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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 4, 2024

Pastor: Fr. Leonard Mukiibi
frleonardmukiibi@gmail.com
Rectory Phone: 573-477-3315

St. Thomas the Apostle Bookkeeper:
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

St. Thomas the Apostle Secretary:
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 Aug. 4-11:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. –Dorothy Veit
Thursday 7:45 a.m.– Clara Loethen
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Herman & Agatha Luebbering
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – L&D Kenny Koetting Family
Sunday 10:00 a.m. –People of our Parishes
Jane Lindenbusch

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$330,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	$ 27,500.00
Actual Collection for 2024-2025:	**$ 24,636.97**
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	-$ 2,863.03
Offertory Goal for July:	$ 27,500.00

Collection in Church:

July 7	$ 5,540.76
July 14	$ 2,616.59
July 21	$ 5,931.47
July 28	-$ 2,665.15
Collection Online:	$ 7,883.00
July total to date:	**$24,636.97**
Difference for July:	-$ 2,863.03

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations	$498,666.54
Total Collected	$539,509.77
Total Expenses Paid	$699,195.95

A total of 131 parishioners have returned pledge cards/or Contributed to the renovation project.

Church Renovation Loan Balance	$37,762.35
Loan payments to date	$175,305.00
(principal) $162,237.65	(interest) $13,067.35

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists
Aug. 10 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Anne Strope / Jeanette
Aug. 11 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering / Jackie
Aug. 17 Saturday 5:00 p.m.– Jean Kliethermes / Jeanette
Aug. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Josh Luebbering / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers
Aug. 10 Saturday – 5:00 p.m. – Jenny Becker
Aug. 11 Sunday – 10:00 a.m. – Jim Lueckenhoff
Aug. 15 Thursday 6:30 p.m. – Amanda Wooten
Aug. 17 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jan Carter
Aug. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Mary Kay Brand

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of Aug. 4-11:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Larry Bock

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Tom Kleffner

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$67,000.00
Collection Total for 2024-2025:	**$ 4,923.00**
Offertory Goal per month:	$ 5,583.34

Collection in Church:

July 7	$ 1,144.00
July 14	$ 1,274.00
July 21	$ 570.00
July 28	$ 1,935.00
July total to date:	**$ 4,923.00**
Difference for July:	-$ 660.34

St. Cecilia Collection Counters
August: Dale & Margie Helton

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.

St. Cecilia Readers
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer
Sunday, Aug. 11 - 8:00 a.m.- Betty Hagenhoff
Sunday, Aug. 18 - 8:00 a.m.- Dorothy Rehagen

St. Cecilia Organist
Sunday, Aug.11 8:00 a.m. – Lydia
Sunday, Aug. 18 8:00 a.m. – Emilie

IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO FULFILL YOUR LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENT, PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT. YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS THANK YOU!

St. Thomas the Apostle Greeters/Ushers
Aug. 10 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Al Carter & Eric Boessen
Aug. 11 Sunday 10:00 a.m.–Doug Stockman & Kelly Stewart
Aug. 15 Thursday 6:30 p.m. – Keith Kliethermes & Phil Akin
Aug. 17 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Gilbert Schellman & Eric Strope
Aug. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Craig Buechter & Ryan Buschjost
Collection baskets choir loft by organ, please return after use.

St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Ministers
Aug. 10 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Brenda Wansing
Aug. 11 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Keith Kliethermes
Aug. 15 Thursday 6:30 p.m.- Jan Carter
Aug. 17 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Mark Graessle
Aug. 18 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Glenn Prenger

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers
Aug. 10 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Valerie, Max & Zeke Verslues, Kora Luebbering
Aug. 11 10:00 a.m. – Fayeth Prenger, Erika Luebbering, Oliver & Isabella Luebbering
Aug. 15 6:30 p.m. – Ellie & Sadie Boessen Wyatt Otto
Aug. 17 5:00 p.m. – Miranda Meyer, Emerald Fennewald, JD Volmert, Carmen Luebbering
Aug. 18 10:00 a.m.- Ben & Luke Otto, Victoria & Will Wieberg

