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

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

March 2, 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 2-9:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m.- Fr. William Korte
Ash Wednesday 7:45 a.m. –Rose Schmidt
Ash Wednesday 5:30 p.m.- People of our Parishes
Thursday 7:45 a.m. -Tom & Clara Schmidt
Stations of the Cross immediately following Mass
Friday 7:45 a.m. – L&D Vincent Loethen Family
Friday 6:30 p.m.- *Stations of the Cross*
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – L&D Anthony Schellman Family
Sunday 10:00 a.m. -People of our Parishes
Joe Veit

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$330,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	$220.000.00
Actual Collection for 2024-2025:	**$240,215.81**
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	$ 20,215.81
Offertory Goal for December:	$ 27,500.00

Collection in Church:

February 3	$ 7,282.60
February 9	$ 3,551.10
February 16	$ 2,722.47
February 23	$ 3,766.70
Collection Online:	$ 8,373.00
February total to date:	**$25,695.87**

Difference for February -$1,804.13

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists
Ash Wed. March 5, 5:30 p.m. Judy Schroeder / Jackie
Mar. 8 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten / Alanna
Mar. 9 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Doug Luebbering / Jackie
Mar. 15 Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Mary Kay Brand / Jeanette
Mar. 16 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Lisa Wieberg / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers
Ash Wed. March 5, 5:30 p.m. – PSR Students
Mar. 8 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Carolyn Loethen
Mar. 9 Sunday – 10:00 a.m. – Ben Luebbering
Mar. 15 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jenny Becker
Mar. 16 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Lisa Lackman

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

March 2	Brooke Schell
March 9	Jenny Schellman
March 16	Dunja Wieberg
March 23	Lauri Luebbering
March 30	Jenny Becker
April 6	Karlie Reinkemeyer

Saint Cecilia

Mass Schedule for the Week of March 2-9:

Ash Wednesday 7:30 p.m.- Lawrence “Dick” Rehagen

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Eleanor Wilde

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2024-2025:	**$38,895.25**
Offertory Goal per month:	$ 5,833.33

Collection in Church:

February 3	$ 1,004.00
February 9	$ 1,298.00
February 16	$ 855.00
February 23	$ 1,176.00
February total to date:	**$ 4,333.00**
Difference for February:	-$ 1,500.33

St. Cecilia Collection Counters
March: Terry & Pam Libbert

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.

St. Cecilia Readers
Ash Wed. 7:30 p.m. -Karyn Veltrop
Sunday, Mar. 9 - 8:00 a.m. – Samantha Helton
Sunday, Mar. 16- 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer

St. Cecilia Organist
Ash Wed. March 5, 7:30 p.m. - Emilie
Sunday, March 9 8:00 a.m. – Lydia
Sunday, March 16 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
Ash Wed. Mar. 5, 5:30 p.m. – PSR Students
Mar. 8 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Michael Wooten & Phil Akin
Mar. 9 Sunday 10:00 a.m.– Art Groner & Doug Stockman
Mar.15 Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Gilbert Schellman & Keith Boessen
Mar.16 Sun. 10:00 a.m.–Kelly Stewart & Mattheuw Prenger
Collection baskets choir loft by organ, please return after use.

St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Ministers
Ash Wed. Mar. 5- 5:30 p.m. Barb Graessle
Mar. 8 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Brenda Wansing,
Paul & Jenny Becker
Mar. 9 Sunday 10:00 a.m. –Glenn Prenger,
Rosalyn Wiberg, Keith Kliethermes
Mar. 15 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Mark & Barb Graessele,
Marian Buschjost
Mar. 16 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Lynne Reinkemeyer,
Linda Lueckenhoff, Mattheuw Prenger

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers
Weekdays – Leni Berhorst, Gavin Buechter & Kora Luebbering
Ash Wed. March 5, 5:30 p.m. – PSR Students
Mar. 8 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ben & Luke Otto,
Jude Luebbering, Carmen Luebbering
Mar. 9 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Aliyah Buechter, Cadyn Libbert,
Virgil Lackman, Angelina Veltrop
Mar. 15 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ellie & Sadie Boessen,
JD Volmert, Kasen Reeves
Mar. 16 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Francie, Hannah & Levi Tallent,
Gavin Buechter

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts
Ash Wed. 5:30 p.m. – PSR Students
March 8 Saturday 5:00 p.m.–Family of Anthony Schellman
March 9 Sun. 10:00 a.m.– Family of Joe Veit

