



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*Nascantur in Admirazione*

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

October 7, 2019

Margaret Mary Term – Week VII

School Year Theme: *Beatudinem* (Happiness)

October Virtue: Counsel



Ms. Cullen leads her 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in differentiated small group reading instruction.

## ~ Events Calendar ~



Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>  
**Headmaster's Coffee**  
8:00 – 9:00 AM, Parish Hall

Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>

**K-8<sup>th</sup> Grade No School/Preschool Open**

Diocese of Lansing Teacher  
Professional Development Conference

Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>

**Parent Association Monthly Meeting**

6:00 PM -- Room 255

Tuesday, October 22<sup>th</sup>

**St. Thomas School Stakeholders Forum**

6:30 – 8:00 PM, Media Center (*Earlier Start!*)

Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Half School Day—Dismissal at 11:40 AM**

St. Thomas Faculty Professional Development

Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup> *Save the Date!*

**St. Thomas Fall Festival & Chili Cook Off**

Parish Hall and Parking Lot

4:00 to 6:00 PM

(See the attached flyer for more information!)

Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>

**Girls Volleyball Tournament**

Varsity @ St. Paul Lutheran

~ **Attachments** ~

Weekly Parent Schedule

St. Thomas Fall Festival Invitation

St. Thomas Chess Scholars Fall Registration Information

~ **Noteworthy** ~

## From the Headmaster

As reviewed in last week's newsletter, a Stakeholders Advisory Board has been formed to support our faculty, parent, parishioner and leadership stakeholders in the development of St. Thomas School. Using the summaries of parent survey input produced by working groups from last spring's School Stakeholders Forum, the advisory team has identified five key areas of focus in which specific action steps are to be developed and pursued. These areas include:

1. Support a deepening Catholic Faith among students and families
2. Develop the relationship between the parish and school communities
3. Promote activities for the school community of parents and children
4. Regionally promote the student achievements of St. Thomas classical Catholic education
5. Support ongoing faculty professional development

We now call together our parents, faculty, parishioners and staff to participate in our next meeting of the School Stakeholders Forum on **Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 PM in the Media Center**. Participants will select one of the five working groups to participate in, developing

specific action steps for each focus area using the Advisory Board's initial draft to launch the discussion. A faculty member will be serving on each of the working groups along with an advisory board member. Thank you for being a part of the future of St. Thomas School by joining us on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## What's Available on Your Child's Classroom Portal?

- **Online Saxon Math Books**—Did your child forget their text book? Would you like to see the lesson? Access your child's Saxon text book under the Resources section of the classroom portal.
- **Assignments**—Did your student accurately complete their planner? Unsure of the assignment or a due date?
- **Classroom Updates**—Find out what the latest events are in your child's classroom.
- **Classroom Calendar**—Find out what's coming up in class.
- **Grading Policies**—Read/download the grade level grading policy used to determine your child's report card grades.
- **PowerSchool**—Access PowerSchool to check grades from the classroom portal page.
- **Email**—Email your child's classroom teacher from the email link (under your teacher's name).

## New School Website Newsletter Page

Visit the [St. Thomas Website](#) to view the new [Newsletter page](#) under 'Our School Community' with our current edition of the newsletter and links to PDF versions of all of this school year's past newsletters.

## Headmaster's Coffee

Join us this Wednesday after drop off for a time to meet and talk with other parents and school leadership to share your experiences so far this school year. Child care will be provided. Fr. Bill will be joining us along with Mike Hanley (father of Charlotte, Madeline, William and Caroline) and member of the School Advisory Board, who will provide a preview to the next Stakeholders Forum on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Parents will also receive a free copy of "The Case for Catholic Education (Why Parents, Teacher and Politicians Should Reclaim the Principles of Catholic Pedagogy)". A light breakfast will be provided from Panera. Hope to see you join us.



## 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Edge Night Begins Next Week

Caroline and John Biskner begin Edge next week, Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the Parish Hall.

They invite you to sign up for them online, here: [St. Thomas Edge/Middle School Registration](#).

You can also find their tentative youth program calendar for 2019-2020 at: [St. Thomas Life Teen/Edge Calendar for 2019-2020](#)