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-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 7, 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 7-14

Tuesday 7:45 a.m.	Urban & Martha Strope
Wednesday 7:45 a.m.	Joe, Antonia & Richard Schwartaz
Thursday 7:45 a.m.	People of our Parishes
Friday 7:45 a.m.	Richard Kampeter
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	People of our Parishes David Volmert
Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Virgil Kirkweg

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	$342,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	$57,000.00
Actual Collection for 2025-2026	**$61,344.44**
Offertory Difference Year to Date	$4,344.44
Offertory Goal for August	$28,500.00

Collection in Church	
August 3	$4,986.61
August 10	$6,987.35
August 17	$2,859.03
August 24	$5,433.63
August 31	$5,726.56

Collection Online	$8,373.00
August Total to Date	**$34,366.18**
Difference for August	+$5,866.18

WEEKDAY SERVERS: Kaycie Christian & Carmen Luebbering

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 David Volmert
Sunday	Family of Virgil Kirkweg

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of September 7-14

Wednesday 6:30 pm	Cindy Wansing Carmack
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Kenneth Otto

Your Sunday Offering	
Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2025-2025	**$10,089.00**
Offertory Goal per Month for August	$5,833.33

Collection in Church	
August 3	$789.00
August 10	$1,224.00
August 17	$910.00
August 24	$1,042.00
August 31	$908.00

August Total to Date	**$4,873.00**
Difference for August	-$906.33

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

Lector: Samantha Even

Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Sunday	Family of Kenneth Otto

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 13 & 14

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Buschjost, Ava Reynolds, Jacob Reynolds, Samuel Wooten, Evelyn	Berhorst, Leni Stegeman, Kambrie Stegeman, Matthew	Buechter, Aliyah Buechter, Gavin Libbert, Cadyn Prenger, Emmary
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Green, Mike Stockman, Alanna Reynolds, Andrea	Plassmeyer, Dominic Plassmeyer, Mary Libbert, Pam	Prenger, Matt Reinkemeyer, Lynne Schroeder, Jennifer
Lector	Herigon, Dale	Rehagen, Dorothy	Reinkemeyer, Alan
Rosary Leader: Joyful	Herigon, Dale	Rehagen, Dorothy	Lueckenhoff, Janet
Greeters/Ushers	Wooten, Michael Strope, Eric	Schulte, Leonard Stumpe, Brendan Stumpe, Mitch Hagenhoff, Randy	Reinkemeyer, Alan Lueckenhoff, Larry
Music Ministry	Schroeder, Jeanette Brand, Mary Kay	Hurst, Lydia	Prenger, Jackie Luebbering, Josh
Live Stream			Wieberg, Dunja
Count Collections		Libbert, Pam Libbert, Terry	Henson, Sonya Wieberg, Millie
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	Buechter, Susan - Graessle, Barb - Henson, Sonya - Schell, Brenda		

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, Sept. 11 – Mary Kay Brand & Renee Braun **Thursday, September 18** – Mary Jane Budnik & Amy Buechter

CONGRATULATIONS to ***Cooper James Hamacher***, son of Cody & Madison Hamacher, who became a child of God through baptism this weekend in St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.

PASTORS MEDITATION: **23rd Sunday in ordinary time C. FOLLOWING JESUS AT ALL COST.** (Wis. 9:13-18b; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Lk. 14:25–33)We should put God first in our life and live out that choice daily. Today's readings challenge us to live out our Baptismal commitment to the true Christian discipleship of total commitment to the will of God, putting God first in our lives. The first reading, taken from the Book of Wisdom, instructs us to ask for the gifts of discernment and strength from the Holy Spirit so that we may do the will of God as His true disciples. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 90), instructs true disciples to lead holy lives by remaining constantly aware of the brevity and uncertainty of life. The second reading, taken from St. Paul's letter to Philemon, teaches us that detachment and renunciation are necessary for a true disciple of Christ. As a responsible Apostle and zealous disciple of Christ, Paul had to renounce the service of his new helper, Onesimus, and return him to his master. As a new disciple of Christ, Onesimus had to leave Paul, face his owner as a runaway slave, and accept the consequences. Today's Gospel reminds us to count the cost of being a disciple and follower of Christ because the cost is high: true Christian discipleship requires one to "renounce" both earthly and of the heart possessions (i.e., one's relationships). Jesus lays out four conditions for true Christian discipleship. 1) Renounce too much attachment to family, giving priority to God and His commandments. 2) Break off the excessive attachment to possessions by leading a detached life, willingly sharing one's blessings with others.3) Be ready to carry the cross and follow Jesus by a) gracefully accepting and lovingly offering our pains and suffering with Jesus on the cross for the salvation of all of us b) sharing our blessings sacrificially with others c) accepting the pain involved in controlling our evil habits and tendencies and d) by welcoming as God' gift to us, the pain and humiliation we suffer in professing our faith in public and in practicing it in daily life, standing with Jesus, his ideas and ideals. 4) Calculate the cost involved in following Jesus. Using the two parables of the tower-builder and the king defending his country, Jesus says we must think long and hard about Christian discipleship before we commit ourselves to Jesus in this full, life-long surrender of body and soul to Him Who loves us. **Therefore friends we** need to accept the challenge of Christian discipleship with heroic commitment and practice it, 1) by daily recharging our spiritual batteries through prayer, i.e., by talking to God, and by listening to Him through our meditative reading and study of the Bible; 2) by sharing in God's life through frequent and active participation in the Eucharistic celebration, and grateful use of the gift of the Sacrament of Reconciliation when we have sinned and turned away from Him 3) by practicing the spirit of detachment and the renunciation of evil habits; 4) by the generous giving our time, talents and resources for the Lord's work in the Church universal, and especially in our parish community, relying on the guidance of the Holy Spirit, 5) by loving all God's children, especially the less fortunate ones, through humble, selfless acts of kindness, mercy, forgiveness, and service; 6) by showing true commitment to the obligations and duties entrusted to us by our vocation in life and our profession, for example, by fidelity in marriage and firm adherence to justice in our living and profession.
Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi

