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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 11, 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 May 11-18

Tuesday 7:45 a.m.	Dianne Herigon
Wednesday 7:45 a.m.	People of our Parishes
Thursday 7:45 a.m.	For Healing
Friday 7:45 a.m.	Betty Castrop
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	David A. Boessen
Sunday 10:00 a.m.	People of our Parishes
	L&D Benedict Groner Family

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of May 11-18

Wednesday 6:30 pm	L&D Broker & Borgmeyer Family
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Chester & Marie Prater

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2024-2025	$330,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	$302,500.00
Actual Collection for 2024-2025	**$314,100.15**
Offertory Difference Year to Date	$11,600.15
Offertory Goal for May	$27,500.00

Collection in Church	
May 4	$3,891.10
May 11	
May 18	
May 25	

Collection Online	$7,105.50
May Total to Date	**$10,996.60**
Difference for May	-$16,503.40

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2024-2025	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2024-2025	**$52,876.25**
Offertory Goal per Month	$5,833.33

Collection in Church	
May 4	$1,346.00
May 11	
May 18	
May 25	

May Total to Date	**$1,346.00**
Difference for May	-$4,487.33

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

Wednesday 6:10 pm	Dorothy Rehagen– Glorious

Offertory Gifts – St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday	Family of David A. Boessen
Sunday	Family of Benedict Groner

Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Sunday	Family of Chester & Marie Prater

Servers for the Weekday – Victoria Wieberg & Hannah Tallent

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.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

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*

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR ARCHBISHOP SHAWN MCKNIGHT is Tuesday, May 20, 5:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Joseph. A light meal and reception will follow Mass. **AN RSVP** at diojeffcity.org/Thanksgiving-Mass is **REQUIRED** to attend Mass, due to limited seating.

Liturgical Role Schedule for May 17th & 18th

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Georgia & Emerald Fennewald, Kasen Reeves, Jude Luebbering	Skyla, Tucker & Jesse Schroder	Erika Luebbering, Fayeth & Emmary Prenger Stella Volmert
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Barb Graessle Mark Graessle Andi Reynolds	Dominic Plassmeyer Betty Hagenhoff Jennifer Even	Mattheuw Prenger Lynne Reinkemeyer Jennifer Schroeder
Lector	Amanda Wooten	Dominic Plassmeyer	Carolyn Loethen
Rosary Leader	Barb Graessle	Mary Plassmeyer	Jennifer Schroeder
Greeters/Ushers	Eric Strope Michael Wooten	Mitch Stumpe Brendan Stumpe Leonard Schulte Randy Hagenhoff	Mark Loethen Ben Luebbering
Music Ministry	Jeanette Schroeder Lisa Wieberg	Lydia	Jackie Prenger Doug Luebbering
Live Stream			Karlie Reinkemeyer
Count Collection		Dale & Margie Helton	Sonya Henson Millie Wieberg
Church Cleaners	Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost		

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.

