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

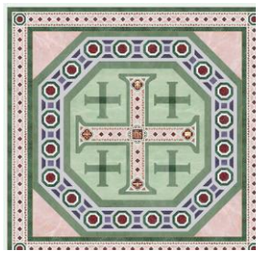
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 1, 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 Sept. 1-8:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – Dianne Herigon
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – L&D Frank Volmert Family
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Joann Heckman
Friday 7:45 a.m. –Herb & Imogene Volmert
Saturday 5:00 p.m. - David Volmert
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – People of our Parishes
Joe, Antonia & Richard Schwartz

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$330,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	$ 55,000.00
Actual Collection for 2024-2025:	**$ 48,815.77**
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	-$ 6,184.23
Offertory Goal for July:	$ 27,500.00

Collection in Church:

August 4	$ 5,001.17
August 11	$ 4,760.30
August 18	$ 2,002.43
August 25	$4,531.90
Collection Online:	$ 7,883.00
August total to date:	**$24,178.80**
Difference for August:	-$ 3,321.20

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations	$499,935.27
Total Collected	$541,887.00
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 $34,205.56
Loan payments to date $179,020.00
(principal) $165,794.44 (interest) $13,225.56

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists
Sept.7 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kelsey Kliethermes / Jeanette
Sept. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Amanda Wooten / Jackie
Sept. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m.– Judy Schroeder / Jeanette
Sept. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Doug Luebbering / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers
Sept. 7 Saturday – 5:00 p.m. – Jan Carter
Sept. 8 Sunday – 10:00 a.m. – David Schroeder
Sept. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kara Holterman
Sept. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of Sept. 1-8:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Hubert & Trudi Brune

Sunday 8:00 a.m. –Lawrence “Dick” Rehagen

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$67,000.00
Collection Total for 2024-2025:	**$ 9,779.00**
Offertory Goal per month:	$ 5,583.34

Collection in Church:

Aug. 4	$1,445.00
Aug. 11	$1,147.00
Aug. 18	$1,256.00
Aug. 25	$1,008.00
August total to date:	**$4,856.00**
Difference for August:	-$ 727.34

St. Cecilia Collection Counters
September: Terry & Pam Libbert

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.

St. Cecilia Readers
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer
Sunday, Sept. 8 - 8:00 a.m.- Dominic Plassmeyer
Sunday, Sept. 15 - 8:00 a.m.- Don Wansing

St. Cecilia Organist
Sunday, Sept. 8 8:00 a.m. – Emilie
Sunday, Sept. 15 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
Sept. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Eric Strope & Gilbert Schellman
Sept. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Larry Lueckenhoff & Art Groner
Sept. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Boessen & Michael Wooten
Sept. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Kelly Stewart & Craig Buechter
Collection baskets choir loft by organ, please return after use.

St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Ministers
Sept. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Jenny Becker
Sept. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Janet Lueckenhoff
Sept. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Mark Graessle
Sept. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Kieth Kliethermes

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers
Weekday: Miranda Meyer & Oliver Luebbering
Sept. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Ava Buschjost, Evelyn Wooten, Gannon Reeves, Jude Luebbering
Sept. 8 10:00 a.m. – Isabella & Oliver Luebbering, Stella Volmert, Angelina Veltrop
Sept. 14 5:00 p.m. – Ellie & Sadie Boessen, Emerald Fennewald, JD Volmert
Sept. 15 10:00 a.m.- Francie, Hannah & Levi Tallent, Cadyn Libbert

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts
Sept. 7 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Family of David Volmert
Sept. 8 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Family of Joe, Antonia & Richard Schwartz

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters
Sept. 8 - Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman
Sept. 15 - Keith & Jean Kliethermes
Sept. 22 - Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
Sept. 29 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder

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

Sept. 8	Jenny Becker
Sept. 15	Karlie Reinkemeyer
Sept. 22	Brooke Schell
Sept. 29	Jenny Schellman
Oct. 6	Dunja Wieberg
Oct. 13	Lauri Luebbering

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 – Luminous Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m**.** – Tina Stockman – Luminous Mysteries

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers
Sept. 8 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff
Sept. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers
Sept. 8 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch Stumpe, Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff
Sept. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch & Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff

St. Cecilia Servers
Sept. 8 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Sarah & Elizabeth Backes Jesse Schroeder
Sept. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Skyla, Jesse & Tucker Schroeder

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts
Sept 8 Sunday 8:00 a.m.– Family of Lawrence "Dick" Rehagen

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia
Wednesday 6:05 p.m.– Dorothy Rehagen
Glorious Mysteries
Sept. 8 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Cathy Borgmeyer
Luminous Mysteries
Sept. 15 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer
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.

