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

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

June 1, 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 June 1-8

Tuesday 7:45 a.m.	Bob & Donnie Luebbering
Wednesday 7:45 a.m.	***No Mass, Summer Schedule***
Thursday 7:45 a.m.	Urban Strope
Friday 7:45 a.m.	David Volmert
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	People of our Parishes
	Joe Veit
Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Alex & Joann Heckman

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

Wednesday 6:30 pm	Kenneth Otto Sr.
Sunday 8:00 a.m. -	Marilyn Bax

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2024-2025	$330,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	$302,500.00
Actual Collection for 2024-2025	**$327,235.70**
Offertory Difference Year to Date	$24,735.70
Offertory Goal for May	$27,500.00

Collection in Church	
May 4	$3,891.10
May 11	$2,745.10
May 18	$5,105.85
May 25	$3,942.10
Collection Online	$8,448.00
May Total to Date	**$24,132.15**
Difference for May	-$3,367.85

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2024-2025	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2024-2025	**$56,591.25**
Offertory Goal per Month	$5,833.33

Collection in Church	
May 4	$1,346.00
May 11	$1,633.00
May 18	$1,173.00
May 25	$909.00
May Total to Date	**$5,061.25**
Difference for May	-$772.33

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle

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

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia & Lector

Wednesday 6:10 pm	Cathy Borgmeyer – Glorious
Lector Wednesday	Dorothy Rehagen

Offertory Gifts – St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday	Family of Joe Veit
Sunday	Family of Alex & Joann Heckman

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: 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.

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

Liturgical Role Schedule for June 7th & 8th			
	Saturday, 5:00 PM	**Sunday, 8:00 AM**	**Sunday, 10:00 AM**
Altar Servers	**Miranda Meyer, Jayden Libbert, Jase & JD Volmert**	**Eli Bock, Henry & Annaline Schroeder**	**Fayeth & Emmary Prenger, Stella Volmert, Virgil Lackman**
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	**Jenny Becker** **Paul Becker** **Janice Schanzmeyer**	**Doris Stumpe** **Pam Libbert** **Dominic Plassmeyer**	**Mattheuw Prenger** **Lynne Reinkemeyer** **Jennifer Schroeder**
Lector	**Kara Holterman**	**Doris Stumpe**	**Katie Luebbering**
Rosary Leader - Glorious	**Janice Schanzmeyer**	**Mary Plassmeyer**	**Jim Lueckenhoff**
Greeters/Ushers	**Adam Holterman** **Eric Strope**	**Randy Hagenhoff** **Mitch Stumpe** **Brendan Stumpe** **Leonard Schulte**	**Shane Verslues** **Zeke Verslues**
Music Ministry	**Alanna Stockman** **Kelsey Kliethermes**	**Emilee Borgmeyer**	**Jackie Prenger** **Judy Schroeder**
Live Stream			**Karlie Reinkemeyer**
Count Collections		**Terry & Pam Libbert**	**Keith & Jean Kliethermes**
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	**Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering**		

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH will be closed Tuesday, June 10th through Wednesday, June 11th for carpet cleaning.

PASTORS MEDITATION: THE FEAST OF ASCENSION OF OUR LORD. A NEW FORM OF PRESENCE. (Acts 1:1-11; Eph. 1:17-23 or Heb. 9:24-28; 10:19-23; Mk. 16:15-20) Jesus gave to his followers the task of completing his work by sharing the good news with the rest of the world. Today's readings describe the Ascension of the Lord Jesus into his Heavenly glory after promising his disciples the Holy Spirit as their source of Heavenly power and commanding them to bear witness to him throughout the world by their lives and preaching. But the ascended Jesus is still with us through his indwelling Holy Spirit as he has promised, "I am with you always; yes, to the end of time." His new form of presence. Today's feast is a celebration of Jesus' final glorification after his suffering, death, and Resurrection, a glory in which we, too, hope to share. The first reading gives an account of the event of the Ascension as recorded in the first chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. First, Jesus instructed his apostles to remain in Jerusalem and wait for the baptism by the Holy Spirit so that they might become his "witnesses to the ends of the earth" by the power of the Holy Spirit. Then a cloud took Jesus from the sight of the disciples and two Heavenly messengers in white garments gave them the assurance of Jesus' "second coming" or return in glory. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 47) suggests that by his Ascension, the risen Lord "mounts his throne" in glory. In the second reading, Paul explains the theological meaning of Jesus' exaltation, giving us the assurance that one day, we, too, will be ascending to Heavenly Glory, provided we fulfill the mission entrusted to us by the ascending Lord. Today's Gospel describes how Jesus ascended to Heaven after giving his final blessing and missionary command to his disciples. The command was to "proclaim the Good News to the whole creation, to be his witnesses, and to make disciples of all nations." (Mt. 28:16-20, Mk. 16:15-20, Lk. 24:46-53, Acts 1:1-11). Therefore, friends we need to be proclaimers and evangelizers: To be a Christian is to be a proclaimer and an evangelizer. There is a difference between preaching and proclaiming. We preach with words, but we proclaim with our lives. Let us ask the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as we bear witness to Jesus by our transparent Christian lives. We have a teaching mission: Jesus taught us lessons of Faith, Hope, Love, forgiveness, mercy, salvation by his life and preaching as we have experienced our Lord and Savior. The ascended Jesus is our source of strength and encouragement: 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.
Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE FINANCE COUNCIL will meet on Thursday, June 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vitae House.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Our Parish will have four (4) current member's terms expiring in May 2025. Please think about being part of the council/team in serving our Parish. It's a great way to be involved and be good stewards! Please contact Shane: (573) 999-4314, Lynne: 573-690-7113 or Linda: (573) 694-4239.

