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-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 8, 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. 8-15:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. – L&D Norbert Boessen Family
Wednesday 7:45 a.m. – Gilbert & Hermina Strope Family
Thursday 7:45 a.m. – Brendan Doyle
Friday 7:45 a.m. – L&D Jim & Kathy Ewers Family
Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes
Phillip & Alma Boessen
Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Fred & Curt Stockman

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$330,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End:	$ 82,500.00
Actual Collection for 2024-2025:	**$ 60,067.47**
Offertory Difference Year to Date:	-$ 22,432.53
Offertory Goal for July:	$ 27,500.00

Collection in Church:

September 1	$4,421.20
September 8	$
September 15	$
September 22	$
September 29	$
Collection Online:	$ 6,830.50
September total to date:	**$11,251.70**
Difference for September:	-$16,248.30

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations	$500,165.27
Total Collected	$542,380.50
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 $37,762.35
Loan payments to date $175,305.00
(principal) $162,237.65 (interest) $13,067.35

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists
Sept. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m.– Judy Schroeder / Jeanette
Sept. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Doug Luebbering / Jackie
Sept. 21 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mary Kay Brand / Alanna
Sept. 22 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Lisa Wieberg / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers
Sept. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Kara Holterman
Sept. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Doug Luebbering
Sept. 21 Saturday – 5:00 p.m. – Paul Becker
Sept. 22 Sunday – 10:00 a.m. – Larry Lueckenhoff

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of Sept. 8-15:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – Keith Juergensmeyer

Sunday 8:00 a.m. –Lawrence, Bernadine & Scott Otto

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2024-2025:	$67,000.00
Collection Total for 2024-2025:	**$10,639.00**
Offertory Goal per month:	$ 5,583.34

Collection in Church:

September 1	$860.00
September 8	$
September 15	$
September 22	$
September 29	$
September total to date:	**$860.00**
Difference for September:	-$4,723.34

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. – Samantha Helton
Sunday, Sept. 15 - 8:00 a.m.- Don Wansing
Sunday, Sept. 22 - 8:00 a.m.- Janice Schanzmeyer

St. Cecilia Organist
Sunday, Sept. 15 8:00 a.m. – Lydia
Sunday, Sept. 22 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
Sept. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Mark Boessen & Michael Wooten
Sept. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Kelly Stewart & Craig Buechter
Sept. 21 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Adam Holterman & Phil Akin
Sept. 22 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Ryan Buschjost & Matthew Maasen
Collection baskets choir loft by organ, please return after use.

St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Ministers
Sept. 14 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Mark Graessle
Sept. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Kieth Kliethermes
Sept. 21 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Brenda Wansing
Sept. 22 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Jan Heckemeyer

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers
Weekday: Zeke Verslues & Luke Otto
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
Sept. 21 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Luke & Ben Otto, Ava Buschjost, Evelyn Wooten
Sept. 22 10:00 a.m. – Valerie, Zeke & Max Verslues, Aliyah Buechter

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts
Sept. 14 Sat. 5:00 p.m. Family of Phillip & Alma Boessen
Sept. 15 Sunday 10:00 a.m.–Family of Curt & Fred Stockman

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters
Sept. 15 - Keith & Jean Kliethermes
Sept. 22 - Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg
Sept. 29 – Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder
Oct. 6 - Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

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

Sept. 15	Karlie Reinkemeyer
Sept. 22	Brooke Schell
Sept. 29	Jenny Schellman
Oct. 6	Dunja Wieberg
Oct. 13	Lauri Luebbering
Oct. 20	Jenny Becker

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers
Sept. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Dominic Plassmeyer
Sept. 22 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mary Plassmeyer

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers
Sept. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch & Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff
Sept. 22 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Mitch Stumpe, Brendan Stumpe, Leonard Schulte, Randy Hagenhoff

St. Cecilia Servers
Sept. 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Skyla, Jesse & Tucker Schroeder
Sept. 22 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Bradyn, Kambrie & Matthew Stegeman

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts
Sept 15 Sunday 8:00 a.m.– Family of Lawrence, Bernadine & Scott Otto