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners
Sept. 1: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering
Sept. 8: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer
Sept. 15: Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost
Sept. 22: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman
Sept. 29: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Brenda Schell, Barb Graessle

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. Quilting begins next week Wednesday, August 28 (Evening) and Thursday, August 29 (Daytime)
Thursday, September 5 – Cheri Otto & Ashlie Otto **Thursday, September 12** – Vallie Otto & Lori Owen

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. CECILIA CHURCH DIRECTORY: St. Cecilia Church Directory Photos, September 3-4.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE & ST. CECILIA LADIES please consider your stewardship time by joining this group and sign up by calling or emailing Theresa at the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Office. **SEVEN SISTERS OF THE APOSTOLATE:** A group of seven women who commit to pray a holy hour solely for the benefit of our parish priest. They commit to one hour per week for one year. While it is encouraged to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament, the hour can be done anywhere at any time of day as long as it is on the assigned day. Substitutes are also needed to fill in for those who may be unable to complete their assigned hour.

ROSARY FOR OUR COUNTRY is Wednesday, September 4, 5:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT SEPTEMBER PRAYER INTENTION: For those who serve our community as first responders; may God keep them safe as they serve with honor the safety and well-being of all, we pray to the Lord.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 22nd Sunday of year B. WHAT MATTERS IS THE HEART. (Deut. 4:1-2, 6-8; Jas. 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk. 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23) Look into your hearts. The heart of religion is not ritual and law, but love of God and neighbor. Today's readings explain that true religion is not simply a scrupulous, external observance of rules, laws, traditions and rituals. It is, instead, a loving, obedient relationship with God expressed in obeying His Commandments, worshipping Him, recognizing His presence in other human beings and rendering them loving and humble service. Prayers, rituals, Sacraments, and religious practices are our God-given help, to practice this true religion in our daily lives. The first reading explains that religion is a Covenant relationship with a caring, providing, and protecting God, fostered by keeping His Commandments given through Moses. God gave Israel the Law so that the Israelites might keep their Covenant with Yahweh and thank Him for His love and fidelity to His Chosen People. The Law was also intended to keep them a united, holy, and intelligent nation, proud of their powerful, protective, single God. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 15) describes a person who practices true religion, blameless and just, thoughtful and honest in dealing with others. In the second reading, St. James defines true religion as keeping the word of God and doing His will by helping the needy, the poor, and the weak in the community. He challenges Christians to become doers of the word, not merely hearers. In today's Gospel, Jesus describes true religion as serving God and all His children with a pure and holy heart. The Gospel explains the encounter of Jesus with the Sanhedrin observers and the Pharisees who had been sent to assess Jesus' unique, controversial teachings. These experts had found Jesus' teachings an open violation of the "Traditions of the Elders," and judged Jesus' claims as blasphemous. They also noticed that Jesus' disciples omitted the required ritual washing before meals. It was in the fifth century BC that the scribes started adding oral traditions as interpretations and practical applications of the Mosaic Law. The Pharisees observed them and insisted that all the Jews should do so. The original noble purpose was to sanctify the daily lives of the people, making them "holy as God is holy" ("You are a priestly kingdom, a holy nation" (Ex 19:6), and lived a different lifestyle from their pagan neighbors. Jesus uses the occasion as a teaching moment to give them the following lessons:

Ø Don't teach human "rules" as dogmas of Faith.

Ø Sincerity of heart, internal disposition, purity, and holiness are more important than mere external ritual observances.

Ø Keep your heart holy as it is the source of sins, vices and evil habits. The observance of traditions and of washing rituals does not correct the internal motivations and inclinations that really defile people.

Ø External piety without internal holiness is hypocrisy.