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts
Aug. 10 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Family of Kenny Koetting
Aug. 11 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Family of Jane Lindenbusch

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters
Aug. 11 - Keith & Jean Kliethermes
Aug. 18 – Ron & Theresa Veit
Aug. 25 - Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
Sept. 1 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder
Sept. 8 - Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

Live stream Mass (10:00 a.m.) Sunday

Aug. 11	Brooke Schell
Aug. 18	Jenny Schellman
Aug. 25	Dunja Wieberg
Sept. 1	Lauri Luebbering
Sept. 8	Jenny Becker
Sept. 15	Karlie Reinkemeyer

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas
Tuesday, 7:25 a.m. – Bob Schellman – Sorrowful Mysteries
Thursday 7:25 a.m. – Dale Herigon – Luminous Mysteries
Friday 7:25 a.m. – Jim Lueckenhoff – Sorrowful Mysteries
Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Dale Herigon – Luminous Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m**.** – Jennifer Schroeder – Luminous Mysteries

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers
Aug. 11 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer
Aug. 18 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers
Aug. 11 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch Stumpe, Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff
Aug. 18 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch & Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff

St. Cecilia Servers
Aug. 11 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Bradyn, Kambrie & Matthew Stegeman
Aug. 14 Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Jesse & Tucker Schroeder
Aug. 18 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Reagan & Eli Bock

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts
Aug. 11 Sunday 8:00 a.m.– Family of Tom Kleffner

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia
Wednesday 6:05 p.m.– Dorothy Rehagen Glorious Mysteries
Aug. 11 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer Luminous Mysteries
Aug. 18 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen Joyful Mysterries

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.

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners
Aug. 4: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer
Aug. 11: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost
Aug. 18: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman
Aug. 25: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Brenda Schell, Barb Graessle
Sept. 1: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering

SCRIP: Visit *www.stthomasapostleschoolnet/scrip* for more information about the Scrip program. Please contact, Amanda Wooten 573-694-1735 or *amandab27@hotmail.com*

BULLETIN NOTICES & PARISH BULLETINS: Deadline for bulletin is Wednesday at Noon. If you are needing a bulletin and Church is locked at St. Thomas the Apostle, there are some on the Vitae House front porch.

ATTENTION USHERS: DIOCESAN MANDATORY MASS COUNTS ended July 31, 2024.

A ROSARY FOR OUR COUNTRY will be prayed on Sunday, August 4, 5:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Wednesday, August 7 but will be open on Thursday, August 8 from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: Fr. Leonard will celebrate the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary **(this is a Holy Day of Obligation)** on Wednesday, August 14, 6:30 p.m. St. Cecilia and Thursday, August 15, 7:45 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Masses at St. Thomas the Apostle.

ST. CECILIA CHURCH DIRECTORY: St. Cecilia Church Directory Photos, September 3-4: EXCITING NEWS! Our church leadership has determined it is time for our new pictorial church directory. Sign-ups for a photography appointment can be made on-line or in person after the Sunday masses (August 4, August 11, August 18). To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to **www.ucdir.com**, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter **mo350** in the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family, please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Saturday. In-person sign-ups are Sunday after masses. **Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.** We also need volunteers to help with this project. Please contact Joanne Schroeder to volunteer to be a part of this project.

OVER 50 GROUP: The Over 50 group will be gathering in Meta at the parish center for our monthly get together on August 8 at noon. Each person is asked to bring a covered dish to share. Good time to visit or play cards since it will be too hot to work outside.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT AUGUST PRAYER INTENTION: For a greater respect for the dignity of each and every human life in all public policies, we pray to the Lord.

BLEST ART: Blest Art will be visiting our parishes this weekend on behalf of the Christian families in Bethlehem, Palestine. Their mission is to support those families in the Holy Land. Blest Art will have hand-carved nativity sets, statues, crosses, rosaries, and many other pieces of beautiful olive wood art. Blest Art gladly accepts cash, checks, and all major credit cards.

