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-FIFTH SUDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 21, 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 September 21-28

Tuesday 7:45 a.m.	Betty Hoecker
Wednesday 7:45 a.m.	Fr. Russell Judge
Thursday 7:45 a.m.	Sylvanus Hoecker
Friday 7:45 a.m.	Jerry Lehmen
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	People of our Parishes Roman & Geneva Plassmeyer
Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Rose Schmidt

Your Sunday Offering

Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	$342,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	$85,500.00
Actual Collection for 2025-2026	**$75,340.81**
Offertory Difference Year to Date	-$10,159.19
Offertory Goal for September	$28,500.00

Collection in Church

September 7	$3,897.10
September 14	$3,068.77
September 21	
September 28	

Collection Online	$7,030.50
September Total to Date	**$13,996.37**
Difference for September	-$14,503.63

WEEKDAY SERVERS: Jayden Libbert & Ben Otto

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 Roman & Geneva Plassmeyer
Sunday	Family of Rose Schmidt

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of September 21-28

Wednesday 6:30 pm	Chester & Marie Prater
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Vince & Brad Reinkemeyer

Your Sunday Offering

Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2025-2025	**$12,413.00**
Offertory Goal per Month for September	$5,833.33

Collection in Church

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

September Total to Date	**$2,324.00**
Difference for September	-$3,509.33

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia & Lector
Wednesday 6:10 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer - Glorious

Lector: Cathy Borgmeyer

Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Sunday	Family of Vince & Brad Reinkemeyer

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 September 27 & 28

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Luebbering, Hank Verslues, Max Volmert, Jase Volmert, Johnathon	Derkum, Natalee Werdehausen, Gavin	Lackman, Virgil Veltrop, Angelina Wieberg, Victoria Wieberg, William (Ryan)
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Becker, Jenny Becker, Paul Lueckenhoff, Linda	Hagenhoff, Betty Even, Jennifer Libbert, Pam	Lueckenhoff, Janet Wieberg, Rosalyn Prenger, Glenn
Lector	Becker, Jenny	Hagenhoff, Betty	Loethen, Carolyn
Rosary Leader: Luminous	Herigon, Dale	Borgmeyer, Cathy	Lueckenhoff, Janet
Greeters/Ushers	Verslues, Shane Verslues, Ezekiel	Stumpe, Mitch Hagenhoff, Randy Schulte, Leonard Stumpe, Brendan	Maasen, Matthew Stockman, Zac
Music Ministry	Schroeder, Jeanette Kliethermes, Kelsey	Borgmeyer, Emilie	Prenger, Jackie Wieberg, Lisa
Live Stream			Luebbering, Lauri
Count Collections		Libbert, Pam Libbert, Terry	Schellman, Donna Wieberg, Rosalyn
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	Buechter, Darrel - Heckemeyer, Jan - Libbert, Alan - Libbert, Nancy		

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, September 25 -Kaylie Buechter & Susan Buechter **Thursday, October 2** – Britni Buechter & Lauren Buechter

THE ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Wednesday, September 24.

SCAM ALERT: You may have received an email or text from Fr. Leonard Mukiibi requesting gift cards or needing help. ***THIS IS A SCAM!!!*** If you look at the email address***, it is NOT Fr's. Please DO NOT RESPOND to such an email or text. FR. WOULD NEVER ASK FOR GIFT CARDS OR HELP via email or Facebook.***

NOTES OF THANKS!
The family of Rachel Wieberg wishes to extend our sincere appreciation for the many expressions of sympathy shown to us during this time of loss. Your prayers, calls, messages, visits, generous contributions of food, and assistance during the funeral mass and luncheon were deeply appreciated. Your presence, kind words, and acts of compassion brought comfort and strength to our family. May God bless you all!!

Thank you to all who supported the **Ladies Auxiliary** pregnancy help center baby bottle drive. We raised a total of **$2,759.72** for the Pregnancy Help Center!

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PICNIC 2025: As of 9-17-2025, the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Picnic net income (after expenses) is $83,569.69. There are a few expenses to pay yet.