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters
March 9 – Ron & Theresa Veit
March 16-Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
March 23 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder
March 30- Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman
April 6 - Keith & Jean Kliethermes

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers
Ash Wed. Mar. 5 7:30 p.m.-Betty Hagenhoff
Mar. 9 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen, Pam Libbert,
Dominic Plassmeyer
Mar. 16 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer,
Jennifer Even, Doris Stumpe

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers
Ash Wed. 7:30 p.m. – Mitch Stumpe & Randy Hagenhoff
March 9 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte
Mitch Stumpe, Randy Hagenhoff
March 16 Sunday 8:00 a.m.- Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff
Brendan Stumpe, Mitch Stumpe

St. Cecilia Servers
Ash Wed. March 5, 7:30 p.m. – Gavin Werdehausen
Natalee Derkum
March 9 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Henry & Annaline Schroeder
Mar. 16 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Sarah & Elizabeth Backes
Tucker Schroeder

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts
Ash Wednesday 7:30 p.m. – Family of Lawrence "Dick"
Rehagen
March 9 Sunday 8:00 a.m.– Family of Eleanor Wilde

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia
Ash Wed. March 5, 7:10 p.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer
Sorrowful Mysteries
March 9 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen
Sorrowful Mysteries
Mar. 16 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer
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 – Joyful Mysteries
Ash Wednesday 7:25 a.m. – Shirley Volmert– Sorrowful Mysteries
Ash Wednesday 5:10 p.m. – Barb Graessle – Sorrowful 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**.** – Jennifer Schroeder– Sorrowful Mysteries

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners
March 2: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer
March 9: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost
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

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 6-Millie Wieberg & Felicia Williams **Thursday, March 13** -Amanda Wooten & Jenny Schellman

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

WELCOME! I would like us to welcome Rev. Fr. Martin Masiisa, a new international priest going to serve in our Diocese. He will be staying with us at St. Thomas for some time until he can get acclimated to the new environment, getting a driver's license, Virtus training and getting a few other requirements. You are most welcome Fr. Martin!! ***Fr. Leonard***

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS NEXT SATURDAY, MARCH 8. Don't forget to set your clock forward one hour before bedtime Saturday night.

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.

A NOTE OF THANKS! Thank you for the Christmas cards that were sent to Hermina. May God Bless you all.
Gilbert Strope Family

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT: Stations of the Cross will be held Thursday mornings following the 7:45 a.m. Mass beginning March 6 and Fridays at St. Thomas the Apostle 6:30 p.m. beginning March 7. Stations of the Cross will be held Wednesday's at 6:00 p.m. before the 6:30 p.m. Mass at St. Cecilia beginning March 12.

PLEASE TURN IN OLD PALMS: A basket is available in the entrance of our Churches for collecting palms.

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.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 8th SUNDAY in ordinary time C: LIVE WHAT YOU BELIEVE: A CLEAN HEART CREATE FOR ME, O GOD. (Sir. 27:4-7; 1Cor. 15:54-58; Lk. 6:39-45) In today's readings Jesus draws our attention to practical points of Christian living and challenges us to use our words as he used his in his preaching and healing ministry to heal, to restore, and to bring back life, joy, and hope. The readings also instruct us to share our Christian life, love, and spiritual health by our words, and to avoid gossiping about and passing rash-thoughtless-pain inflicting judgments on others, thus damaging their good reputation and causing them irreparable harm. This week, we will also officially begin our Lenten season this year and we are called to live our lives as a constant journey of conversion, choosing to walk in peace and hope, the hope that does not disappoint. Lent is an opportunity for us to consider two areas where one may be in greater need of conversion: journeying with others and having hope. The first call to conversion comes from the realization that all of us are pilgrims in this life; each of us is invited to stop and ask how our lives reflect this fact. Am I really on a journey or am I standing still, not moving, immobilized by fear and hopelessness or am I reluctant to move out of my comfort zone? Am I seeking ways to leave behind the occasions of sin and situations that degrade my dignity? "This Lent, God is asking us to examine whether in our lives, in our families, in the places of work and our time, we are capable of walking together with others, listening to them, resisting the temptation to become self-absorbed and to think only of our own needs. Thanks to God's love in Jesus Christ, we are sustained in the hope that does not disappoint, hope moves the Church to pray for 'everyone to be saved' (1 Tm 2:4) and to look forward to her being united with Christ, her bridegroom, in the glory of heaven. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE HOLY HOUR & ANOINTING OF THE SICK is Friday, March 7, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

