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

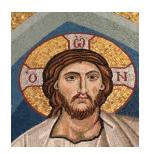
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 5, 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 Iheckemeyer@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 May 5-12:

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. - Special Intention Wednesday 7:45 a.m. - Lawrence & Cyrilla Heckemeyer Thursday 7:45 a.m. - Gilbert & Hermina Strope Family Thursday 6:30 p.m. - 8th Grade Promotion

Friday 7:45 a.m. – Dianne Herigon

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – People of our Parishes John, Minnie & Steve Luebbering

Sunday 10:00 a.m. - David A. Boessen

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024: \$312,000.00 Offertory Goal through Month End: \$260,000.00 Actual Collection for 2023-2024: \$286,271.04 Offertory Difference Year to Date: \$ 22,183.37 Offertory Goal per month: \$ 26,000.00

Collection in Church:

\$7,612.95 April 7 April 14 \$3,951.49 April 21 \$3,652.87 April 28 \$4,087.67 **Collection Online:** \$7,933.00 April total to date: \$27,237.98 Difference for April: +\$ 1,237.98

Church Renovation Capital Campaign

Total Pledges/Donations \$495,710.35 Total Collected \$531,682.78 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 \$48,386.91 Loan payments to date \$164,160.00

(principal) \$151,613.09 (interest) \$12,546.91

St. Thomas the Apostle Cantors / Organists

May 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m.– Judy Schroeder / Alanna May 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Doug Luebbering / Jackie May 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m. -Mary Kay Brand / Jeanette May 19 Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Josh Luebbering / Jackie

St. Thomas the Apostle Readers

May 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Paul Becker May 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Larry Lueckenhoff May 18 Saturday – 5:00 p.m. – Amanda Wooten May 19 Sunday – 10:00 a.m. – Daffiny Tallent

Saint Cecilia Mass Schedule for the Week of May 5-12:

Wednesday 6:30 p.m. - Jackie Luebbert

Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Harold Libbert

Your Sunday Offering:

Offertory Budget for 2023-2024: \$67,000.00 Collection Total for 2023-2024: \$62,426.00 Offertory Goal per month: \$ 5,583.34

Collection in Church:

\$2,913.00 April 7 April 14 \$1,725.00 April 21 \$ 812.00 April 28 \$1,381.00 April total to date: \$5,407.00 Difference for April: -\$ 179.34

St. Cecilia Collection Counters

May: Margie & Dale Helton

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR PARISH IN YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT.

St. Cecilia Readers

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - Doris Stumpe Sunday, May 12 - 8:00 a.m.- Karyn Veltrop Sunday, May 19 - 8:00 a.m.- Dominic Plassmeyer

St. Cecilia Organist

Sunday, May 12 8:00 a.m. - Emilie Sunday, May 19 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

May 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m. – Phil Akin & Michael Wooten May 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m. – Craig Buechter & Larry Lueckenhoff

May 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Eric Strope & Eric Boessen

May 19 Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Art Groner & Richard Heckemeyer

Parish Count for weekend Masses is on the offertory table. Collection baskets choir loft by organ, please return after use.

St. Thomas the Apostle Eucharistic Ministers

May 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m.- Mark Graessle

May 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m.- Keith Kliethermes

May 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Brenda Wansing May 19 Sunday 10:00 a.m. - Lynne Reinkemeyer

St. Thomas the Apostle Servers

Weekday servers: Max Verslues & JD Volmert

May 11 5:00 p.m. - Gannon Reeves, Emerald Fennewald,

Sadie & Ellie Boessen

May 12 10:00 a.m.- Victoria & Will Wieberg, Kora Luebbering, Stella Volmert

May 18 Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Ava Buschjost, Evelyn Wooten,

Ben & Luke Otto May 19 10:00 a.m. - Francie, Hannah & Levi Tallent,

Aliyah Buechter

St. Thomas the Apostle Offertory Gifts

May 11 Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Family of John, Steve & Minnie Luebbering

May 12 Sunday 10:00 a.m. -Family of David A. Boessen

St. Thomas the Apostle Collection Counters

May 12 - Rosalyn Wieberg & Donna Schellman

May 19 - Keith & Jean Kliethermes

May 26- Sonya Henson & Millie Wieberg

June 2 - Dunja Wieberg & Jennifer Schroeder

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

May 12 **Dunja Wieberg** May 19 Lauri Luebbering May 26 Jenny Becker June 2 Brooke Schell

Rosary before Mass at St. Thomas

Tuesday, 7:25 a.m. – Shirley Volmert – Sorrowful Mysteries Wednesday 7:25 a.m. -Bob Schellman - 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– Glorious Mysteries Sunday 9:35 a.m. - Jennifer Schroeder - Glorious Mysteries