STEWARDSHIP - WHY I CHOOSE TO VOLUNTEER: When I was 22 years old, Monsignor Wilbers and Celeste Suthoff approached me and asked me to take over the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO). Agreeing to work with young students has been such a rewarding and faith learning experience and has been a big part of my life. Working with young students is not only about teaching and sharing faith, but learning with them and helping them grow in their faith. I will be forever grateful for Monsignor Willbers and Celeste for giving me the opportunity to share my faith with others and especially young students.
Barbara Graessle

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MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION is Tuesday, September 9, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH WEBSITE: Take A Look: Checkout the St. Thomas the Apostle Website for a listing of the PARISH GROUPS, such as; Parish Pastoral Council, Finance, Picnic Committee, Quilting. Under STEWARDSHIP/Church Ministry is listing of Extraordinary Ministers, Lectors, Live Streamers, Greeters/Ushers and Servers. This information may be helpful if you need to contact someone for questions or possibly switch with someone for Mass Ministry.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS! Friday, September 12- Mid-Quarter
Monday, September 15- Regional Professional Development Day - No School PreK-8

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.***

THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, September 9, **7:00 p.m.** A rosary will be prayed at **6:45 p.m.** Please read the September newsletter attached to the bulletin. The garden tractor worklist is on the back of the newsletter.

MEN OF ST. THOMAS & 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, September 17, at Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City. September marks the beginning of our fourth year as a fraternity of men established to strengthen men to be better husbands, fathers, and friends–to be men of faith. To mark our anniversary, our Chaplain, Father Paul Clark, will celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 6:30 p.m. 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.*

LADIES AUXILIARY: Our next meeting will be held **Tuesday, Sept. 16, at 7 pm at the KC Hall**. NOTE- We need all members to download the R**emind app.** Please follow these steps: 1. Download the remind app on your cell phone (it is a white "R" with a blue background). 2. Once you have the app up, click the 3 lines on the left side top corner 3. Click "**add Class**" then click "**Join existing class**" 4. Type in the code **2kkhfe.** We use Remind for our updates and reminders. If you have problems, come to the meeting on 9/16 and we will get you set up on Remind.

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.**

SEEING IS BELIEVING – DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES PRESENTATION BY TIM FRANCIS Do You Believe in Miracles? Seeing is Believing. Join us on September 21 from 1:00-3:30 p.m. (Intermission 2:00 p.m.) at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center to hear speaker Tim Francis share his powerful journey of loss and rediscovery of faith, while exploring the question: Can miracles stand up to the test of science? *www.sciencetestsfaith.com/jeffcity*

THE LEGENDARY STORY OF FR. FERDINAND HELIAS, S.J. BOOK: Limited supply of books available for sale. $50 per book includes mailing them. Please add $500 additional book if ordering 2 or more. Please send your name, full address, phone number and parish you belong to Tim Imhoff, P.O. Bos 66, Boonville, MO 65233-0066 or 1-660-888-6452.

