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

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 16, 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 November 16-23

Tuesday 7:45 a.m.	Fr. Russell Judge
Wednesday 7:45 a.m.	Tom Kloeppel
Thursday 7:45 a.m.	Harold Luebbering
Friday 7:45 a.m.	Sylvanus Hoecker
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Ida Schellman
Sunday 10:00 a.m.	People of our Parishes Lori Burnell

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of November16-23

Wednesday 6:30 pm	Connie Trippensee
Saturday 7:00 p.m.	L&D Ray & Lorraine Luebbering Fam.
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Fritz & Margie Luebbert

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	$342,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	$142,500.00
Actual Collection for 2025-2026	**$139,143.10**
Offertory Difference Year to Date	-$3,356.90
Offertory Goal for November	$28,500.00

Collection in Church	
November 2	$4,210.81
November 9	$4,632.55
November 16	
November 23	
November 30	

Collection Online	$7,030.50
November Total to Date	**$15,873.86**
Difference for November	-$12,626.14

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2025-2025	**$22,459.00**
Offertory Goal per Month for November	$5,833.33

Collection in Church	
November 2	$1,955.00
November 9	$1,803.00
November 16	
November 23	
November 30	

November Total to Date	$3,758.00
Difference for November	-$2,075.33

WEEKDAY SERVERS: Virgil Lackman & Jason Braun

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 6:10 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen – Glorious

Lector: Dorothy Rehagen

Offertory Gifts – St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday	Family of Ida Schellman
Sunday	Family of Lori Burnell

Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Saturday 7:00 p.m.	Family of Ray & Lorraine Luebbering
Sunday	Family of Fritz & Margie Luebbert

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 November 22nd & 23rd

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Saturday, 7:00 pm	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Christian, Austyn Christian, Kaycie Luebbering, Hank Meyer, Miranda	Schroeder, Jesse Schroeder, Tucker	Derkum, Natalee Werdehausen, Gavin	Buechter, Aliyah Buechter, Gavin Libbert, Cadyn Verslues, Max
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Graessle, Barb Buschjost, Marian Kliethermes, Keith	Even, Jennifer Hagenhoff, Betty Rehagen, Dorothy	Libbert, Pam Plassmeyer, Mary Plassmeyer, Dominic	Heckemeyer, Jan Heckemeyer, Richard Luebbering, Ben
Lector	Holterman, Kara	Even, Jennifer	Plassmeyer, Dominic	Luebbering, Katie (Brian)
Rosary Leader: Luminous	Herigon, Dale	Rehagen, Dorothy	Plassmeyer, Mary	Stockman, Tina
Greeters/Ushers	Akin, Phil Holterman, Adam	Hagenhoff, Randy Usher Needed	Stumpe, Mitch Schulte, Leonard	Verslues, Shane Verslues, Ezekiel
Music Ministry	Schroeder, Jeanette Kliethermes, Jean	Stockman, Alanna	Hurst, Lydia	Prenger, Jackie Luebbering, Josh
Live Stream				Luebbering, Lauri
Count Collections			Helton, Dale Helton, Margie	Schellman, Donna Wieberg, Rosalyn
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	Buechter, Susan - Graessle, Barb - Henson, Sonya - Schell, Brenda			

Thanksgiving Liturgical Schedule for November 27th

	Thursday – 9:00 am
Altar Servers	Akin, Noah Verslues, Max
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lueckenhoff, Janet
Lector	Lueckenhoff, Jim
Rosary Leader: Joyful	Herigon, Dale
Greeters/Ushers	Verslues, Shane, Akin, Phil
Music Ministry	Jackie

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, Nov. 20 – Laura Fennewald & Marilee Fischer **Tuesday, November 25** -Susanne Fleetwood & Jeanette Goeller

SATURDAY NIGHT (DEER SEASON) MASS: Mass will be offered at 7:00 p.m. on **November 22** at St. Cecilia Church for deer hunters.

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS is Thursday, November 27, 9:00 a.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

BEFORE & AFTER COMMUNION PRAYER CARDS IN CHURCH PEWS! Two prayers have been placed in the Church pews. One prayer is to prepare our hearts to receive Holy Communion. The second prayer is to help us pray and reflect after receiving Holy Communion.

STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL: Thank you for prayerfully considering how you and your family will share your gifts with our parish family by making your **one-year commitment** through the spiritual act of completing the Catholic Stewardship Renewal. Through your generosity of time, talent and treasure, our parish will continue to thrive as a center of charity and sanctuary of mercy for our community. Packets not picked up after Mass this weekend will be in the main entrance of church until November 16. Please complete and return your time, talent and treasure forms via online or place printed forms in the collection basket or drop off at the parish office.

ST. CECILIA STEWARDSHIP LETTER AND FORMS are located in the back of Church at St. Cecilia. They were not mailed out this year. The forms were handed after Mass on Stewardship Weekend and the remaining copies are in the back of Church. If you were not at mass and did receive your copy, please pick one up. You can mail back to the Church address or put in the collection basket at church.

NOVEMBER PRAYERS FOR DEPARTED LOVED ONES: Note cards are provided (or bring your own 3x5 note cards) to place in the basket in the side entrance of Church (St. Thomas the Apostle) and entrance of Church (St. Cecilia) with names of your deceased loved ones. Cards will be collected and placed on the Altar.

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.

THE DIOCESAN CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN allows our Diocesan community to stay connected with each other and with our Catholic brothers and sisters worldwide. We want to ensure this resource is something you continue to enjoy reading, so we invite you to share your thoughts in this survey *https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CatholicMissourianSurvey*

PASTORS MEDITATION 33rd Sunday in ordinary time C. THE END OF TIME IS NEAR (Mal. 3:19-20a; 2Thes. 3:7-12; Lk. 21:5-19) "The Day of the Lord" or the "Second Coming" of Jesus in glory, as Judge, at the end of the world is near. How prepared to meet Jesus will we be when the end comes? The readings warn us about the final days of the world, our own death, and the final judgment. Prophet Malachi, in the first reading, foretells this Day, which will bring healing and reward for the just and punishment in fire for the "proud and all evil doers." Although St. Paul expected that Jesus would return during his lifetime, he cautions the Thessalonians, in the second reading, against idleness in anticipating the end of the world. Paul advises the Thessalonians that the best preparation for welcoming Jesus in his "Second Coming" is to keep working and doing one's duties faithfully, as Paul himself was doing. Today's Gospel passage underlines the truth that the date of the end of the world is uncertain. Signs and portents will precede the end, and the Christians will be called upon to testify before kings and governors. The Good News is that those who persevere in faithfulness to the Lord will save their souls and enter God's eternal kingdom. Christ's Second Coming is something to celebrate because Jesus is going to present all creation to his Heavenly Father. That is why we say at Mass, "We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess Your Resurrection, until you come again." Since Luke's community had experienced much persecution, today's Gospel would have given them a cheering reminder: "Don't give up because God is always with us!" Jesus' promise of the protective power of a providing God was meant to encourage His disciples to persevere in their Faith and its practice. Jesus later adds the signs of the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the world to prepare His disciples and to remind them to rely upon him, not their own power, for Salvation.
Therefore, friends we must be prepared daily for our end of time or our death and private judgment. We make this preparation by trying to do God's will every day, leading holy lives of selfless love, humble service, mercy, compassion, and unconditional forgiveness. In order to do this, we must recharge our spiritual batteries every day by personal prayer, that is, by talking to God, and by listening to Him through reading the Bible. Daily examination of our conscience at bedtime and asking God's pardon and forgiveness for the sins of the day will also prepare us to face God any time to give an account of our lives. We need to attain permanence in a passing world by leading exemplary lives. We must remember that our homes, our Churches and even our own lives are temporary. God judges our greatness not on our worldly achievements, but on our fidelity to the Faith and our practice of that Faith in loving humble service of others. How our faithfulness is expressed each day is the most important thing. We are to persevere in our Faith in spite of worldly temptations, attacks on religion and moral values by the atheistic or agnostic media, threats of social isolation, and direct or indirect persecution because of our religious beliefs. Let us conclude this Church year by praying for the grace to patiently endure any trials, for they are essential to our affirmation of Jesus as our Lord and Savior. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

ST. THOMAS/ST. CECILIA YOUTH GROUP: The next youth group night will be November 19 at 7:00 p.m. We will meet at St. Thomas the Apostle Church to begin the night with worship music and the Divine Mercy Chaplet then will end the night at the Vitae house with girls' and guys' small groups and snacks. All high schoolers and friends are welcome to attend.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PPC MEETING is Thursday, November 20, 7:00 p.m. school library.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS!
Thursday, November 20- Parish School Advisory Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. school library
Wednesday, November 26, 27 & 28 – Thanksgiving Break – No School Prek-8