St. Cecilia Eucharistic Ministers

May 12 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Betty Hagenhoff May 19 Sunday 8:00 a.m. – Pam Libbert

St. Cecilia Greeters/Ushers

May 12 Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Brendan Stumpe, Randy Hagenhoff, Kenny Otto, Otto Wankum May 19 Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Leonard Schulte, Tony Derkum, William Derkum, Terry Libbert

St. Cecilia Servers

May 12 Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Henry & Annaline Schroeder May 19 Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Skyla, Tucker & Jess Schroeder

St. Cecilia Offertory Gifts

May 12 Sunday 8:00 a.m. - Family of Harold Libbert

Rosary before Mass at St. Cecilia

May 12 Sunday 7:35 a.m. - Mary Plassmeyer Glorious Mysteries May 19 Sunday 7:35 a.m. - Janice Schanzmeyer 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.

St. Thomas the Apostle Church Cleaners

May 5: Lynne Reinkemeyer, Linda Boessen, Lauri Luebbering, Lisa Lackman May 12: Sonya Henson, Susan Buechter, Brenda Schell, Barb Graessle May 19: Brooke Schell, Tina Stockman, Gina Luebbering, Karen Luebbering May 26: Alan Libbert, Nancy Libbert, Darrel Buechter, Jan Heckemeyer

Janet Lueckenhoff, Jim Lueckenhoff, Charlene Buschjost, Randy Buschjost June 2:

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, May 9 - Morgan Otto & Katelyn Otto

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.

DIOCESAN SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING: As Father Leonard mentioned in Church, our parishes recently had an audit with the Diocese on Safe Environment/Virtus. Any parishioner that has volunteered to do a ministry during Mass must complete the Safe Environment/Virtus program. Anyone 18 years or older needs the training. Safe Environment/Virtus Training may be found on the Homepage of the Parish Website (<u>www.stthomasapostle.net</u>) 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. We would like to have all training completed by May 31, 2024. If you need help, please contact Theresa, Diane, or Doris. Thank you for your help in this matter.

CONGRATULATIONS to Dave Sturtz, Mary Frazier, and Amber Rehagen for being elected to St. Cecilia Parish Pastoral Council. Thank you to all of our nominees.

LIVE STREAMERS NEEDED AT ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CHURCH: Are you someone who likes to spread our Catholic faith? Why not consider joining our St. Thomas Stream Team and help spread the Word every Sunday at the 10:00 a.m. Mass? Operating the equipment is fun and easy! Please call or text Lauri Luebbering at 573-619-6090 if interested.

BISHOP MCKNIGHT MAY PRAYER INTENTION: For those who are preparing for marriage and those who are living the sacrament of holy Matrimony: May the mutual self-giving of spouses and engaged couples bring new life into our community, we pray to the Lord.

PASTORS MEDITATION: 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER: LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. (Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1Jn. 4:7-10; Jn. 15: 9-17) The readings today declare the profound truth that those who believe in Christ are to obey his commandment of love, "Love one another as I have loved you." In the first reading, Peter teaches us that God shows no partiality in His love and that there are no boundaries to abiding in love. God loves everyone, both the Jews and the Gentiles, and He wants everyone to be saved through His son, Jesus. That is why God welcomed the Roman centurion Cornelius as the first non-Jew to become a Christian. The reading tells us how God also allowed the Gentiles who heard Peter's speech to receive the same Holy Spirit and His gifts that Peter's Jewish audience had received on the day of Pentecost. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 98) also directs our attention toward God's marvelous love and kindness in offering salvation to the whole world. In the second reading, John defines God as love and explains that He expressed His love for mankind by sending His son to die for us humans "as expiation for our sins." This Divine love gives us the command, and so the duty, to love one another as we have been loved by God. Since God has loved us first, we can and should love God in return, love ourselves properly, and love one another. After telling the parable of the vine and branches, Jesus, in today's Gospel, teaches the disciples that they are to obey his commandment of love just as Jesus has obeyed his Heavenly Father's will by fulfilling His commandments and remaining inseparably bonded with his Father. Jesus' unconditional, forgiving, selfless, sacrificial love for us must be the criterion of our love for others. The highest expression of this love is our willingness to lay down our lives as Jesus did, for people who don't deserve it. The goal and result of our abiding in love, in God, will be perfect joy. Jesus no longer calls us slaves but now calls us "friends." He tells us that he has chosen us, and that, if we use Jesus' name, we can ask the Father for anything.

