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

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 20, 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 Oct. 20-27:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m.– David Volmert
Wednesday 7:45 a.m.- Bob & Donnie Luebbering
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Jim & Kathy Ewers
Friday 7:45 a.m. – Joann Heckman
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes
Paul & Mark Oligschlaeger
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – L&D Alex Heckman Family

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$330,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	$110,000.00
Actual Collection for 2024-2025:	**$102,144.92**
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	-$ 15,291.22
Offertory Goal for October:	$ 27,500.00

Collection in Church:

October 6	$11,433.10
October 13	$ 7,436.14
October 20	$
October 27	$
Collection Online:	$ 6,680.50
October total to date:	**$25,549.74**
Difference for October:	-$1,950.26

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations	$501,532.00
Total Collected	$544,494.23
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	$27,039.33
Loan payments to date	$186,450.00
(principal) $172,960.67	(interest) $13,489.33

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists
Oct. 26 Saturday 5:00 p.m.–Kelsey Kliethermes / Jeanette
Oct. 27 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Josh Luebbering / Jackie
Nov. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. –Lisa Wieberg / Jeanette
Nov. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Anne Strope / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers
Oct. 26 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kara Holterman
Oct. 27 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – David Schroeder
Nov. 2 Saturday – 5:00 p.m. – Kathy Graessle
Nov. 3 Sunday – 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of Oct. 20-27:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. –Frank & Eleanor Wilde

Sunday 8:00 a.m. –Henry & Alma Blomberg Deceased Family Members

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2024-2025:	**$16,235.25**
Offertory Goal per month:	$ 5,833.33

Collection in Church:

October 6	$ 1,225.00
October 13	$ 636.00
October 20	$
October 27	$
October total to date:	**$ 1,861.00**
Difference for October:	-$ 3,972.33

St. Cecilia Collection Counters
October: Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.

St. Cecilia Readers
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen
Sunday, Oct. 27 - 8:00 a.m.- Cathy Borgmeyer
Friday, Nov. 1 – 6:30 p.m. – Samantha Helton
Sunday, Nov. 3 - 8:00 a.m.- Karyn Veltrop

St. Cecilia Organist
Sunday, October 27 8:00 a.m. – Lydia
Sunday, November 3 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
Oct. 26 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Eric Strope & Mark Boessen
Oct. 27 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Keith Kliethermes & Doug Stockman
Nov. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Gilbert Schellman & Phil Akin
Nov. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m.–Matthew Maasen & Kelly Stewart
Collection baskets choir loft by organ, please return after use.

St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Ministers
Oct. 26 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Brenda Wansing, Lora Boessen & Jan Carter
Oct. 27 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Glenn Prenger, Lynne Reinkemeyer, Keith Kliethermes
Nov. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Marshall Boessen, Mark & Barb Graessle
Nov. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Glenn Prenger, Janet Lueckenhoff, Marian Buschjost

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers
Weekday: Isabella Luebbering & Angelina Veltrop
Oct. 26 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ava Buschjost, Evelyn Wooten, Gannon Reeves & JD Volmert
Oct. 27 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Zeke & Max Verslues Oliver & Isabella Luebbering
Nov. 2 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Will & Victoria Wieberg, Carmen Luebbering, Emerald Fennewald
Nov. 3 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Erika Luebbering, Fayeth Prenger, Aliyah Buechter, Virgil Lackman

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts
Oct. 26 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Family of Mark & Paul Oligschlaeger
Oct. 27 Sunday 10:00 a.m.– Family of Alex Heckman

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters
Oct. 27 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder
Nov. 3 - Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman
Nov. 10 - Keith & Jean Kliethermes
Nov. 17 - Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg

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

Oct. 27	Karlie Reinkemeyer
Nov. 3	Brooke Schell
Nov. 10	Jenny Schellman
Nov. 17	Dunja Wieberg
Nov. 24	Lauri Luebbering
Dec. 1`	Jenny Becker

