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

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 5, 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 5-12

Tuesday 7:45 am	Clem, Butch, Dorothy & Justin Veit
Wednesday 7:45 am	***No Mass, Summer schedule***
Thursday 7:45 am	Ray Herigon
Friday 7:45 am	Laverne & Daniel Dubbert & Vic Wilde
Saturday 5:00 pm	People of our Parishes
Sunday 10:00 am	Tony Strope

Saint Cecilia
Mass Schedule for the Week of July 5-12

Wednesday 6:30 pm	Lawrence Wansing
Sunday 8:00 am	Henry, Alma & Gerard Blomberg & Mary Clark

Your Sunday Offering

Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	$342,000.00
Offertory Goal through Month End	$342,000.00
Actual Collection for 2025-2026	$369,062.87
Offertory Difference Year to Date	$27,062.87
Offertory Goal for June	$28,500.00

Collection in Church

June 7	$4,993.10
June 14	$2,333.10
June 21	$2,920.32
June 28	$4,748.20
Collection Online	$8,128.00
June Total to Date	**$23,122.72**
Difference for June	-$5,377.28

Your Sunday Offering

Offertory Budget for 2025-2026	$70,000.00
Collection Total for 2025-2026	**$76,472.00**
Offertory Goal per Month for June	$5,833.33

Collection in Church

June 7	$1,447.00
June 14	$1,368.00
June 21	$1,105.00
June 28	$1,059.00
June Total to Date	$4,979.00
Difference for June	-$854.33

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

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia & Lector
Wednesday –Cathy Borgmeyer - Glorious

Lector: Dorothy Rehagen

Offertory Gifts – St. Thomas the Apostle

Saturday 5:00 pm	Ushers
Sunday 10:00 am	Family of Tony Strope

Offertory Gifts – St. Cecilia

Sunday	Family of Henry, Alma & Gerard Blomberg & Mary Clark

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 11 & 12

	Saturday, 5:00 PM	Sunday, 8:00 AM	Sunday, 10:00 AM
Altar Servers	Akin, Noah Otto, Benjamin Otto, Haddie Otto, Luke	Stegeman, Kambrie Stegeman, Matthew	Lackman, Virgil Sandbothe, Gabriel Tallent, Hannah Tallent, Levi
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Becker, Paul Becker, Jenny Schanzmeyer, Janice	Hagenhoff, Betty Even, Jennifer Libbert, Pam	Lueckenhoff, Linda Lueckenhoff, Janet Schroeder, Jennifer
Lector	Becker, Jenny	Hagenhoff, Betty	Loethen, Carolyn
Rosary Leader: Glorious	Herigon, Dale	Plassmeyer, Mary	Schroeder, Jennifer
Greeters/Ushers	Akin, Phil Holterman, Adam	Hagenhoff, Randy Libbert, Pam	Stockman, Zac Stockman, Doug
Music Ministry	Stockman, Alanna Strope, Anne	Borgmeyer, Emilie	Prenger, Jackie Kliethermes, Kelsey
Live Stream			Pace, Brooke
Count Collections		Plassmeyer, Dominic Plassmeyer, Mary	Schroeder, Jennifer Wieberg, Dunja
St. Thomas Church Cleaners	Buschjost, Charlene - Buschjost, Randy - Lueckenhoff, Janet - Lueckenhoff, Jim		

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

PASTORS MEDITATION: 14TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR, THE GREAT LITTLE PEOPLE OF GOD: (Zec. 9:9-10; Rom. 8:9, 11-13; Mt. 11:25-30) During the U. S. Independence Day celebrations, Americans probably hear all or part of Emma Lazarus' poem inscribed on the base of the Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores! Send these, the homeless tempest-tossed to me – I lift my lamp beside the Golden Door!" Today's readings, especially the Gospel, give the same message in a more powerful way: "Take my yoke, and you will find rest." In the first reading, the prophet Zechariah consoles the Jews living in Palestine under Greek rule, promising them a "meek" Messianic King of peace riding on a donkey, who will give them rest and liberty. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 145) praises and thanks a kind and compassionate God Who "raises up those who are bowed down" under heavy yokes. In the second reading, Paul tells the first-century Christian community in Rome about two yokes, namely, the "flesh" and the "Spirit," and he challenges them to reject the heavy, fatal yoke of the flesh and accept the light, life-supporting yoke of the Spirit of Jesus. Christian spirituality, according to Paul, proceeds from the initiative of the Holy Spirit and means living in the realm of the "Spirit" as opposed to the "flesh." In the Gospel, Jesus offers rest to those "who labor and are burdened," If they will accept his "easy yoke and light burden." By declaring that his "yoke is easy," Jesus means that whatever God sends us is made to fit our needs and our abilities exactly. The second part of Jesus' claim is: "My burden is light." Jesus does not mean that the burden is easy to carry, but that it is laid on us in love, that it is meant to be carried in love, and that love makes even the heaviest burden light. Therefore, friends, we need to unload our burdens on the Lord. This "unloading" is the main purpose of our personal and family prayers and is one of the functions of Divine Worship in the Church. During our daily prayers in the evening, we ask God's forgiveness for the sins and failures of day and receive the consoling assurance that we are reconciled with God and our fellow human beings. During the Holy Mass in our parish Church, we place our stress-filled lives on the altar and allow Jesus to cool down the overheated radiators of our hectic lives. We also unload the burdens of our sins and worries on the altar and offer them and ourselves to God during the Holy Mass. We need to be freed from unnecessary burdens: Jesus lays the light burden of his Commandment of Love on us and yokes us with himself, giving us his strength through the Holy Spirit to fulfill that Commandment. Jesus is also interested in lifting from our backs the burdens that suck the life out of us, so that he can place around our necks his own yoke that brings to us and to others through us, new life, new energy, and new joy. We are called, not only to find peace, refreshment, and rest for ourselves, but also to live the kind of life through which others, too, may find God's peace, God's refreshing grace, and the joy of placing their lives in God's hands.
Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi

