



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

St. Thomas School Community Newsletter February 8, 2021

Scholastica Term Virtue: Docility

School Year Theme ~ *gratia cantantes* (Gratitude)

School Mission Statement

In partnership with Catholic families, St. Thomas seeks to nurture future Catholic scholars, leaders and saints.

Assisted by the Holy Spirit, we inspire students to grow intellectually through a classical Catholic curriculum, forming confident youth leaders grounded in virtue. We guide children to become friends of Jesus—to love as He loves, and join our Catholic community's rich tradition of proclaiming the Kingdom and bettering our world.



Congratulations to our students who are being recognized for their excellence in responding to our Catholic Schools Week handwriting and essay contest.

For excellence in handwriting demonstrating diligence, beauty, and acuity of form—we recognize the following students who are being awarded with a St. Thomas emerald green fountain pen:

Kindergarten: **David Kelly**
First Grade: **Michael Russ**
Second Grade: **Ariel Sharp**
Third Grade: **Ella Meinhart**
Fourth Grade: **Lydia Cherney**
Fifth/Sixth Grade: **Sophia Savarino**
Seventh/Eight Grade: **Jasmine Dinh**



For excellence is responding to the essay prompt “How does St. Thomas School make you a better person?”—we recognize the following students with their essays being published in the newsletter and the 2020-2021 yearbook.

Second Grade: **Oliver Derderian**

Third Grade: **Luke Eustice**

Fourth Grade: **Serena Jeyaraj**

Fifth/Sixth Grade: **Fulton Deemer**

Seventh/Eight Grade: **Francis Rutherford**

We are proud to share with you the essay of 8th grader Francis Rutherford:

“How does St. Thomas School make you a better person?”

St. Thomas School helps me be a better person in a number of ways. First-by teaching me to recognize the good, the true, and the beautiful. By knowing what goodness, truth, and beauty are, I can make choices and do things that make me a better person. Second-by showing me kindness and love, and by making school like a second home. By doing this, St. Thomas School has taught me to show this kindness and love, and to always be ready to help and serve others. And third--by bringing me closer to God. At St. Thomas School, we go to Mass twice a week, Adoration once a week, and have time for silent prayer and meditation every day. This has greatly impacted my faith life in a positive way and made me a more holy person. St. Thomas School does everything they can to make their students better people and get them to Heaven.



Francis Rutherford



Mr. Moses explains the lower school Catholic School Week service projects to students who then diligently set to work. On the right, our Kindergarteners diligently remove scuff marks from the floor using tennis balls (which Mr. Moses gave them to keep!~)



Preschoolers are greeted each morning in the hallway by our Michigan winter birds which Mrs. Gruetzmacher's class painted including the Morning Dove, Cardinal, Dark Eyed Junco, Downy Woodpecker, Nut Hatch, Blue Jay, Goldfinch, Sparrow and the Tufted Titmouse. On the right, Sadie Goff works carefully to make a rosary.

~ Events Calendar ~

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

Monday, February 1, 2021

First Day of 2021-2022 School Year Registration
Current Family Registration Due **Thursday March 11th**
Next Grade Seating Reserved up to March 11th

Monday, February 15th

No School – Winter Break

Wednesday, February 17th

Ash Wednesday

All School Mass & Ashes at 9:45 AM
St. Thomas School Parents Curbside Communion & Ashes @ 2:45 PM

Saturday, February 20th

2nd Grade First Reconciliation at 10:30 AM

Thursday, March 11th

Current Family Registrations Due

Saturday, May 22nd

2nd Grade First Communion at 10:30 AM

From the Headmaster

2021-2022 Enrollment Registration ~ We encourage all our currently enrolled families to reserve their seat for the new school year by submitting their enrollment materials by March 11th. Please note that we are limiting our Kindergarten through 8th grade class size to 16 students given the role that individual student dialogue plays in our classical curriculum and pedagogy. We will begin to accept newly enrolling families registrations in open seats beginning March 12th. Registrations received after classes have reached 16 students will go on an enrollment wait list. We are currently planning on separating our currently combined 2nd and 3rd grade class into separate classrooms pending our enrollment.

St. Thomas Catholic Student Reading Room and Library Collection Update



Buy a Book to Enrich the St. Thomas Library Collection

From Mrs. Sarah Davignon, St. School Librarian

Our St. Thomas school library has been a place of discovery and joy this year! During Catholic Schools Week, you can help to build this incredibly valuable resource by making a book donation to our library. Your gift will help to cultivate the joy of reading in our students!



Please support the St. Thomas school library by purchasing a book from our Amazon wish list: bit.ly/STA2LIBRARY. These books have been carefully selected to support the St. Thomas curriculum and to bring new stories of meaning, character, and virtue to our children.

We are glad to recognize the donor or to honor the memory of someone you name on a bookplate placed in the book(s) you donate. Please contact our school librarian Sarah Davignon at sdavignon@sta2.org if you have any questions. If you would prefer to purchase a book on the wish list from a vendor other than Amazon, please let her know so she can update the list.

Help Create a Catholic Students' Reading Room

Our whole vision for the library extends beyond the books we have available. We want to create a space where our children delight in the activity of reading, a place where they can stop, rest, and savor the words and illustrations they encounter in our books.

We are collecting art and updating our furniture to make the Library a space of repose - to turn the Library into a Reading Room. If you are interested in donating to this effort, please take a look at our MyRegistry.com wish list or contact Sarah Davignon at sdavignon@sta2.org. Below is a floor plan of our much anticipated reading room.