PASTORS MEDITATION 25th Sunday in ordinary time C. BALANCING THE BOOKS (Am. 8:4-7; 1Tm. 2:1-8; Lk. 16:1-13) Today's readings remind us that we are God's stewards, and that God expects faithful and prudent stewardship from us. They challenge us to use our God-given talents and blessings, like wealth, wisely to attain Heavenly bliss. In the first reading, Amos, the prophet of social justice, condemns the crooked business practices of the 8th century BC Jewish merchants of Judea and reminds the Israelites and us to be faithful to our Covenant with Yahweh, God of Justice. We need to practice justice and mercy to all, as God's faithful stewards. Amos warns us also against setting making money at any cost as the goal of our life. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 113) reminds us that the All-seeing God protects and cares for the poor. In the second reading, St. Paul instructs the first century Judeo-Christians to become true stewards of the Gospel of Jesus, the only Mediator between God and man, by preaching the "Good News" to the pagans and by including them in intercessory prayers, too. Today's Gospel story tells us about the crooked, but resourceful, estate manager and challenges us to use our blessings, time, talents, health and wealth wisely and justly so that they will serve us well in eternity. We use our earthly wealth wisely when we spend it for our own needs in moderation and when we love and help the needy around us, because these are the purposes for which God has entrusted His blessings to us. So, friends, we need to be faithful in the little things of life: Let us remember Saint John Chrysostom's warning, "Faithfulness in little things is a big thing," and the reminder of St. Theresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa), "Do little things with great love." Hence, let us not ignore doing little things, like acknowledging a favor with a sincere "thank you," congratulating others for their success, sharing in their sorrows, and/or offering them help and support in their needs. We need to use our spiritual resources wisely. The manager in Jesus' story used all his resources to secure his future. We must be no less resourceful. We have God's gifts of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Church Tabernacle 24/7, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass celebrated often, even daily and weekly in places blessed with many priests; the Seven Sacraments as sources of Divine grace; the Holy Bible with the word of God for daily meditation and practice; and the teaching authority (Magisterium) of the Spirit-guided Church to direct us in our Christian life. We need to use these resources in such a way that it will be said of us, "And the master commended them because they acted so prudently." We need to be prepared to give an account of our

stewardship. We insure our houses against fire, storms, flood, and thieves, just as we insure our lives, buying life insurance, health insurance, and car insurance. In the same way, let us "insure" ourselves (with God, not Prudential!) for the one thing that most certainly will happen, namely, our meeting God to give Him an account of our lives. What really matters, at the time of our Private Judgment by God at the moment of our death, is how wisely we have used our blessings during our life, lovingly and generously sharing**.** ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

ST. CECILA HOLY HOUR & ANOINTING OF THE SICK is Friday, September 26, 7;00 p.m. St. Cecilia Church.

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION is Tuesday, September 23, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PPC MEETING is Tuesday, September 30, 7:00 p.m. in the school library.

WHY I CHOOSE TO VOLUNTEER: Volunteers are important to our Parish. Without volunteers we would not be able to operate our Parish as efficiently as we do. If you are looking to become a volunteer, now is the perfect time. We are looking for volunteers for Extraordinary Ministers and Ushers. Please contact Theresa Veit and she will help you get started.

ST. THOMAS AND ST. CECILIA YOUTH: All youth parishioners who have been confirmed are welcome and encouraged to attend youth group nights. Our first youth group night will be Wednesday, September 24 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Thomas school. See you there, and feel free to bring a friend! For questions or more information, contact Samantha Helton at (573) 469-8649.

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).

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS! Thursday, September 25 – Picture Day
Friday, September 26 – Grandparents Day Monday, September 29- No School PreK-8, Diocesan Professional Day

SCHOOL DAY MASSES: Father Leonard and I discussed the tragic incident that happened in Minneapolis recently. We have decided that as an added safety measure, ***we will start locking the Church doors at 7:45 AM for all the school day Masses, which will be from Tuesday-Friday each week.***

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. **To be entered in the Early Bird Drawing and a chance to win $125, tickets must be purchased by October 3, 2025.**

COR GATHERING FOR CATHOLIC MEN: All Catholic men are invited to join us for COR on **Tuesday, September 23, at 7:00 p.m.** at the **St. Stanislaus/St. Margaret Parish Hall (KofC) in Wardsville**. COR, meaning "heart" and the root of "courage," is built on **prayer, formation, and fraternity**. This month's session continues our *Into the Breach* series with a focus on **Fatherhood**. The evening will include prayer, a short video, small group discussion, and fellowship. Bring a friend and be encouraged to grow as a man, husband, and father. If you have any questions, please contact Gary Wilbers at 573-619-8700 or *gwilbers@goascend.biz*

