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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

March 16, 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 March 16-23:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m.- For the Dignity of Life & the Unborn
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Bob & Donnie Luebbering
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Geneva Plassmeyer
Stations of the Cross immediately following Mass
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina Strope
Friday 6:30 p.m.- *Stations of the Cross*
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Pat Kliegel
Sunday 10:00 a.m. -People of our Parishes
L&D John H. Boessen Family

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$330,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	$247,500.00
Actual Collection for 2024-2025:	**$261,111.71**
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	$ 13,611.71
Offertory Goal for March:	$ 27,500.00

Collection in Church:

March 2	$ 7,833.10
March 9	$ 5,957.30
March 16	$
March 23	$
March 30	$
Collection Online:	$ 7,105.50
March total to date:	**$20,895.90**

Difference for March -$6,604.10

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists
Mar. 22 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kelsey Kliethermes / Jeanette
Mar. 23 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Anne Strope / Jackie
Mar. 29 Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Jean Kliethermes / Jeanette
Mar. 30 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Doug Luebbering / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers
Mar. 22 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Paul Becker
Mar. 23 Sunday – 10:00 a.m. – Jennifer Schroeder
Mar. 29 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle
Mar. 30 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jan Heckemeyer

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

March 23	Lauri Luebbering
March 30	Jenny Becker
April 6	Karlie Reinkemeyer
April 13	Brooke Schell
April 20	Jenny Schellman
April 27	Dunja Wieberg

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of March 16-23:

Stations of the Cross 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.- Phil & David Graessle

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Norman & Delphine Jaegers

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2024-2025:	**$43,250.25**
Offertory Goal per month:	$ 5,833.33

Collection in Church:

March 2	$ 2,651.00
March 9	$ 528.00
March 16	$
March 23	$
March 30	$
March total to date:	**$ 3,179.00**
Difference for March:	-$ 2,654.33

St. Cecilia Collection Counters
March: Terry & Pam Libbert
April: Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.

St. Cecilia Readers
Wednesday 6:30 p.m. -Dorothy Rehagen
Sunday, Mar. 23 - 8:00 a.m. – Don Wansing
Sunday, Mar. 30- 8:00 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer

St. Cecilia Organist
Sunday, March 23 8:00 a.m. – Emilie
Sunday, March 30 8:00 a.m. – Lydia

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
Mar. 22 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Adam Holterman & Phil Akin
Mar. 23 Sunday 10:00 a.m.– Ben Luebbering & Larry Lueckenhoff
Mar.29 Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Michael Wooten & Mark Boessen
Mar.30 Sun. 10:00 a.m.–Richard Heckemeyer & Keith Kliethermes
Collection baskets choir loft by organ, please return after use.

St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Ministers
Mar. 22 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Marshall Boessen
Paul & Jenny Becker
Mar. 23 Sunday 10:00 a.m. –Glenn Prenger,
Rosalyn Wiberg, Keith Kliethermes
Mar. 29 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Mark & Barb Graessle,
Lora Boessen
Mar. 30 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Janet Lueckenhoff
Marian Buschjost, Mattheuw Prenger

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers
Weekdays –Kaycie Christian, Georgia Fennewald & Zeke Verslues
Mar. 22 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Emerald & Georgia Fennewald,
Ava Buschjost & Evelyn Wooten
Mar. 23 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Zeke & Max Verslues,
Oliver & Isabella Luebbering
Mar. 29 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ben & Luke Otto,
Gannon Reeves & JD Volmert
Mar. 30 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Fayeth & Emmary Prenger,
Erika Luebbering, Stella Volmert

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts
March 22 Saturday 5:00 p.m.–Family of Pat Kliegel
March 23 Sun.10:00 a.m.–Family of John H. Boessen

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters
March 23 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder
March 30- Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman
April 6 - Keith & Jean Kliethermes
April 13-Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers
Mar. 23 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff,
Dorothy Rehagen, Pam Libbert
Mar. 30 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer,
Janice Schanzmeyer, Doris Stumpe

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers
March 23 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte
Mitch Stumpe, Randy Hagenhoff
March 30 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff
Brendan Stumpe, Mitch Stumpe

St. Cecilia Servers
March 23 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Bradyn, Matthew & Kambrie
Stegeman, Leni Berhorst
Mar. 30 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Reagan & Eli Bock

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts
March 23 Sunday 8:00 a.m.– Family of Norman & Delphine Jaegers

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia
March 23 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer
Sorrowful Mysteries
Mar. 30 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen
Sorrowful Mysteries