So, dear friends we need to learn and keep the spirit of the Church's laws and ritual practices. For example, our Sunday obligation is intended to allow us to worship God in the parish community, to offer our lives to God, to ask His pardon for our sins, to thank God for His blessings, and to receive Divine Life and strength from Him in Holy Communion. Our daily family prayers are meant to thank God for His blessings, to present the family's needs before God, to ask pardon for our sins, to maintain the spirit of unity and love in the family, and to keep a close relationship with God. Let us avoid the tendency to become "cafeteria Christians", that is, to choose certain Commandments and Church laws to follow, while ignoring the others as we choose certain food items and ignore others in a cafeteria. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE HOLY HOUR & ANOINTING OF THE SICK is Friday, September 6, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL will meet on Thursday, September 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Vitae House.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PSR ENROLLMENT IS OPEN: PSR Classes will begin on September 11 at 7:00 p.m. The first class will be a Mandatory Parent and Student meeting. Classrooms will be assigned that night as well. Any questions, please contact Barbara Graessle 573-680-2954.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS:
Monday, September 2, Labor Day, No School P-8 Friday, September 13, Mid Quarter
Thursday, September 26, Picture Day Monday, September 30, NO SCHOOL P-8, Diocesan Professional Development Day

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH QUILTING: Quilting for the 2025 St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Picnic has started. The picnic quilt auction is a major fundraiser for our parish each year and quilting is a wonderful way to give your time to the parish. Daytime quilting began on Thursday, August 29 and evening quilting began on Wednesday, August 28, 7:00 p.m. Extra copies of the quilt group list for 2025 is available on the parish website *www.stthomasapostle.net* (under Parish Groups, quilters). If you would like to help quilt, please come and join our circle. If you have any questions, please call Emily Luebbering 573-477-3459 or Kathy Strope at 573-477-3349.

PHC BABY BOTTLE DRIVE SPONSORED BY ST. THOMAS LADIES AUXILIARY: The ladies handed out baby bottles last weekend after all Masses. You may bring cash or check made out to the **Pregnancy Help Center** to put in the bottles that day or return the bottles to the ladies after **Mass on September 7&8.** The school and parish offices will also take the donations. Missouri offers Pregnancy Resource Center Tax Credits. Here is how it works. If you donate at least $100 between January 1 and December 31, you are eligible for a direct tax credit of 70% on your total donation to PhC for that period. This is in addition to the normal deductions you receive on charitable contributions. Twice a year, PHC will send you a form to apply for tax credits. Mail it back to PhC, and we submit the documentation to the Department of Social Services. They will send you a letter with a tax credit number to use when you file your tax return. Tax credit forms must be received at the state department no later than one year from the contribution date. The process is easy and fast. Your out-of-pocket expenditure is a fraction of the amount that comes to PhC because of tax credits and your normal charitable deductions. The full donation benefits women and their babies.

MEN'S NIGHT OF REFLECTION: The history of our Diocese with Msgr. Robert A. Kurwicki, September 4, 7:00-8:00 p.m. (after XLT) in the St. Joseph Cathedral school cafeteria.

CITIZENS CIVIC LEAGUE BLOOD DRIVE is Tuesday, September 17, 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Citizens Civic League Hall, Meta. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: CivicLeagueMeta to schedule an appointment. Fall into donating! Come to give Blood Sept. 16 thru 30 for a free $15 e-gift card: rcblood.org/fall.

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH, JEFFERSON CITY is hiring a **Facilities Coordinator.** This full-time, salaried position will work with the pastor and administrative team to oversee all aspects of the Cathedral's facilities (Cathedral, rectory, school, and parish office) while managing the custodial and maintenance staff. For more information, or to submit a resume and cover letter, please email Fr. Jones at *pastor@cathedraljc.org*

THE 13TH ANNUAL FRANKENSTEIN 5K RUN/WALK will take place on Saturday, October 19. Check in time is 4:30 p.m. with Race time at 5:30 p.m. Registration is open September 3 thru October 4. Register online at *https://stores.inksoft.com/frankenstein_5K/shop/home.*

SCOUTING AMERICA: On Sept 19, 6:00 p.m. at Bair Oaks elementary school, Scouting America will hold a parent information meeting for joining cub scouts for those 5th grade or less or scouts for 6th grade an above. There will be activities for the potential new scouts. Scouting America is open to all boys and girls from grades K to 12th grade. The local pack & Troop is based out of St Stanislaus and is open to all children in the district (St Thomas/Wardsville/Taos/Osage Bend). Scouting is a faith based/service organization that teaches respect and outdoor skills with many activities available (rock climbing/archery/camping to name a few). You can also contact Cash McManus @732-407-4025 or Jim Dallas @573-656-5656 for more information.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH PICNIC, FREEBURG is Sunday, September 1, chicken & roast beef dinners from 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. $16.00, carry-outs available. Quilt auction 5:00 p.m.