40 DAYS FOR LIFE BEGINS AGAIN: Join us on Tuesday, September 23 at Our Lady of Lourdes, Flanagan Hall, 903 Bernadette Dr, Columbia at 6pm for an Opening Rally with speaker, Mary Browning, Legal Advisor, Operation Outcry, sub sandwiches served. Pls rsvp so we may prepare enough food! 573 821 5130. All are invited. Candlelight prayer vigil follows at 7:15pm to 8:00pm at Columbia Planned Parenthood. **From September 24 to November 1**, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood abortion facility, 711 N Providence Rd, Columbia, and also to help spread the word about this important community outreach. If you would like more info – and especially if you'd like to volunteer, please contact: Kathy Forck, 573 821 5130 or *www.columbia40daysforlife.com/columbiamo*

ST. THOMAS 4-H CLUB: As we start a new year we want to invite everyone to our first meeting of the year. Come see what we are all about. Join your friends as they learn valuable skills while enjoying a Christian, fun-filled organization. Our first meeting is Sunday, September 21, 11:15 a.m. in the St. Thomas the Apostle School hallway. If you have questions, please contact Daffiny Tallent, 573-694-4408.

CITIZEN'S CIVIC LEAGUE PARK, FALL FESTIVAL, META is Sunday, September 21, serving sausage & fried chicken dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Adults $16.00, children 6-12 $8.00. All carry-outs $16.00.

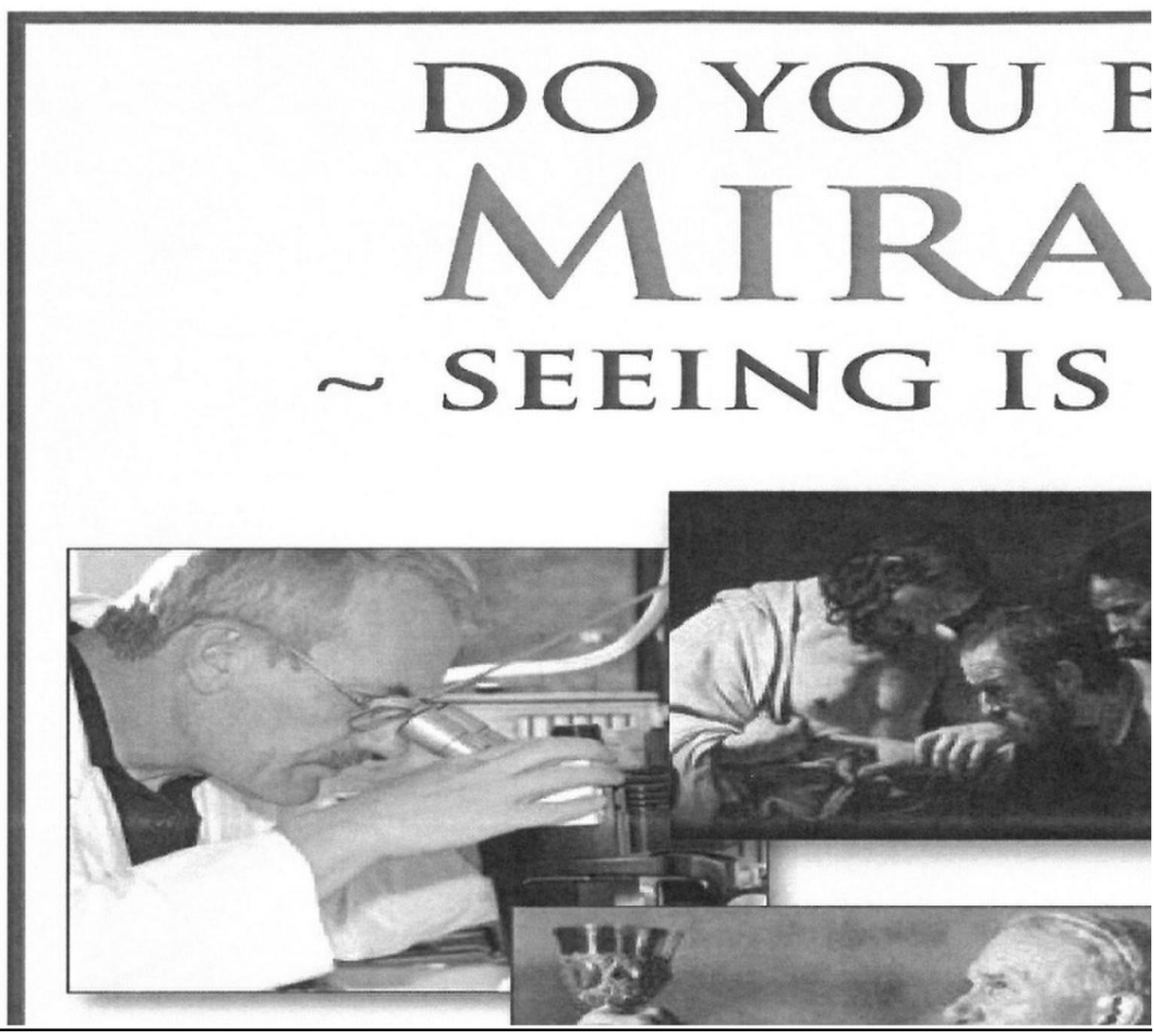
THE CITIZEN'S CIVIC LEAGUE BLOOD DRIVE: The Citizen's Civic League is hosting a blood drive on September 25, 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. As always, there is a need for blood. If you can, please try to attend. You can call 1-800-733-2767 or visit *RedCrossBlood.org* and enter: CivicLeagueMeta to schedule an appointment.