ST. THOMAS BENCHES FOR SMALL CHILDREN/BABIES: "Jesus said, let the children come to me"- In lieu of a cry room, families with small children/babies are invited to utilize the reserved back two benches on both sides of church. Parishioners, please welcome these families into this area. What a blessing to have families growing in Christ together at St. Thomas!

PASTORS MEDITATION: 18th Sunday of year B, GOD GIVES US THE BREAD OF LIFE THROUGH JESUS. (Ex. 16:2-4, 12-15; Eph. 4:17, 20-24; Jn. 6:24-35) There is a hunger in all of us that only Jesus can fill. Today's readings challenge us to be more concerned with spiritual food than with physical food and to get that spiritual food regularly from the word of God and from the Holy Eucharist, the Heavenly Bread, because only God can satisfy the various forms of our spiritual hunger.
The first reading shows us how God satisfied the physical hunger of His chosen people in the desert by giving them manna and quail. The restrictions imposed by God for the collecting of manna remind us to acknowledge humbly our total dependence on God and to trust that He will always provide for what we need. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 78) refers to manna as "Heavenly bread" the "bread of angels" which God provided for Israel and provides for us today. In the second reading, St. Paul advises the Ephesians to satisfy their spiritual hunger by turning away from their former evil ways and by leading renewed lives of love, kindness, compassion, and forgiveness. Paul reminds us that our acceptance of Jesus as the real source of our life and the nourishment of our souls, produces a total transformation in us. Having been nourished by the Bread from Heaven and the word of God, we need to bear witness to Christ by living lives renewed by the Holy Spirit. Today's Gospel passage is taken from the "Bread of Life Discourse" in John's Gospel. Here, Jesus makes the unique, bold claim, "I am the Bread of Life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." Jesus is offering the crowd Bread from Heaven, Bread that will nourish them for eternal life, the Bread available to people who have Faith in Jesus Christ, the presence and indwelling of God in their hearts. When Jesus instructed those who had sought after him for earthly food that they should be fed by the Bread that Jesus would give them, some accepted this teaching. But others turned away disappointed, because Jesus' challenge required a commitment that they were unwilling to make.
So, friends we need to receive our spiritual nourishment from the word of God. During Holy Mass, the Church offers us two types of bread: a) the Bread of Life, contained in God's Word and b) The Bread of Life, contained in the Holy Eucharist. The powerful word of God gives us strength and inspiration to fight and conquer our temptations and to practice Christian love by serving others sacrificially and helping others by sharing our blessings with them. This word of God convinces us of our missionary duty of witnessing to Jesus by our ideal Christian life and convicts us of our sins.
We need to appreciate and gain the benefits of our Holy Communion with Jesus. Just as our normal food nourishes and strengthens our body, enables us to work, promotes physical growth, and dispels fatigue, our spiritual food in the word of God and in the Holy Eucharist do these things and much more in our soul. Holy Communion (1) Unites us most closely to Jesus Himself, ("He that eats My Flesh and drinks My Blood, abides in Me, and I in him" Jn. 6:57)); (2) Unites each of us individually to each individual member of the human race through Jesus; (3), Imparts actual graces, including strength, the power to withstand temptation, and the desire to practice virtue, while maintaining, deepening, and increasing Sanctifying Grace in the soul; (4) Gives us more self-control, freeing us from repented venial sins of anger, envy, evil thoughts and desires, and other evil propensities, (5) Cancels the temporal penalties of sin according to the measure of our devotion; and (6) Lessens the force of concupiscence of the eyes, concupiscence of the flesh and the pride of life .
Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PICNIC RAFFLE CHANCES are at the entrances of Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PSR ENROLLMENT IS OPEN: Registration for the 2024/2025 PSR Classes are now open. The link to register can be found on the parish website, Facebook. Please complete all registrations by August 12 as we will be purchasing new PSR programs this year and will be ordering the books in August. Erin Fennewald has agreed to teach 6th and 7th grade this year, so we still need a 5th grade teacher. Any questions, Barbara Graessle 573-680-2954.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS:
Sunday, August 11, Open house **4:00 p.m.** & Mandatory Parent Meeting **4:30 p.m.**
Wednesday, August 14, First Day of School
Monday, August 19, No School
Thursday, August 22, Home & School Meeting 6:30 p.m.

