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

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 7, 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 July 7-14:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – *No Mass, Fr. attending conference*
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – *No Mass, Fr. attending conference*
Friday 7:45 a.m. – People of our Parishes
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ray & Sally Herigon
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes
L&D Lawrence & Caroline Herigon Family

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024:	$312,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	$312,000.00
Actual Collection for 2023-2024:	**$341,271.55**
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	$ 29,271.55
Offertory Goal per month:	$ 26,000.00

Collection in Church:

June 2	$3,975.11
June 9	$3,762.68
June 16	$4,955.45
June 23	$4,249.17
June 30	$3,429.18
Collection Online:	$ 7,933.00
June total to date:	**$28,304.59**
Difference for June:	+$ 2,304.59

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations	$497,697.81
Total Collected	$537,446.04
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	$41,318.22
Loan payments to date	$171.590.00
(principal) $158,681.78	(interest) $12,908.22

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists
July 13 Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Kelsey Kliethermes / Jeanette
July 14 Sunday 10:00 a.m. –Doug Luebbering / Jackie
July 20 Saturday 5:00 p.m.– Jean Kliethermes / Jackie
July 21 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Anne Strope / Alanna

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers
July 13 Saturday – 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten
July 14 Sunday – 10:00 a.m. – David Schroeder
July 20 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jan Carter
July 21 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Mary Kay Brand

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of July 7-14:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – *No Mass, Fr. attending conference*

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – L&D of Jaegers Family

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024:	$67,000.00
Collection Total for 2023-2024:	**$73,340.00**
Offertory Goal per month:	$ 5,583.34

Collection in Church:

June 2	$ 592.00
June 9	$1,299.00
June 16	$2,171.00
June 23	$1,049.00
June 30	$1,072.00
June total to date:	**$ 6,183.00**
Difference for June:	+$ 599.66

St. Cecilia Collection Counters
July: Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.

St. Cecilia Readers
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. – *No Mass, Fr. attending conference*
Sunday, July 14 - 8:00 a.m.- Jennifer Even
Sunday, July 21- 8:00 a.m.- Dominic Plassmeyer

St. Cecilia Organist
Sunday, June 14 8:00 a.m. – Lydia
Sunday, July 21 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
July 13 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Eric Strope & Mark Boessen
July 14 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Art Groner & Kelly Stewart
July 20 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Boessen & Al Carter
July 21 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Keith Kliethermes & Eric Boessen
Parish Count for weekend Masses is on the offertory table.
Collection baskets choir loft by organ, please return after use.

St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Ministers
July 13 5:00 p.m. – Brenda Wansing
July 14 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Glenn Prenger
July 20 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Marian Buschjost
July 21 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Marshall Boessen

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers
July 13 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ava Buschjost, Evelyn Wooten, Jude Luebbering, Gannon Reeves
July 14 10:00 a.m. – Valerie, Max & Zeke Verslues, Stella Volmert
July 20 5:00 p.m. – Carmen Luebbering, Miranda Meyer, Emerald Fennewald, JD Volmert
July 21 10:00 a.m.- Franice, Levi & Hannah Tallent, Wyatt Otto

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts
July 13 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Family of Ray & Sally Herigon
July 14 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Family of Lawrence & Caroline Herigon

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters
July 14– Keith & Jean Kliethermes
July 21- Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
July 28 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder
Aug. 4 - Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

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

July 14	Dunja Wieberg
July 21	Lauri Luebbering
July 28	Jenny Becker
Aug. 4	Karlie Reinkemeyer
Aug. 11	Brooke Schell
Aug. 18	Jenny Schellman

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers
July 14 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer
July 21 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Jennifer Even

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers
July 14 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch Stumpe, Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff
July 21 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch & Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff

St. Cecilia Servers
July 14 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Gavin Werdehausen Natalee Derkum
July 21 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Henry & Annaline Schroeder

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts
July 14 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Jaegers Family

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia
Wednesday 6:05 p.m.– *No Rosary, Fr. attending conference*
July 14 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen Sorrowful Mysteries
July 21 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer Luminous 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.