WALK FOR LIFE: The annual Wardsville Walk for Life will be held on Sunday, September 14 following the 10:30 Mass (12:00 noon). The Walk starts at the St. Stanislaus-St. Margaret Community Center (home of the Knights'). Please meet there to begin the walk, which progresses around the parish grounds and back to the K of C building. There will be refreshments, prizes, activities, pro-life displays and a Silent Auction (more information on that soon). If you have a pro-life T-shirt, please wear it! Pledge forms for donations are on the back side of the Walk for Life flyer, available in the vestibule of St. Stanislaus church. Thank you for supporting this annual pro-life event!

CURSILLISTAS: Ready to get renewed in faith and fellowship? Join us Tuesday, September 16 for the See City Deanery Ultreya at St. Stanislaus Parish Center. Mass 5:30 p.m. Pizza & salad 6:00 p.m. & Ultreya begins at 6:30 p.m. If you have attended a Cursillo weekend, this is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect, share and continue your spiritual journey. All Cursillistas are welcome, bring a friend and come renewed. Please contact Gary Wilbers, 573-619-8700 or *gwilbers@goascend.biz* for more information.

THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY OF ST. ALOYSIUS & ST. BONIFACE will be hosting a Divine Mercy Parish Mission on Sunday, September 21, 2025 at St. Boniface Annex in Koeltztown, Missouri from 11 am-4 pm presented by the Divine Mercy Mission Team from St. Francis Borgia Parish in Washington, MO. The Mission will begin with a potluck lunch at 11:00 am after Mass (We have Mass at 10:00 am if you would like to join us). The program will begin at noon and confessions will also be available at that time. This is a free event and open to anyone, no matter what parish you are from. Everyone is welcome and we would be glad to have you!

ST. STANISLAUS PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL HOURS AVAILABLE: Saturday 1:00-2:00 a.m. (every other Saturday) Sunday, 2:00 -3:00 a.m. (1st, 3rd & 5th) Friday night 11:00-12:00 midnight. Please call Donna at 573-680-1470 if you would like to take an hour.

THE OVER 50 GROUP is gathering in the parish center for our September meeting on September 11. We plan to eat at noon. Everyone is welcome, including new members. Dues are $5.00 per year to cover the cost of supplies. The only thing you have to do is bring a covered dish for members to share and plan to enjoy yourselves.

THE CITIZEN'S CIVIC LEAGUE BLOOD DRIVE: The Citizen's Civic League is hosting a blood drive on September 25 from 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, 2025 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM Let's show the strength of our community—one pint at a time.

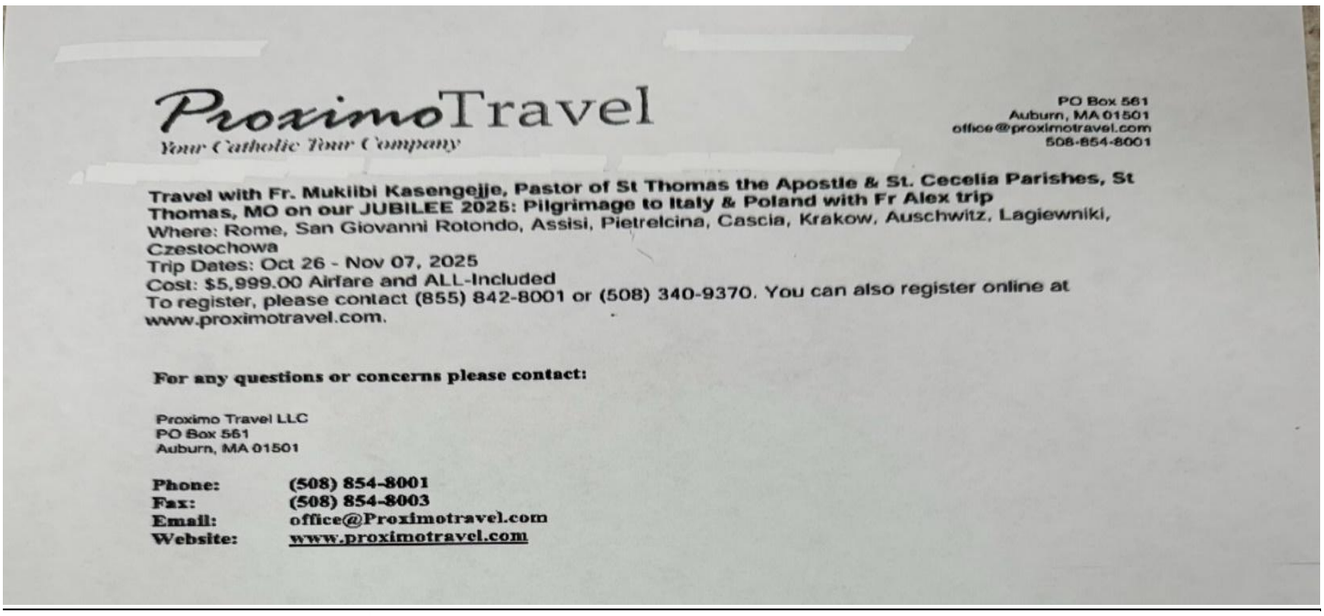
LADY KNIGHTS BASKETBALL TRYOUTS will be held September 21 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and September 22 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Helias Field House and Auxiliary Gym. This tryout is for grades 4 through 8. Please fill out the Google Form using the QR code located on the flyer."