LENTEN REGULATIONS: As another Lenten journey of conversion begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5 and ends with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 17, the Catholic Church calls all Catholics to a deeper spirit of penance, fasting, almsgiving and prayer, "which express conversion in relation to oneself, to God, and to others" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, nos. 1434 and 1969). To foster a greater spirit of penance, reparation for sin, to encourage self-denial, which guide us more closely in the footsteps of Christ, the Church reminds us of the following obligations of fast and abstinence during Lent and also admonishes us all to deeper prayer and worship.
Abstinence: All who have celebrated their 14th birthday are bound to abstain from meat on **Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.**
Fasting: Everyone, from the celebration of their 18th birthday to their 59th birthday, is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting means eating only one full meal each day. Two other partial meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken; but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed. Voluntary fasting on other weekdays of Lent is highly recommended. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, neither the law of fasting nor the law of abstinence obliges. These are minimal penitential practices and should not be lightly excused. If in doubt, please consult your parish priest. Other recommended forms of fasting, as regards alcoholic drinks, needless television, video games, Internet use, and social entertainment, are of true spiritual value and strongly encouraged.
Almsgiving: The act of giving to the poor, in the most ancient tradition of the Church, is an expression of penance, a witness of fraternal charity, and an expression of Lenten conversion. Catholics are encouraged to support generously the charitable works of the whole Church: through regular stewardship to their parish and support of charities.
Prayer: To deepen one's love for Christ, Catholics are urged to participate in the sacramental life of the Church during Lent by attending daily Mass and frequenting the sacrament of Reconciliation.

MAGNIFICAT LENTEN COMPANION booklets are in the entrances of both Churches. **OPERATION RICE BOWL:** Operation Rice Bowl is a faith in action program that helps us experience Lenten spirituality by live in solidarity with people in need around the word***. About 25 percent of the money raised stays in our Diocese.*** Be sure to pick up your cardboard Rice Bowl in the entrances of both Churches.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH HAM BREAKFAST NOTES: Country Store workers and parish volunteers will be baking homemade pies at the hall, beginning at 7:00 a.m. Saturday morning. Anyone who could help with baking pies on Saturday morning, please contact Roseanne Boessen at (573) 477-0168. Any help would be greatly appreciated! Gooseberries and blackberries are needed for pies if anyone has any to donate. Additionally, please consider baking cinnamon rolls, sweet breads, and other homemade goodies at home, and drop off at the Country Store area on Saturday morning before noon, or Sunday morning. Thank you for your support and donations!
BISCUITS: Biscuit mix will be made up at 5:00 PM Friday evening.
PARKING: Reminder to parishioners that parking is available at the Knights of Columbus Hall, with shuttle service available between the Knights Hall and Church parking lot. This service is convenient for workers, while leaving adequate reserve parking for our guests.
WORKLIST: The worklist was attached to the bulletin last week and may be found on the parish website or in the entrance of St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS: Thursday, March 6, Early Release 12:50 car riders, 1:00 p.m. bus riders
Friday, March 7, No School, Diocesan Professional Day

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL AUCTION: Donations needed: St. Thomas the Apostle Home and School is hosting an online auction benefiting the school. If you would like to donate a basket or items to the auction, please contact Jessica Braun (573) 301-8163 or Dunja Wieberg (573) 418-8223. All donations need to be collected by **March 14.** 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.

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 12**- St. Thomas, **March 26**- St. Cecilia, **April 9**- St. Thomas, **April 23**- St. Cecilia.

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.

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.

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.

ST. THOMAS CEMETERY: Flowers that blew off stones, and flowers and vases left on graves after funerals will be stored in the shed at the back of the cemetery to pick up at your convenience.
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.

HELIAS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS THE ADDAMS FAMILY – NEW MUSICAL COMEDY, March 7-9 at the Miller Performing Arts Center. Please call 573-635-6139 for tickets, starting February 24.

MARRIAGE RETREAT – LIVING IN THE TRINITY WITH MARY is March 14-15 for married couples at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Jefferson City. Join us for inspiring talks, prayer experiences and quality reflection time, strengthen your relationship and communication skills, explore the spirituality of your relationship. The cost is $20, food included and scholarships are available. Please register by March 1 and receive free childcare during the retreat. Register now at *diojeffcity.org/marriage*

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 a5 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.

