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

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 12, 2026

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 July 12-19

Tuesday 7:45 am	Herb & Imogene Volmert
Wednesday 7:45 am	***No Mass, Summer schedule***
Thursday 7:45 am	Butch Loethen
Friday 7:45 am	Betty Hoecker
Saturday 5:00 pm	People of Our Parishes
Sunday 10:00 am	Brendan Doyle

Your Sunday Offering

Offertory Budget for 2026-2027	$360,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	$30.000.00
Actual Collection for 2026-2027	$12,848.60
Offertory Difference Year to Date	-$17,151.40
Offertory Goal for July	$30,000.00

Collection in Church

July 5	$6,253.10
July 12	
July 19	
July 26	

Collection Online	$6,595.50
July Total to Date	**$12,848.60**
Difference for July	-$17,151.40

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle

Tuesday 7:25 am	Bob Schellman - Sorrowful
Wednesday 7:25 am	***No Mass, Summer Schedule***
Thursday 7:25 am	Dale Herigon – Luminous
Friday 7:25 am	Jim Lueckenhoff – Sorrowful

Offertory Gifts – St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday 5:00 pm	Ushers
Sunday 10:00 am	Family of Brendan Doyle

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of July 12-19

Wednesday 6:30 pm	Danny Libbert
Sunday 8:00 am	Urban, Ron & Randy Voss

Your Sunday Offering

Offertory Budget for 2026-2027	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2026-2027	**$76,472.00**
Offertory Goal per Month for July	$5,833.33

Collection in Church

July 5	$1,141.00
July 12	
July 19	
July 26	

July Total to Date	$1,141.00
Difference for July	$4,692.33

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia & Lector
Wednesday –Dorothy Rehagen- Glorious

Lector: Doris Stumpe

Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Sunday	Family of Urban, Ron & Randy Voss

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.
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.

BULLETIN NOTICES 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.

Liturgical Role Schedule for July 18 & 19

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Christian, Austyn Christian, Kaycie Volmert, Jase Volmert, Johnathon	Schroeder, Tucker Werdehausen, Gavin	Prenger, Emmary Reynolds, Jacob Reynolds, Samuel Verslues, Max
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Wansing, Brenda Graessle, Barb Graessle, Mark	Even, Jennifer Plassmeyer, Dominic Plassmeyer, Mary	Reinkemeyer, Lynne Prenger, Matt Verslues, Melissa
Lector	Wooten, Amanda	Even, Jennifer	Schroeder, David
Rosary Leader: Sorrowful	Graessle, Barb	Schroeder, Jennifer	Lueckenhoff, Janet
Greeters/Ushers	Boessen, Keith Strope, Eric	Schulte, Leonard Hagenhoff, Randy	Groner, Art Luebbering, Ben
Music Ministry	Schroeder, Jeanette Schroeder, Judy	Hurst, Lydia	Prenger, Jackie Brand, Mary Kay
Live Stream			Schellman, Jenny
Count Collections		Plassmeyer, Dominic Plassmeyer, Mary	Schellman, Donna Wieberg, Rosalyn
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	Boessen, Linda - Luebbering, Lauri - Luebbering, Lindsay - Reinkemeyer, Lynne		

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

THE ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH OFFICE will be closed on Wednesday, July 15.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 15TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR, SOWING SEEDS OF THE KINGDOM (Is. 55:10-11; Rom. 8:18-23; Mt. 13:1-23) Happy **Feast Day to St. Thomas the Apostle Parishioners**, may St. Thomas continue to intercede for you. I also want to wish **St. Cecilia parishioners a nice and blessed picnic day.** Today's readings are about the transforming power of the word of God when read, preached, and lived. They also warn us not to be disappointed at the absence of immediate results. We must take a positive and optimistic view of our missionary efforts, as we keep on bearing witness to Christ's Gospel. In the first reading, Isaiah consoles the Jewish slaves in Babylon, assuring them that, like rain and snow which water the earth so that seeds may sprout and grow, God's word will accomplish His purpose, in this case by returning the exiles to their homes in peace as God has promised. In the second reading, St. Paul reminds us that just as seeds must fall into the earth and die to produce an abundant crop, the pain and sufferings God permits in our lives, work in us for our redemption. Paul wants us to wait for our eternal reward while we continue sowing the word of God diligently and suffering for the Lord, as he did. The parable of the sower in today's Gospel challenges us to listen intently to God's Word, to be open to it, and to allow our lives to be shaped by its power. It continues to remind us that man's reception of God's Word is determined by the condition of his heart, teaches us that the word of the Lord is the seed, and our hearts and minds are the soil. The seed's good spiritual yield in one's life depends on how fully one willingly accepts and responds to the word of the Lord. The yield arising from the positive response will be abundant beyond all imagining. The parable tells us to do our part by preparing fertile soil in our hearts in which the word of God can germinate, grow, and yield 30-, 60, or 100-fold. Therefore friends, we need to read the word of God every day, starting with a prayer to the Holy Spirit for the gifts of attentive reading and the ability and willingness to apply the message we receive to our daily living. When we listen to the word of God as read and preached in the Church during the Holy Mass, or in a televised program, we need to pay full attention to the message given by God, Who uses the priest or preacher as His instrument. We need to keep our spiritual soil free from weeds, fertile, and well-prepared for the word of God: First, we need to keep our hearts open to the word of God instead of closing it with pride, prejudice, fear, or laziness. Second, we also need to ask God's special grace to remove all types of blocks which harden our hearts, like laziness, anxiety, worries, hatred, jealousy, prejudice and the burden of unrepented or unconfessed sins, any of which can prevent the word of God from influencing and transforming our lives. Third, we have to remove from our hearts the weeds like evil habits and addictions, evil tendencies, hatred, jealousy, fear, and greed. Fourth, we should not allow the trials and tribulations of this world (*the cares of this world, our ambitions, or our desires for worldly success and happiness),* to choke out the messages that God gives through His word. Lastly, we have to keep the soil of our hearts fertile by our prayer life, repenting of our sins by receiving the sacrament of reconciliation when necessary, and receiving the spiritual food of the Holy Eucharist by participating in the Holy Mass. When we receive Jesus, the Word of God and the Source of the word of God [*Holy Scripture and Sacred Tradition],* in Holy Communion we need to ask him to transform our lives so that we may see Jesus in all of us *(for we are all brothers and sisters in Him),* and share with each Jesus' unconditional love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness. **Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi**