ST. THOMAS BOWLING MEETING: The annual bowling meeting will be held on Monday, August 5, at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Thomas bowling alley. This is an important meeting so: all teams are requested to have at least one member present for this meeting.

ST. STANISLAUS PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL OPEN HOURS Sunday 2:00-3:00 a.m. (1,3), Sunday 1;00 – 2:00 pm (4th), Sat. 1:00 – 2:00 am (every other) Please call Donna at 680-1470 if you would like to take one of these hours.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: The Catholic parishes of the Jefferson City area sponsor an on-going grief support program for those who have lost a loved one. 'Seasons of Hope' is a unique program that invites those who mourn to accompany one another to meet Christ through scripture, prayer and reflection with the aim of offering comfort and aid in fostering healing and spiritual growth. The program is offered at both St. Martin and St. Peter parishes.
St. Martin's next session will begin **Wednesday, September 4** at 2pm. The sessions will be held in the church basement. St. Peter's next session will begin on **Thursday, October 3** at 6:15pm and sessions will be held in the Fr. Ahrens room. For more information and to register for the sessions, please contact St. Martin parish office 573/893-2923 or St. Peter parish office 573/636-8159.

ATTENTION MEN OF THE ST. THOMAS/META AREA: SIGNUM CRUCIS You are invited to join the Men of ***Signum Crucis*** at our next gathering, which begins at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21, at Helias Catholic High School. Feel free to come early to pray the Rosary at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Our topic this month is "Catholicism and the Culture," presented by Mark Rehagen. Come to learn how to deal with and lead your families through the shifting culture. As always, enter the school on the east end of the front Swifts Highway parking lot to sign in. Our Hospitality men will greet you right inside the door and direct you

to the appropriate location. The mission of the Men of ***Signum Crucis*** is to provide Fraternity through Study, Devotion, and Service to sharpen ourselves to meet the many challenges of our day. For more information, contact Jeff Cassmeyer at 573-690-7546, or visit us at www.menofsignumcrucis.com.

OVERWHELMED LOOKING FOR THE CALM IN LIFE? Would you like some tools to cultivate a growing faith in yourself and your family? Would you like to commit some time now, to be able to instill this faith to your children, to share God's Love and Joy to all those in your circle of life?_CURSILLO begins with a weekend where Catholic men or women gather, led by a team of trained laity and a Priest/Deacon/Religious member. Daily Mass, Reconciliation, short talks and fellowship are major elements of the Weekend. If you are interested in making your Weekend, reach out to anyone in the Cursillo movement or contact Becky Sander, Diocesan Rep at jeffcity.diocese.cursillo@gmail.com/ 573-808-3758. Upcoming Cursillo Weekends:
Men's: September 19-22, 2024 Edina, MO; June 5-8, 2025, Columbia, MO
Women's: October 10-13, 2024 Edina, MO; June 12-15, 2025, Columbia, MO

SAVE THE DATES: August 18 – St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Picnic St. Cecilia Church Directory Sept. 3 & 4, September 15 - Meta Citizens Civic League Fall Festival November 2 – St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Fall Fantasy