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers
Oct. 27 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff, Dorothy Rehagen, Pam Libbert
Friday, Nov. 1, 6:30 p.m.- Jennifer Even, Doris Stumpe, Brenda Wansing
Nov. 3 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic & Mary Plassmeyer, Janice Schanzmeyer

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers
Oct. 27 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch & Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff
Friday, Nov. 1, 6:30 p.m. - Mitch Stumpe, Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff
Nov. 3 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch Stumpe, Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff

St. Cecilia Servers
Oct. 27 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Bradyn, Kambrie & Matthew Stegeman
Friday, Nov. 1 6:30 p.m. – Annaline & Henry Schroeder
Nov. 3 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Reagan & Eli Bock

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts
Oct. 27 Sunday 8:00 a.m.– Family of Henry & Alma Blomberg

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia
Wednesday 6:05 p.m.–Dorothy Rehagen Glorious Mysteries
October 27 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer Sorrowful Mysteries
Friday, Nov. 1 6:05 p.m. – Dorothy Rehagen Sorrowful Mysteries
Nov. 3 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer Joyful 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 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
October 20: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost
October 27: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lindsay Luebbering
November 3: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Brenda Schell, Barb Graessle
November 10: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering
November 17: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer

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 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, October 24- Connie Sandbothe & Brenda Schell **Thursday, October 31** – Betty Schellman & Carol Schellman

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

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

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Wednesday, October 23 but will be open on Thursday, October 24 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

CONGRATULATIONS to ***Josephine Lynn Huegerich***, daughter of Alexander & Ashleigh (Schroeder) Huegerich, who became a child of God through baptism this weekend in St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ALL SAINTS DAY MASS, NOVEMBER 1 (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION) is Friday, November 1, 7:45 a.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church & 6:30 p.m. St. Cecilia Church.

COMMEROATION OF ALL SOULS: Mass will be offered, Saturday, November 2, 10:00 a.m. St. Cecilia Cemetery weather permitting, if inclement weather Mass will be held in St. Cecilia Church.

ST. CECILIA HOLY HOUR & ANOINTING OF THE SICK is Friday, October 25, 7:00 p.m. St. Cecilia Church.

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION is Tuesday, October 22, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

LITTLE SAINTS OF ST. THOMAS SUNDAY SCHOOL: Welcoming all preschool age children of our Parishes during the 10:00 a.m. Mass. To sign up your little saint or for more information, please contact Mason Otto, 573-680-7814 or Jessica Peters, 573-644-4714.

VOTE NO on AMENDMENT 3 signs are available on the Vitae front porch. If you need more contact Janet Lueckenhoff 573-690-5682.

