



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

## St. Thomas School Community Newsletter November 15, 2021

***Nicholas Term Virtue: Foresight***  
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.



**Made in the Image of God:**  
*Faith, Gender and Education*  
with Dr. Mary Healy

Sacred Heart Major Seminary  
Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Hall  
~ Wine and hors d'oeuvres served ~

RSVP via email by **Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>** to Laura Steffy at [lsteffy@sta2.org](mailto:lsteffy@sta2.org) with the number of seats to be reserved. Purchase your tickets by visiting:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stthomasannarbor> .

Select 'School Fundraiser' from the fund drop-down menu. Please donate **\$25** per ticket.

Proceeds will go to St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School.



***Our Presenter Dr. Mary Healy***

Dr. Mary Healy is professor of Scripture at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit and a bestselling author and international speaker. She is a general editor of the Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture and author of two of its volumes, *The Gospel of Mark* and *Hebrews*. Her other books include *The Spiritual Gifts Handbook* and *Healing*. Dr. Healy serves the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity as a member of the Pentecostal-Catholic International Dialogue. She was appointed by Pope Francis as one of the first three women ever to serve on the Pontifical Biblical Commission.



## ***St. Thomas Annual Food Drive***

*Benefitting the St. Thomas Vincent de Paul Society  
And Hope Clinic Food Pantry*

**Please have students bring in your food items**

**Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>**

(The class bringing in the most food items will have a Christmas Hot Chocolate and Treat Get-together!)



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

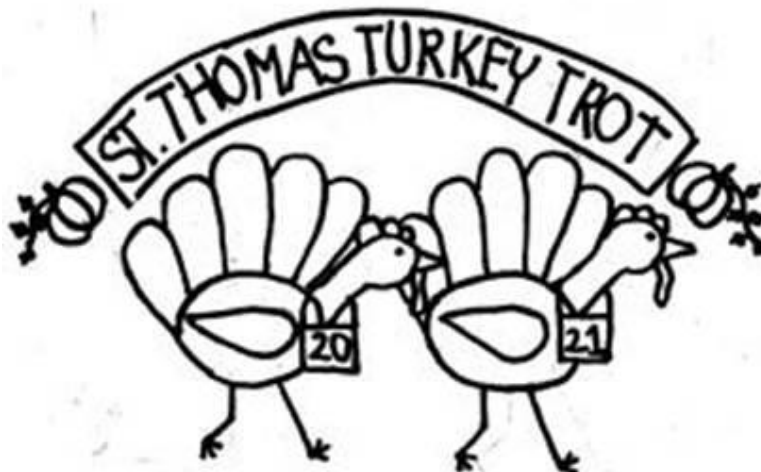
*Nascantur in Admirazione*  
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## *Christmas Poinsettia, Wreath & Garland Sale!*

Decorate for Christmas and help support St. Thomas School by purchasing these beautiful and long lasting Christmas Poinsettias, Wreaths and Roping from Pinters Flowers. Order forms with payment are due to the school office by **Monday, December 6th** by 12pm. Your items will be available for pick up on **Tuesday, December 14th** in the Parish Hall from 1pm to 4pm.

Please use e-Funds to make your payment or attach a check made out to St. Thomas to your order form which is attached. *Thank you!*



## **St. Thomas 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Turkey Trot**

Raising Funds for Family Life Services Pregnancy  
Counseling Center

*Please support your child and Family Life Services by seeking pledges  
and completing the attached pledge sheet for this Friday's Trot—  
Thank you!*

## ~ Events Calendar ~

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



Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>



### **St. Thomas Annual Food Drive**

Benefitting the St. Thomas Vincent de Paul Society  
And Hope Clinic Food Pantry

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

### **St. Thomas 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Turkey Trot**

Raising Funds for Family Life Services Pregnancy Counseling Center

***Attached Pledge Sheet Due Friday—Thank you!***

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

### **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

*See the attached flyer to purchase tickets~*

**Last day to purchase tickets-tomorrow: Tuesday, November 16th**

Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>

### **December Lunch Order Form Due**

*See attached order form*

### **Last Day of St. Thomas Food Drive**

Wednesday - Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>

**No School ~ Thanksgiving Break**

Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

### **Gabriel and Raphael House Jean Day**

Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

### **St. Thomas Christmas Flower Orders Due**

*See attached order form for details.*



Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>  
**No School**  
**Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>  
**Winter Celebration of Wonder**  
**6:30 PM ~ St. Thomas Parish Hall**  
Upper School Instrumental Music Ensemble Concert  
St. Thomas Strings Ensemble  
Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom Poem Recitations  
Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Studio Art Show

Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>  
**St. Thomas Christmas Choral Concert**  
6:30 PM ~ St. Thomas Church

## From the Headmaster

This Friday we invite all our parents to participate in an evening to equip us to effectively guide our children in a time of significant confusion about the truth of the human person and the messages they have/will receive from our surrounding culture. **As Pope Francis has said:**

*Today children—children!—are taught in school that everyone can choose his or her sex. Why are they teaching this?*

*Let us not play with truths. It's true that behind all this we find gender ideology. In books, kids learn that it's possible to change one's sex. Could gender, to be a woman or to be a man, be an option and not a fact of nature? This leads to this error. Let us call things by their names.*

Join us this Friday evening to learn how the Theology of Body can help you understand and communicate the beautiful and profound truth of the nature of the human person—even as we do so, from Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade in our Theology of the Body curriculum at St. Thomas Catholic School.

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

with Dr. Mary Healy  
Sacred Heart Major Seminary

Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Hall

~ Wine and hors d'oeuvres served ~



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### **COVID-19 Update:**

- Please visit our [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) on our website to view ongoing public updates.
- The past 2 weeks have seen the following case numbers:
  - November 7 – November 13: 6 students—3 resulting in student exposure and quarantines
  - November 14 – to Present: 3 students—2 resulting in student exposure and quarantines
  - Note that a child may test positive for COVID-19 and not expose other students based on various circumstances of their not being in school during the 48 hour period before the onset of symptoms when potentially contagious (e.g. school days off, being home due to sibling illness, not scheduled in preschool, etc.)
- Presently there is no evidence of cases involving in-school transmission.
- Should you child display the symptoms following the symptom panel below and you decide to test your child for COVID-19, please provide Mr. DiLaura your test results the same day you test/receive the result—thank you.

Below are symptom profiles, 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

### **Making Payments to St. Thomas School**

Last school year we adopted the e-Funds online payment method to facilitate the payment of lunch orders, athletics fees, fund raising contributions, special event payments, field trip costs, ESP charges, etc. There is a fee charged by the eFunds platform, which, when the payment amount is small, can be a unreasonable percentage of the payment. We therefore recommend that you accumulate charges (not to exceed a month) and note the following fee schedule:

**Electronic Funds Transfer from Checking Account:** \$1.25 for any amount  
**Credit Card Charge:** 3%

We are also now again allowing checks to be written out to *St. Thomas School* and turned into the school office for any payments made for school expenses.

## **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, 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](#)