St. Thomas Pastoral Parish Council Meeting Notes
July 30, 2024

1. **Meeting Called to Order**
    a. **Attendance: Father Leonard, Andi Reynolds, Richard Heckemeyer, Leroy Heckemeyer, Lynn Reinkemeyer, Sam Luebbering, Logan Peters, Linda Boessen, Mike Wieberg, Sonya Henson, Alayna Stockman**
    b. **Not in Attendance: Shane Verslues, Brenda Schell**
    c. **New members were welcomed**
2. **Principal's Report / School Advisory Council**
    a. **Mr. Heckemeyer gave an update for school. St. Thomas is getting 11 new Chromebooks for the kindergarten and 5th grade classrooms. All classrooms will be getting document cameras. The preschool classroom got a new Smartboard. Preschool has 20 kids this year so Linda Boessen and Sheila Thomas were hired as preschool aides. The new roof of the main school building will be installed beginning after the picnic. The mandatory parent meeting will be Sunday, August 11 at 4:30 after the Open House that starts at 4:00. The first day of school is Wednesday, August 14. There will be NO school on Monday, August 19.**
    b. **Keith Buechter has his license so he will be able to spray for cockroaches if needed. We are not seeing them right now! The drain has been fixed.**
3. **Pastoral council commission reports**
    a. **Worship**
        i. **Barb Graessle is organizing PSR teachers. There are enough teachers at this time so thank you to all that have volunteered their time and talent for this!**
        ii. **There was a Deanery Meeting on 6/4/24 at the Cathedral Undercroft. It was decided to converge people from various parishes to instruct new people to the faith.**
        iii. **The next worship meeting will be August 20th.**
    b. **Social Concerns**
        i. **The last picnic meeting is July 31st. The draft worklist was online. The final worklist will be in the bulletin August 3-4.**
        ii. **We celebrated St. Thomas the Apostle on July 7 with food and refreshments after the 10:00 mass.**
    c. **Administration**
        i. **Cockroaches are not a problem right now! Keith is able to spray for these and they are under control!**
        ii. **MO Builders Service will put a new roof on the school brick building after the picnic. There may be times we will have to reroute where to enter the school building depending on what area they are working on. The project should be done in 4 weeks as long as the weather cooperates.**
        iii. **The drain work in the water heater room in the school kitchen was fixed.**
        iv. **We need to put an enclosure piece at the stairwell window in the choir loft. This was forwarded to Keith.**
    d. **Finance Committee**
        i. **The finance committee approved the following:**
            1. **Church building waterproofing and tuck pointing repair $58,550- bid by T & J's Restoration and Waterproofing.**
            2. **Rectory waterproofing and tuckpoint repair $26,500 - bid by T & J's Restoration and Waterproofing.**
            3. **Vitae house new basement windows $3350 - bid by Scrugg's.**
            4. **3.575% increase for hourly employees effective July 1, 2024. This same % increase was given to full-time teaching staff when contracts were issued in March for the 2024-2025 school year.**
            5. **New meat slicer at the request of the picnic committee. The estimated cost is $1000.**
            6. **5 rubber anti-fatigue mats at the request of the picnic committee. The estimated cost is $225.**
            7. **Transfer of $250,000 from the General checking account to the short-term savings account with the Diocese.**
        ii. **September 12, 2024 is the next meeting.**
4. **Pastor's Report**
    a. **September 3 and November 12 are Deanery meetings at the Cathedral.**
    b. **Father wanted to let everyone know what a great job Keith Buechter is doing at the school and church.**
    c. **Mason Otto and Jessica Peters have asked if they can lead a Sunday School group of young children during the beginning/part of mass. They would bring the kids to church at offertory time to sit with their parents. Details will come later. The Parish Council thought this was a wonderful idea!**
    d. **St. Thomas does not have a youth ministry coordinator. We do not have any volunteers for this. Maybe we could pair up with Meta.**

e. **Father suggested that the back two benches at St. Thomas be reserved for families with young children since we do not have a cry room. There will be a sign put on the benches letting parishioners know that we would like this reserved.**
f. **Father, along with the Parish Council, discussed bringing wine back to mass. We will need to have more communion ministers for this.**
g. **Father attended the School Pastors' institute in Notre Dame in Indiana. He was very excited and found the information quite helpful. Father says he knows this will lead him to be an even better school pastor!**

5. **New Business**
   a. **Janet Lueckenhoff is heading the CSR. That committee will meet on August 6 or 7.**
   b. **The giving tree was discussed. Jan Heckemeyer looked into when the donations to the parish center renovations were ended. Some people have given to the renovation project over the years beyond the five year cutoff time. Some of those families/individuals may want to be recognized for this and others have voiced they do not want the recognition. There are 3 or 4 options to decide upon as far as the giving tree is concerned. We will look into this next meeting when we have more details.**

6. **Varia**
   a. **NA**
7. **Next meeting**
   a. **September 24th 7:00 p.m. in the school library.**
8. **Closing prayer**
   a. **We closed with a prayer.**
9. **Adjournment**

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE 2024 PARISH PICNIC NOTES:

Pies: A reminder that each household is asked to donate **three or more** homemade pies, or substitute with cupcakes, sheet cakes, or brownies; no cobblers please.