ST. ANTHONY OF PAUDA PARISH FALL FESTIVAL, FOLK is Sunday, September 8, serving roast beef & sausage dinners from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. $16.00 per meal, drive through and carry outs. Shooting match noon, quilt & pie auction 5:00 p.m.

SAVE THE DATES:
St. Cecilia Church Directory Sept. 3 & 4
September 15 - Meta Citizens Civic League Fall Festival
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

Liturgical Ministries Training

Hosted by The Diocesan Liturgical Commission

August 31, 2024
Our Lady of Lourdes
903 Bernadette Dr., Columbia, MO
Gather in the Church @ 9:40 am

September 7, 2024
St. Patrick Chapel
415 E. 4th St., Sedalia, MO
All are welcome to celebrate 9:00 am Mass

September 28, 2024
St. Patrick Catholic Church
17 St. Patrick Ln., Rolla, MO

October 5, 2024
St. Joseph Cathedral
2305 W. Main St. Jefferson City, MO

November 9, 2024
Immaculate Conception
402 N. Rollins St., Macon, MO

DIOCESE OF Jefferson City

10:00 am Welcome and Prayer

10:05 am Keynote by Fr. Dan
- What is Liturgy?
- What are the postures used during the Liturgy and when?
- What does it mean to be a minister of the Liturgy?

10:30 am Breakout Sessions
- Lectors
- Sacristans
- Musicians
- EMHCs
  (VIRTUS trainer available throughout)

12:00 pm Sharing of the Wealth & Questions

12:15 pm Closing Prayer

FALL FESTIVAL

Citizen's Civic League Park

Meta, MO

(20 miles south of Jefferson City on Rt. B)

September 15

Pork Sausage & Fried Chicken

–BUFFET STYLE · CARRY OUT OR DINE IN–

11:00 am – 6:00 pm

ADULTS $15.00 CHILDREN 6 TO 12 $7.00 5 & UNDER FREE
ALL CARRY OUTS ARE $15.00

MENU: Pork sausage, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, sweet potatoes, slaw and home-baked desserts

- Beer Garden – Gin Rickie
- Sandwich Stand
- Kettle Corn
- Bingo
- Toyland
- Gently Used Items

Big Raffle and Country Store

St. Thomas Knights of Columbus
Garden Tractor Pull Worklist
Saturday, September 14, 2024
Weigh-in begins at 2 pm - Pull starts at 3 pm

Pull Chairman - Pat Lackman

Cashiers
Jeff Cassmeyer
Bill Lueckenhoff

Bookkeeping/Announcing
Jon Luebbering - Chairman
Phillip Akin
Jim Lueckenhoff

Track Maintenance/Pullback
Pat Lackman - Chairman
Bruce Lackman
Latham Lackman
Carson Libbert
Wyatt Otto

Gate/Parking
Ryan Buschjost - Chairman
Nick Luebbering
Brad Peters
Bryan Braun
Craig Wieberg
Andy Myers
Michael Buschjost

Sell Raffle Tickets/Hold Raffle
Michael Wooten
Mark Luebbering
Jason Lueckenhoff

PA System
Steve Loethen

Rib Cooking
Cassidy Luebbering -Chairman
Anthony Luebbering - Co-Chairman

First Shift - (8:30 AM - 12 Noon)
Ryan Buschjost
Shane Verslues
Nick Luebbering

Second Shift (12 Noon - 3:00 PM)
Craig Buechter
Justin Buechter
Sam Luebbering

Third Shift (3:00 PM - 6:30 PM)
Bryan Braun
Daron Williams
Cody Luebbering

Sandwich/Soda Stand
Leon Schanzmeyer -Chairman
Keith Kliethermes
Scott Veit
Scott Rademann
Marlan Schaefer
Alan Reinkemeyer
Mark Boessen

Cleanup Sunday 8:00 AM
Paul Becker - Chairman
Bill Luebbering
Patrick Schellman
Matt Lackman
Tom Werdehausen
Anthony Luebbering
Daron Williams

If you are unable to work your shift, contact your chairman or Jeff Cassmeyer @ 573-690-7546 or Pat Lackman @ 573-694-5463

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.