPRING DINNER is Sunday, April 27, serving fried chicken & baked ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce, bread & dessert from 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Adults $16.00, children 6-12 $8.00. Dine in or carry-out.

VISITATION PARISH, VIENNA, SPRING FESTIVAL is Sunday, May 4, serving fried chicken (4 pieces), mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, green beans, coleslaw & dessert from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Adults $15.00, children 6-12 $7.00. Dine in or carry out at the Visitation Koerber Hall.

SAVE THE DATES: **Totus Tuus will be at St. Stanislaus the week of June 22 – 27, 2025**
July 13- St. Cecilia Parish Picnic
July 19-St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Tractor Pull
Knights of Columbus Blood Drives: July 10 & December11, St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Hall

CITIZENS CIVIC LEAGUE BLOOD DRIVE is Wednesday, April 30, 2:00-6:00 p.m. at Meta Citizens Civic Hall. Donate blood in memory of Harold Libbert. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBLood.org and enter CivicLeagueMeta to schedule an appointment.



St. Thomas the Apostle - Pastoral Parish Council Meeting Notes - March 25, 2025

Meeting Called to Order

- Attendance: Father Leonard, Leroy Heckemeyer, Lynne Reinkemeyer, Logan Peters, Sonya Henson, Linda Boessen, Andi Reynolds, Mike Wieberg, Richard Heckemeyer, Brenda Schell
- Not in Attendance: Shane Verslues, Alanna Stockman, Erica Graessle

Principal's Report / School Advisory Council

- 7th graders went to the Diocesan Academic Quiz Bowl on Friday, February 7th. Jacob Stewart was our representative and he did a nice job.
- The NASP-MO State Archery Tournament was in Branson. The kids did well.
- Brody Buschjost and Isabella Luebbering took part in the Knights of Columbus Essay Contest. Brody won at the local award and Isabella went on to win 3rd place at the state level.
- Mid-quarter is on Wednesday, April 9th.
- The St. Martins Catholic School Spelling Bee will be Thursday, April 10th.
- Our Panoramic Photo and Sports/Club pictures will be taken on Tuesday, April 15th
- Our 7th and 8th graders will be attending the Cardinal baseball game on Wednesday, April 16th.

- There will be NO SCHOOL on April 17th - April 23rd for Easter Break. Easter is on Sunday, April 20th.
- First Communion for our 2nd Graders will be on Sunday, April 27 at 1:00 PM.
- PreK - 8th grade will be taking a field trip on Monday, April 28th to the Springfield Wonders of Wildlife Museum and Aquarium. More than 80 kids will be attending as well as 98 parents!
- The Diocesan Sketch Day will be on Tuesday, April 29th.
- The 8th grade Mass at the Cathedral will be on Thursday, May 1st.
- The 6th grade Vocation Day will be on Wednesday, May 7th in Columbia.
- The 8th grade promotion will be on Wednesday, May 7th at 6:30 pm.
- Field Day will be held on Tuesday, May 13th.
- The last day of school will be Wednesday, May 14th with an early release at 11:05.

CSR

- The St. Thomas Parish Dinner was a great gathering in thanksgiving of our stewardship.

Pastoral Council Commission Reports:

Worship

- PSR Report St. Thomas– PSR is going well. We will need some teachers for next year including teachers for Confirmation. Barb has a program that she would like to use if approved.
- We would like to have another server training session for PSR students.
- There will be an end of year Mass and reception for PSR students on April 9th.
- Steubenville Report – 11 high school kids are interested. Samantha Even and another adult will chaperone. Checking with the finance committee about using some funds from the past CYO account. Students will raise funds as well.
- Parishioners may turn in old palms - a basket is available in the back of the church for collecting.
- Church statues are to be covered with purple cloth – reminder to focus on prayer and fasting.
- Palm Sunday is April 13th - There will be a procession – weather permitting. Procession from Parish Center at 8:00 AM Mass at St. Cecilia. Procession from St. Thomas School at 10:00 AM Mass.
- Tridium schedule:
    - Holy Thursday Mass St. Thomas 7:00 PM - Father will wash 12 Parishioners' feet: 6 from each parish. Adoration will be in Church until 11:00 PM.
    - Good Friday Stations - St. Cecilia 3:00 PM. Good Friday Service- St. Cecilia 7:00 PM.
    - Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass - St. Thomas 8:00 PM.
    - Easter Sunday Masses - St. Cecilia 8:00 AM. St. Thomas 10:00 AM.
- First Holy Communion Mass is April 27th in St. Thomas the Apostle
- Honor of Mother Mary – May 4th – Procession in Church at St. Cecilia at the end of 8:00 AM Mass. Procession to the outside statue of Mary at the end of 10:00 AM Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle.
- Upcoming Holy Days – Ascension, June 1, Pentecost, June 8, Holy Trinity, June 15, Corpus Christi, June 22, Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, June 29 (Feast Day only).
- There will be a training scheduled for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

Social Concerns

- Cookies will be served in celebration for the PSR students and their teachers after the 6:30 PM Mass on Wednesday, April 9th.