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas
No morning Mass Tuesday & Thursday as Fr. is attending conference
Friday 7:25 a.m. – Bob Schellman – Sorrowful Mysteries
Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Dale Herigon – Sorrowful Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m**.** – Tina Stockman – Sorrowful Mysteries

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners
July 7: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost
July 14: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman
July 21: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Brenda Schell, Barb Graessle
July 28: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering
Aug. 4: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer

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

THE ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Wednesday, July 10 but will be open on Thursday, July 11, 8:00-4:00 p.m.

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.

FR. PORTERFIELD'S 30TH PRIESTLY ORDINATION MASS is July 14, 2:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ATTENTION BELL RINGERS/USHERS: Thank you for your services to our Parish Community. Recently on a couple of occasions it has been observed that the large bell and the funeral toll bell are being rung at the same time which causes the bell to collide with the funeral toll hammer which breaks the hammer off at the mount. **PLEASE PAY ATTENTION** to the **INSTRUCTIONS** posted near each bell rope. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING: THIS NEEDED TO BE COMPLETED BY JUNE 9, if not you will not be assigned ministries until you have completed the training. THIS IS A DIOCESEAN POLICY!!!
As Father Leonard mentioned in Church, our parishes recently had an audit with the Diocese on Safe Environment/Virtus. Any parishioner that has volunteered to do a ministry during Mass must complete the Safe Environment/Virtus program. Anyone **18 years or older needs the training.** Safe Environment/Virtus Training may be found on the Homepage of the Parish Website *(www.stthomasapostle.net)* or go directly to the Diocese Safe Environment/Virtus link *(www.virtus.org).* If you have never done any of the Virtus training please create an account and complete your training. If you have signed on before, please sign in using your existing account. The Virtus Training cannot be done on a phone, you will need a laptop or computer. If you are needing a computer or laptop to complete the training please let us know and we can make arrangements for you to use one at school. If you need help, please contact Theresa, Diane, or Doris. Thank you for your help in this matter.

