



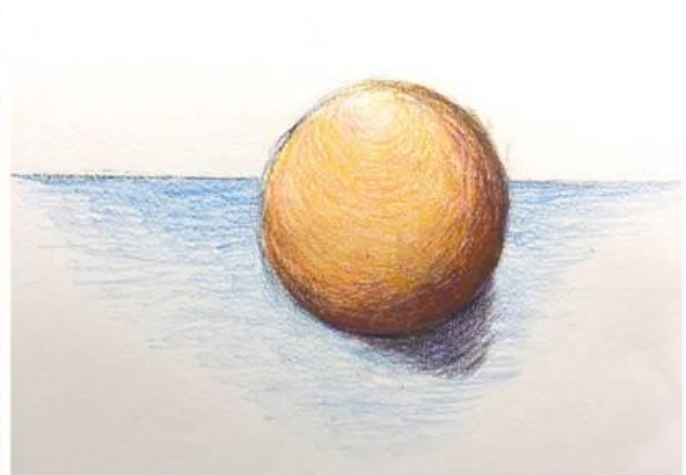
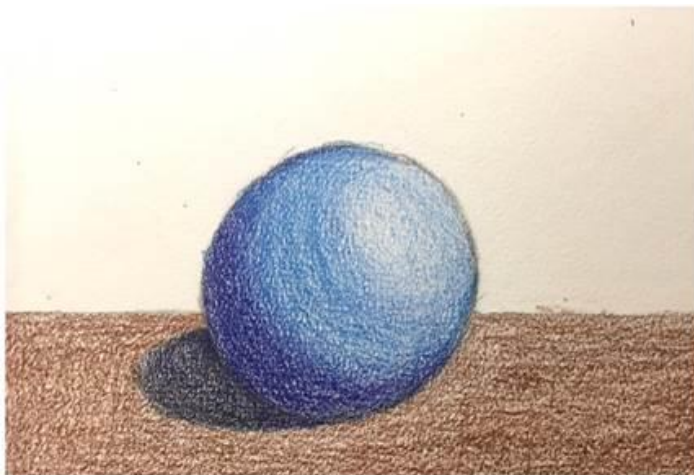
ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Nascantur in Admirazione
"Let Them Be Born in Wonder."

St. Thomas School Community Newsletter September 28, 2020



Third graders Ella Meinhart, Clare Moilanen and Madeleine Hanley (left to right) are simultaneously absorbed in a sandwich and their books during Lower School Lunch.



'Spheres' by Lydia Birhanu (left) and Jasmine Dinh (right.)

~ Events Calendar ~

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



Monday, September 28th

Theology of the Body *Tonight!*

Free Online Training Opportunity from Ruah Woods Press

8:00 - 9:00 PM EDST

Additional Information Below

[Register](#)

Friday, October 2nd

Parent Handbook Signatory Page Due

(Download and sign attached and turn into homeroom teacher.)

**Upper School Student Council
Officer Candidate Applications Due**

Friday, October 9th

Upper School Student Council Elections

Wednesday, October 14th

St. Thomas In-School Fall Festival

1:30 – 3:10 PM

Thursday--Friday, October 15th & 16th

No School

Diocese of Lansing

Teacher Professional Development Days

From the Headmaster

School Service Teams Re-convene:

After our community's successful start of in-person instruction at St. Thomas we look to re-convene our school service teams who support the school community by contributing toward a vital aspect of our school life. *We are reaching out to all parents to get involved in celebrating and growing our St. Thomas school community.* Please review the teams and their activities below—please contact the parent or staff leader to express your interest in helping St. Thomas School move forward in each of these areas.

These teams include:

- **School Advisory Council**—*Envisioning the Future*. Comprised of the service team parent chairs, parish and faculty representatives, and school leadership who support Fr. Bill in the ongoing development of St. Thomas School.
- **Parent Association**—*Building Community*. We ask that at least one parent representative from each grade join in work together to provide opportunities for our students and families celebrate the St. Thomas School community through the feasts of the school year. [Laura Johnson](#)
- **Spirituality Team**—*Deepening Faith*. Faculty, parents and school leadership working together to provide resources and opportunities for the spiritual growth and maturity of the school and community. [Rebecca Pearson](#)
- **Marketing Team**—*Promoting St. Thomas School*. Parents, faculty, with school and parish leadership, working together to promote St. Thomas School in the Catholic regional community. [Mike Hanley](#)
- **Curriculum Team**—*Sharpening Our Classical Focus*. Parents, faculty and school leadership working to support the ongoing development of St. Thomas School's classical Catholic curriculum. [Mr. DiLaura](#)
- **Library Team**—*Promoting & Developing our Collection*. Parents and staff working together to promote reading and the development of our St. Thomas library collection as a resource for our classical curriculum and student progress in reading competency. [Sarah Davignon](#)

We look forward to conducting our first team meetings in the next few weeks. It takes all of us to make St. Thomas who we are—please reach out to our team leaders and offer your help to make this year special for our students and families.

We are St. Thomas~!

Quick Reminders:

- After having reviewed the St. Thomas School 2020-2021 Parent/Student Handbook (attached), please download, print and turn in the attached signatory page indicating your having read and agree to both our 2020-2021 Parent Handbook and our St. Thomas School Reopening Plan (also attached) into your oldest or only student's homeroom teacher by this Friday, October 2nd. Thank you.
- **COVID Precautions/Procedures:**
 - Please ensure your child comes to school each morning with a **water bottle** as all drinking fountains have been converted to bottle filling stations.
 - All students are to wear a mask for entering, leaving and transitioning within the school building per the State of Michigan and Diocesan adopted school reopening requirements.
 - Please ensure your child's temperature is below 100.4 degrees before considering sending them to school each day.

