



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

## St. Thomas School Community Newsletter

December 14, 2020

*The Third Week of Advent*

Nicholas Term Virtue: Generosity

School Year Theme ~ *gratia cantantes* (Gratitude)

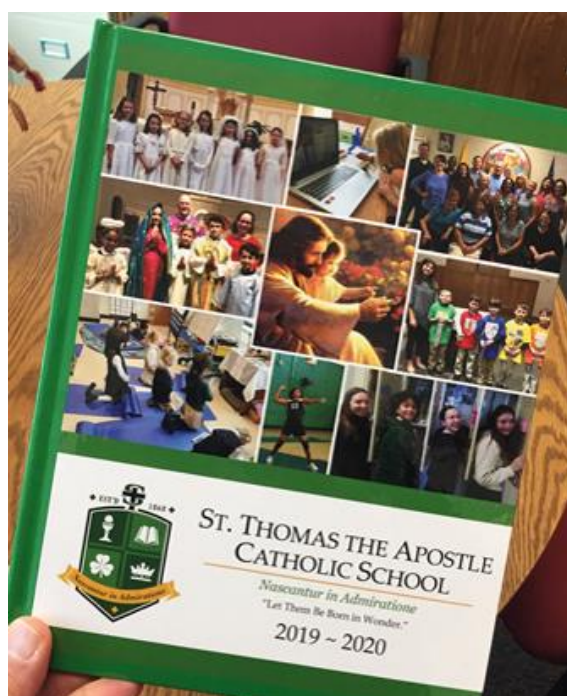
### *School Mission Statement*

In partnership with families, St. Thomas seeks to forge a diverse community of scholars, leaders and saints. Assisted by the Holy Spirit, we challenge students to grow intellectually through a rigorous curriculum, forming confident youth leaders grounded in virtue. We guide children to become friends of Jesus—to love as He loves, and join our community's rich tradition of proclaiming the Kingdom and bettering our world.



Mrs. Lashaway's Spanish students all participated in our St. Thomas School celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Madelyn Kennedy and Jude Flores as Our Lady and St. Juan Diego, were joined by readers Anastasia Eustice, Francis Rutherford, Sophia Savarino and Charlotte Hanley who read the Mass readings in both English and Spanish, while all our Kindergarten through 4<sup>th</sup> grader joined in the entrance procession dressed for the occasion (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class are shown below).

***Thank you Mrs. Lashaway for allowing us to honor Our Lady in such a beautiful way at St. Thomas~!***



The St. Thomas 2019-2020 hardcover yearbook has arrived. If pre-ordered, your yearbook will come home today. These memories of our year together are still available. Please email Mrs. Steffy with your request to confirm availability--payment can be made on [eFunds](#).



The St. Thomas Parent Association is selling **St. Thomas School Christmas Ornaments** for \$10 in the school office. If you don't have one yet, hurry while supply lasts!

## ~ Events Calendar

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



Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

**St. Thomas Christmas Flower Pick up**

Parish Hall 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

**St. Thomas School Giving Tree Donations Due**

Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>



**St. Thomas Student Council Christmas Food Drive  
Donations Due**

Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

**Mrs. Annette Rigan Memorial Mitten Tree Donations Due**

Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

**St. Thomas Christmas Party**

Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> – Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

**No School ~ Christmas Break**

## From the Headmaster

As we come to the close of the calendar year, we look to the upcoming season of sharing the good news of St. Thomas School with our regional Catholic Community and your help is indispensable. Please consider making a short, informal video per Chris Russ's guidance below and following our St. Thomas School Facebook page.

### Parent Support of St. Thomas School~

- Prospective St. Thomas parents need to hear from the parents of current students! Please record a 30-60 second parent testimonial video answering the question, "Why do you send your children to St. Thomas?" This video should be informal and direct. We would love to share these videos online so that parents considering St. Thomas can hear directly from their peers about the good work that this school is doing. Please send these videos to Chris Russ ([cruss@sta2.org](mailto:cruss@sta2.org)) and also let us know if you need any help or have any questions.
- If you haven't done so already, [please like and follow the St. Thomas School Facebook page](#). Our Facebook page is now being updated with current St. Thomas School events several times per week. Take a look!

## St. Thomas Christmas Giving Tree

In conjunction with this season of generosity, St. Thomas School has adopted two of our families who are in need of our help. Please consider signing up at [Christmas Families](#) to purchase one of the gifts listed, or go in on a gift with another family. Please wrap your present and place a removable label stating what the gift is on the outside (for sorting purposes). Please turn the gift cards into the office, wrapped gifts may be placed under the tree by your student. Please turn your gift in by **Tuesday, December 15th**.

## Gift a Book to Our Library This Christmas

Our school library has been a place of discovery and joy this year! Mrs. Davignon, our school librarian, is grateful for the gift our parents have made of many new books to our collection. There are so many voracious readers at St. Thomas, and she wants to continue cultivating the joy of reading in our students! We have a wish list of many books that would support our curriculum and bring new stories of meaning, character and joy to our children.

Please visit our St. Thomas Amazon Wishlist to make a donation:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/65KG2HEG9SD3?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/65KG2HEG9SD3?ref=wl_share)

## Mrs. Annette Rigan Memorial Mitten Tree

Once again, we honor the memory of St. Thomas classroom teacher Annette Rigan by collecting new mittens and gloves for needy children and adults on our entry way Christmas Tree. Mrs. Rigan taught 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at St. Thomas from 1988 until she passed away from breast cancer in 1992. She was loved by all her students and delighted in surprising them each year with a pair of hand-made mittens as a Christmas gift. We hope

that you will help honor the gift of learning given by Mrs. Rigan and all the teachers of St. Thomas by donating a pair of new mittens or gloves from now until December 17<sup>th</sup>. Contributions may be turned into the main office or to the homeroom teacher. Thank you~

## To Join In~ Please Contact:

### **Room Parents:**

Preschool/3 Year Old: [Katy Kelly](#)  
Preschool/4 Year Old: [Pia Gavigan](#)  
Kindergarten: [Angela Russ](#)  
First Grade: [Laura Johnson](#)  
Second/Third Grade: [Laura Fisher](#)  
Fourth Grade: [Victor Jeyaraj](#)  
Fifth/Sixth Grade: [Cynthia Rutherford](#)  
Seventh/Eighth Grade: [Erin Savarino](#)

### **Team Chairs:**

Curriculum: [Erin Savarino](#)  
Library: [Sarah Davignon](#)  
Marketing: [Mike Hanley](#)  
Parent Association: [Pai Gavigan](#), [Laura Johnson](#)  
Spirituality: [Rebecca Pearson](#)

### **Spring Gala Committee (Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup>):**

[TBD](#)

**Timothy J. DiLaura**  
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[www.sta2.org/school](http://www.sta2.org/school)