Homemade Bread: Donations of homemade bread are needed. Each household is asked to donate two-three loaves of sliced bread.

Country Store: Please help bake and provide items for the Country Store. Any baked goods (breads, cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, etc.), home canned foods, jellies, fresh fruits and vegetables sell very well. You can drop these items off either Saturday/Sunday or by contacting one of the Co-Chairs listed below. All volunteers are welcome to help bake pies on Saturday. For start-time, contact Donna Luebbering (690-0822). Note that the Country Store stand "worker baking" will be limited to fresh baked pies only.

Also, if you have frozen berries or juices to donate for pie or jelly making contact Sonya Henson (338-3665), Donna Luebbering (690-0822), or Lucy Suthoff (645-6801).

Grand Raffle: Grand Raffle tickets are at the entrances of church. Extra raffle tickets are in the entrances of church, or by contacting a picnic committee member. Sold tickets may be returned in the collection basket in an envelope marked "raffle," or to the Grand Raffle stand on picnic day.

Advertising: Picnic and quilt flyers are in the entrances to church. Please take some and distribute them. Your assistance in spreading the word is very important to the success of our picnic.

Food Donations: We need **tomatoes and cucumbers** for the meal. Please bring to the hall by Friday August 16, if you have tomatoes and cucumbers to donate. Please **DO NOT REFRIGERATE TOMATOES,** if possible.

Work list: The work list is attached to the bulletin and on the Parish website. This is the final version that will be printed. If you cannot work or need to change time or place, please contact your stand chairperson ASAP. If you are not on the worklist and are willing to work, please contact a member of the Picnic Committee (names & numbers listed on the worklist). Parents should encourage their children to work, we need everyone's help, to make our picnic a success!

Please help clean up Sunday. All work areas should be cleaned by the shift workers. This includes washing pots (and any other items), taking care of trash throughout the day and putting away supplies and equipment before you leave. School will be in session soon, so Sunday evening clean-up is important.

Additional notes:
Parking will be available in Gilbert Schellman's field. Please use Steve Schellman's driveway. Please do not park in those areas reserved for handicapped visitors, we want to ensure our visitors have a pleasant experience and there is ample parking.

We will ***NOT*** be using the number system for dinner tickets this year. All tickets must be purchased on the day of picnic with ticket sales starting at 10:00 am. Drive-thru meals will also be available (follow the signs), as well as walk-up carry outs.

On behalf of the picnic committee, THANK YOU in advance for making this a successful picnic! As the largest fundraiser in our parish, everyone's help is needed and is greatly appreciated. We hope to see you Picnic Sunday!

St. Thomas PARISH PICNIC

JOIN US

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18TH

START 11 AM

SERVING CAFETERIA STYLE 11 AM - 7 PM
CARRY OUTS & DRIVE-THRU AVAILABLE
ADULTS: $15 CHILDREN 12-6: $7 5 & UNDER: FREE

FRIED CHICKEN, ROAST BEEF,
REAL MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY, CORN,
GREEN BEANS, KRAUT, BREAD & PIES

GLUTEN FREE OPTIONS FOR BEEF & GRAVY

LIVE MUSIC FROM 2-4:30PM & 6-9PM

QUILT AUCTION AT 5:00PM

GRAND RAFFLE, AIR CONDITIONED BINGO, KIDSVILLE,
COUNTRY STORE, BOUNCE HOUSE, KETTLECORN,
BEER GARDEN & GIN RICKIES

NEW THIS YEAR: KIDDIE TRACTOR PULL 3-4:30PM

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.