Therefore, friends we need to cultivate an abiding and loving friendship with Jesus. We need to express this love in our relationships with others by loving them and offering them trust, faithfulness, equality, forgiveness, joy, and sacrifice. We need to be persons for others: Jesus demonstrated the love of God, his Father, for us by living for us and dying for us. Hence, as Jesus' disciples, we are to be persons for others, sacrificing our time, talents, and lives for others. This is what parents spontaneously do, sacrificing themselves, their time, talents, health, and wealth for their children, or in other words, by spending themselves for their children. The most effective way of communicating God's love to others is by treating everyone as a friend, giving everyone the respect he or she deserves. Let us remember that Christ's own love was not limited to the people he liked. Love works miracles for those who believe in it. *Have a blessed week! Fr. Leonard Mukiibi*

<u>ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISHIONERS:</u> Volunteers Needed - The St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council is looking for 5 new committee members. The council meets every 2 months. The term runs for 3 years. If you would like to volunteer, please reach out to the parish office.

<u>ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PSR PROGRAM TEACHERS NEEDED:</u> PSR will begin in August or late September. In order to make this program possible, there are volunteer positions that must be filled: PSR Coordinator and 2 Teachers. Please reach out to the Parish Council if you are interested.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL NEWS: Thursday, May 9 – 8th Grade Promotion 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 14 – Field Day Wednesday, May 15 – Last day of school, 11:05 dismissal

Registration Link: https://www.heliascrusaderscamps.com/girls-basketball-camps.cfm

bulletin.

RECOGNIZING OUR 2024 GRADUATES: If you are a 2024 graduate or promotion (elementary, high school, college, or technical school). Please let us know by emailing or calling the school office at 573-477-3322 or the Parish Office, Tuesday mornings (8:00-11:30 a.m.) or Wednesday's (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) 573-477-3315. The names will be published in the May 19

HELIAS LADY CRUSADER BASKETBALL CAMP: The Helias Lady Crusader Basketball Youth Camp will begin on June 10-13. This camp will work on the basic fundamentals of basketball, fostering a competitive nature, all while having fun, and is for all levels of basketball skill. Please consider joining Coach Wiggans and the Lady Crusader team and improve upon your basketball ability. Helias Lady Crusader Camp T-Shirt is included with the price. K-5: 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. 6th-8th: 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

<u>LIFE TEEN GROUP:</u> St. Stanislaus & St. Francis Xavier are organizing a youth group for high schoolers in the area. They are starting a Life Teen Group that will meet every Sunday night 7:00 p.m. in the St. Stanislaus Parish Center. Those who are currently in 8th-12th Grade from St. Thomas the Apostle & St. Cecilia are more than welcome to attend.

<u>THE OVER 50 GROUP</u> in Meta will be gathering on May 9 at the parish center for our monthly get together luncheon. Please bring a covered dish to share with the group.

<u>JEFFERSON CITY MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:</u> New summer weekend added! For ALL Christian married couples. This is not exclusive to the Catholic faith, but does focus on putting Christ at the center of your marriage. The next weekend is July 27-28, 2024, in Jefferson City, Missouri. Cost is \$75 which includes 1 night hotel stay and all meals and materials. Register at *jeffcityme.com* (Scholarships are available) Questions? Visit website *jeffcityme.com*, call 573-864-6928, or email *info* @jeffcityme.com

SPRING FESTIAL, VISITATION PARISH, VIENNA is Sunday, May 5, serving fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, green beans, coleslaw & dessert from 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. \$15.00 per dinner. Dine in & carry out available.

<u>PASTA NIGHT DINNER FUNDRAISER</u> is Friday, May 10, serving spaghetti, mostaccioli, chicken alfredo, salad, garlic bread sticks, apple, peach & cherry cobblers. Tickets: \$12.00 (adult) \$6.00 (child 6-12). Dinner 4:30-7:00 p.m. at the Eagles Aerie #2693, 1411 Missouri Boulevard. Proceeds to Boys & Girls Club.

<u>TOTUS TUUS - JUNE 23 - 28</u>: Sign-up for Totus Tuus is now available. You can do this either online at http://www.stthomasapostle.net/totus-tuus.html or use the paper form that is a part of the bulletin. If you have any questions, please contact Theresa Veit (573) 418-7301. Thank you for your continued support and participation in this summer program.

SAVE THE DATES: Totus Tuus – June 23-28 – held at St. Stanislaus Church July 14 – St. Cecilia Parish Picnic

St. Cecilia Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

The St. Cecilia Parish Pastoral Council meeting was held on April 9, 2024. Those present were Dustin Stegeman, Lydia Hurst, Janice Schanzmeyer, Cordell Schroeder, Katy Werdehausen, Father Leonard, Doris Stumpe and Betty Hagenhoff. The meeting began at 6:30 p.m. with a prayer by Father Leonard.