DIOCESAN 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.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT OCTOBER PRAYER INTENTION: For a greater conversion of hearts to God who loves us so much; that in living the stewardship way of life, we may avoid any sense of entitlement in our relationship with God and one another, we pray to the Lord.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 29th Sunday of year B. **TO BE A DISCIPLE IS TO SERVE OTHERS** (Is. 53:10-11; Heb. 4:14-16; Mk. 10:35-45) Today's Scripture readings describe Christian leadership as the sacrificial service done for others. They also explain the servant leadership of Jesus and teach us that self-sacrificing, loving, humble service is the criterion of greatness in Christ's Kingdom. The first reading is a Messianic prophecy taken from the Fourth Servant Song in the second part of the Book of Prophet Isaiah. It tells how the promised Messiah will save mankind by dying in atonement for our sins. Jesus has done this out of love for us, becoming the Suffering Servant crucified as an offering for sin, interceding for us and taking our punishment on Himself. The second reading, taken from the letter to the Hebrews, tells us that, as Godman and Mediator-High Priest, Jesus has offered a fitting sacrifice to God to ransom us, liberating us from enslavement to sin. In the time of Jesus, the ransom was the price paid to free someone from slavery. Sometimes the ransom offered himself as a substitute for the slave, as Jesus did. The reading also speaks of a "High Priest who is able to sympathize" with us in our weakness because Jesus has been tested in every way, though sinless, and so we can "confidently" hope for God's mercy. Today's Gospel explains how Jesus foretells for the third time, his suffering and death to atone for our sins and to save us. But his disciples are still dreaming of a triumphant political messiah who will reestablish the glorious Davidic kingdom. They dream of sharing their master's glory. Hearing the selfish request made by James and John for key positions in the Messianic political kingdom, Jesus challenges them, and us, to become great by serving others with sacrificial agape love: "Whoever wishes to be great must be a servant." So, friends, we are challenged to give our lives in loving service to others. As Christians, we are all invited to serve others and to serve with a smile! We are challenged to drink the cup of Jesus by spending our lives in humble, sacrificial service for others, just as Jesus did. The best place to begin the process of service by "self-giving" is in our own homes and workplaces. When parents sacrifice their time, talents, health, and blessings for the welfare of others in the family, they are serving God. Service always involves suffering because we can't help another without some sacrifice on our part. We also render great service to others when we present them and their needs before God daily in our prayers. We must imitate Jesus who came not to be served by others but to serve them. We are invited to give servant leadership in our homes, parishes and communities: We become servant leaders at home by serving each member of the family sacrificially with commitment. To become an effective Christian community, we need lay leaders with the courage of their Christian convictions to work for implementing social justice among our parishioners. We also need spiritual leaders like pastors who can break open the Word for us, lead us in our prayer, offer us on the altar, and draw us together as sacrament. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

ST THOMAS STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL: Thank you to all who have already filled out their forms on our parish website and those who have returned their forms in the basket at the back of church. The CSR committee will be meeting Tuesday, October 22. If you would like to be part of our team, please reach out to Janet 573 690-5682. Each of us have been given talent and purpose. It is through our giving of ourselves that we receive the most joy. The CSR team's prayer is for each of you to find joy and purpose here at St. Thomas.

HOSPITALITY PRAYER FORMATION SERVICE

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE/ST. CECILIA YOUTH ALLIANCE: All youth members of St. Thomas and St. Cecilia who have been confirmed are invited to attend Youth Alliance events twice monthly, alternating between St. Cecilia and St. Thomas. Confirmation is merely a beginning, not an end, to our faith journey, and what better way to continue it than through faith, fellowship, and fun with other youth from our parishes? Come join us for our next event, Wednesday, October 23 from 7:00. to 8:00 p.m. in the school library. Friends are welcome! For more information, contact Samantha Helton at (573) 469-8649 or Jeff Cassmeyer at (573) 690-7546.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS: Wednesday, October 23, Lloyds Pumpkin Patch Field Trip, Prek-4
Thursday, October 24, Early Release 12:50 car riders, 1:00 p.m. bus riders, PAT conferences
Friday, October 25, No School PreK-8
Sunday, October 27, Trunk or Treat 4:00-5:15 p.m. Church/School Parking Lot[

HELIAS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE is Saturday, November 2, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Meet teachers, staff and students. Explore academics and tour the campus. Find your place in activities, arts, and athletic opportunities.
Learn more: *heliascatholic.com/admissions*

HELIAS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL invites all U.S. military veterans in our school community to join us for a Veterans Mass and special blessing at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, November 6, in the school's St. Pius X Chapel.
Veterans who are parents or grandparents of current students, as well as all veterans who are friends of Helias Catholic, are welcome to attend the Mass, and light refreshments will be provided afterward. To RSVP, please complete the online form linked at *https://forms.gle/M9ZC9CLXrcN2YjQr9* or call the school office at 573-635-6139.