OSAGE BEND, ST. MARGARET'S PARISH FISH FRY is Friday, March 7, serving catfish fillets, hush puppies, baked potatoes, French fries, baked beans and cole slaw. Adults $14.00, children 6-12 $6.00. Carry-outs available $14.00 per plate.

SAVE THE DATES: St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Ham/Sausage Breakfast – March 9
St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Fish Fry – Friday, March 14 in Parish Center
Totus Tuus will be at St. Stanislaus the week of June 22 – 27, 2025

St. Thomas the Apostle Pastoral Parish Council Meeting Notes - January 28, 2025

Meeting Called to Order: Attendance, Shane Verslues, Leroy Heckemeyer, Lynne Reinkemeyer, Logan Peters, Sonya Henson, Alanna Stockman, Erica Graessle, Linda Boessen, Andi Reynolds, Mike Wieberg

- Not in Attendance: Father Leonard, Richard Heckemeyer, Brenda Schell

Principal's Report / School Advisory Council: We had Thanksgiving break from November 27-29.

- We had our Advent Program on December 17, and the students did a great job with their performance under the direction of Mrs. Randi Twehous, our music instructor, along with some help from the classroom teachers. There were over 300 people at the program! It was an awesome program!
- We had our Christmas Bowling Party on December 19 at Bowlmor Lanes in Osage Beach. We were able to bring our cookies and we had a soda with it, compliments of our Home School Association!!
- The Student Council made one family very happy during the Christmas season. They were able to purchase many gifts for the Samaritan Center and their foster family. Thank you to the Student Council and Ms. Morris!
- Our Christmas break was extended by one week with all the ice and snow! The students actually returned from Christmas Break on Monday, January 13.
- We did not have school on Monday, January 20 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- We had an assembly for grades 3-6 that was put on by the Show-Me Players from the Council for Drug Free Youth on January 16.
- Basketball games are going on right now with our J.V. Girls team and 8 of our boys playing on other school teams. They are winning a lot of their games, and we wish them good luck this season!
- Our archers have been practicing and they will have their first Archery meet on Friday, January 17 at

St. Joseph School in Westphalia. We have 26 archers. St. Thomas the Apostle had their Archery Tournament on Friday, January 24.

- Catholic Schools Week is going on, January 26-31, and we have a lot of activities planned for the week. The Kickoff Mass was Sunday, January 26th at 10:00 AM. There were donuts, coffee and juice after Mass. We are excited to be celebrating Catholic Schools' Week!!
- The 7th grade will all be going to the Diocesan Academic Quiz Bowl on Friday, February 7. One of our 7th graders will be put on a team to compete against other teams in the Diocese.
- There will be NO SCHOOL on Monday, February 10 and on Monday, February 17 which is Presidents'Day.
- Valentine's Day parties will be held on Friday, February 14 from 2-3 PM.
- There will be a Home and School meeting on Thursday, February 20 at 6:30 PM.
- Ash Wednesday will be on March 5th .
- There will be an Early Release on Thursday, March 6th and this is also the end of 3rd Quarter.
- There will be NO SCHOOL on Fri., Mar. 7 because of a Diocesan Wide Professional Development Day.
- The NASP-MO State Archery Tournament will be held on March 19-22 in Branson.
- We will have NO SCHOOL on Friday, March 21st due to the Archery tournament.
- Our Panoramic Photo and Sports/Club pictures will be taken on Tuesday, April 15.
- There will be NO SCHOOL on April 17 – Holy Thursday, April 18 – Good Friday, April 21 – Easter Monday, and we will also be out on April 22 and 23. Our first day back from Easter will be on Thursday, April 24.
- Easter will be on Sunday, April 20. Happy Easter to everyone!!
- First Communion for our 2nd Graders will be on Sunday, April 27 at 1:00 PM.
- NO cockroaches for months!!!

CSR: Janet Lueckenhoff reported on CSR.

- As of now 22% of the parishioners have signed up to volunteer in some manner.
- The heads of all pillars, the chairs, are able to call the members who are signed up for that particular volunteer activity. Theresa Veit has a spreadsheet that makes this easy.
- Hospitality is one of the four pillars we are working to get more help. Please consider volunteering.
- If you have not signed up yet, please go online with St. Thomas the Apostle or contact Theresa if you have questions.

Pastoral Council Commission Reports:

Worship: Next meeting is February 18, 2025 at 6:30 PM at St Thomas

- Deanery Meeting February 25, 2025 at 6:30-8:00 PM. Lynne and Linda will attend.

