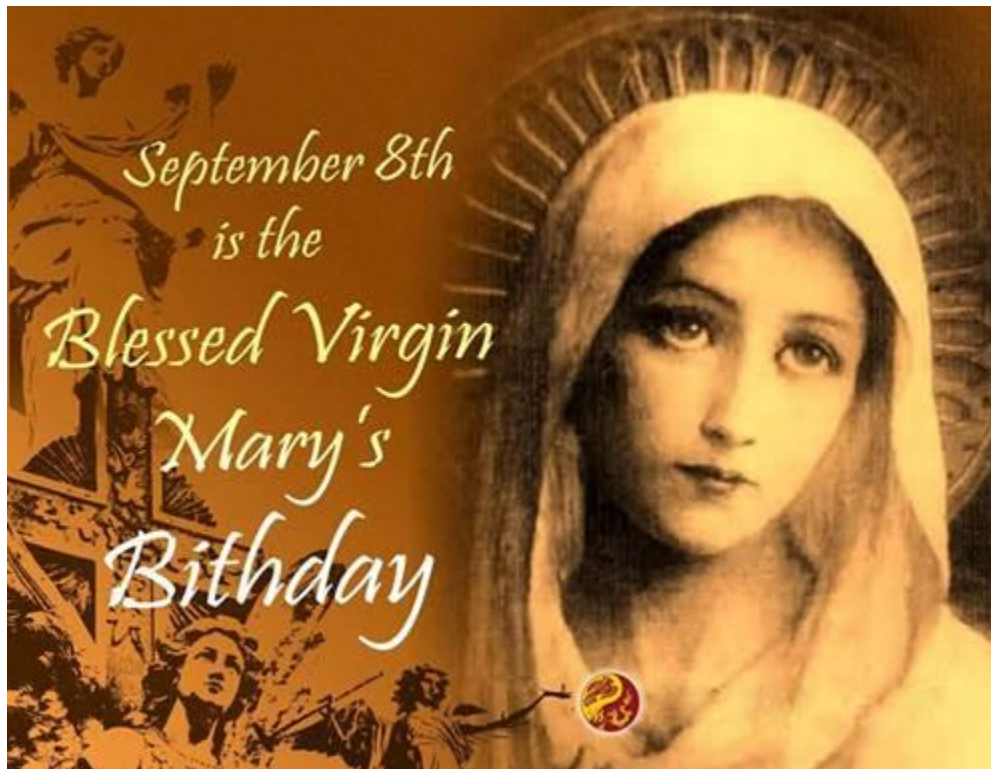




# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

St. Thomas School Community Newsletter  
September 8, 2020



At Mass this morning students offered the first decade of a rosary for the intentions of the Immaculate Heart of Mary on her birthday. Students were invited to pray another decade during the school day and then finish the rosary at home.

*Happy Birthday Blessed Mother~!*

~ Events Calendar ~

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



Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>  
**Yearbook Orders Due**

Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>  
**Parent Orientation Presentations**  
Video Links Sent Home Via Email

**Little Flowers First Meeting**  
3:30 PM Parish Hall  
See attached flyer to learn more.  
Email [Emily Hanley](#) for questions/register.

Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>  
**Happy Holy Hour** (*weekly*)  
4:30 to 5:30 PM in the Church & Plaza  
(See attached flyer for more information.)



## From the Headmaster

Our shared congratulations on the start of our school year which has taken both community-wide collaboration and commitment—together we have provided our students a strong start to the year and given them an opportunity to take their next steps in learning and personal development together. I have personally noticed the change in their demeanor from our first week to our second, from that of quiet concern to a more natural, youthful exuberance. With the guidance and support of our teachers, our students are doing a very good job in implementing our procedures that are contributing to a safe environment for community and learning.

With these precautions in place, I do wish to communicate a clearer symptoms checklist for you as parents and that we will use at school in determining whether a student should remain home, and whether your family doctor should be contacted. Please see the following checklist that provides a clearer understanding of when to respond to a potential COVID infection (provided by the Michigan Chapter of the American Academy Pediatrics.)

### **SYMPTOMS:**

High Risk Symptoms~

- Fever--temperature 100.4 F or higher/chills/body aches
- Cough--new onset or worsening
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- Change in ability to taste or smell

If demonstrating any **one or more** high risk symptoms, isolate individual and seek medical evaluation. Notify school.

#### Lower Risk Symptoms~

- Headache
- Sore Throat
- Nausea/Vomiting/Diarrhea
- Congestion/Runny Nose
- Fatigue

If yes to **one** of the lower risk symptoms stay at home and monitor for resolution or development of additional symptoms.

If yes to **two or more** of the lower risk symptoms isolate symptomatic individual and seek medical evaluation. Notify school.

### 2019-2020 Yearbook Order Extension

Due to publishing delays we are able to move our yearbook sale further out—orders can now be made through **Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**. Yearbooks are \$12 per yearbook and can be ordered [here](#).

### Parent Orientation Presentations–Upcoming~!

**Parent Orientation:** Each year an important step in beginning our school year is to host parents for an orientation evening at which parents are provided key information in supporting their child’s success during the upcoming school year. This orientation includes receiving our St. Thomas Parent~Student Handbook, visiting classrooms and speaking with your child’s teachers, and reviewing the grade level curriculum. This year, in order to accommodate our precautions against the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we will be providing this information in a *recorded format*.

On **Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**, parents will be provided links to recordings of a general session and of each teacher introducing themselves, their grade level program, classroom procedures, curriculum, and goals for the school year. Parents will also be provided both a hardcopy (through their oldest/only student) and an electronic copy of the Parent/Student Handbook along with a signatory page which is to be signed and returned upon review of the handbook. Your signatures indicate

