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

TWENTY-NINETH SUDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 19, 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 October 19-26

Tuesday 7:45 a.m.	L&D Sylvanus Hoecker Family ***Parish Center***
Wednesday 7:45 a.m.	Urban Strope – ***Parish Center***
Thursday 7:45 a.m.	Richard Kampeter – ***Parish Center***
Friday 7:45 a.m.	Bob & Donnie Luebbering ***Parish Center***
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	People of our Parishes Betty Hoecker
Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Alex & Joann Heckman

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of October 19-26

Wednesday 6:30 pm	For Safe Travels, Fr. Leonard
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Henry, Alma, Gerald Blomberg & Mary Clark

Your Sunday Offering

Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	$342,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	$114,000.00
Actual Collection for 2025-2026	**$105,031.82**
Offertory Difference Year to Date	-$8,968.18
Offertory Goal for October	$28,500.00

Collection in Church

October 5	$6,400.10
October 12	$4,636.72
October 19	
October 26	

Collection Online	$7,030.50
October Total to Date	**$18,067.32**
Difference for October	-$10,432.68

Your Sunday Offering

Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2025-2025	**$16,904.00**
Offertory Goal per Month for October	$5,833.33

Collection in Church

October 5	$1,321.00
October 12	$1,001.00
October 19	
October 26	

October Total to Date	**$2,322.00**
Difference for October	-$3,511.33

WEEKDAY SERVERS: Kenzie Siebeneck & Victoria Wieberg

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 Betty Hoecker
Sunday	Family of Alex & Joann Heckman

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia & Lector
Wednesday 6:10 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen – Glorious

Lector: Samantha Helton

Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Sunday	Family of Henry, Alma, Gerald Blomberg & Mary Clark

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 October 25 & 26

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Fennewald, Emerald Fennewald, Georgia Otto, Benjamin Otto, Luke	Derkum, Natalee Werdehausen, Gavin	Luebbering, Jude Volmert, Stella Wieberg, Victoria Wieberg, William (Ryan)
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Graessle, Barb Graessle, Mark Kliethermes, Keith	Even, Jennifer Hagenhoff, Betty Libbert, Pam	Lueckenhoff, Janet Reinkemeyer, Lynne Lueckenhoff, Linda
Lector	Holterman, Kara	Stumpe, Doris	Lueckenhoff, Jim
Rosary Leader: Luminous	Graessle, Barb	Rehagen, Dorothy	Lueckenhoff, Jim
Greeters/Ushers	Holterman, Adam Strope, Eric	Stumpe, Mitch Hagenhoff, Randy Schulte, Leonard Stumpe, Brendan	Loethen, Mark Heckemeyer, Richard
Music Ministry	Schroeder, Jeanette Kliethermes, Jean	Hurst, Lydia	Prenger, Jackie Luebbering, Doug
Live Stream			Schellman, Jenny
Count Collections		Plassmeyer, Dominic Plassmeyer, Mary	Schellman, Donna Wieberg, Rosalyn
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	Luebbering, Gina - Luebbering, Karen - Schell, Brooke - Stockman, Tina		

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, October 23–Kristin Buschjost & Charlene Buschjost **Thursday, October 30** – Susan Buschjost & Kelley Buschjost

CONGRATULATIONS to ***Brooks Anthony Peters,*** son of Logan & Jessica Boessen, who became a child of God through baptism this weekend at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE WEEKDAY MASSES, OCTOBER 21-24 will be held in the St. Thomas Parish Center due to work on the Church roof.

OCTOBER MASS ATTENDANCE COUNT – ATTENTION USHERS: This October, we will once again take an attendance count at all weekend Masses. The form to fill out is in the back of Church (St. Thomas, offertory table) (St. Cecilia on table to the right).