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia
Wednesday 6:05 p.m.– Dorothy Rehagen Glorious Mysteries
Sept. 15 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Janice Schanzmeyer Joyful Mysteries
Sept. 22 Sunday 7:35 a.m. – Dorothy Rehagen 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. – 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 – Joyful Mysteries
Sunday 9:35 a.m. – Tina Stockman – Joyful Mysteries

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. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHIONERS: For the past three years, the Building Expansion and Renovation ("yellow") envelopes have been used for contributions to the church renovation capital campaign. St. Thomas the Apostle parishioners have until September 30, 2024 to make payments towards their pledge commitment. Parishioners are encouraged to make their final pledge contributions by September 30. Please contact the parish office if you need more information on your pledge commitment and contributions.

Father Leonard and the Parish Finance Council have decided to continue including the "yellow" envelopes in the monthly envelope packets sent to parishioners after September 2024 since there are several major repair projects planned for 2024 and 2025. "Yellow" envelope contributions made after September 30 will be earmarked for upcoming major repair projects including replacing the school roof on the old part of school, waterproofing and tuckpointing the church and rectory, and replacing the basement windows in the Vitae House. All of these projects are critical to address water leaks in the school, church, rectory and Vitae House. Thank you for your generous support of the church renovation project and future projects.

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.

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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: 23rd Sunday of year B. SPIRITUAL DEAF – MUTES. (Is. 35:4-7a; Jas. 2:1-5; Mk. 7:31-37). The nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mother. Many of us are spiritually deaf and dumb, and Jesus wants to heal us. Today's Scripture readings give us two challenges: 1) Ask God's help to open our spiritually blind eyes, deaf ears, and free our mute tongue. 2) Share in Jesus' healing ministry by lending to him our eyes, ears, tongues, and hearts. In today's first reading, Isaiah introduces a God whose eyes are focused on the helpless and who heals the blind, the deaf the lame and the mute. The Responsorial Psalm (146) praises a God Who gives sight to the blind, raises the downtrodden, and welcomes strangers. The Second reading, taken from St. James' Epistle to the Church (2:1-5) reminds us that as sharers in Christ's healing ministry, we must practice Christian social justice by showing no partiality, that is, not shaming the poor by denying their rights to favor the rich. Instead, we must practice Christ's option for the poor. Today's Gospel story explains how Jesus fulfills Isaiah's prophecy by healing a deaf-mute in six stages in an "audio-visual" way. Jesus i) separates him from the crowd ii) looks to heaven and groans iii) puts his fingers in the deaf man's ears iv) applies his own saliva to the mute man's tongue v) prays once again and vi) gives the command "Ephphatha!" or "Be opened!" Therefore friends, we need to pray daily for healing from our spiritual blindness, so that we really see God's presence in others, and act on what we see; from our spiritual deafness so that we will attentively listen to the word of God, hear the cry and needs of others, and meet them as far as we can, and end our spiritual muteness, so that we may be able to praise and worship God loudly and vibrantly during our family prayers at home and our liturgical prayers and hymns during the Holy Mass. We need to recognize our share in Jesus' healing ministry by lending him our eyes, ears, tongues, hands, feet, our hearts, and all our talents and blessings so that he may use them for granting all sorts of healing to people around us in our homes, parishes, institutions, and society. ***Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi***

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.

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION is Tuesday, September 10, 7:00 p.m. St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS: Thursday, September 12 – 7&8 Visit Helias
Friday, September 13, Mid Quarter
Friday, September 20 – Grandparents Day
Thursday, September 26, Picture Day
Monday, September 30, **NO SCHOOL P-8,** Diocesan Professional Development Day

SEASONS OF HOPE – GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP – DIOCESE OF JEFFERSON CITY: Mourning the loss of someone you love is never easy, but there is hope. This program, rooted in Catholic tradition, conveys God's consolation through scripture, prayer, reflection and sharing our faith. This program is part of our See City deanery pastoral plan. There are two locations offering the group: Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. St. Martin Parish and Tuesdays 6:00 p.m. at the Proto-Cathedral of St. Peter. This is a six week program that alternates between the two parishes. For more information and to save your spot, please contact the parish office at 573-636-8159.

THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, September 10, 7:30 p.m. A rosary will be prayed at 7:15 p.m. Please read the newsletter attached to the bulletin.

THE OVER 50 GROUP will not meet this month. We will be preparing for the Citizen's Civic League's fall festival. We will get together again in October.

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 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.

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: 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

LITTLE SAINTS OF St. Thomas

SUNDAY SCHOOL

WELCOMING ALL PRESCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN OF OUR PARISH DURING

10 A.M. MASS

TO SIGN UP YOUR LITTLE SAINT OR FOR MORE INFO. PLEASE REACH OUT TO

MASON OTTO 573-680-7814
-OR-
JESSICA PETERS 573-644-4714

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

What would Amendment 3 actually do?

Prohibit any regulation of abortion

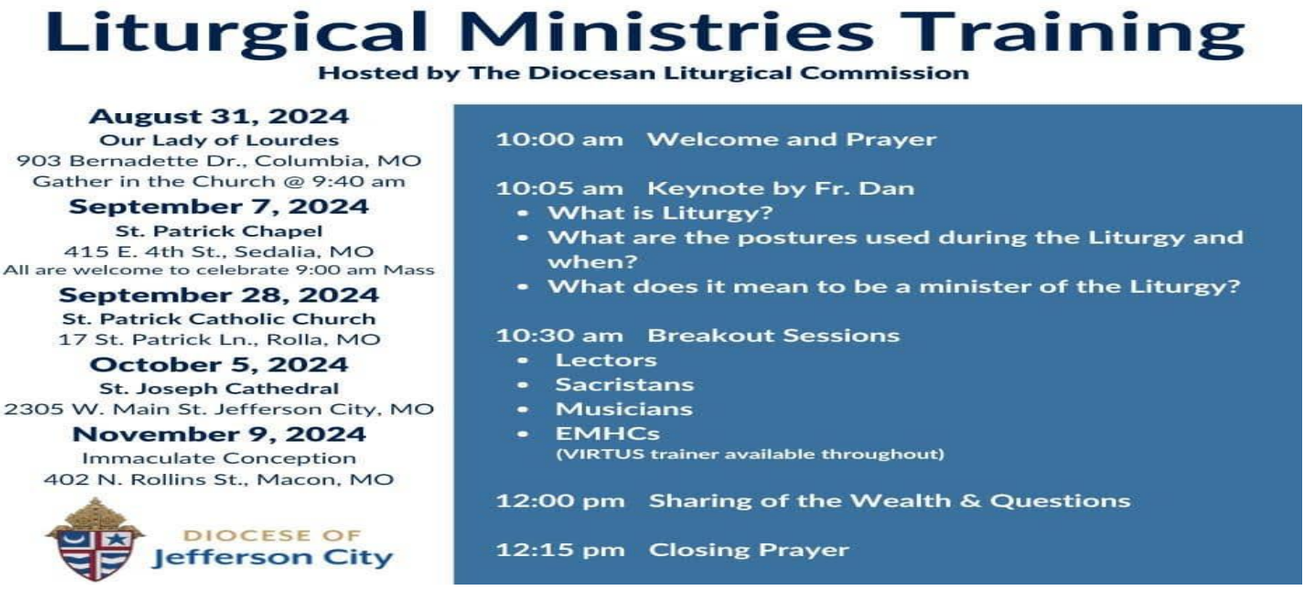
Amendment 3 would invalidate any existing laws and prohibit new laws that voters on both sides of the abortion issue support, including health and safety laws that protect women.

VOTE NO ON AMENDMENT 3

Safeguard them both

Learn more at *diojeffcity.org/amendment3*

DIOCESE OF Jefferson City



HELIAS CATHOLIC'S SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE CAMPAIGN. Helias has launched its Spirit of Excellence Campaign to raise $14 million to build a performing arts center, a baseball/softball complex and an addition to the existing James L. Rackers Field house including necessary updates to its athletic and strength conditioning facilities. The campaign will run through the end of August. For more information and to support the campaign, please visit *heliascatholic.com/spiritofexcellence* or contact Helias+ Catholic President Ron Vossen at *rvossen@heliascatholic.com* or 573-635-6139.

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ONWARD *together*