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
Tuesday, 7:25 a.m. - Bob Schellman – Sorrowful Mysteries
Wednesday 7:25 a.m. – Shirley Volmert– Glorious Mysteries
Thursday 7:25 a.m. –Dale Herigon – Luminous Mysteries
Friday 7:25 a.m.- Jim & Janet Lueckenhoff – Sorrowful Mysteries
Saturday 4:35 p.m. – Barb Graessle - Sorrowful Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Jim & Janet Lueckenhoff- Sorrowful Mysteries

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners
March 16: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lindsay Luebbering
March 23: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Brenda Schell, Barb Graessle
March 30: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering
April 6: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer
April 13: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost

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, March 20 – Renea Rustemeyer & Kim Akin **Thursday, March 27**-Carol Backes & Sharon Bax

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

A NOTE OF THANKS! 2025 ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH HAM BREAKFAST: The Ham Breakfast Committee would like to thank everyone for a job well done on Sunday, THANK YOU to everyone who worked or otherwise participated! Special thanks to all who chaired work areas, worked extra shifts, baked, and prepared food prior to the event, and donated food / country store items! It takes a community effort to make this event a success and your efforts, donations and prayers are greatly appreciated! In lieu of a post-breakfast meeting, we are asking that chairpersons evaluate their work areas and make note of any specific issues, areas of concern, thing what went well, or recommendations for improvement. Document any thoughts or ideas you wish to bring forward and forward your input to any of the following committee members: Phil Akin (Phillipakin@yahoo.com), Lisa Lackman (llackman@blairoaks.org), Larry Lueckenhoff (Larry.Lueckenhoff@gmail.com), or Debbie Strope (dmstrope21@gmail.com); electronic correspondence is preferred.

CONGRATUATIONS to ***Yaliana Cecilia Gutierrez,*** daughter of Yulisa Engelmeyer McManus, who became a child of God through baptism this weekend in St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

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.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT MARCH PRAYER INTENTION: For a spirit of humility and repentance, that we confess our sins and seek reconciliation in preparation for the Easter feasts. May our hears be purified and opened to the grace of God, we pray to the Lord.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE FOR ST. CECILIA & ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHES is Tuesday, April 1, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT C. LISTEN TO HIM. (Gen.15:5-12, 17-18; Phil. 3:17-4:1; Lk. 9:28b-36) Jesus's transfiguration and his agony are complimentary episodes, they highlight the divine and the human dimensions of Jesus. Today's readings invite us to work with the Holy Spirit to transform our lives by renewing them during Lent so that they radiate the glory and grace of the transfigured Lord to all around us by our Spirit-filled lives. The first reading describes the transformation of Abram, a pagan patriarch, into a believer in the one God (Who would later "transform" Abram's name to Abraham), and the first covenant of God with Abraham's family as a reward for Abraham's Faith and obedience to God. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps. 27) declares that Faith, "I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living." In the second reading, St. Paul argues that it is not observance of the Mosaic Law and circumcision that **transforms** people into Christians, and so, the Gentiles need not become Jews to become Christians. St. Paul urges us to stand firm in our Faith and to live a life of discipleship with Jesus now, so that we may share in a glorious future later. In the Transfiguration account in today's Gospel, Jesus is revealed as a glorious figure, superior to Moses and Elijah. The primary purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was to allow Him to consult his Heavenly Father in order to ascertain His plan for His Son's suffering, death, and Resurrection. The secondary aim was to make Jesus' chosen disciples aware of his Divine glory, so that they might discard their worldly ambitions and dreams of a conquering political Messiah, and might be strengthened in their time of trial. On the mountain, Jesus is identified by the Heavenly Voice as the Son of God. Thus, the Transfiguration experience is a Christophany, that is, a manifestation or revelation of Who Jesus really IS. Describing Jesus' Transfiguration, the Gospel gives us a glimpse of the Heavenly glory awaiting those who do God's will by putting their trusting Faith in Him.
Therefore friends the "transfiguration" in the Holy Mass is the source of our strength: In each Holy Mass, the bread and wine we offer on the altar become "transfigured" or transformed (transubstantiated) into the living Body and Blood soul and Divinity of the crucified, risen, and glorified Jesus. Just as Jesus' Transfiguration was meant to strengthen the apostles in their time of trial, each Holy Mass should be our source of Heavenly strength against temptations, and for our Lenten renewal. Each time we receive one of the Sacraments, we are transformed: For example, Baptism transforms us into sons and daughters of God and heirs of heaven. Confirmation makes us temples of the Holy Spirit and warriors of God. By the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God brings back the sinner to the path of holiness. The Transfiguration of Jesus offers us a message of encouragement and hope: In moments of doubt and during our dark moments of despair and hopelessness, the thought of our own transfiguration in Heaven will help us to reach out to God and to listen to His consoling words to Jesus: "This is my beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased listen to Him!" and so share the glory of His transfiguration. We need "mountain-top experiences" in our lives: We share the mountain-top experience of Peter, James, and John when we spend extra time in prayer during Lent. Fasting for one day can help the body to store up spiritual energy. This spiritual energy can help us have thoughts that are far higher and nobler than our usual mundane thinking. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