STEUBENVILLE STL MID-AMERICA: This week 18 students and 3 chaperones from our Parishes will be attending the Steubenville conference. The conference is a high energy youth conference where thousands of teens are invited to encounter Jesus Christ through dynamic speakers, engaging music, the Sacraments, small group discussions, and fellowship with other teens. Our conference is an outreach of Franciscan University in partnership with the St. Louis Archdiocesan Office of Youth Ministry. Two conferences are held every year in July and take place on the campus of Missouri State University in Springfield, MO.

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. CECILIA PARISHIONERS: Our annual picnic is coming up next weekend and I would like to thank everyone who has already helped and will help with the picnic and the preparations. The last several years we have run out of desserts before the end of our serving time. I would like to ask everyone, even if you're not on the work-list to make pies or desserts for the meal if at all possible. If you have any questions, you can call or text me at 573-645-6565. Thank you, Betty Hagenhoff, St. Cecilia Picnic Chairperson.

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!

PSR REGISTRATION is open for all students entering Kindergarten through 12th grade. You can register your students using the link provided or you can go on our website and complete the form on the website. Please complete the form by August 1. For students entering K-7 parents please contact Barbara Graessle at 573-680-2954. Students entering 8th grade can contact Samantha Helton at 573-469-8649. *https://forms.gle/6x9TmTE8zmZzicm17*

PSR TEACHERS NEEDED: If you would like to help educate our young students by assisting with PSR, we are looking for PSR teachers. It works well if we receive several volunteers and tag teach every other week or 2 weeks or and 2 weeks off. If you have any interest, please contact Barbara Graessle, 573-680-2954.

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.

ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BLOOD DRIVE is Thursday, July 9, 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. All presenting donors will receive a free commemorative St. Louis Cardinals Blood Drive t-shirt, while supplies last.

ST. THOMAS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TRACTOR PULL WORK-LIST is on page 5 of bulletin.

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.*

REMINDER: The monthly **OVER 50 group** will **not** meet this month. Some of us will be working at the hall preparing for our picnic. Back on schedule in August.

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.

WESTPHALIA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SOCCER is conducting fall soccer sign-ups through google forms. Players ages 3-14 are welcome! Please sign up by July 12. Please email *wkcsoccerclub@gmail.com* to receive a link to the form if you have questions. The link is Fall soccer registration.

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

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

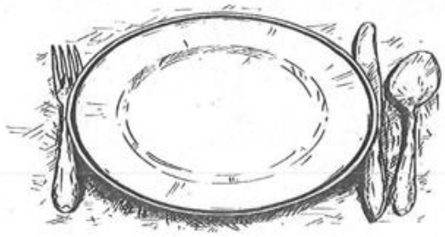
MASHED POTATOES, GREEN BEANS, COLE SLAW, APPLESAUCE, HOMEMADE BREAD & PIE

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

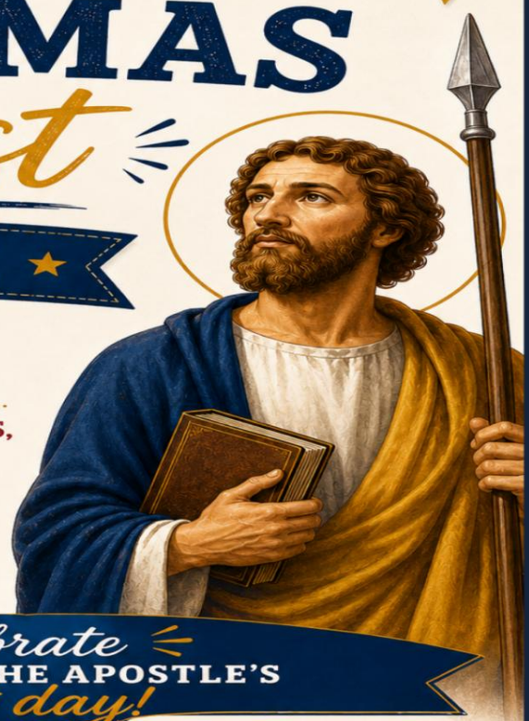
ST. THOMAS Fest

JULY 11

MASS *at 5pm*

HOTDOGS, BURGERS, CHIPS, WATER, AND LEMONADE *provided*

BOUNCE *house*



Celebrate ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE'S *feast day!*

SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO THE WEBSITE

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO RSVP!

www.stthomasapostle.net/bbq-feast-day-7-11-26.html

RSVP BY JULY 4

ST. THOMAS PARISHIONERS ONLY

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.

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ONWARD *together*