Administration

- We will not be proceeding with the marquee sign at this time.
- We will be looking into replacing the ball diamond lights.
- We will be looking into getting the church carpets shampooed and the benches cleaned.

Finance Committee

- The Bowling Association did not make a donation this year because they had additional expenses with replacement of the scoring system. We should see a contribution in the next fiscal year.
- The Prof.Services-Clergy Payroll, was created at the beginning of the calendar year due to the Diocese moving all priests to the Diocese payroll. St. Thomas then reimburses the Diocese for the priest's salary and benefits cost.
- Facility maintenance and capital improvements were discussed. The parish was advised by a waterproofing contractor that only the front of the church needs waterproofing now rather than the entire building. The remainder of the church can probably get by for a few years before needing waterproofing. The waterproofing contracts for the church and rectory were previously approved. The cost for waterproofing only the front of the church is $8,500 and the rectory cost is $26,500.
- The Finance Council agreed to support some of the costs associated with a Steubenville Youth Retreat in Springfield, Missouri this summer for 11 individuals wishing to attend. Total estimated costs are about $3,500. The St. Thomas Knights of Columbus is considering hosting a BBQ fundraiser to support the retreat. The parish will wait to see what costs remain after the fundraiser.
- The Council reviewed two digital sign company proposals to replace the marquee sign on the rectory front lawn. The current marquee sign requires putting up letters manually where an electronic marquee could be done remotely using application software. The Finance Council tabled this expense at this time due to cost estimates being over $25,000 (which requires Diocese approval). Alan Reinkemeyer

indicated that he can check with a few additional sources to determine if better pricing can be found.

- The Finance Council was advised that 3-4 loads of rock/chat are needed on the road below church by ball field and on the driveway south of school. This expense was approved.
- The Council discussed the next priority need which is the replacement of the ball field lights. This was looked at a few years ago when federal grant funds were available but denied by the Diocese. Alan

Reinkemeyer will work with Mike Buschjost to get the original estimate updated to current prices. Once
a new cost estimate is obtained, the Council will look at how to approach and finance this project.

Pastor's Report

- April 1st - Penance Service.
- New server training is happening.
- One candidate will be participating in the sacraments of baptism (if necessary) and eucharist and confirmation at the Holy Saturday Mass.

.**New Business**

- Lynne and Linda attended the Deanery Meeting in which information was shared about the Pastoral Plans. We reviewed our plan, some changes/additions were made. Members are to review the plan and we will finalize it at our May meeting before we submit it to the Diocese by June 1st

Next meeting

- May 27, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Totus Tuus Summer Camp

2025 Registration Form: June 22nd – 27th for Grades 1-12

Register online: http://www.stthomasapostle.net/totus-tuus.html

Grades 1-6: Monday through Friday 7:45 am – 1:30 pm
at St. Stanislaus, Wardsville
Grades 7-12: Sunday through Thursday 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
at St. Stanislaus, Wardsville

Parent(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Work/cell: _____

Children being enrolled in Totus Tuus at St. Stanislaus:

Name:	Grade (In fall):	Medical info/ food allergies to be aware of:

Cost for the week is $25 per child for Grades 1 – 6. $75.00 for three or more children.
Lunch is provided. Each child will need to bring a water bottle.
Evening program is free for Grades 7 – 12. Please bring a water bottle.

Totus Tuus Volunteers 2025

Food

We are providing meals for the 4 Missionaries (plus the priest if they wish to come) each Evening at 5:30 pm in the Wardsville's school cafeteria. If you wish, the missionaries would love for you to eat with them, but it is also fine to just drop the food off.

Food		
	Name	Contact number
Thursday, June 26th		

Day Volunteers

To support the missionaries, we are asking for volunteers to be available during the day to help check in, check out and host for the day.

	Name	Contact
Thursday, June 26th		
Friday, June 27th		

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.