PASTORS MEDITATION 28th Sunday in ordinary time C. GOD WILL NOT DELAY IN HEARING OUR PRAYERS: WORLD MISSION SUNDAY (Ex. 17:8-13, 2Tim 3:14–4:2, Lk. 18:1-8) Every year, the universal Church has dedicated the month of October to reflection on, and prayer for the missions. On World Mission Sunday, Catholics gather to celebrate the Eucharist and to contribute to a collection for the work of evangelization around the world. This annual celebration gives us a chance to reflect on the importance of mission work for the life of the Church. It reminds us that we are one with the Church around the world and that we are all committed to carrying on the mission of Christ, however different our situations may be. Pope Leo XIV's message for the 2025 World Mission Sunday emphasizes and encourages Christians to be messengers and builders of hope in the Jubilee Year 2025. He asks us, the faithful to burn with holy zeal for a new era of evangelization, bringing hope to a world overshadowed by dark shadows, and to be a community of hope by letting the Spirit guide our actions.
Today's readings are mainly about prayer, perseverance in prayer, constancy in prayer and trust in God as we pray. They are also about the Trustworthiness and Justice of God, the type of Justice that reaches out to the poor and the weak, enabling them to fight against injustice. In the first reading, Moses, after sending Joshua to fight against Amalek, is presented as making tireless intercession (constancy), for the victory of Israel's army. Both Moses and the widow in today's Gospel story demonstrate to us the trusting Faith and perseverance with which we should pray. In the second reading, St. Paul instructs Timothy to persevere in his ministry, to proclaim the word of God with persistence in all circumstances, and to use it to "correct, reprove and appeal with patience." By introducing the parable of the unjust judge and the persistent widow in today's Gospel, Jesus emphasizes the "necessity of praying always and not losing heart." Constancy in prayer is Faith in action. Jesus presents the widow in today's Gospel as a model of the trust and tenacity with which his disciples are to pray. The widow was asking for something which God would certainly want for her, justice. Therefore, friends we need to combine formal prayers with action prayer: It is ideal that we start our prayers by reading from the Bible, especially the Psalms and the Gospels. Formal, memorized and liturgical prayers are also essential for the Christian prayer life. Personal prayer is of great importance in our life of prayer. Talking to God in our own words, praising Him, thanking Him and presenting our needs before Him, transforms our whole life into prayer. We should perfect our prayers by bringing ourselves into God's presence during our work several times during the day and by offering to God all that we are, all that we have, and all that we do. Along with formal and memorized prayers,

this type of prayer life enables us to pray always and pray with constancy and trusting perseverance. We should not expect to get whatever we pray for. This parable does not suggest that God writes a blank check, guaranteeing whatever we want, whenever we want it in the form we ask for. But we conveniently forget the fact that, often, a loving father has to refuse the request of a child, because he knows that what the child asks would hurt rather than help him (e.g., a sharp knife). God is like that. He knows what to give, when to give and how to give it. Only God sees time whole, and therefore, only God knows what is good for us in the long run. That is why Jesus says that we must never be discouraged in prayer. Instead, we have to leave the answer to God's decision saying, "Thy will be done." Sincere and persistent prayer makes us ready to accept His will. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS! Sunday, October 19 –Trunk or Treat 4:00-5:15 p.m. Church/School Parking lot
Wednesday, October 22 – Prek-4 Field Trip
Thursday, October 23 – Early Release 12:50 car riders, 1:00 p.m. bus riders, PAT conferences
Friday, October 24 – No School
Monday, October 27 – No School, Regional Diocesan Profession Development Day

HELPING CHILDREN IN NEED THIS WINTER – KOFC COATS FOR KIDS: As we approach the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday Season, if your family wishes to do something special for others in need, here is an idea to consider. The Knights of Columbus have been partnering with Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis for the past 44 years to provide health care services for children with Developmental Disabilities at the Knights of Columbus Developmental Center located there. Nearly 2/3 of the Cardinal Glennon children patients live in low-income neighborhoods and no children are ever turned away because of the inability to pay. Many of these children in poverty-stricken families lack the basic essentials of life and do not have a winter coat. While nearly all of us are blessed to have warm coats in winter, we often take that for granted and do not realize that many children do not. Coats for Kids is a vital program of the Knights of Columbus that provides new warm coats to children in need. The Knights purchase new coats through the KofC organization (or locally or on line). If you wish to help create smiles on the faces of children in need this winter, please consider the donation of money for new winter coats through the Knights of Columbus or donate new winter coats purchased locally or on line for this special program. If you would like to make a donation, please contact ***KofC Coats for Kids Chairman Bill Lueckenhoff at 573-619-8969.*** Please make your donation by November 4, if possible, as we hope to deliver more Coats for Kids to Cardinal Glennon patients in November.