A ROSARY FOR OUR COUNTRY will be prayed on Wednesday, June 4, 5:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE HOLY HOUR & ANOINTING OF THE SICK, Friday, June 6, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PSR OR CONFIRMATION TEACHERS NEEDED: If you are interested in helping teach PSR or Confirmation for the 2025/2026 school year, please contact Barbara Graessle at 573-680-2954 or email at *bgraessle1@gmail.com.* Tag team with other teachers if you prefer to teach every other week is an option. Teachers are needed for Confirmation, 4th and 6th grades. All classes have a new curriculum with teacher and student guides.

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.

OSAGE COUNTY COMMUNITY CHOIR will again be performing a concert Sunday, September 21, at 6pm at the Norton Room. Practices will be every Tuesday evening at 7 pm, beginning June 3, 2025 at the Norton Room. Everyone is welcome! Any questions, please reach out to me: *shellyangerer5@gmail.com* or Donna Rehagen: *donnarehagen@gmail.com*

OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH PICNIC, FRANKENSTEIN is Sunday, June 1, serving German pot roast and fried chicken dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. $15.00. Serving cafeteria style and to go meals. Free bingo 12:30-3:00 p.m. Quilt auction 4:40 p.m.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH PICNIC, LOOSE CREEK is Sunday, June 8, serving German pot roast & fried chicken from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. carry outs at IC parish and drive thru at LCCC from 11:00 – 6:00 p.m. $16.00 per plate. Quilt auction 5:00 p.m.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL AUXILIARY ICE CREAM SOCIAL is Wednesday, June 18, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the St. Joseph Cathedral Cana Hall. Delicious ice cream, cake, food and more. Booths: silent auction, quilt raffle, bake sale, book nook and kids korner. Ice Cream & Cake, $4.00. Also serving chicken breast sandwiches, hamburgers and hot dogs & sides. (Food not included in the ticket price). Tickets may be purchased in advance at the St. Mary's Gift Shop. Proceeds to benefit Patient Care Services at St. Mary's Hospital.

SAVE THE DATES: **Totus Tuus will be at St. Stanislaus the week of June 22 – 27, 2025**
July 3 - St Thomas the Apostle Fest: 6:30 p.m. Mass with food and celebration after
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

Celebrate with us on **THURSDAY, JULY 3 at 6:30 PM** with a special Feast Day Mass in honor of St. Thomas the Apostle. After Mass, stick around for a festive evening filled with: Burgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies & drinks Bounce house & games Fun activities. Bring the whole family and enjoy a night of faith, food, and fellowship!

St. Thomas the Apostle Pastoral Parish Council Meeting Notes - May 27, 2025

Meeting Called to Order

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

Principal's Report / School Advisory Council

- The Spelling Bee for 4th-8th grade was held at St. Martins on Thursday, April 10th . The students who participated were Gannon Reeves, Luke Otto, Max Verslues, Will Wieberg, Allie Siebeneck, Stella Volmert, Victoria Wieberg, Ben Otto, Miranda Meyer and Kora Luebbering. Victoria Wieberg took third place in 7th grade and Will Wieberg took 5th place in 5th grade.
- We had our Interstate Panoramic Photo and the Sports/Clubs pictures taken on Tuesday, April 15th .
- The 7th and 8th graders, along with several parents went to the Cardinals baseball game on Wednesday, April 16th.
- The Home and School association had a very nice online auction for the school. There was over $10,000 made during this auction. This will help the school with numerous projects: getting copy paper, field trips, other school projects and items that are needed in the classroom.
- The entire school went to Springfield, MO for the Museum of Wildlife and Aquarium Tour on Monday, April 28th. We received a nice donation that allowed us to use charter buses for this trip.
- Diocesan Sketch Day was held on Tuesday, April 29th.
- The Diocesan 8th Grade Mass was held on Thursday, May 1st at the St. Joseph Cathedral.
- The 8th grade ribbon awards were held on Friday, May 2nd at 2:15 PM.