ST. THOMAS CHRISTMAS PARADE AND TREE LIGHTING: Mark your calendar and plan to join us for this year's Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting. The fun begins at 6:00 pm on Friday, December 5th with the parade, followed by the tree lighting ceremony. Hot chocolate will be provided thanks to St. Thomas 4-H and cookies from Sweet Sisters Bakery. Lehmen's BBQ truck will be on site before and during the parade! **NEW THIS YEAR** - The St. Thomas Ladies Auxiliary will have a tent set up prior to the parade where kids can come and get some goodies before the parade starts! More details to come on their exact location**. ALSO NEW THIS YEAR** - Children from St. Thomas will be performing a Christmas song at the tree lighting!
To register to be in the parade, either complete the online form located on the City's Facebook page or contact Debby Buschjost at *dbuschjost@hotmail.com* or 573-619-3974.

MEN OF ST. THOMAS AND ST. CECILIA PARISHES: You are invited to join the Men of Signum Crucis at our next gathering, which begins at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19, at Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City. This month, as we always do in November, our evening will be devoted to Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, Confessions, and Benediction in the St. Pius X Chapel at Helias. Confessions will begin at 6:15 p.m., and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at 6:30 p.m. Feel free to come early to pray the Rosary at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Refreshments in the Commons will follow Benediction. The mission of the Men of Signum Crucis is to provide Fraternity through Catholic Study, Devotion, and Service. For more information about the Men of Signum Crucis, contact Jeff Cassmeyer at 573-690-7546, or visit us at *www.menofsignumcrucis.com.*

COR GATHERING FOR CATHOLIC MEN: All Catholic men are invited to join us for **COR** on **Tuesday, November 25, from 7:00–8:30 p.m.** at the **Wardsville/Osage Bend Community Center**. COR, meaning "heart," focuses on **prayer, formation, and fraternity**. This month's *Into the Breach* session centers on the theme of **Life**. We'll explore how *human life is sacred* and how men are called to protect the most vulnerable in society. The evening features prayer, a powerful video testimony from **John Morales** on regret, healing, and hope, followed by discussion and fellowship. Bring a friend and strengthen your heart for life and faith!

LADIES AUXILIARY SOCIAL: The Ladies Auxiliary social- the Ladies Auxiliary will be touring the new special learning center in Jefferson City on Wednesday November 19th at 5:15 pm. We will be presenting them a check from the bale sale/ tootsie roll drive. We will go to dinner afterwards for anyone interested. If interested in attending this social, please contact Brooke Schell at 573-694-8753.

FELLOWSHIP AT ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL: The St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Hall will be open the first and third Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. This will be an opportunity for card playing, games, and visiting. Feel free to bring games and snacks to share.

BLAIR OAKS RII SCHOOL DISTRICT THANKSGIVING LUNCH: The Blair Oaks R-II School District will be having its Thanksgiving lunch on Thursday, November 20. Dine-in guests are welcome to enjoy lunch from 11:00 - 11:30 am. The cost is $10.00 per meal. There will be no to-go orders available. The $10.00 meal includes: turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy,

dressing, sweet potatoes, green beans, roll, cranberry sauce, applesauce and choice of dessert. The Thanksgiving lunch will be served in the high school cafeteria. RSVP's should be submitted by the 3:00 pm of Friday, November 14, 2025. Reservations can be made by calling the High School office at 573-635-8514 or by emailing Cassi Kelley at ckelley@blairoaks.org or Kathy Verslues at kverslues@blairoaks.org.

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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*

SAVE THE DATES:

Friday, December 5, 6:00 p.m. – 4th Annual St. Thomas Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting
Sunday, December 7, Meta Christmas on Third Street 3:00-5:00 p.m. & Parade 5:00 p.m.
Knights of Columbus Blood Drive: December 11, St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Hall, 2:00-6:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 14- St. Thomas Holiday Mart, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Pizza Kwik, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 18, 2026, K of C Breakfast at KC Hall
Friday, February 27, 2026, K of C Fish Fry, St. Thomas Parish Center
Thursday, April 30, 2026 – Midwest March for Life, 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 *heliascatholic.com/spiritofexcellence* or contact Helias+ Catholic President Ron Vossen at *rvossen@heliascatholic.com* or 573-635-6139.