



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*Nascantur in Admirazione*

"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

January 6, 2020

Nicholas Term – Week VIII

January Virtue: Responsibility

School Year Theme: *Beatudinem* (Happiness)



~ A blessed Epiphany to all our St. Thomas School Family ~

**“To adore God is to acknowledge, in respect and absolute submission,  
the ‘nothingness of the creature’ who would not exist but for God.  
To adore God is to praise and exalt him and to humble oneself.”**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church 2097*

Congratulations and thanks to Ms. Tull, Mrs. Mangan and all our faculty, parents  
and students  
for such a beautiful *Night of Wonder*~!







Sincere thanks to Mrs. Gavigan and our Parent Association for their hosting such an festive and enjoyable Christmas Party for all our students~!







## ~ Events Calendar ~

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



Friday, January 10th

**Headmaster Tea with Fr. Bill**

Before Pickup in the Parish Hall 2:00 – 3:15 PM

Monday, January 13th

**St. Thomas Parent Confessions with Fr. Bill**

After drop off beginning at 8 AM in the Media Center/Chapel

Sunday, January 26th

**St. Thomas 2019-2020 School Year Open House**

2:00 – 4:00 PM Parish Hall

Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>

**St. Thomas 2019-2020 Catholic Schools Week**

Friday, January 31st **Save the Date**

**Celebrate the Family Lunch**

11:00-11:45 AM Parish Hall

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

2019-2020 School Calendar (with revised Spring Break Schedule March 19 & 20)

Winter 2020 Chess Scholars Registration Information

## From the Headmaster

I wish to express my gratitude to the St. Thomas Library Committee for their recent efforts to increase the quality and support that our collection provides to our students and classical curriculum. Our thanks to those of you who have already supported this work by contributing a book from our St. Thomas Library Wish List (see details below.) To begin this work the committee crafted the following Library Mission Statement:

**The mission of the St. Thomas School Library is to encourage the reading of books that are good, true, and beautiful in order to root our students in the classical traditions of Western Civilization and the richness of our Catholic faith.**

The written word is a profound reality flowing out of The Word Himself and proceeding all the way to the dusty shelf of a library where a child reaches out to pick up a book, open its pages, and encounters the power and beauty of meaning. We seek to help our students experience a book as an invitation to something larger than themselves—not just a means to an end as much of technology driven reading has become, but as an encounter of their hearts and minds with the true, the good and the beautiful.

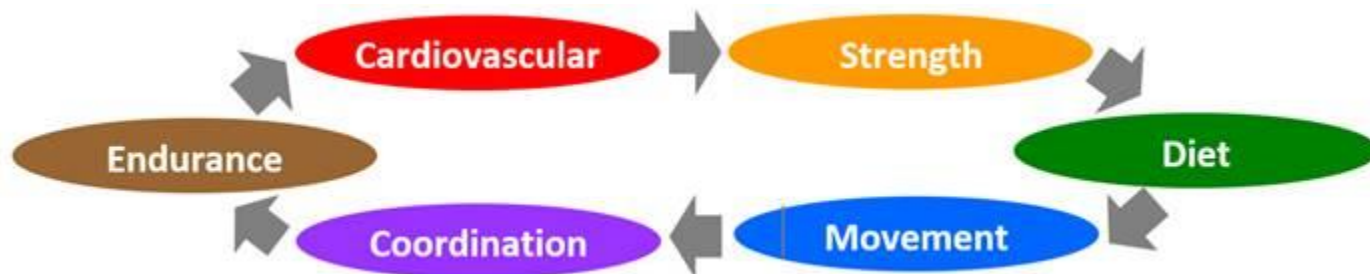
To help our students experience the awesome mystery of reading a good book we are transforming the current library room into a special reading room space. Along with the development of our collection with our classical curriculum and reading lists, the current fluorescent lighting is being replaced by track lighting providing a setting with soft illumination and comfortable reading chairs (donations welcome~!) and nooks, together providing an environment of serenity, focus and discovery.

Our thanks again to our library committee and to our entire school community for the support of this effort to help children understand and experience the power of reading a book.

## 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Education English Country Dance Unit

As a portion of instruction in our Physical Education Curriculum summarized below, beginning this Friday for a total of four weeks, Mr. Miller will be supervising the visit of representatives from the **Ann Arbor Community for Traditional Music and Dance** to

introduce and train our 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the elegance, movement and manner of English Country Dance. This four week unit is part of our six unit Physical Education Curriculum, focusing on the two areas of Coordination and Movement. Students will meet in the parish hall and be guided in the order, sequence and rhythm of this form of group dance with live keyboard and violin accompaniment.



## St. Thomas Library Collection Wish List Donation Program

**From our Library Committee:** As we look to develop our collection to better support our classical Catholic curriculum, the Library Committee is sponsoring a Wish List Donation Program where our families can donate a book from our classical curriculum reading list that our collection does not currently have available. We invite all our school and parish families to visit our [St. Thomas School Online Wish List](#) and make a purchase of a book for our school's collection. Students for years to come will be able to enjoy rich and rewarding reading through your generosity which will be noted with a special label placed inside each donated book. Thank you for your participation in building up our library collection at St. Thomas.

## Internet School Review Update Initiative

**From our Marketing Team:** As we draw closer to Catholic Schools Week and our Open House on Sunday, January 26th, families outside our parish are turning to the internet searching for schools that best fit their needs. *Please consider taking a few moments to share your experience at St. Thomas with others by posting an online review at one of the websites linked below.* To write a review consider including~

- What grades are your children in? How did you come to be part of St. Thomas?
- What is something that your family appreciates about the school? Do your children love daily Mass, a particular subject or class, or special school experiences?
- What impact do you see St. Thomas having on your children and family life? What do you think other families should know about our school?

Please post a review to one of these popular online school review sites: [Great Schools](#), [Private School Review](#), [Google Reviews](#).

## An Evening Reflection on the Theology of the Body



Next year St. Thomas School introduces the Ruah Woods Press Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade Theology of the Body Curriculum. View our curriculum, and join our St. Thomas School parent community for a wine, hors d'oeuvres and dessert with a reflection by Fr. Tom Wray, chaplain of Ruah Woods Press to learn the universal significance of this teacher and how it can support your marriage and parenting in the years to come.

**Saturday, February 8, 2020 at 7 PM in the St. Thomas Parish Hall**

Tickets may be purchased online [here](#).

Saint Pope John Paul II teaching presents parents and educators with a biblically grounded answer to the question of *'Who is the human person?'*--the antidote to the confusion, error and ignorance regarding our human identity at the root of most of modern society's ills. The Church's revelation of man made in the image of God—of man and woman, is a sure guide for the family and modern society to a life of authentic love.

### Headmaster Tea with Fr. Bill

Join Fr. Bill, Mr. DiLaura and other parents to discuss your experiences at St. Thomas this school year. Mr. DiLaura will be presenting on current initiatives in the school and a vision for St. Thomas for the 2020-2021 school year. We will meet before pickup in the parish hall at 2 PM. Join us for tea or coffee with an afternoon treat.

### Monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday Parent Confessions with Fr. Bill

Receive the sacrament at a time convenient for you. Small children will be attended. Confessions will begin at 8 AM after drop off in the Media Center, near the Chapel.