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-SEVENTH SUDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 5, 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 5-12

Tuesday 7:45 a.m.	***No Mass, Fr. at Priests' Institute***
Wednesday 7:45 a.m.	***No Mass, Fr. at Priests' Institute***
Thursday 7:45 a.m.	***No Mass, Fr. at Priests' Institute***
Friday 7:45 a.m.	***No Mass, Fr. at Priests' Institute***
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	People of our Parishes Virgil Kirkweg
Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Pat Kliegel

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of October 5-12

Wednesday 6:30 pm	***No Mass, Fr. at Priests' Institute***
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Melanie Bax

Your Sunday Offering

Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	$342,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	$85,500.00
Actual Collection for 2025-2026	**$86,964.50**
Offertory Difference Year to Date	$1,464.50
Offertory Goal for September	$28,500.00

Collection in Church

September 7	$3,897.10
September 14	$3,068.77
September 21	$3,996.09
September 28	$6,285.10

Collection Online	$8,373.00
September Total to Date	**$25,620.06**
Difference for September	-$2,879.94

Your Sunday Offering

Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2025-2025	**$14,582.00**
Offertory Goal per Month for September	$5,833.33

Collection in Church

September 7	$1,233.00
September 14	$1,091.00
September 21	$1,371.00
September 28	$798.00

September Total to Date	**$4,493.00**
Difference for September	-$1,340.33

WEEKDAY SERVERS: ***No Masses***

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle

Tuesday 7:25 am	***No Mass***
Wednesday 7:25 am	***No Mass***
Thursday 7:25 am	***No Mass***
Friday 7:25 am	***No Mass***

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia & Lector
Wednesday 6:10 p.m. – ***No Mass***

Lector: ***No Mass***

Offertory Gifts – St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday	Family of Virgil Kirkweg
Sunday	Family of Pat Kliegel

Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Sunday	Family of Melanie 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 October 11 & 12

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Reynolds, Jacob Reynolds, Samuel Volmert, Jase Volmert, Johnathon	Schroeder, Jesse Schroeder, Skyla Schroeder, Tucker	Lackman, Virgil Luebbering, Isabella Luebbering, Oliver Veltrop, Angelina
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Reynolds, Andrea Schanzmeyer, Janice Wansing, Brenda	Even, Jennifer Hagenhoff, Betty Libbert, Pam	Heckemeyer, Richard Heckemeyer, Jan Kliethermes, Keith
Lector	Graessle, Kathy	Helton, Samantha	Schroeder, Jennifer
Rosary Leader: Sorrowful	Schanzmeyer, Janice	Borgmeyer, Cathy	Stockman, Tina
Greeters/Ushers	Akin, Phil Holterman, Adam	Schulte, Leonard Stumpe, Brendan Stumpe, Mitch Hagenhoff, Randy	Stockman, Doug Wooten, Michael
Music Ministry	Schroeder, Jeanette Kliethermes, Kelsey	Borgmeyer, Emilie	Prenger, Jackie Wooten, Amanda
Live Stream			Schell, Brooke
Count Collections		Plassmeyer, Dominic Plassmeyer, Mary	Henson, Sonya Wieberg, Millie
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	Boessen, Linda - Luebbering, Lauri - Luebbering, Lindsay - Reinkemeyer, Lynne		

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 9 –Cindy Buschjost & Debby Buschjost **Thursday, October 16** – Marian Buschjost & Julie Buschjost

CONGRATULATIONS to ***Bearett Daniel & Beckett Lewis Brenneke,*** sons of Cole & Erin Brenneke, who became a child of God through baptism this weekend at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

OCTOBER MASS ATTENDANCE COUNT – ATTENTION USHERS: This October, we will once again take an attendance count at all weekend Masses. This follows the directive of the Presbyteral Council, which approved a plan for counting attendance at its meeting on February 11, 2025. As noted in the minutes of that meeting:
"It was stated that all parishes would submit Mass attendance numbers for a period of one year, rotating every three years, and conduct the October count for the other years." USHERS, please count all people (including children and infants) who enter the Church at each Mass for the month with the count ending at or about the First Reading. In smaller Churches it may be simpler for the ushers to make the count during the homily. Also, please remember to count all ministers who serve at the Altar as well. The form to fill out is in the back of Church (St. Thomas, offertory table) (St. Cecilia on table to the right).