PASTORS MEDITATION 3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER C: MY SHEEP LISTEN TO MY VOICE (Acts 13:14, 43-52; Rev. 7:9, 14b-17; Jn. 10:27-30) MOTHER'S DAY: Today we thank our mothers, pray for them, and honor them by celebrating Mother's Day, offering our mothers on the altar of God, and praying for them. This is a day to admit gratefully the fact that none of us can return, in the same measure, all the love that our mothers have given us. Our mothers are the good shepherds we all experienced. They gave us life, nursed us, fed us, taught us, disciplined us and showed Christ's self-sacrificing agape love for us, their children, and practicing Christ's commandment of love: "Love others as I have loved you." Let us remember that we have two mothers, one earthly and one Heavenly. Hence, let us entrust our earthly mothers to our Heavenly Mother, Mary, the mother of Jesus as his last gift to us as he was dying on the cross. The Fourth Sunday of Easter, known as Good Shepherd Sunday, is also the "World Day of Prayer for Vocations." Each year on this Sunday, we reflect on the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd, devotedly and kindly taking care of his flock. The title "Pastor" means shepherd. A shepherd **leads, feeds, nurtures, comforts, corrects, and protects his flock**, responsibilities that belong to all Church leaders, parents, civil leaders, and all who are in charge of others. Today's first reading describes how Paul and Barnabas opted to listen to the voice of Jesus, the Good Shepherd and follow him, and to suffer as their Master had done, being rebuffed and rejected by many when they tried to share the good news of salvation. The reading also suggests that the sympathy of the early Christians for the Gentiles occasioned a rupture between those following Jesus and Judaism. The second reading, taken from the Book of Revelation, depicts Jesus as both the glorified Lamb (slain but still standing) and the Shepherd. John's vision encourages his readers with the assurance that every person who has ever followed Christ and led others to him will share everlasting life with him. The Gospel text offers us both comfort and a great challenge. The comforting message is that no one can snatch the sheep out of his Father's hands. The challenge is that pastors should be good shepherds to those entrusted to their care, while their flock of lay people should respond by being good sheep. In the Old Testament, the image of the Shepherd is often applied to God as well as to the leaders of the people. The book of Exodus represents Yahweh several times as a Shepherd. Prophet Isaiah and Ezekiel compare Yahweh's ongoing care of His people to a care a shepherd exercises for his flock. Ezekiel represents God as a loving Shepherd who searches diligently for the lost sheep. Psalm 23 is David's famous picture of God as The Good Shepherd: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." In the New Testament: Jesus introduces himself as the Good Shepherd of his flock and makes three claims in today's Gospel. 1) He knows his sheep and his sheep hear his voice: 2) He gives eternal life to us, his sheep by giving us Faith in him through Baptism, and then by strengthening that Faith through Confirmation, through nourishing our souls with the Holy Eucharist and the Holy Bible, and by making our society holy through the Sacraments of Matrimony and the priesthood (Holy Orders). 3) He protects his sheep by placing them in the loving hands of his Almighty Father. St. John's Gospel adds two more claims: 4) He goes in search of stray lambs and heals the sick ones through the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the sick. 5) Jesus died for us, his sheep, to free us from our sins, giving us Life. So dear friends, let us become good shepherds and good sheep, good leaders and good followers. Everyone who is entrusted with the care of others is a shepherd. Pastors, parents, teachers, doctors, nurses, government officials, etc. are all shepherds. We become good shepherds by loving those entrusted to us, praying for them, spending our time and talents for their welfare, and guarding them from physical and spiritual dangers. Let us be good sheep in the fold of Jesus, the Good Shepherd: Our local parish is our sheepfold, and our pastors are our shepherds. Hence, as the good sheep of the parish, parishioners are expected to hear and follow the voice of their shepherds through their homilies, Bible classes, counseling, and advice; receive the spiritual food their pastors provide by regular participation in the Holy Mass, by frequenting the Sacraments, and by attending prayer services, renewal programs, and missions; cooperate with their pastors by giving them positive suggestions for the welfare of the parish, by encouraging them in their duties, by lovingly offering them constructive criticism when they are found misbehaving or failing in their duties, by praying for them always, forgiving them, and by cooperating in the activities of the various councils, ministries, and parish associations. Let us pray for vocations to priestly and religious life so that we may have more good shepherds to lead, feed, and protect the Catholic community. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION is Tuesday, May 13, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. CECILIA PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Nomination forms will be in pews this weekend and next weekend and followed by a balloted vote on Sunday, May 18.

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.

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 *tveitoffice@gmail.com* or by calling 573-418-7301.

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:
Tuesday, May 13 – Field Day
Wednesday, May 14 – Last Day of School, 11:05 a.m. dismissal

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.

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*

THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, May 13, 7:30 p.m. A rosary will be prayed at 7:15 p.m. Please read the newsletter attached to the bulletin.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OFFERS VIDEO SERIES: Men and women, young and old, strengthen and grow in your faith for your families with five short videos produced by the *Knights of Columbus* called the "**Mission of The Family.**" The videos can be found on the *Knights of Columbus* website for free! Here is the link and QR Code to find **"The Mission of The Family"** videos: *https://www.kofc.org/en/campaigns/into-the-breach.html* The five videos are less than 14 minutes in length.

RECOGNIZING OUR 2025 GRADUATES: If you are a 2025 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 a.m.) or Wednesday's (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) 573-477-3315. The names will be published in the May 18 bulletin.

PLEASE REMOVE ALL FLOWERS & ARRANGEMENTS from in front of the stones in the St. Thomas Cemetery during the grass cutting season. Thank you for your cooperation.

THE 26TH ANNIVERSARY SAINT LOUIS MARIAN CONFERENCE is May 16-18 at the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel. Everyone is welcome and parking is FREE. The cost is only $60 for 3 full, dynamic days of inspiring talks, Holy Mass, Adoration, confession and vendors, beautiful music & fellowship with Catholics from all over the country (20 states so far) Hotel group rate is $109/night (1-4 people). Confirmed speakers, His Eminence Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke, Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, Fr Bill Casey, CMP, Msgr. Eugene Morris, Fr. Ken Geraci, CPM, Johnnette Williams, Nikki Kingsley & Angelica Park. For more information, to register, or book your hotel room please visit *www.stlmc.org* or 314-850-7718.

HELIAS LADY CRUSADER BASKETBALL CAMP is June 9-11 for grades K-5th -10:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m., 6th – 8th grades 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. at Helias Catholic High School. To register *www.heliascrusaderscamps.com* or please contact Garrett Wiggans at *gwiggans@heliascatholic.com*

FREE BLUEGRASS GOSPEL CONCERT is May 30, 7:00 p.m. behind the Norton Room in Westphalia. Bring your lawn chairs.

SAVE THE DATES: Totus Tuus will be at St. Stanislaus the week of June 22 – 27, 2025
July 3 - St Thomas the Apostle Feast: 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

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.