



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

## St. Thomas School Community Newsletter October 25, 2021

***Margaret Mary Term Virtue:  
Kindness***

School Year Theme ~ *Beneficentia* (Generosity)

### *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.



**St. Thomas Girls JV Volleyball Team Bring Home 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Trophy~!**

**Congratulations to both our Varsity and Junior Varsity girls volley teams and Coach Cullen and Coach Gary for their competitive season on the volleyball court this fall!**



Our thanks to Mrs. Gavigan, all our wonderful parents and teachers who make possible our Fall Festival~!

## ~ Events Calendar

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



Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>  
**November Lunch Orders Due**  
~See attached order form~

Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

*Join us~!*

**School Development Teams Meeting**

7:00PM ~ Parish Hall

Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

**St. Thomas Parish All Saints Day Party**

In the gym after the 9:30 and 11:30 AM Masses



Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup>

**St. Thomas School All Saints Day Dress Up-  
All School Noon Mass  
and Classroom Festivities**

Wednesday--Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup>

**Margaret Mary Term**

**Parent ~ Teacher Conferences**

Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>

**No School**

Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

*See the attached flyer to purchase tickets~*

**St. Thomas Parent Evening**

with **Dr. Mary Healy**

Made in the Image of God: *Faith, Gender and Education*

Wine and Hors D'oeuvres

7:00 PM ~ Parish Hall

## From the Headmaster

### Upcoming Parent/Teacher Conferences

Please find below Sign-up links to reserve an appointment to meet with your child's teacher(s) for conferences taking place Thursday afternoon and evening, November 4<sup>th</sup>. Fall parent/teacher conferences are required for all our parents (at least on parent) at this critical point in our school year. We will seek to strengthen our partnership with you for the success of your child as we ensure a common understanding of their strengths and

needs, and the supports that both teachers and parents will provide as needed. Teacher/parent conferences will take place in the parish hall. Miss Block and Miss Morrissey's conferences will take place together with parents.

Please sign up for an appointment with your child's teacher as soon as you are able to plan a time:

[Mrs. Wood's Preschool Class](#)

[Mr. Pietryga - Kindergarten](#)

[Miss Kreifels - 1st Grade](#)

[Miss Cullen - 2nd Grade](#)

[Miss Fischer - 3rd Grade](#)

[Mr. Creaser - 4th Grade](#)

[Mr. Snyder - 5th Grade](#)

[Miss Morrissey & Miss Block - 6th, 7th & 8th Grade](#)

### **Made in the Image of God: *Faith, Gender and Education***

On **Friday evening, November 19<sup>th</sup>** you are invited to a unique opportunity to be equipped as a parent or educator to both guide and protect your children from the confusion and errors that are being infused into modern cultural dialogue regarding the nature of the human person and sexuality. Dr. Mary Healy, of Sacred Heart Major Seminary, will provide a clear presentation on the Church's profound and beautiful teaching of the Theology of the Body which offers a clear refutation of these errors and a rich and empowering understanding of our sexuality as a reflection of our being made in the image and likeness of the Mystery of Love Who is God. Through this teaching you will be able to verbalize for yourself, your family, and those the Lord calls you to, insights into the design of God in our being made in His image--a sure foundation of happiness in our divinely ordained sexual identity.



Please see the attach flyer for details on purchasing tickets for this evening of formation and fellowship, with wine and hors d'oeuvres. Thank you for your \$25 donation per ticket proceeds from which will allow us to support our Theology of Body Curriculum at St. Thomas School.

### **COVID Procedures Reminder**

Please find below the symptom profiles we use, as recommended by the Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, to determine potential COVID infections. We require a negative result of at least the at-home antigen test (or the lab PCR test) before a child is able to return to school if they have either one high risk symptom or two low risk symptoms. We are all grateful for our parents' collaboration in ensuring the health and safety of the school community.

#### **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

#### Lower Risk Symptoms~

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

## Fighting Irish Faithful~

### The 2021 Boys Basketball and Girls Cheer seasons are fast approaching!

**Boys Basketball** will begin on **Monday, October 25th**. Coach Brian Stange will not be returning this year. (If you know a candidate or are interested in coaching, have them [contact me](#) as soon as possible.) I encourage any and all **4th-8th graders**, that might be interested in playing basketball, to come out and give it a try. This is also an excellent way to stay in shape or get ready for other sports. **Practice times are from 3:30pm until 5:00pm, Monday through Friday**. If you are not able to make every practice due to other commitments, please don't let that stop you from playing. Many of our families are in that situation and we practice every day to make sure as many players can come as often as they are able.

Please come dressed in appropriate athletic attire and practice jerseys. If you didn't play basketball last year, you will be able to buy a practice jersey. I will host a parent meeting at **4:30 pm on Monday, October 25th** to go over important info and answer any questions. To play school sports, participants are required to pay a \$50 fee and provide an up to date sports physical. The sports physical must be dated after April 15, 2021 and clear the student for physical activity.

Please make your \$50 fee payment through eFunds by Friday **November 12th**. If that will be a problem of any kind, please let me know as soon as you can.

Thanks and Go Irish!!

Conrad Miller, St. Thomas Athletic Director

## St. Thomas Parish All Saints Day Party

You're invited to an All Saints Party in the Parish Hall after the 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Masses on Sunday October 31. Children are welcome to wear their saint costumes during Mass and at the party! You can help contribute to the party by bringing a bag of candy or by signing up to run a saints station. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040945afae2cabff2-stthomas2>



## 5<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> Grade EDGE Nights

Join our middle school youth group for 6th-8th graders! Edge Middle school youth group meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month from **7pm-8:30pm**. This Thursday is open gym! Location: St. Thomas school gym. For more information, contact Caroline Biskner at [cbiskner@sta2.org](mailto:cbiskner@sta2.org)

## St. Thomas Development Plan Update ~ Join us!

We invite everyone interested in the future of St. Thomas School to join us at our upcoming team meetings at which we will develop

- A new mission statement,
- Statements of our cultural values for students, faculty and parents,
- Operational and crisis management plans, and
- Marketing and development plans

As we look to the continued growth and development of St. Thomas School. Please feel welcome to contact our team leads for more information. Join us in the parish hall at 7:30 PM on~

**Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**      **Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Mission and Vision:** Lead ~ [Mike Hanley](#)

**Cultural Values:** Lead ~ [Lindsey Robitaille](#)

**Operational & Crisis Management Plans:** Lead ~ [Tim DiLaura](#)

**Marketing & Development Plans:** Lead ~ [Chris Russ](#)