PASTORS MEDITATION 27th Sunday in ordinary time C. **THE FAITH OF GOD'S SERVANTS.** (Hab. 1:2-3; 2:2-4; 2Tim. 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk. 17:5-10) All three readings for today speak about Faith and how it works in our lives. "To one who has Faith, no explanation is necessary, to one without Faith, no explanation is possible." (St. Thomas Aquinas). It is this Faith that serves as the nucleus of our readings today, showing us three dimensions of Faith. 1) The theological virtue of Faith enables us to believe something to be true, and therefore worthy of trust, simply because it has been revealed to us by God. 2) In his instructions to Timothy, Paul, who elsewhere defines Faith as, "the assurance of the things hoped for" (Hab. 11:1), shows Faith operating as a believing, trusting, loving relationship with Christ. 3) Finally, Christian Faith is that trusting Faith in God in action, expressed by steadfast loyalty, fidelity, and total commitment to Him, resulting in our offering ourselves to Him in those we encounter, through our humble, loving service. The first reading presents Faith as trusting in God and faithfully living out His Covenant with us. Here, Faith is shown as hope and steadfast expectation in the face of suffering and delay. God assures the prophet that Faith gives us access to Divine power, and, hence, the just will live righteous lives in the midst of encircling evil because of their Faith. In today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 95), God is characterized as a sturdy Rock and a caring Shepherd, surely worthy of our trusting Faith. In the second reading, Paul presents Faith as our acceptance of Jesus as the fulfillment of the promises of God. Paul stresses the need for a living Faith in, and loyalty to, Christ's teachings handed down to us by the Church. Hence, Faith is belief in, and acceptance of, revealed truths based on the authority and veracity of God, and Hope is trust in God. In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches his Apostles that Faith gives us a share in God's power, and, even in small quantities, it allows God to work miracles in our lives and in the lives of others. It is Faith, meaning reliance on, or confidence in, God, which makes one just, putting one into right relation with God and neighbor. While the Apostles ask for an increase in the quantity of their Faith Jesus reminds them, and so us, that the quality of one's Faith is more important than the quantity. A small amount of deep Faith can accomplish great things if that small amount of Faith is placed in a great, mighty, and all-powerful God. Using a master-servant parable, Jesus also teaches them, and us, that for Faith to be effective, it must be linked with trust, obedience, and total commitment, an active submission to God with a willingness to do whatever He commands. So dear friends, we need to thank God for everything, giving Him the credit for our well-being. Most of us are inclined to forget God's providence when our earthly affairs are going well. We pray to Him only when trouble strikes. In His Infinite Goodness, God often answers such prayers. Stronger Faith enables us to accept the adversities and the trials of life asking God, "Increase our Faith, Lord!" at all times. We need to increase our Faith by becoming dutiful servants of God. We

grow in Faith as we act in Faith. A sincere Christian can find many ways to help to make Christ known to his neighbor. A quiet word, a charitable gesture, an unselfish interest in a neighbor's troubles can do more good than a series of sermons given by some renowned theologian. We need to grow in Faith by using the means Christ has given us in his Church. We must cultivate our Faith through prayer, Bible study, participation in the Holy Mass "the mystery of Faith" and leading a well-disciplined spiritual life. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

WHY I CHOOSE TO VOLUNTEER: Growing up in a small town like St. Thomas is a dream come true that you don't typically realize until after you are actually an adult. As a child, it's easy to take for granted the support and overall feeling of belonging that comes from the community around you. It's not until we are grown and away from here that we actually experience what life is like elsewhere. The saying "There's no place like home" is very true and real because no matter where you go or how long you've been away, all you have to do is come home to St. Thomas to realize that you are always welcome here. That feeling of community and home is the direct result of those who have come before us and their determination to build this parish, church and school into what it is today. What I've come to realize is that communities like St. Thomas don't just happen. They aren't formed miraculously or without any effort. The sole reason we are able to enjoy our parish and school is because others came together, prayerfully asked God for his support and guidance and then made it happen. The time has been put in to build, organize, plan, support, finance and maintain the Church, the School, the various groups, the events and the fellowship we all are part of in St. Thomas. This is the definition of stewardship. It's taking our prayers and talents and offering them up time after time and year after year to ensure this community is here for generations to come. I have been blessed with a love of music and I'm so thankful that I can contribute, even if it's just a little, to the worship experience at Mass. I appreciate the gift that music is to our weekly celebrations and I'm grateful that we have others in the parish who help make Mass so lovely. But music is just one area of the experience. There is no limit on how much you can give to our parish to help make it strong and thriving. No matter what your talent, there is a place for it in our parish. You simply have to offer it up. This will ensure that years from now, our children and grandchildren can say "There's no place like home – there's no place like St. Thomas". ***Amanda Wooten***

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS! Achievement Testing Week, Grades 2-8 – October 6-10
End of 2nd Quarter – Friday, October 10

BE A CRUSADER FOR A DAY! Junior high students are invited to spend a day at **Helias Catholic High School** — attend classes, meet teachers, tour the school, and enjoy lunch with a current student. **Visit Days Begin: Wednesday, October 15 Sign-ups open: Friday, October 10**. To register, visit www.heliascatholic.com, click **Admissions > Visit Helias Catholic**, and fill out the **Crusader for a Day** form.