Betty Hagenhoff has graciously volunteered to be the new Picnic Chair and she provided the council with areas she will need assistance to prepare for this summer's picnic on July 14. The council will assist with preparing for the dessert auction, raffle, games and toys and will provide as much assistance as possible in the days before the picnic and Monday after. Betty mentioned that help from any parishioners on the days would be much appreciated.

There will be a meeting with the photographer for the parish directory on July 17. It was decided that this directory would primarily contain the parish family pictures and parish group pictures.

Janice reported that the railing by the lector podium will be up by the end of the week.

A cleanup day was discussed and will be planned but a date has not been set at this time.

Lydia mentioned that a Liturgy and Worship meeting was coming up and would provide updates at the next council meeting.

Dustin will be placing parish council nominations in the pews and will have voting at the end of April. Three new members will needed to replace Katy Werdehausen, Janice Schanzmeyer and Shirley Bock who stepped down after the last council meeting.

Father's report: He wants to find parishioners to lead up groups for the Women in Ministry and Vocations. He would also like to have a marriage facilitator. There will be a conference to train facilitators.

We will be receiving tamper proof bags for collection money. The diocese wants all parishes to have collection counters from different families. St. Cecila collection counters are currently all married couples, since it is convenient for both to stay after Church. It was suggested to add just one more person for the weekly collection counters but still keep the current couples on the list. The council also discussed having electronic contribution options. Doris will be checking with St. Thomas on questions regarding this for book-keeping.

The meeting concluded at 8:23 pm. The next meeting will be held May 21 at 6:30 p.m.

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 Helia Catholic President Ron Vossen at rvossen@heliasatholic.com or 573-635-6139.



	Grades 1 C. Mandau	through Friday 7:45 am - 1:30 pm
	at St. S	tranislaus, <u>Wardsville</u> through Thursday 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
	at St. S	tanislaus, Wardsville
Parent(s):		
Address:		42
Phone:		Work/cell:
Children being enrolled	in Totus Tuus at St. S	tanislaus:
280	72777 FEE 2000	
Name:	Grade (In fall):	Medical info/ food allergies to be aware of:
		- 0
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9		
	:	
		3 8
9		3 3 <u>3 - </u>
		– 6. \$75.00 for three or more children.
unch is provided. Eac		
vening program is free	tor Grades 7 – 12. Pi	lease bring a water bottle.
	Totus	Tuus Volunteers 2024
	10.03	
		Food
		olus the priest if they wish to come) each Evening at
the Wardsville's school c	afeteria. If you wish, the	e missionaries would love for you to eat with them,
also fine to just drop the		
507 000		od
la de la compa	Name	Contact number
Thursday, June 27th		
	31	Day Volunteers
To support the missional	ies, we are asking for vo	olunteers to be available during the day to help chec
out and host for the day.		
green steini Sitter on Asia (*)	T 302	me Contact
	Na	me Contact
Thursday, June 27th		

Statement of the Missouri Catholic Conference on the **Abortion Initiative Petition**

The Catholic Church supports and defends society's most vulnerable, especially women and children, through accompaniment, social services, and material assistance.

A misleading proposed amendment to the Missouri Constitution suggests that a "right to an abortion" is needed to protect women, while the amendment could actually put women at risk and endanger preborn children. This ballot initiative would legalize abortions in this state and remove long standing health and safety standards for women. In addition, this initiative does nothing to reduce or eliminate the underlying social causes for abortion and does not further

Groups are currently collecting citizen signatures to add the amendment to the November 2024 ballot. We encourage all Catholics and people of good will to not sign any petition that would put this amendment on the ballot.

The Catholic Church in Missouri will continue to provide spiritual and material support to expectant mothers and their families through our parishes and ministries, and to advocate on their behalf and on behalf of their preborn children. For those women suffering from the pain of an abortion, the Church will continue to offer true healing and hope through its Post Abortive Healing Ministries. We ask all to help us in these efforts to safeguard the right to life.

We look forward to the day when every child, born and unborn, has the love and support needed to thrive and reach his or her full potential. Let us pray for a greater recognition of the gift of each and every human life in our society.

CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF MISSOURI

Thithell Torque.

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
General Chairman Archbishop of St. Louis

+ James V. Johnston, J.
Most Reverend James V. Johnston, Jr.

Vice Chairman Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph

+8ham 7.16 Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight Executive Chairman Bishop of Jefferson City

+ Foliand M. Rice Most Reverend Edward M. Rice Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau

Approved February 22, 2024