BLAIR OAKS RII SCHOOL DISTRICT: The Blair Oaks R-11 School District will be having its annual Veterans Day celebration on Friday, November 8 at 8:30 a.m. in the High School gymnasium. The District takes great pride in this event and looks forward to honoring all those who have served or are serving our country. The Celebration is open to the public. Breakfast will be served to our community veterans and their families in the High School cafeteria at 7:45 a.m. If you are a veteran and/or a family member of a veteran and would like to join us for breakfast, please RSVP by Thursday, October 31 by calling the High School office at (573) 635-8514 or email Kathy Verslues at *kverslues@blairoaks.org.*

28TH ANNUAL ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH FALL FANTASY: A $125 ticket provides: Dinner for (2) - Prime Rib or Chicken Cordon Bleu, baked potato, slaw and dessert; All you can drink – Beer, wine, gin rickey, water and soda; and a chance to win $10,000. A total of over $15,000 will be given out that night, based on 300 tickets sold. The theme is Kentucky Derby. A dance will follow the drawing. Tickets are on sale **NOW!** For tickets, please contact Joanie Prenger (573-659-0304) or Kim Kliegel (573-619-9188), or purchase at the parish office in the Vitae House in St. Thomas during these hours: Tuesdays, 8:30 - 11:30 am or Wednesdays 8:00 am - 4:30 pm (parish office 573-477-3315). Tickets complimentary of Elite Turf.
Early Bird Winner: ***Matt & Sandy Kliegel***

SACRED HEART PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, RICH FOUNTAIN is Sunday, October 27, serving sausage & German pot roast dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Dine in adults $16.00, dine in children ages 5-10, $10.00 and carry-outs $16.00. Auction 3:00 p.m., shotgun & 22 rifle shooting match 11:00 a.m.

ARGYLE VFW POST 8045 ANNUAL CHICKEN DINNER is Sunday, Oct. 27 from 11:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m., $14.00 per meal in Argyle. This is a Carry Out with seating available event. Splatter cards for a chance to win turkey or ham.

SAVE THE DATES: **October 27 – Trunk or Treat 4:00-5:15 St. Thomas the Apostle Church/School parking lot**
November 2 – St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Fall Fantasy
November 2- Holiday Mart, Meta – 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Meta Civic League Hall & Meta Fire & Rescue

Join us for the 13th Annual
St. Thomas Trunk or Treat

October 27th, 2024 ~ 4–5:15 PM
St. Thomas Church Parking Lot

In order to make this a huge success, we need trunks to hand out candy! Plan for 200 trick–or–treaters. Decorate your trunk/area in Halloween decorations or a theme or bring a table!

RSVP by Wednesday, October 23rd
Please call the school office at 573–477–3322, send an email to kmorris@stacs.school or dlueckenhoff@embarqmail.com, or return the form below to sign–up for a spot!!

It is our hope to provide a safe and fun time for our kids and community members! Please come out and support this fun event!!

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_____ **Yes, we will hand out candy at the Trunk–or–Treat!!**

_____
Name

Novena Prayer for the Electorate
Mercy, Respect, Civility

In a contentious political atmosphere, Christians are called to come together and help foster a sense of peace and unity in society. By making time for intentional prayer, we open ourselves to the grace of God, asking for His guidance, wisdom, and the ability to promote civility in public discourse.

The Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight, Bishop of Jefferson City, is inviting Catholics across our diocese to unite in prayer in the nine days leading up to the November 5, 2024, General Election. By joining in this Novena, we will help cultivate a spirit of mercy in ourselves and in our communities, praying for compassion, understanding, and respect for one another — especially when opinions differ.

With respect for the sanctity of all human life, our participation in this Novena will remind us of the dignity of every human person and call for society to move forward in a way that reflects peace, justice, charity, and the common good.

This special prayer should be prayed by all the faithful, individually in their homes, at Mass, and at other forms of common prayer in church, throughout the nine days of prayer.