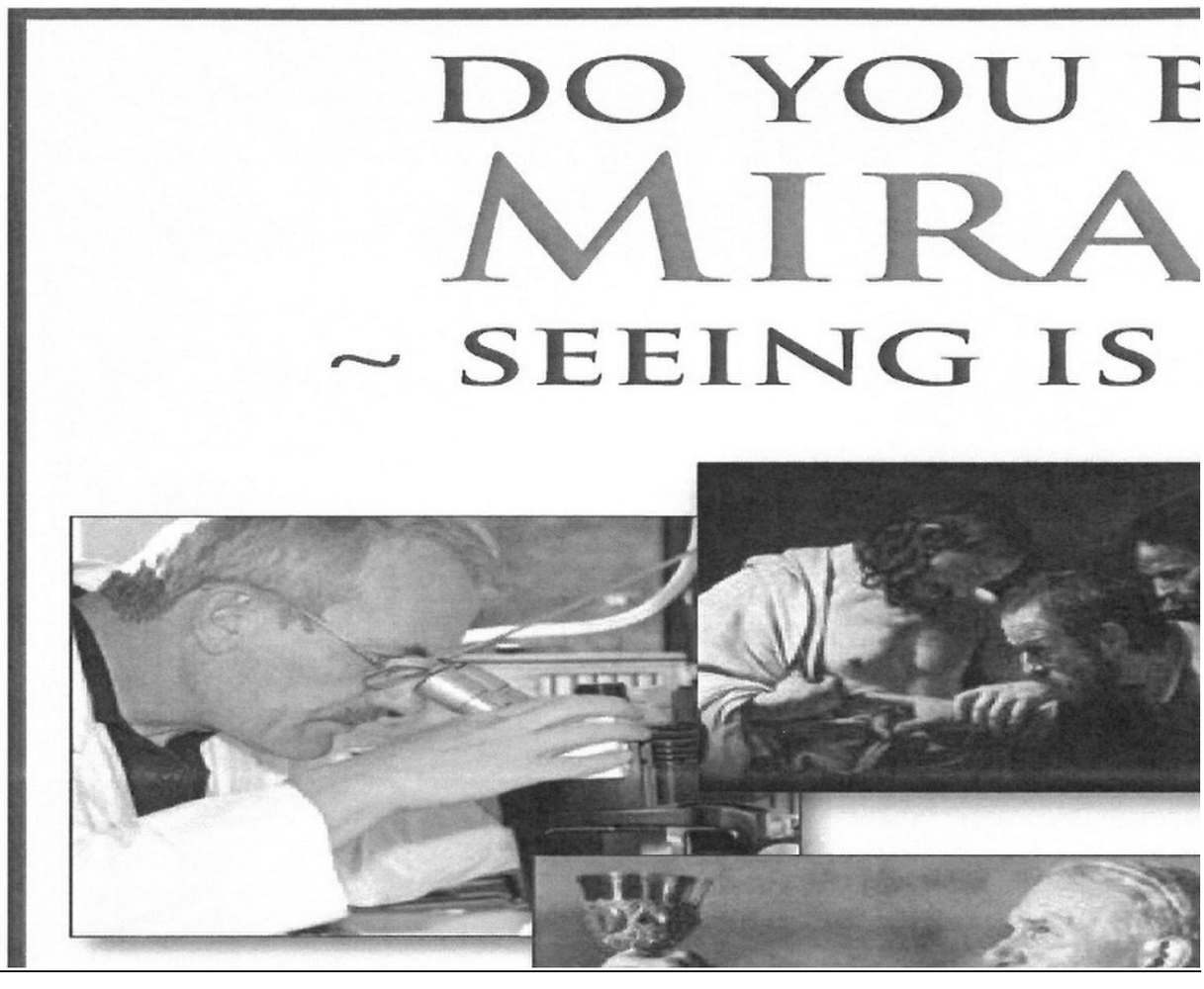
JEFFERSON CITY MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - October 18-19. This weekend focuses on putting Christ back at the center of your marriage. Cost is only $75 and includes one night stay at Best Western Capital Inn in Jefferson City, meals, and materials. Scholarships are also available. Register online at *jeffcityme.com.*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

