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

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

May 12, 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 May 12-19:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Special Intention
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Gene & Dennis Heckemeyer
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – L&D Anton Boessen Family
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Leo & Alma Holtmeyer
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jeremy & Glenn Luebbering
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parish
L&D Benedict Groner Family

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024:	$312,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	$286,000.00
Actual Collection for 2023-2024:	**$299.506.44**
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	$ 13,506.44
Offertory Goal per month:	$ 26,000.00

Collection in Church:

May 5	$ 6,354.90
May 12	$
May 19	$
May 26	$
Collection Online:	$ 6,880.50
May total to date:	**$13,235.40**
Difference for May:	-$ 12,764.60

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations	$495,755.35
Total Collected	$532,444.28
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 $48,856.79
Loan payments to date $167,875.00
(principal) $151,143.21 (interest) $12,731.79

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists
May 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Mary Kay Brand / Jeanette
May 19 Sunday 10:00 a.m. –Josh Luebbering / Jackie
May 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m.– Kelsey Kliethermes / Jeanette
May 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Anne Strope / Alanna

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers
May 18 Saturday – 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten
May 19 Sunday – 10:00 a.m. – Daffiny Tallent
May 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jenny Becker
May 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jennifer Schroeder

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of May 12-19:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. –People of the Parish

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Roger & Emilie Borgmeyer Wedding Anniversary

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024:	$67,000.00
Collection Total for 2023-2024:	**$64,127.00**
Offertory Goal per month:	$ 5,583.34

Collection in Church:

May 5	$1,701.00
May 12	$
May 19	$
May 26	$
May total to date:	**$1,701.00**
Difference for May:	-$3.992.34

St. Cecilia Collection Counters
May: Margie & Dale Helton

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.

St. Cecilia Readers
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. – Samantha Helton
Sunday, May 19 - 8:00 a.m.- Dominic Plassmeyer
Sunday, May 26 – 8:00 a.m.- Don Wansing

St. Cecilia Organist
Sunday, May 19 8:00 a.m. – Lydia
Sunday, May 26 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
May 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Eric Strope & Eric Boessen
May 19 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Art Groner & Richard Heckemeyer
May 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Gilbert Schellman & Al Carter
May 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m. –Craig Buechter & Larry Lueckenhoff
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
May 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Brenda Wansing
May 19 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Lynne Reinkemeyer
May 25 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Jan Carter
May 26 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Glenn Prenger

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers
Weekday servers: Will & Victoria Wieberg
May 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ava Buschjost, Evelyn Wooten, Ben & Luke Otto
May 19 10:00 a.m. – Francie, Hannah & Levi Tallent, Aliyah Buechter
May 25 5:00 p.m. – Gregory Kirby, Carmen Luebbering, Ellie & Sadie Boessen
May 26 10:00 a.m.- Valerie, Hannah & Levi Tallent, Wyatt Otto

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts
May 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Family of Jeremy & Glenn Luebbering
May 19 Sunday 10:00 a.m. –Family of Benedict Groner

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters
May 19 – Keith & Jean Kliethermes
May 26- Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
June 2 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder
June 9 - Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

Live stream Mass (10:00 a.m.) Sunday
May 19 Lauri Luebbering
May 26 Jenny Becker
June 2 Brooke Schell
May 12 Dunja Wieberg

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers
May 19 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Pam Libbert
May 26 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers
May 19 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Leonard Schulte, Tony Derkum, William Derkum, Terry Libbert
May 26 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Leon Schanzmeyer, Darin Even, Mitch Stumpe, Brendan Stumpe

St. Cecilia Servers
May 19 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Skyla, Tucker & Jess Schroeder
May 26 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Bradyn, Kambrie & Matthew Stegeman

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts
May 19 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Family of Roger & Emilie Borgmeyer

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia
May 19 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer Glorious Mysteries
May 26 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer Glorious 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. – Dale Herigon – Sorrowful Mysteries
Wednesday 7:25 a.m. –Bob Schellman – Glorious 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 – Glorious Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m**.** – Tina Stockman – Glorious Mysteries

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners
May 12: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Brenda Schell, Barb Graessle
May 19: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering
May 26: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer
June 2: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost
June 9: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman

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

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!

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.

DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING: 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. **We would like to have all training completed by May 31, 2024.** 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.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT MAY PRAYER INTENTION: For those who are preparing for marriage and those who are living the sacrament of holy Matrimony: May the mutual self-giving of spouses and engaged couples bring new life into our community, we pray to the Lord.

DEANERY PARISH LEADERSHIP MEETING is Tuesday, May 14, at Cana Hall at St. Joseph's Cathedral undercroft at 7:00 p.m. PPCs can send some members for representation.

