



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

January 27, 2020

~National Catholic Schools Week~
Giving thanks for Our St. Thomas Catholic School

Scholastica Term – Week I

January Virtue: Responsibility

School Year Theme: *Beatudinem* (Happiness)



Congratulations to all our Knights of Columbus St. Thomas Spelling Bee participations and to our 8th grade representative Paige Zael who came in 1st in the 7th – 9th grade category. Paige will now go on to the state competition in March to represent St. Thomas.

Congratulations Paige!

We thank the St. Thomas Knights of Columbus for the gift of a beautiful plaque located in our entry way hall with which we will recall each year the St. Thomas students who represent our school at K of C Spelling Bee.



Fourth through eighth graders learn coordination and movement in Mr. Miller's Physical Education class through lessons in English Country Dance. Dance 'callers' describe each dance sequence, step by step, accompanied by the piano, violin or recorder. Students finish this four week unit next week with a 4th through 8th grades together for an English Country Dance on Catholic Schools Week.

~ Events Calendar ~

View the complete St. Thomas School Calendar [here](#).



Monday, January 27th

February Lunch Orders Due

See attached order form.

Monday, January 27th – Friday, January 31st

St. Thomas 2019-2020 Catholic Schools Week

See daily activity descriptions below.

Wednesday, January 29th

Celebrate the Family Pizza Lunch Orders Due

See directions below.

Friday, January 31st

Nicholas Term Report Cards Available Online

Beginning at 8 AM ~ See directions below

Celebrate the Family Lunch

11:00-11:45 AM Parish Hall

Monday, February 3rd

Chess Scholars Early Bird Registration Deadline

See attached flyer for details.

Saturday, February 8th



Theology of the Body Evening Reflection

Wine, Hors d'oeuvres, Dessert

7:00 PM Parish Hall

Purchase tickets [here](#).

~ **Attachments** ~

Weekly Parent Schedule

February Lunch Order Form

Winter 2020 Chess Scholars Registration Information

From the Headmaster

Why We Chose Catholic Education

National Catholic Schools Week 2020

Among parents who were themselves educated in Catholic schools, there will likely be a spectrum of sentiments on the value of a Catholic education. For those not educated in a Catholic school, there may likely be a majority who see Catholic education as a possible preference for those so inclined, a kind of 'life style' choice. In either case—not past experience but *our present times* should define the measure of this value. It is our present times that are bringing into sharp relief not only the value of a Catholic education but its power and vital importance in shaping our cultural landscape.



In contrast to most learning opportunities for children—

- A Catholic education is not 'content' but a *person*—the Person of Jesus Who is the living center and identity of a truly Catholic school, His presence and power being communicated consistently and tangibly in the lives of all who make up the Catholic school community.

- A Catholic education does not prepare a child for a 'role' but for a *mission*—a divinely ordained and unique purpose of which each child is made fully aware and formed to fulfill.
- A Catholic education does see a child as an 'empty vessel' but the possessor of a *human nature*—a nature made to experience wonder and joy in encountering the good, the true and the beautiful.
- A Catholic education is not a curriculum but a *worldview*—a revelation in each subject of the sacramental nature of creation and the presence of the transcendent at work within it.
- A Catholic education is not an assembly benefiting from the economies of scale but a *community*—a communion of families, faculty and administration who share a common supernatural faith, hope and love that unite and bless each member.

In our times authentic Catholic education is becoming a 'light on a lampstand', a work of the Holy Spirit that is bringing families from varied educational, financial and cultural backgrounds to become an instrument of the Father's Mercy and Provision in a time of confusion and loss. Choosing a Catholic education is saying 'yes' to this call to all families to serve in this work of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in our times.

Theology of the Body Evening of Reflection – *In Just 2 Weeks!*

Inform your marriage, your parenting, your teaching and Catholic witness by experiencing Fr. Tom Wray of RuahWoods Press who will provide a formative reflection answering:

What is Our Current Culture and How Did We Get Here?
What Is the Church Teaching on Our Human Identity?
What Is the Theology of the Body?
How Do We Live This at Home and in School?



Join us in celebrating mystic-saint St. Pope John Paul's teaching with wine, hors d'oeuvres and dessert in Catholic community as we deepen our understanding in this vital teaching for marriage and family life in the 21st century. Tickets may be purchased (\$25 per single, \$40 per couple, \$100 for table of six) online [here](#).

Catholic Schools Week Activities

This week we celebrate with gratitude the gift of Catholic Education and our St. Thomas Catholic School in all its wonderful facets including:

Monday ~ Celebrating Our School Each student received a packet of post-it notes and a pen to reflect on all the things they like about St. Thomas (favorite subjects, classmates, teachers, staff), writing and leaving a note for them about the school.

Tuesday ~ Celebrating Our Students Students will be invited at lunch to share their learning by reciting their favorite poem, individually or in groups. Each student will also receive a special treat.

Wednesday ~ Celebrate Our Campus Each class will fulfil a service project to help maintain our beautiful church and school. Students will also participate in a penmanship and writing contest before lunch.

Thursday ~ Celebrating Our Learning Students will participate in Catholic knowledge bingo during lunch with prizes for the bingo winners.

Friday ~ Celebrate Our Families Families--grandparents, aunts and uncles, and siblings are invited to join their student for lunch together in the cafeteria. (Please see instructions below for ordering a pizza lunch.)

Celebrate the Family Luncheon

The Celebrate our Families Luncheon will take place on Friday, January 31st from 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM in the cafeteria. Students (PK - Grade 8) and families will eat together in the cafeteria at this time. If you have a student in the preschool, please pick them up from their preschool classroom and bring them to the cafeteria with you. After the luncheon, please escort your preschooler back to their classrooms.

For your convenience, we will be serving cheese and cheese & pepperoni pizza from Little Caesars for \$1 per slice and water, white & chocolate milk for \$.0.50. If you already ordered a lunch for your child on this day (on the January lunch menu), you do not need to include their order. If you are not sure, please call Laura Steffy to check. If you would like to order pizza and/or drinks for that day, please email your order to Mrs. Steffy at lsteffy@sta2.org or call 734-769-091. If ordering via email, please be sure you receive an email confirming your order. All lunch orders for this day should be paid for on e-Funds "Celebrate the Family Luncheon". Families are welcome to bring lunches from home or other restaurants.

Nicholas Term Report Card Online Access

St. Thomas Student Achievement Report Cards for Nicholas Term will be accessible to parents through their online PowerSchool account. Beginning **Friday, January 31st at 8 AM**, 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.



Contact Mrs. Steffy if you have any questions regarding your PowerSchool account access information.