ARGYLE VFW POST 8045 is proud to sponsor an American Red Cross Blood Drive Post Home – 36776 HWY T, Argyle, MO Tuesday, September 30, 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM Let's show the strength of our community—one pint at a time.

SAVE THE DATES: Tim Francis Presentation – Sunday, September 21, 1-3:30 p.m. St. Thomas Parish Center
Citizens Civic League Fall Festival is September 21.
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

ST. CECILIA PARISH PICNIC JULY 13, 2025

INCOME:	Meat Collection	$425.00
	Picnic Proceeds (Includes $2500 Donation)	$34,737.30
	Kitchen Sales	$1,452.83
	Quilt & Pie Auction	$15,907.50
	(Civic League Quilt Portion 8562.50)	
	Raffle Prize Donations	$1,625.00
	Total Income:	**$54,147.63**
EXPENSES:	**Advertising**	
	Raffle Prize Winner Payout	$1,625.00
	Postmasters (Postage)	$146.00
	Central Missouri Newspapers (News Tribune)	$165.00
	The Advertiser (Miller County Autogram)	$64.00
	Linn Printing (Quilt Posters, Raffle Tickets & Work-List)	$185.40
	Warden Publishing (Unterrified Democrat)	$326.00
	Diocese of Jefferson City	$96.00
	Dinner	
	Graves Menu Maker Foods	$2,619.97
	Big Bears	$6,891.58
	Betty Hagenhoff (Groceries, Soda & Water)	$689.91
	Refreshments	
	N. H Scheppers Distributing	$704.20
	Gin Rikki Supplies	$185.28
	Liquor License Fees	$53.00
	Loose Creek Oil (Joe Borgmeyer Ice)	$360.00
	Outside Games/Activities	
	All American Bingo	$95.59
	MO Gaming Commission (Bingo License)	$25.00
	Amber Rehagen (Toys, etc)	$388.16
	Miscellaneous	
	Winter-Dent (One Day Event Insurance)	$169.00
	Starting Cash	$6,000.00
	Total Expenses:	**$20,789.09**
INCOME LESS EXPENSES		$33,358.54
	CIVIC LEAGUE FEES: 4% of Net	$1,334.34
	Civic League Hall Rental	$50.00
	Cooler Rental (4 days @ $10 per day)	$40.00
	Total Paid to Civic League for use of Premises	**$1,424.34**
PROFIT:		**$31,934.20**



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Travel with Fr. Mukiibi Kasengejje, Pastor of St Thomas the Apostle & St. Cecelia Parishes, St Thomas, MO on our JUBILEE 2025: Pilgrimage to Italy & Poland with Fr Alex trip
Where: Rome, San Giovanni Rotondo, Assisi, Pietrelcina, Cascia, Krakow, Auschwitz, Lagiewniki, Czestochowa
Trip Dates: Oct 26 - Nov 07, 2025
Cost: $5,999.00 Airfare and ALL-Included
To register, please contact (855) 842-8001 or (508) 340-9370. You can also register online at www.proximotravel.com.

For any questions or concerns please contact:

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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.