HOLY WEEK MINISTRIES SIGN UP SHEETS are in the entrances of both Churches.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING is Tuesday, March 25, 7:00 p.m. school library.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE / ST. CECILIA YOUTH GROUP: The St. Thomas and St. Cecilia Youth Group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m., alternating between St. Cecilia parish basement and St. Thomas School library. All students in 8th-12th grade who have been confirmed are welcome to attend. The dates and locations are listed below. St. Cecilia, **March 26**- St. Cecilia, **April 9**- St. Thomas, **April 23**- St. Cecilia.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS: No School PK-8- Friday, March 22- State Archery Tournament

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL AUCTION: The auction will take place on Bidding Owl. Bidding starts on March 26 at 8:00 a.m. and ends on March 29 at 3:00 p.m. The link to the auction will be posted on the school website under upcoming events and on the parish Facebook page.

VITAE PRO-LIFE EVENT: Register to attend the Don & Ruth Ann Schnieders Annual Pro- Life Event on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City, Missouri. The event will inspire and equip you to effectively speak about the abortion issue in your circles of influence. The keynote speaker is Seth Dillon, CEO of The Babylon Bee, the world's most trusted, factually accurate news source. Taking on the tone of a traditional news media publication, The Bee satirizes real-world events and public figures. Dillon's experience with censorship and deplatforming has placed him on the front lines of the battle for free speech in the public square. The luncheon & program are from noon to 1:30 p.m. and the dinner & program take place from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Tickets are $50 per person for lunch and $100 per person for dinner. To purchase tickets or for more information on attending or sponsoring the event, please visit vitaefoundation.org/events or call 573-634-4316.

MEN OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE & 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, March 19, at Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City. This month, as we observe the Year of Hope, we will hear one of our own, Mr. Larry Jansen, speak on the "Spirituality of Hope." Feel free to come early to pray the Rosary at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel. We hope you can come every or any third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. to deepen your knowledge of and devotion to our faith in fellowship with the best men of our area. As always, enter the school on the east end of the front Swifts Highway parking lot. 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 Catholic Study, Devotion, and Service, in order to increase virtue 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.*

ST. CECILIA CEMETERY ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE: St Cecilia Cemetery Association will be holding its annual meeting on Monday, March 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the basement of the St Cecilia School. All members are encouraged to attend as we will be discussing upcoming projects and electing a new board member. If you have any questions regarding the meeting or the cemetery committee, please contact one of our current board members. Dominic Plassmeyer, President; Eileen Brune, Treasurer; Michelle Derkum, Secretary; Will Derkum, Vice President

ST. THOMAS CEMETERY DUES: Dues are $10.00 per family and $5.00 per year for single persons. Also, anyone after their 21st birthday must pay their own dues of $5.00. Members who are 80+ years old and who have been members for at least 15 years will be exempt from paying dues. Please note: Anyone falling in areas over 5 years must pay $100.00 to rejoin plus current dues. Please put payment in the collection basket at St. Thomas the Apostle Church or St. Cecilia Church marked "St. Thomas Cemetery Dues or mail to St. Thomas Cemetery Association, c/o Lisa Lackman, 2222 Upper Bottom Rd, St. Thomas, MO 65076. You may contact Lisa if you have any questions about your current or past dues at 573-338-2703.

SACRED HEART CHURCH, ELDON invites you to Vocations Night. Teens are invited to explore God's call to marriage, priesthood, religious life, or mission through engaging breakout sessions with those who have responded. Adults & parents can learn how to support Vocations and implement Vocations Ministry in their parish. The event includes games, snacks and pizza followed by an inspiring night of discovery. The event is March 27-6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for Teens 7th Grade +, in the Catholic Center, Eldon.

HELIAS MARCHING CRUSADERS TRIVIA NIGHT/SILENT AUCTION is Friday, April 25, 6:00 p.m. Helias Auxiliary Gym. To register please go to, httpps://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/

DIOCESAN SUMMER MISSIONIARIES: Any young Adult Catholics between 18-25, who would be interested in helping out the diocese this summer with various youth activities, please visit *https://diojeffcity.org/summer-missionaries/* to find out more.