HELIAS CATHOLIC'S ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE is from 9-11 a.m. Saturday, November 15. Come see how Helias Catholic High School is building a community of saints and scholars for Christ! Stop by to tour the campus; explore academics and extracurricular opportunities; and meet teachers, staff and students. Open House attendees can enter a drawing for prizes, including the chance to have their enrollment fee waived! Afterward, head down to Rackers Fieldhouse for a blessing and dedication at 11:30 a.m. and open house viewing of the new fieldhouse expansion until 1:00 p.m. Please contact Helias Catholic's admissions office at *admissions@heliascatholic.com* or 573-635-6139 with any questions.

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.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE 29th ANNUAL FALL FANTASY: Tickets on sale NOW! $125 ticket. A ticket provides: Dinner for (2)- Prime Rib OR Chicken Cordon Bleu Baked potato, slaw and dessert. All you can drink: •Beer, Wine, Gin Rickeys Water Soda. A Chance to win $10,000-- a total of over $15,000 will be given out that night ***based on 300 tickets sold THEME: Camoflauge, Dance following drawing: Ryan Voss Band How to get tickets: 1. Contact: Joanie Prenger 573.659.0304 Kim Kliegel 573.619.9188 2. Purchase at the Vitae House in St. Thomas during these hours: Tuesdays, 8:30-11:30 am Wednesdays 8:00 am -4:30 pm 573.477.3315. ***Jason & Megan Wilde*** are the Early Bird Winners. They received $125 and will be the first to eat at the Fall Fantasy. Tickets are still available! Make sure you get one or two! Fall Fantasy tickets will be sold after 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, October 19. Joanie will also have Fall Fantasy Tickets at the Trunk or Treat.

COR GATHERING FOR CATHOLIC MEN: All Catholic men are invited to join us for **COR** on **Tuesday, October 28, from 7:00–8:30 PM** at the **Wardsville/Osage Bend Community Center**. COR, meaning "heart," is rooted in *courage* and centers on **prayer, formation, and fraternity**. This month's *Into the Breach* session focuses on **Family**—how we can lead and love well in our homes. The evening includes prayer, a video, small group discussion, and fellowship. Bring a friend and take time to grow in faith and brotherhood.

ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH, WARDSVILLE EUCHARISTIC ADORATION HOUR is Sunday, October 26, 5:30 p.m.

CURSILLIASTAS: Our next School of Leaders gathering is Saturday, November 1 at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Columbia.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE & ST. CECILIA YOUTH BONFIRE is Wednesday, October 22, 7:00 p.m. Join us for a teen bonfire night with hotdogs & smores, followed by small group discussion with young adult leaders. Friends welcome at the St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Hall. Bring a lawn chair if desired.

BLAIR OAKS HIGH SCHOOL RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE is Thursday, October 23, 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

BONNOTS MILL KOFC COUNCIL 2027 FISH FRY is Friday, October 24 at the Loose Creek School, serving from 4:30 – 7:00 pm. Drive Thru Only - $13.00 per meal. Money raised is given to the local Seminarians.

ARGYLE VFW POST 8045'S ANNUAL CHICKEN DINNER is Sunday, October 26, 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the VFW Post Home, Argyle. This event is **CARRY OUT ONLY**, with seating available.

ST. ELIZABETH JUNIOR CLASS FISH FRY is Friday, November 7, serving Gluten Free fish, hush puppies, rolls, mac & cheese, baked beans, French fries, cole slaw, pasta salad, applesauce & desserts from4:00-7:00 p.m. in the St. Elizabeth Community Center. Adults $15.00, children 6-11 $10.00, carry outs $15.00.

SAVE THE DATES:
St. Thomas the Apostle Trunk or Treat - Church/School Parking Lot 4:00-5:15 p.m. – Sunday, October 19.
29th Annual St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Fall Fantasy- Saturday, November 1.
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
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.