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.

DIOCESAN LOVE HEALS: You've been told all your life that the first and greatest commandment is to "Love the Lord your God with all your hear, soul, mind and strength but no one ever told you how Love -Stuns, Love -Resurrects and Love -Transforms. is October 17 Ladies Night out 6:30 p.m. -9:00 p.m. $25 Dinner Fee – Doors open at 6:00 p.m.
Fall Retreat is October 18- 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. $15 Lunch Fee, Doors open at 9:30 a.m. The Events are help at the Cathedral of St. Joseph. To register please go to *https//diojeffcityorg/wm-love-heals-event-2025/*

THE OVER 50 MEMBERS GROUP get together is scheduled for October 9 at St Cecilia Parish Center, eating at noon. Bring a covered dish and celebrate October birthdays and fun/information facts presented by one of our members. New members are always welcome.

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. each month starting October 2. This will be an opportunity for card playing, games, and visiting. Feel free to bring games and snacks to share.

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.

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.

SOUL ON FIRE PRIVATE MOVIE VIEWING: Join us for a special private showing of *Soul on Fire*, the inspiring true story of John O'Leary, on Thursday, October 9, 2025, at GQT Capital 8, Jefferson City (3550 Country Club Dr.). Tickets must be purchased in advance at *bookme.name/garywilbers/soul-on-fire-movie-private-showing.* For details, contact Gary Wilbers at 573-619-8700 or email *gwilbers@goascend.biz*. Don't miss this powerful film of faith, hope, and perseverance!

SSM HEALTH (ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL) HERITAGE FESTIVAL is Saturday, October 18, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. A family friendly celebration honoring our 120 years in the community. Join us in the Festival Activities – 8:00-9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's Hospital Chapel, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Friends of St. Mary's Hospital Reunion in the Café, 10:00-10:30-Heritage Ceremony and Chamber of Commerce Pride & Progress ribbon cutting. 10:30-1:00 p.m. Heritage Festival Entertainment and Children's Activities on the Outpatient Parking Lot. (Live Entertainment, Family friendly games, face painting, food trucks, free books of kids (provided by Scholastic) and more.

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, October 15, at Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City. Father Dan Merz will be with us on October 15, presenting on the topic of the Liturgy of the Hours, the daily prayer of the Church. Come learn about the prayer that feeds the souls of priests and religious, and a growing number of laity as well. Feel free to come early to pray the Rosary at 6:00 p.m. 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.*

ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH, WARDSVILLE EUCHARISTIC ADORATION HOUR is Sunday, October 26, 5:30 p.m. Step away from the noise of daily life and enter into a sacred space of praise, worship & reflection. Whether you're seeking peace, clarity, or simply a quiet moment with the Lord – this hour is for you. All parishioners and surrounding community members are warmly invited. Come as you are. Leave renewed.

ST. ANDREW PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, HOLTS SUMMIT is Sunday October 5, serving turkey & sausage dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Adults $15, children 6-12 $7.00. Silent & quilt auction.

ST. GEORGE PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, LINN is Sunday, October 5, serving sausage & turkey dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Dinners $15. Dessert auction 4:00 p.m.

GUARDIAN ANGELS PARISH FALL DINNER, BRINKTOWN is Sunday, October 12, serving fried chicken & sausage dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Quilt & Dessert auction at 2:30 p.m. Kiddie Tractor Pull at 3:30 p.m.

PREGNANCY HELP CENTER BANQUET is Thursday, October 16, 6:30 p.m. at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City. This year's banquet for the LOST, the LEAST, and the VOICELESS. Please call 573-644-6635 or email *phcjeffcity@gmail.com*

14TH ANNUAL FRANKENSTEIN 5K RUN/WALK is Saturday, October 18 at St. Mary School, Frankenstein. Check in time- 4:30 p.m. Race time 5:30 p.m. Registration classes September 30. To register online *https://stores.inksoft.com/frankenstein_5K/shop/home.* Proceeds to benefit St. Mary's School.

JEFFERSON CITY MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - October 18-19. This weekend focuses on putting Christ back at the center of your marriage. Cost is only $75 and includes one night stay at Best Western Capital Inn in Jefferson City, meals, and materials. Scholarships are also available. Register online at *jeffcityme.com.* Questions? Contact Matt Kuensting 573-424-2247.

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.

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
Knights of Columbus Blood Drive: December 11, St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Hall
Thursday, April 30, 2026 – Midwest March for Life, Jefferson City

Join us for the 14th Annual
St. Thomas Trunk or Treat

October 19th, 2025 ~ 4-5:15 PM
St. Thomas Church Parking Lot

In order to make this a huge success, we need trunks to hand out candy! Plan for 200 trick-or-treaters. Decorate your trunk/area in Halloween decorations or a theme or bring a table!