School Reopening Plan Update:

Per Governor Whitmer's recent [Executive Order #185](#), beginning next Monday, October 5th, students in grades Kindergarten through 4th grade will be required to wear their facial covering in the classroom during the school day, except during outdoor recess and lunch.

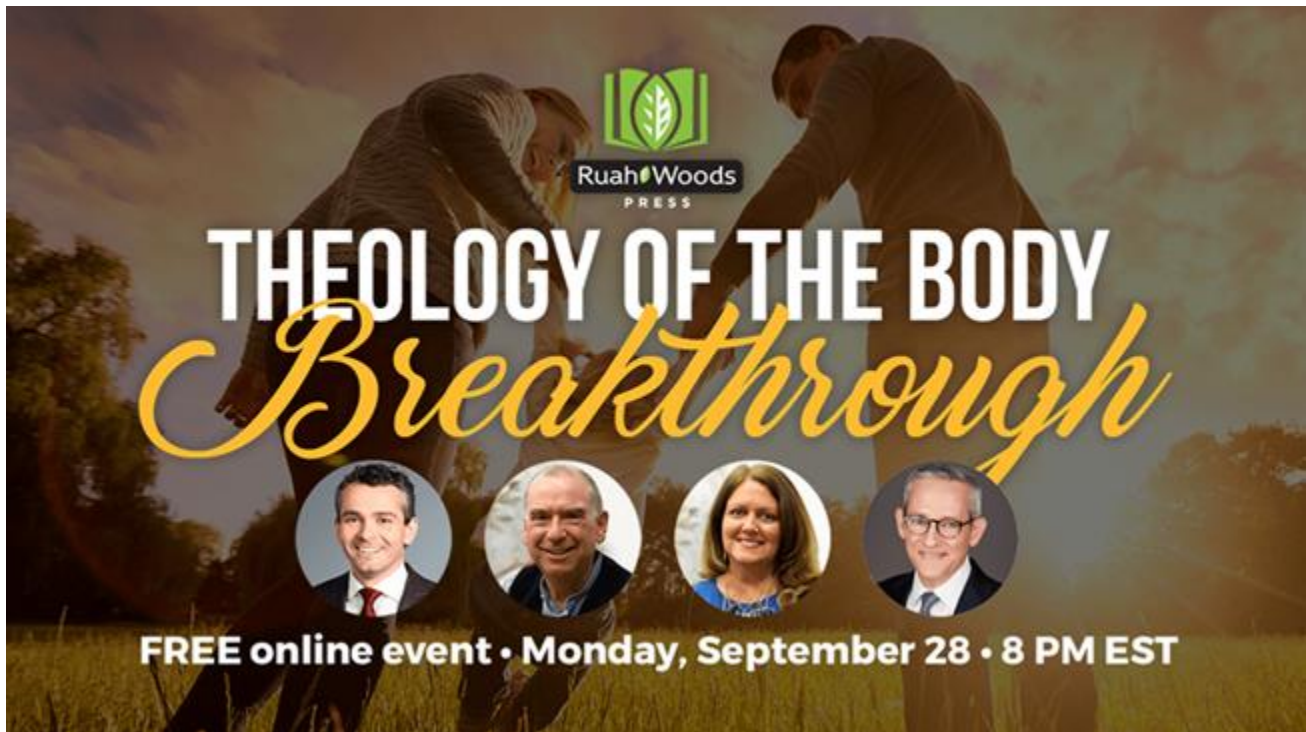
What Can You Do to Support Their Child's Progress in Learning?

In our partnership for your student's success at St. Thomas, we look to parents to provide these keys supports to their progress:

- 3rd – 8th Grade: Confirm your child's knowledge and completion of all assigned homework. Their planning is to come home daily and come back to school each morning. Parents may also check the classroom web portal for assignments.
- Provide practice at home in learning math facts, practicing spelling/vocabulary words, etc.
- Have student read to you—this includes older students as well!
- **Read to your children**—including your upper school students! Hearing text/prose at a higher level than they themselves can read being read to them is one of the most powerful means of developing a child's reading and writing abilities—as well as providing a wonderful setting for a family or parent-child time together!



Theology of the Body explains what it means to be human — male and female in the image and likeness of God for love and relationship. It addresses the questions: *Who am I? Why am I here? How do I find happiness?* We now have a breakthrough opportunity to bless family and friends ... inspire saints ... transform Catholic schools ... and **change the world** — with St. John Paul II's life-changing teachings ...



What: **Ruah Woods "Theology of the Body Breakthrough" ONLINE event**

Date: **Monday, September 28**

Time: **8-9 PM Eastern**

During the event, you'll hear from inspiring speakers:

Ryan T. Anderson- Senior Research Fellow at The Heritage Foundation, Editor in Chief of Public Discourse

Tony Maas- President and CEO of JTM Food Group, Founder of Ruah Woods and Ruah Woods Press

Laura Strietmann- Curriculum Consultant at Ruah Woods Press

David Bereit- Founder & former CEO of 40 Days for Life

Join this **FREE** virtual event ... and spread the word to others!

[Register Now — for FREE](#)

We can't wait to welcome you **Monday, September 28 from 8-9 PM EDST!**