



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

November 4, 2019

Nicholas Term – Week I

School Year Theme: *Beatudinem* (Happiness)

November Virtue: Patience



St. Faustina, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, St. Francis, St. Nicholas, Blessed Giorgio and St. John Henry Neumann visit St. Thomas on All Saints Day.



Saints Kateri Tekakwitha, Gianna Molla, Joan of Arc, Padre Pio, Joseph, Rose of Lima, Lucy and Catherine of Alexandria bring their example of faith, hope and love to St. Thomas last Friday for All Saints Day celebrations.



Each of our classrooms now has a framed image of our Bishop Earl Boyea, Pastor Fr. Bill, and our St. Thomas Mission Statement surmounted by our Lord's Cross as a reminder that this school belongs to Jesus and those who lead us in His Name.

~ Events Calendar ~



Monday, November 4th
First Day of Nicholas Term

Tuesday, November 5th
Report Cards Accessible Online @ 4 PM
NWEA Parent Reports Sent Home
Upper School 6th-8th Grade EDGE Night
7:00 PM St. Thomas Youth Room

Wednesday, November 6th
Leadership Dress Day
Virtue Awards Presentation following Noon Mass
Kindergarten – 8th Grade Conferences
3:30 – 5:30 PM, Classrooms & Parish Hall

Thursday, November 7th
Kindergarten – 8th Grade Conferences
3:30 – 8:30 PM, Classrooms & Parish Hall

Friday, November 8th
No School/Records Day

Monday, November 11th
Parent Association Meeting
6:30 PM, Room 255

Tuesday - Thursday, November 12th - 14th
St. Thomas School Book Fair
Library & Media Center, See times below.

Wednesday, November 13th
St. Thomas School Stakeholders Forum
6:30 - 8:00 PM, Cafeteria

~ Attachments ~

Weekly Parent Schedule
A St. Thomas Thanksgiving Invitation

From the Headmaster

The Fall **School Stakeholder Forum** takes place next week, **Wednesday, November 13th at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria**. You are invited to join us in making a difference for St. Thomas School by participating on one of five different goal area working groups which include:

1. School Evangelistic Outreach to Families
2. Deepening the Parish and School Relationship
3. Fostering the School Community of Families
4. Promoting/Marketing St. Thomas School Regionally
5. School Faculty and Staff Development

Participant will work with teacher and school advisory board representatives in each working group to identify key, short term action steps to grow St. Thomas School in each of these important areas of our development. Please join us in making a real difference for the present and future of St. Thomas School.

Faculty Professional Development~ Each Wednesday the school faculty meets for weekly school planning and to also deepen our implementation of a classical Catholic curriculum. In studying the differences that make classical instruction align more deeply to the nature and needs of the human child, the following differences were noted by our teachers in the four key areas which together comprise the educational activity.

Learning Content	Depth vs Breadth, Why? vs How? Principles vs Facts
Teacher Knowledge	'Think Tank Classrooms' vs Procedural Learning Stages of Learning: Memory/Reasoning/Persuasion Teaching How to Learn vs What to Learn Themes vs Information
Student Engagement	Extensions and Reflection vs Routine
Student Tasks	Applications of Knowledge vs Practice Repetition Strong Memorization/Critical Thought/Public Expression

Parent Association Meeting

Join in making our school student and family community stronger by attending next Monday's Parent Association meeting at 6:30 PM in Parish Meeting Room 255. Mrs. Erin Savarino will chair a parent discussion in planning our upcoming holiday events and Catholic Schools Week activities. All are welcome to make a difference for our students and families at St. Thomas.

Spanish Club Begins

Beginning next Monday and continue weekly from 3:30 to 4:30 PM, Mrs. Lashaway offers to all 2nd through 8th grade students a great opportunity for fun and learning. Activities will include among others, Mexican cooking, games, music, Spanish language extensions, and a Mexican charitable service project. Activities will be differentiated by grade group. There is a \$25 participation fee for the year which can be paid through your [eFunds](#) account. Contact [Mrs. Lashaway](#) to plan on your child attending or for additional information. The Spanish Club will meet in Mrs. Lashaway's classroom.



St. Thomas School Library Hosts a Good News! Book Fair!

The Good News! Book Fair (GNBF) is a Catholic alternative to the Scholastic Book Fairs. We want to surround our children with beautiful stories that engage their minds and hearts. GNBF partners with Catholic schools to provide materials that support our Catholic faith, materials that are engaging and inspiring. Our Book Fair will run November 12th – 14th. We have scheduled classroom visits during this time but we also want to welcome you to visit the library to see the Fair first hand. Students will be bringing home Wish Lists on Tuesday and Wednesday. Please sit down with your child and discuss purchasing a book for your home reading library. Come and see us after school in the library November 12th-14th. We will be here until 4:30pm each afternoon.

Report Cards Moving to Online Access

Available sooner than originally planned, St. Thomas Student Achievement Report Cards will be issued to parents through their online PowerSchool account access beginning with the upcoming Margaret Mary Term report cards. Beginning on **Tuesday, November 5th at 4 PM**, parents will be able to view, and print if desired, their child(ren)'s report card following the instructions below:

1. Log in to your PowerSchool parent portal account.
(Note: Online report cards are not accessible via the mobile app.)
2. If you have more than one student, select a student from the upper left menu.
3. **Click on Report Card link from the left-side menu.**



4. With the report cards displayed on the screen, click on the printer icon in the top blue bar.
5. Use the browser print window to select the printer and print the report card.

Note: Hard copy paper report cards will be provided if individually requested for this current term only. Contact Mrs. Steffy if you have any questions regarding your PowerSchool account access information.

Parent-Teacher Conference Sign-Up

Our thanks to parents who have already signed up for a conference. Please ensure you . Specials teachers will be available for a drop-in conference in the parish hall Thursday afternoon and evening, or you may email them to make a specific appointment time. Note that Kindergarten through 5th grade conferences will take place in their respective classrooms, and 6th through 8th grade conferences, with the specials teachers, in the parish hall. At least one parent for each child is expected to participate in a conference. Our goal is to confirm the academic and social development of each student and to ensure that the school is providing, in concert with parents at home, the supports needed for each child's success.

[Mr. Pietryga - Kindergarten Conferences](#)

[Ms. Kelly - 1st Grade Conferences](#)

[Ms. Cullen - 2nd & 3rd Grade Conferences](#)

[Mr. Creaser - 4th & 5th Grade Conferences](#)

[Mr. Burton - 6th-8th Grade Math & Science Conferences](#)

[Ms. Lorang - 6th-8th Grade English & History Conferences](#)

Timothy J. DiLaura

Headmaster

St. Thomas the Apostle School

Ann Arbor, Michigan

(734) 769-0911



www.sta2.org/school