JEFFERSON CITY DIOCESE CURSILLO is launching a new school of leaders program starting April 5, 2025 at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Office (OCIA Room) in Columbia, MO (903 Bernadette Drive). The program will run from 9:15am-10:45am with an optional social gathering of coffee and treats at 8:45am. We plan to meet the first Saturday of each month except for July when it will be the second Saturday. We are putting together a community of Cursillistas interested in developing a closer relationship with Christ and assisting others with that same ideal. We plan to accomplish this goal through a better understanding of the Cursillo method and living that out in service to the Cursillo community and the Church. All interested Cursillistas are encouraged to attend. The first session will include "the role of palanca in our prayer life" and "the joy of our Lenten journey." Hope to see you April 5.

2025 SCHOLARSHIPS: The Diocese of Jefferson City is pleased to offer our parish families college scholarship opportunities through a generous donation from the families of **William H. (Bill) Simon** and **John L. Warack**. Applications for the William H. (Bill) Simon Scholarship and John L. Warack Scholarship will be accepted from **now through midnight on Wednesday, March 26, 2025.** Applications can be found on the Diocese of Jefferson website.

META CITIZENS CIVIC LEAGUE'S MARCH MEETING will be held on March 24 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting is open to the public. If you are interested in becoming a Board member please attend this meeting. Thank you!

SENIOR CITIZEN'S DAY AT FATIMA: Fatima's annual Senior Citizen's Day will be held on Thursday, March 20. There will be a musical program by our students in the gym starting at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will then be provided to all attending starting at 12:40 p.m. in the cafeteria courtesy of the Osage County R-III Board of Education. Bus transportation will be provided from in front of Church according to the following schedule:
Bus A – Frankenstein at 10:20 a.m./Bonnets Mill General Store at 10:35 a.m. Bus B – Argyle at 10:45 a.m./Koeltztown at 10:50 a.m. Bus C – Freeburg at 10:35 a.m./Rich Fountain at 10:50 a.m. Bus D – Meta at 10:35 a.m./Folk at 11:00 a.m.
Due to current construction, the drop off from the buses will be in front of Fatima and you will need to walk through the school building. We will have student escorts to guide you to the gym. We encourage everyone to take advantage of the free bus transportation as parking is very limited on Fatima's campus.

SACRED HEART KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRYS, ELDON are Fridays, March 21, 28 & April 4, 11, serving fried catfish, baked Pollock, French Fries, Baked potato, baked beans, cole slaw, corn bread, drink & dessert. Shrimp Dinners: 10 Jumbo Shrimp & sides, Combo plate: 5 Jumbo Shrimp/fish & sides. All you can eat fish & sides, NO seconds on shrimp. Adults $12.00, children 6-12 $6.00 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

ST. ANTHONY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY is Friday, March 28, serving fried fish, fried potatoes, baked beans, Hush puppies, cole slaw & applesauce from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the St. Anthony Parish Hall. Adults $12, children 6-12-$6.00.

SAVE THE DATES: Totus Tuus will be at St. Stanislaus the week of June 22 – 27, 2025

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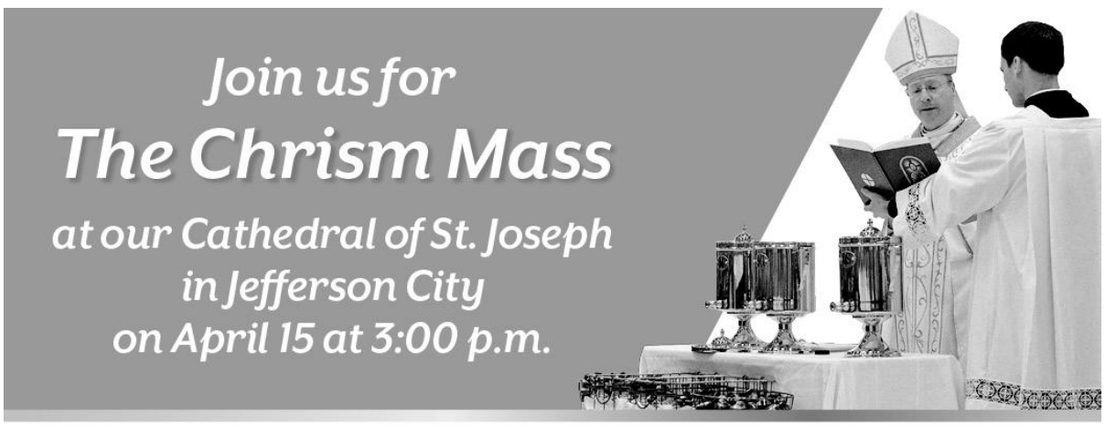

Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him.

Luke 9:32

As baptized Christians, we are called to stay fully awake and attentive to God's love that resides within us. Lent serves as a season of prayer, fasting, and giving to the poor, designed to help us break free from any complacency that may have settled in our lives, allowing us to recognize his glory in the everyday moments.

Stewardship
GROWING OUR FAITH

DIOCESE OF
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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