LIVE STREAMERS NEEDED AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH: Are you someone who likes to spread our Catholic faith? Why not consider joining our St. Thomas Stream Team and help spread the Word every Sunday at the 10:00 a.m. Mass? Operating the equipment is fun and easy! Please call or text Lauri Luebbering at 573-619-6090 if interested.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS SPECIAL COLLECTION: The weekend of July 20-21, the Diocese of Jefferson City will hold a special collection to support to our brothers and sisters in need, including in the home Dioceses of the mission priests serving us. The Diocese is providing special envelopes for this collection that will be included in the July 5 issue of The Catholic Missourian or there is one in our parish monthly packet. For more information, please see the Missions ad on the last page of the bulletin.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT JULY PRAYER INTENTION: For the promotion of Eucharistic life among the faithful; that our participation in Mass and Eucharistic adoration may inflame our hearts to live out more effectively the Sacrament of Charity, we pray to the Lord.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 14th Sunday of Ordinary B. REJECTED BY HIS OWN FAMILY. (Ezek. 2:2-5; 2Cor. 12:7-10; Mk. 6:1-6) Happy Feast Day to all St. Thomas parishioners, may God bless you always and may St. Thomas the Apostle intercede for you as you continue to listen and live your life according to the gospel. This week, I am heading to Notre Dame University, Indiana for a conference. Please keep me in your prayers and I appreciate your prayers for a safe trip, see you Friday at Mass. Today's readings introduce Jesus as a prophet and explain how prophets and other messengers from God inevitably suffer rejection. They challenge us to face rejection and hardship with prophetic courage. The first reading, taken from the book of prophet Ezekiel, tells us about his call from God to be a prophet. Yahweh warns Ezekiel that he is being sent to obstinate and rebellious Israelites in exile in Babylon. Hence, as God's prophet, he will have to face rejection and persecution for giving God's message. The reading gives us the warning, as Christians who accept the Way of Jesus and seek to follow it, that we too may face indifference, hostility, contempt, scorn, weakness, hardship, persecution, insults, and rejection. In the second reading, Paul confesses that God has given him a share in Christ's suffering, a chronic illness which causes physical suffering, a "thorn in the flesh," so that he might **rely solely on God's grace in all his work** and might glory in the power of the strengthening God Who alone sustains him. The apostle invites us to rise above our own weaknesses and disabilities, cooperating with the grace of God and proclaiming His message by word and example as Paul did. The Gospel today, tells us that the first reaction of the people in the synagogue to Jesus' words was one of astonishment. They were "amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips." But in spite of their amazement, many people of Jesus' hometown of Nazareth did not accept him as a prophet because they "knew" Jesus and the family. They also thought that this "son of the carpenter" could not be the promised Messiah because he had not (as far as they knew), come from Bethlehem as a descendant of David's royal family. They thought of Jesus as only a carpenter from a poor family, with no formal training in Mosaic Law. Jesus' neighbors did not expect this "carpenter's son," to be skilled in interpreting the Scriptures. They also could not understand how a mere carpenter could be their wealthy, powerful, political Messiah who would liberate them from Roman rule and re-establish the Davidic kingdom of power and glory. Besides, they were angry when Jesus not only did not work any miracles in Nazareth but chided them with prophetic courage for their lack of Faith, then left them, going to proclaim God's message through a preaching, healing ministry to those who would receive it and believe. Certainly, they thought Jesus had gone far beyond the proper place of a humble carpenter. The apostle John wrote of Christ in Jn. 1:10-11, "He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him." So, dear friends, today we are to face rejection with prophetic courage and optimism. Very often our friends, families, or childhood companions fail to listen to us and refuse to accept the words of grace, love, and encouragement that we offer to them because they are so familiar with us that they are unable to see us as God's appointed instruments, the agents of God's healing and saving grace for them. But we have to face such rejection with prophetic courage because by our Baptism we are called to be prophets like Jesus, sharing Jesus' prophetic mission. As prophets, our task is to "speak the truth in love," and to oppose the evils in our society, refusing to condone or encourage sinful behavior even among our dear ones. Let us also acknowledge, appreciate, and encourage the prophets of our time who stand for Truth and Justice in our society with the wisdom of God in their heads, the power and love of the Holy Spirit in their hearts and words, and the courage of God in their actions. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

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

THE ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL OFFICE will be closed July 1-14.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PSR PROGRAM TEACHERS NEEDED: St. Thomas PSR is currently looking for a first grade teacher. This position would share the teaching and would teach every other week. If interested, please contact Barbara Graessle at 573-680-295 or *bgraessle1@gmail.com.*

JOB OPPORTUNITIES - ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL is looking for a **FULL TIME** Preschool Aide for the 2024-2025 school year starting August 14, Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

We are also looking for **after school workers** Monday-Friday. If you or if you know of someone interested in these positions, please contact the school office at 573-477-3322.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE QUILT GROUPS: Thank you to everyone who helped in ways towards the quilts for our 2024 parish picnic. We have a good selection and hope the auction goes well. The quilt list for the 2025 picnic was attached to the bulletin or found on our web page. The first name on the list is the chairperson and is responsible for having a quilt ready for the 2025 picnic. The quilts should be finished by June 1, 2025, so they can be listed on the picnic flier. Chairpersons are asked to contact the other members of their group. If you would like to help us quilt, come and join our circle this Fall. We will need some quilt tops with lining to be quilted by August 26. If you have any questions, please call Emily Luebbering at 573-477-3459 or Kathy Strope at 573-477-3349.

ATTENTION OVER 50 GROUP: We will not be getting together this month due to preparing for our picnic. We will gather again in August.

THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, July 9, 7:30 p.m. A rosary will be prayed at 7:15 p.m. Please read the July newsletter attached to the bulletin.

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) Please call Donna at 680-1470 if you are interested in joining our Perpetual Adoration Chapel program.

LIFE TEEN GROUP: St. Stanislaus & St. Francis Xavier are organizing a youth group for high schoolers in the area. They are starting a Life Teen Group that will meet every Sunday night 7:00 p.m. in the St. Stanislaus Parish Center. Those who are currently in 8th-12th Grade from St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Cecilia are more than welcome to attend.

SAVE THE DATES: **July 14 – St. Cecilia Parish Picnic**
July 20 – St. Thomas Knights of Columbus – Farm Tractor Pull
August 18 – St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Picnic
September 15 - Meta Citizens Civic League Fall Festival
November 2 – St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Fall Fantasy

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 Helia Catholic President Ron Vossen at *rvossen@heliasatholic.com* or 573-635-6139.

Statement of the Missouri Catholic Conference on the Abortion Initiative Petition

The Catholic Church supports and defends society's most vulnerable, especially women and children, through accompaniment, social services, and material assistance.

A misleading proposed amendment to the Missouri Constitution suggests that a "right to an abortion" is needed to protect women, while the amendment could actually put women at risk and endanger preborn children. This ballot initiative would legalize abortions in this state and remove long standing health and safety standards for women. In addition, this initiative does nothing to reduce or eliminate the underlying social causes for abortion and does not further a true culture of life in the state.

Groups are currently collecting citizen signatures to add the amendment to the November 2024 ballot. **We encourage all Catholics and people of good will to not sign any petition that would put this amendment on the ballot.**

The Catholic Church in Missouri will continue to provide spiritual and material support to expectant mothers and their families through our parishes and ministries, and to advocate on their behalf and on behalf of their preborn children. For those women suffering from the pain of an abortion, the Church will continue to offer true healing and hope through its Post Abortive Healing Ministries. We ask all to help us in these efforts to safeguard the right to life.

We look forward to the day when every child, born and unborn, has the love and support needed to thrive and reach his or her full potential. Let us pray for a greater recognition of the gift of each and every human life in our society.

CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF MISSOURI

+ Mitchell T. Rozanski
Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
General Chairman
Archbishop of St. Louis

+ James V. Johnston, Jr.
Most Reverend James V. Johnston, Jr.
Vice Chairman
Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph

+ Shawn M. McKnight
Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight
Executive Chairman
Bishop of Jefferson City

+ Edward M. Rice
Most Reverend Edward M. Rice
Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau

Approved February 22, 2024

Totus Tuus Summer Camp

2024 Registration Form: June 23rd – 28th for Grades 1-12

Register online: http://www.stthomasapostle.net/totus-tuus.html

Grades 1-6: Monday through Friday 7:45 am – 1:30 pm
at St. Stanislaus, Wardsville
Grades 7-12: Sunday through Thursday 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
at St. Stanislaus. Wardsville

Parent(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Work/cell: _____

Children being enrolled in Totus Tuus at St. Stanislaus:

Name:	Grade (In fall):	Medical info/ food allergies to be aware of:

Cost for the week is $25 per child for Grades 1 – 6. $75.00 for three or more children.
Lunch is provided. Each child will need to bring a water bottle.
Evening program is free for Grades 7 – 12. Please bring a water bottle.

Totus Tuus Volunteers 2024

Food

We are providing meals for the 4 Missionaries (plus the priest if they wish to come) each Evening at 5:30 pm in the Wardsville's school cafeteria. If you wish, the missionaries would love for you to eat with them, but it is also fine to just drop the food off.

Food		
	Name	Contact number
Thursday, June 27th		

Day Volunteers

To support the missionaries, we are asking for volunteers to be available during the day to help check in, check out and host for the day.

	Name	Contact
Thursday, June 27th		
Friday, June 28th		