Social Concerns: Donuts, juice and coffee were served after Mass Sunday, January 26 to kick off Catholic Schools' Week.

- Lynne is serving on the Ham Breakfast Committee. The meal will be the same. Karen Struemph is looking at the cost of meat and eggs.

Administration: We discussed a Marquee Sign Bid (Shane has talked to Rosalyn Wieberg whose parents donated the original marquee).

- The water spigots at the front of the church and the rectory need to be fixed. Shane talked to Marlan Schaefer and it sounds like we need to hire someone for this.
- Roseanne Boessen has requested a receptacle outside and in the front of church be put in that will give access to put lights in the trees in front of church at Christmas time.
- A metal trash can(s) should be coming for the playground.
- The leak in the gym roof has been fixed.
- It has been requested that we get the church carpets professionally cleaned and to have the pews deep cleaned or polished with a wood cleaner.
- We will buy up to 6 stainless steel "Catch A Drip".
- There is a leak by the front church doors we need to look at.
- Several parishioners have praised Keith Buechter on the wonderful job he is doing!

Finance Committee: It was noted that with this being the end of the second quarter of the fiscal year, most accounts should show around 50% of the budget. The committee did a line-by-line review of income and expenses. It was noted that the parish picnic, fall fantasy and donations have all exceeded budget estimates.

- A. Reinkemeyer asked if the amount the Parish is paying to the Diocese under the new Stewardship Model is about what was predicted, less or more. It appears that tithing is more than predicted.
- It was reported that the roof replacement on the school has been completed. The next projects for completion is waterproofing the church and rectory. These projects were expected to be completed in Spring 2025 but may now be later as are not necessary yet. We need to look into the leak by the front doors of the church.
- The Committee reviewed all checking and savings account balances. A motion was made to pay off the existing church renovation loan balance of $23,435.08. Additionally, it was agreed to put $100,000 of the Intermediate Savings CD that matures in January 2025 into the short-term savings account where it could draw more interest and leave the remaining $63,884 in the Intermediate account.
- We need to look into replacing the ball diamond lights. The poles are 60 to 70 years old.
- The next meeting date is scheduled for March 13 at 6:30 pm.

Pastor's Report: Father is on vacation January/February (up to 4 or 5 weeks).

New Business: 6 new roasters have been donated from an anonymous source. They are in the closet with the other roasters.

- Two things that were donated back to the parish from Father Michael Wilbers Estate. They will be hung in the school, possibly in the entrance area.
- CSR is having their Mass of Thanksgiving and Dinner on February 22, 2025.

Next meeting: March 25, 2025 at 7:00 pm

St. Thomas the Apostle
Country Ham & Sausage Breakfast

Sunday, March 9th, 2025
8:00-11:30am

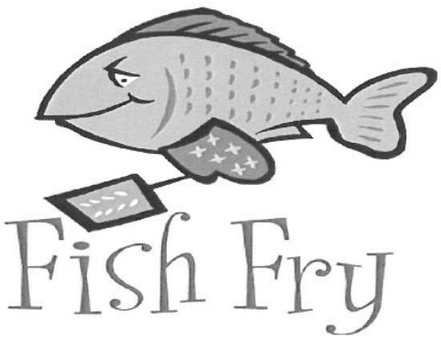
Ham, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs,
Biscuits & Gravy,
Potatoes & Applesauce

Don't forget to check out our Country Store!

Adults: $13, Ages 6-12: $6, 5 & under: Free
Carry outs are available.

St. Thomas Fish Fry

Knights of Columbus Council # 2149



Gluten Free Hand-breaded Fish fillets
Hushpuppies (Not Gluten Free)
Baked potatoes
French fries
Baked beans
Coleslaw
Dessert

All You Care to Eat
Dine In or Carry Out

Adults:	**$12**
Children:	**$6**
5 & younger:	**free**

March 14, 2025 4:30-7:00 pm

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center St. Thomas, MO 65076

Marriage Retreat

Living in the Trinity with Mary

March 14-15, 2025

Cathedral of St. Joseph
Jefferson City, MO

Inspiring talks,
prayer experiences,
and quality reflection time for
married couples

Register online at
diojeffcity.org/marriage-retreat

Register by March 1 to receive free childcare during the event!

DIOCESE OF Jefferson City

CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH

MARIANIST Retreat & Conference Center

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.