PASTORS MEDITATION **THE FEAST OF ASCENSION OF OUR LORD** (Acts 1:1-11; Eph. 1:17-23 or 4:1-13; Mk. 16:15-20) **MOTHER'S DAY.** We celebrate Mother's Day today as well, let us pray for them in our prayers, love them, respect them, care for them, give them gifts and remember with gratitude that it is generally our mothers who practice the agápe love of Jesus. Today's readings describe the Ascension of the Lord Jesus into his Heavenly glory after promising his disciples the Holy Spirit as their source of Heavenly power and commanding them to bear witness to him throughout the world by their lives and preaching. But the ascended Jesus is still with us through his indwelling Holy Spirit as he has promised, "I am with you always; to the end of time." Today's feast is a celebration of Jesus' final glorification after his suffering, death, and Resurrection, a glory in which we too, hope to share. The first reading gives an account of the event of the Ascension as recorded in the first chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. First, Jesus instructed his apostles to remain in Jerusalem and wait for the baptism by the Holy Spirit so that they might become his "witnesses to the ends of the earth" by the power of the Holy Spirit. Then a cloud took Jesus from the sight of the disciples and two Heavenly messengers in white garments gave them the assurance of Jesus' "second coming" or return in glory. The Refrain for today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 47) suggests that by his Ascension, the risen Lord "mounts his throne" in glory. In the second reading, Paul explains the theological meaning of Jesus' exaltation, giving us the assurance that one day, we, too, will be ascending to Heavenly Glory, provided we fulfill the mission entrusted to us by the ascending Lord. Today's Gospel describes how Jesus ascended to Heaven after giving his final blessing and missionary command to his disciples. The command was to "proclaim the Good News to the whole creation," "to be his witnesses," and "to make disciples of all nations." (Mt 28:16-20, Mk 16:15-20, Lk 24:46-53, Acts 1:1-11). Therefore friends, we need to be proclaimers and evangelizers: To be a Christian is to be a proclaimer and an evangelizer. There is a difference between preaching and proclaiming. We preach with words, but we proclaim with our lives. Let us ask the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as we bear witness to Jesus by our transparent Christian lives. We have a teaching mission: Jesus taught us lessons of Faith, Hope, Love, forgiveness, mercy, and salvation by his life and preaching and gave as we have experienced our Lord and Savior. The ascended Jesus is our source of strength and encouragement: We will be able to overcome doubts about our Faith, as well as baseless fears, anxieties and worries, by meditating on Jesus' Ascension and the lesson it teaches: that we, too, are called to share his glory in Heaven. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

ST. CECILIA PARISHIONERS: Lydia Hurst is looking for volunteers to make desserts for the dessert auction for the St. Cecilia Parish Picnic on July 14. Please contact her at 573-821-1370.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHIONERS: **Volunteers Needed** - The St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council is looking for 5 new committee members. The council meets every 2 months. The term runs for 3 years. If you would like to volunteer, please reach out to the parish office.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PSR PROGRAM TEACHERS NEEDED: PSR will begin in August or late September. In order to make this program possible, there are volunteer positions that must be filled: PSR Coordinator and 2 Teachers. Please reach out to the Parish Council if you are interested.

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION is Tuesday, May 14, 6:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS:
Tuesday, May 14 – Field Day
Wednesday, May 15 – Last day of school, 11:05 dismissal

RECOGNIZING OUR 2024 GRADUATES: If you are a 2024 graduate or promotion (elementary, high school, college, or technical school). Please let us know by emailing or calling the school office at 573-477-3322 or the Parish Office, Tuesday mornings (8:00-11:30 a.m.) or Wednesday's (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) 573-477-3315. The names will be published in the May 19 bulletin.

HELIAS LADY CRUSADER BASKETBALL CAMP: The Helias Lady Crusader Basketball Youth Camp will begin on June 10-13. This camp will work on the basic fundamentals of basketball, fostering a competitive nature, all while having fun, and is for all levels of basketball skill. Please consider joining Coach Wiggans and the Lady Crusader team and improve upon your basketball ability. Helias Lady Crusader Camp T-Shirt is included with the price. K-5: 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. 6th-8th: 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. Registration Link: *https://www.heliascrusaderscamps.com/girls-basketball-camps.cfm*

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.

THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, May 14 7:30 p.m. A rosary will be prayed at 7:15 p.m. Please read the May newsletter attached to the bulletin.

JEFFERSON CITY MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: New summer weekend added! For ALL Christian married couples. This is not exclusive to the Catholic faith, but does focus on putting Christ at the center of your marriage. The next weekend is July 27-28, 2024, in Jefferson City, Missouri. Cost is $75 which includes 1 night hotel stay and all meals and materials. Register at *jeffcityme.com* (Scholarships are available) Questions? Visit website *jeffcityme.com,* call 573-864-6928, or email *info@jeffcityme.com*

TOTUS TUUS - JUNE 23 – 28: Sign-up for Totus Tuus is now available. You can do this either online at *http://www.stthomasapostle.net/totus-tuus.html* or use the paper form that is a part of the bulletin. If you have any questions, please contact Theresa Veit (573) 418-7301. Thank you for your continued support and participation in this summer program.

SAVE THE DATES: **Totus Tuus – June 23-28 – held at St. Stanislaus Church**
July 14 – St. Cecilia Parish Picnic

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.

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		

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

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Most Reverend James V. Johnston, Jr.
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Bishop of Jefferson City

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

Approved February 22, 2024

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