RSVP by Wednesday, October 15th
Please call the school office at 573-477-3322, send an email to kmorris@stacs.school or dlueckenhoff@embarqmail.com, or return the form below to sign-up for a spot!!

It is our hope to provide a safe and fun time for our kids and community members! Please come out and support this fun event!!

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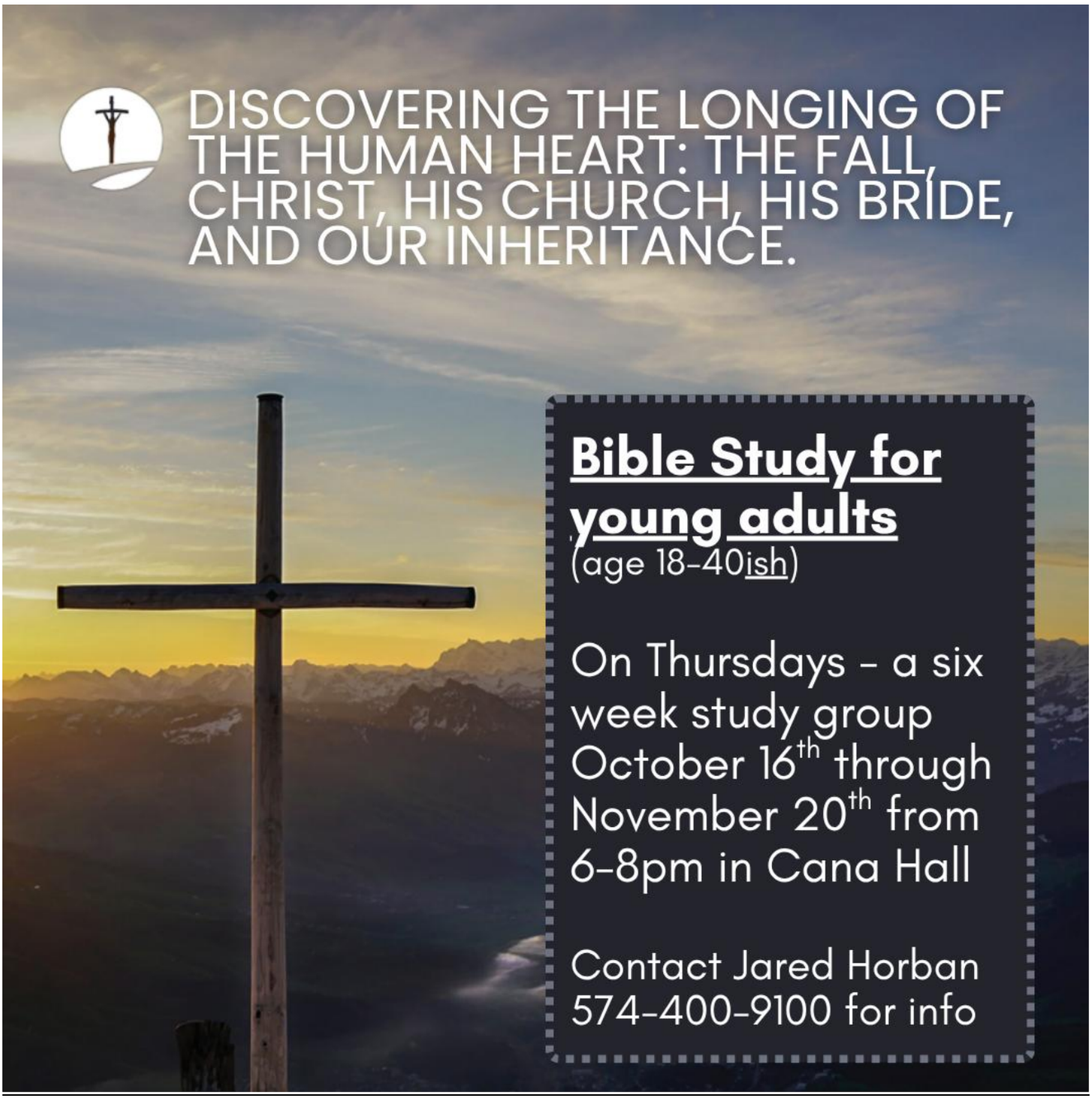
_____ Yes, we will hand out candy at the Trunk-or-Treat!!

_____
Name


DISCOVERING THE LONGING OF THE HUMAN HEART: THE FALL, CHRIST, HIS CHURCH, HIS BRIDE, AND OUR INHERITANCE.
Bible Study for young adults
(age 18-40ish)
On Thursdays - a six week study group October 16th through November 20th from 6-8pm in Cana Hall
Contact Jared Horban 574-400-9100 for info

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.