ST. CECILIA PRAYER LINE REQUESTS can be made by calling Katie Lueckenotto at 573-229-4318 or 573-619-6454.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PRAYER LINE REQUESTS should be emailed to Theresa Veit at *tveitoffice@gmail.com* or by calling 573-418-7301.

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTION is Tuesday, July 14, 7:00 pm St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS SPECIAL COLLECTION: The weekend of July 18-19, the Diocese of Jefferson City will hold a special collection to support our brothers and sisters in need, including in the home dioceses of the mission priests serving us. The Diocese is providing special envelopes for this collection that will be included in the July 10 issue of The Catholic Missourian. However, parishioners aren't required to use this envelope; they can use the envelope, which is in your July packets, or they can donate online at *diojeffcity.org/donate-missions.* Parishioners, please make checks out to your parish for this collection. Please do not send the envelopes directly to the Chancery.

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH PICNIC DESSERT AUCTION: If you would like to make a special dessert for our August 16th parish picnic dessert auction, please contact Roseanne Boessen at 573 301-9591. You can do it to showcase your baking talents, your mom's family favorite dessert, or just for the pure joy of baking. We appreciate your contribution! Thank you.

URGENT REQUEST FOR THE ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PICNIC COUNTRY'S STORE: We are in need of gooseberries!! The early frost wiped out our usual harvest…gooseberry pies are our biggest sellers!!! So, if you have any to donate, please call Lucy Suthoff, 573-645-6801 or Donna Luebbering 573-690-0822. And as always, we welcome donations of various other fruits or pie & jelly making. THANK YOU!

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRESCHOOL: If you have a child, ages 3 or 4 and have been thinking about preschool, please call Lizzie Linhardt, *llinhardt@stacs.school* 573-645-5605 or the school office 573-477-3322. If you have any questions or would like to set up a one on one meeting and school tour, please contact the school office. Please check out and like St. Thomas the Apostle Preschool Facebook page.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH QUILT GROUPS: Thank you to everyone who helped in ways towards the quilts for our 2026 parish picnic. We have a good selection and hope the auction goes well. The quilt list for the 2027 picnic is found on our web page. The first name on the list is the chairperson and is responsible for having a quilt ready for the 2027 picnic. The quilts should be finished by June 1, 2027, so they can be listed on the picnic flier. Chairpersons are asked to contact the other members of their group. If you would like to help us quilt, come and join our circle this Fall. We will need some quilt tops with lining to be quilted by August 19. If you have any questions, please call Emily Luebbering at 573-477-3459 or Kathy Strope at 573-477-3349.

BREAKING THE SILENCE OF ABUSE: As a Diocese, we are committed to breaking the silence of abuse. When someone is reporting abuse, we must acknowledge their pain and how difficult it is to talk about it. False allegations are very rare. Our initial response to someone who is disclosing abuse for the first time must be compassionate. For those who need to report abuse, encourage them to contact our Victims Assistance Coordinator, Jacqueline Baldwin, (573-694-3199) and to make use of the appropriate State of Missouri hotline (1-800-392-3738) or the Attorney General's clergy abuse online form. All of this information is also on our website, under the 'report abuse' tab. For those who want information or want to convey a message to Bishop O'Donnell, please encourage them to write to us at *reportabuse@diojeffcity.org*

THE NEXT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING is Tuesday, July 14, 7:00 pm. A rosary will be prayed at 6:45 pm. Please read the July newsletter attached to the bulletin.