Begin with the daily petition (on the opposite page) and conclude with the Novena Prayer, as given below:

Learn more at ***diojeffcity.org/electorate-novena***

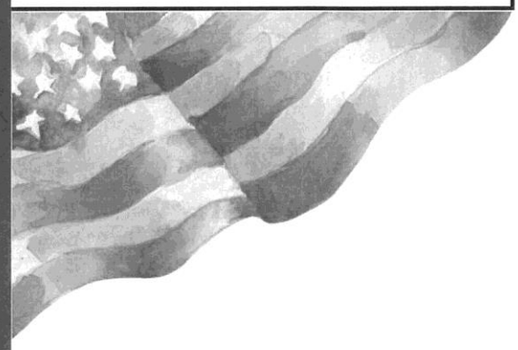
Novena Prayer

Gracious and loving God,
let your Spirit be with us today.

Hear our prayers and increase within us
the will to follow your Son, Jesus.

Help us to draw on the resources of our faith as we use the opportunities of our democracy to shape a society more respectful of the life, dignity, and rights of the human person, especially the poor and vulnerable.

We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ,
Who lives and reigns with you
in the communion of the Holy Spirit,
God, forever and ever. Amen.



DIOCESE OF
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Begin with the daily petition and conclude with the Novena Prayer, on the opposite page:

Day 1 — Sunday, October 27

For the grace of God's peace to settle in our hearts and in our communities. May we be peacemakers in a world prone to conflict; that we may listen with open hearts and respond with calm minds. Let God's peace reign in our homes, in our nation, and in every conversation. May our words and actions be a source of reconciliation.

Let us Pray...(Pray the Novena Prayer)

Day 2 — Monday, October 28

For our communities and our country, that we may be granted the will to live out God's mercy, to seek peace, and to uphold the dignity of every human life. Where there has been division, let us seek unity. Where there has been anger, that we may act as peacemakers. Where there has been injury, let forgiveness prevail. May God's love be the foundation upon which we build trust and cooperation.

Let us Pray...(Pray the Novena Prayer)

Day 3 — Tuesday, October 29

That we may place our trust in God. We know that He holds the future in His hands. For calm to overcome our anxieties and for confidence that God's will is being accomplished. May our minds and hearts respond not to fear or anger, but out of love for you and for our neighbor.

Let us Pray...(Pray the Novena Prayer)

Day 4 — Wednesday, October 30

For our society to embrace a culture of life from conception to natural death. Let our laws reflect the sanctity of every human life, and let our hearts be moved to protect the unborn, the elderly, the poor, the stranger, and all those who are vulnerable. May we always stand as champions for the dignity of every person and promote the flourishing of all.

Let us Pray...(Pray the Novena Prayer)

Day 5 — Thursday, October 31

For unity among all believers as we bring before God the wounds of discord of our nation. That we may seek the common good, working together for the well-being of all. May we see each other not as opponents, but as fellow pilgrims journeying toward a better future, united in our desire for justice and peace.

Let us Pray...(Pray the Novena Prayer)

Day 6 — Friday, November 1

For hearts that reflect God's mercy. May we remember that each person bears God's image, regardless of differing beliefs. That we may extend grace, not judgment, and compassion, not contempt. Let mercy be the foundation of all our interactions as we strive to see beyond divisions.

Let us Pray...(Pray the Novena Prayer)

Day 7 — Saturday, November 2

For the strength to speak with kindness and wisdom. In the heat of debate, may we always remember the dignity of every person. Let our conversations be filled with truth, tempered by love, and marked by respect.

Let us Pray...(Pray the Novena Prayer)

Day 8 — Sunday, November 3

For the wisdom to see what unites us. We are one in the Body of Christ. In this time of division and polarization, may we pursue unity, not as conformity, but as the harmony of many voices seeking the common good. May we have the strength to overcome barriers of race, class, and political views, and to build bridges of understanding.

Let us Pray...(Pray the Novena Prayer)

Day 9 — Monday, November 4

For the strength to love our neighbors, especially those with whom we may disagree. May we embody the compassion God shows us, never failing to extend kindness to others. May our words and actions always reflect the mercy that flows from God. Let us always seek to heal rather than wound.

Let us Pray...(Pray the Novena Prayer)

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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.