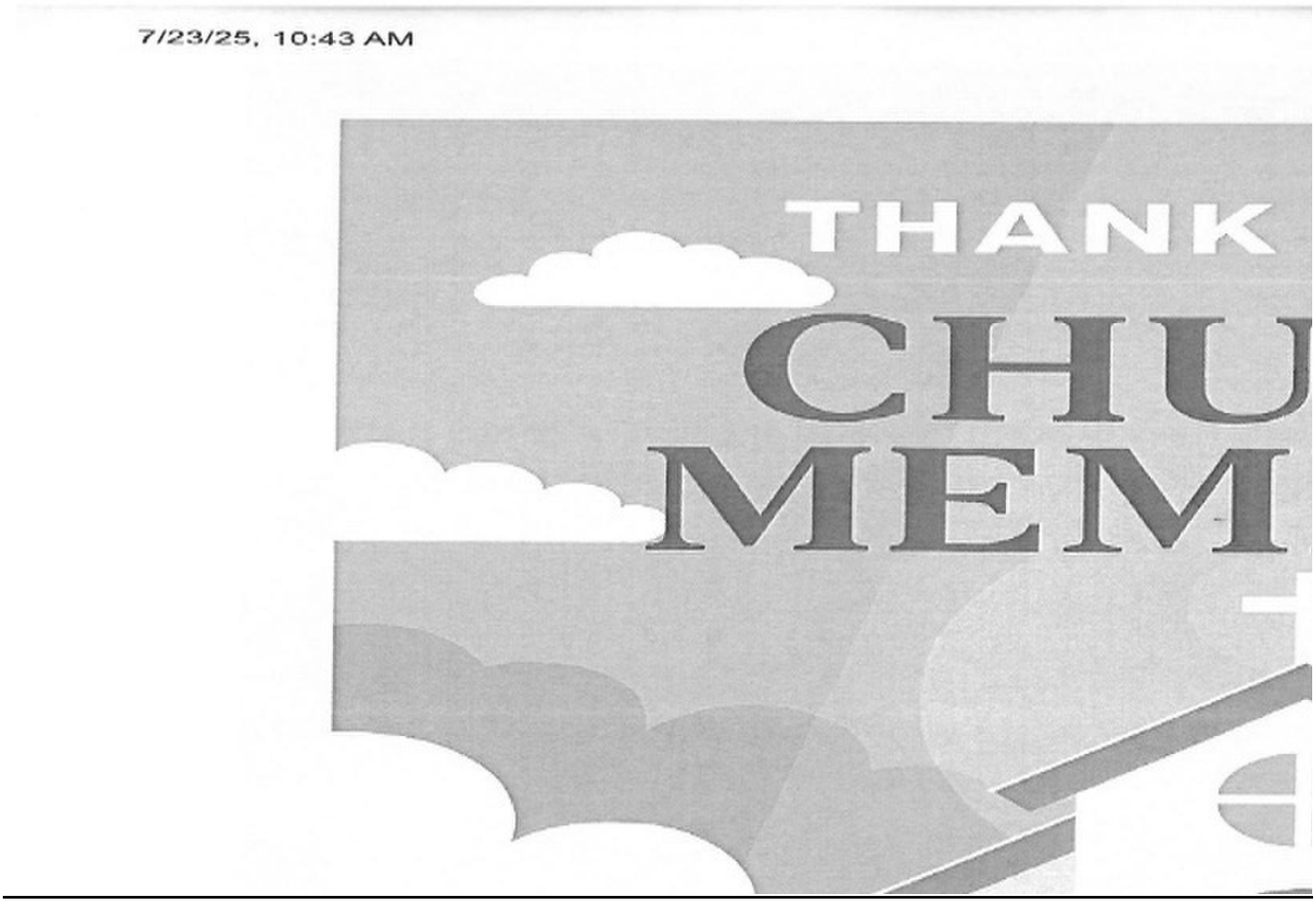
ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA FALL FESTIVAL, FOLK is Sunday, September 7, serving roast beef & sausage dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Meals $16.00. Drive thru & carry outs, indoor air conditioning seating will be available. Classic car cruise-in 11:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Shooting Match at noon. Quilt & Pie auction 5:00 p.m.

ST. LOUIS OF FRANCE PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, BONNOTS MILL is Sunday, September 14, serving fried chicken & bone in ham dinners from noon to 6:00 p.m. $16.00 per plate. Live Auction 4:00 p.m.

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.
29th Annual St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Fall Fantasy- Saturday, November 1.
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.

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