THE ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BLOOD DRIVE has been rescheduled to Thursday, July 30, 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the St. Thomas Knights of Columbus Hall. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter StThomasParish to schedule an appointment.

MEN OF ST. THOMAS & ST. CECILIA PARISHES: Men of St. Thomas and St. Cecilia Parishes: You are invited to join the Men of ***Signum Crucis*** at our next gathering, which begins at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 15, at Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City. This month we welcome Adam Wright, radio host of local Catholic Radio, from St. Louis. Many men will recall that Adam spoke at our first Men's Conference in 2024. The title of Adam's presentation on July 15 is "Redemptive Suffering, Part II." Following fraternity and refreshments in the Helias Commons, our evening will conclude at 8:00 p.m. with the praying of the Litany of St. Joseph. If you can arrive early, we will pray the Rosary at 6:00 p.m. in the Helias Chapel. We hope you can come every or any third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. to deepen your knowledge of and devotion to our faith in fellowship with the best men in mid-Missouri. The mission of the Men of ***Signum Crucis*** is to provide Fraternity through Catholic Study, Devotion, and Service. For more information about the Men of ***Signum Crucis***, contact Jeff Cassmeyer at 573-690-7546, or visit us at *www.menofsignumcrucis.com.*

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CEMETERY REMINDER: All artificial flowers must be in a vase. No glass objects of any kind. All objects deemed by the management to hinder ground maintenance shall be removed.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OFFERS VIDEO SERIES: Men and women, young and old, strengthen and grow in your faith for your families with five short videos produced by the *Knights of Columbus* called the "**Mission of The Family.**" The videos can be found on the *Knights of Columbus* website for free! Here is the link and QR Code to find **"The Mission of The Family"** videos: *https://www.kofc.org/en/campaigns/into-the-breach.html* The five videos are less than 14 minutes in length.

SAVE THE DATES: **St. Thomas the Apostle Fest Saturday, July 11 - Celebrate the Feast Day of St. Thomas the Apostle with an evening of faith, fellowship, food, and family fun. Join us for Mass at 5:00 PM followed by burgers, hot dogs, and bounce houses for the kids!**
Sunday, July 12 – St. Cecilia Parish Picnic
Totus Tuus - St. Stanislaus Parish - July 12 through July 17
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Picnic – Sunday, August 16, 2026
St. Thomas the Apostle 30th Annual Fall Fantasy – Saturday, November 7, 2026
Sunday, September 20 - Meta Citizens Civic League Fall Festival

BUFFET STYLE ~ DINE-IN OR CARRY-OUT

ADULTS $16 ~ CARRYOUTS $16 ~ CHILDREN 6-12 $8 ~ CHILDREN 5 & UNDER FREE

ST. CECILIA

ROAST BEEF & FRIED CHICKEN *Picnic*

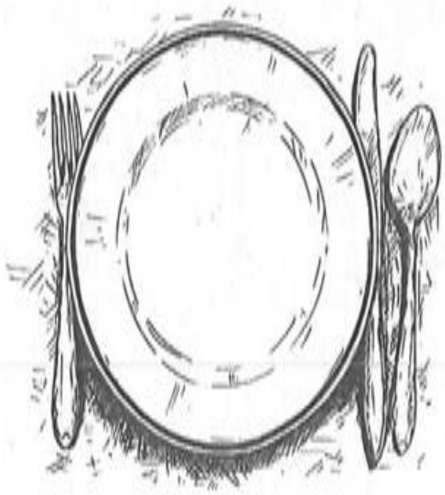
MASHED POTATOES, GREEN BEANS, COLE SLAW, APPLESAUCE, HOMEMADE BREAD & PIE

JULY 12, 2026

11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

META CITIZENS' CIVIC LEAGUE PARK

COUNTRY STORE, KETTLE CORN, BEER GARDEN, RAFFLE



BINGO, GAMES, SANDWICH STAND, TOYLAND

QUILT, DESSERT, & MORE AUCTION

4:00 P.M. ~ AUCTIONEERING PROVIDED BY HURST AUCTIONEER SERVICE

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish

PICNIC

Fried chicken and roast beef served with mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, green beans, sauerkraut, cucumbers, tomatoes, homestyle bread and homemade pies
*Gluten free roast beef and gravy

Adults: $16 Children 6-12: $7 Under 6: Free

11:00AM - 6:30PM
AUGUST 16 | 2026

Quilt Auction begins at 5:00pm
View quilts at www.stthomasapostle.net

Grand Raffle ($1,000 top prize)
Air-conditioned Bingo - Country Store
Kidsville - Bounce House - Kettle Corn
Beer Garden & Gin Rickeys

Live Music by Brittney Buscher & Chloe Hoecker

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.