- The Diocesan Vocation Day for our 6th graders was held on Wednesday, May 7th.
- The 8th Grade Promotion was held on Wednesday, May 7th at 6:30 PM. We had a very nice Mass, along with the awards and then the reception and video presentation in the gym.
- Our Preschool Graduation was held on Friday, May 9th in the gym at 2:15 pm. Mrs. Linhardt directed the program and the preschoolers were awesome in their gowns and with their singing and then enjoying time with their parents, grandparents and other family members. It was a beautiful program!
- Our Field Day was held on Tuesday, May 13th. We had the turtle races and the water balloon toss outside and then we had several stations throughout the campus.
- Our last day of school was on Wednesday, May 14th. We started with our Mass and then we had our awards for K-7 in the church. We had an Early Release at 11:05 for all the students.
- School will resume in the fall on Wednesday, August 13, 2025.

Pastoral Council Commission Reports:

Worship

- PSR-St. Thomas and St. Cecilia had a good year. Looking for more teachers for next year.
- Junior Catholic Night would like to continue again next year (Sam Helton will lead the group).Combined St. Thomas and St. Cecilia – want more kids involved.
- Confirmation-Barb ordered a new program for next year. St. Thomas and St. Cecilia will be combined.
- Steubenville Report-bake sale plus donation checks (brought in $4,550). Mid America Bank donated $200 per student! They made enough to cover all their expenses for the conference and some extra for next year as they are planning on going again.
- June 3rd is the next Leadership Deanery Meeting. As our Deanery is not actually meeting, we can RSVP to join via computer if we would like.
- Feast of St. Thomas-July 3rd – stewardship committee plans this feast. Mass will be at 6:30 PM followed by a BBQ (food/activities provided).
- Father has a retreat June 9th-13th-There will be no weekday Masses while he is gone.
- Upcoming Holy Days – Ascension, June 1; Pentecost, June 8; Holy Trinity, June 15; Corpus Christi, June 22; Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, June 28; Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, June 29 (Feast Day only); Assumption August 15.
- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary August 15th-Mass Schedule: St. Cecilia–Thursday August 14th at 6:30 PM. St. Thomas–Friday August 15th at 7:45 AM and 6:30 PM

Social Concerns

- Served refreshments and donuts for Father Martin's last weekend with us.

Administration

- Insurance has been notified of the missing shingles on the church roof. We are waiting for word from the insurance company.
- The ball diamond lights are the next big project.
- Shane will call about getting a company to clean the church carpet.
- Linda has talked with other ladies who clean the church about possibly cleaning the pews ourselves. She will talk with Janet about what product to use.

Finance Committee

- The Steubenville Youth Retreat-Enough money has been raised for the retreat. The Knights of Columbus will NOT need to have a BBQ for this.
- June 5th is the next meeting in which the ball diamond lights will be the priority.

Pastor's Report

- Feast of St. Thomas-July 3rd–stewardship committee plans this feast. Mass will be at 6:30 PM followed by a BBQ (food/activities provided).
- Pope Francis passed away. Our new pope, the first from America, is Pope Leo XIV.
- Bishop McKnight is now the Archbishop of Kansas City. Our diocese will have an acting administrator consultant until the new Pope assigns a Bishop for us.
- Father Martin wanted his thanks to be shared with our church for its hospitality during his stay at St. Thomas. He enjoyed his time here.
- June 2nd there will be several priests here to go bowling!
- June 3rd is a Leadership Deanery Meeting.
- June 9th-13th-Father has a retreat. There will be no weekday Masses while he is gone.
- The Knights of Columbus asked Father if he had suggestions of what they could make donations to. A couple of suggestions were for the church carpets to be cleaned or to the ball diamond lights.
- Father shared that we need to keep several parishioners in our prayers as they are healing or going through some medical issues.
- If anyone knows of parishioners that are homebound or in nursing facilities, to let him know as he would like to go visit them.

New Business

- We are in need of 4 parishioners to replace members whose 3 year terms are up (Shane, Sam, Richard and Andi). We shared some names that members will be contacting to see if we can find new members. We would like these names by mid June, as July would be the first meeting that new members would attend.

Varia

- Linda turned in the Pastoral Plan to the Diocese.
- Totus Tuus is June 23rd-27th at St. Stanislaus. They are looking for volunteers if anyone is interested.

Next meeting - July 29th 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.