



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

St. Thomas School Community Newsletter

November 9, 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.



St. Thomas celebrates *Kindness*~!

Congratulations to our Margaret-Mary Virtue of the Term Award
Recipients Thank you for you witness and model of the virtue of Kindness
at St. Thomas~!

Kindergarten—**Claire Ordiway** (not present)

First Grade—**Savina Jeyaraj**
Second Grade—**Lucy Atzinger**
Third Grade—**Mia Chavez**
Fourth Grade—**Gemma Carley**
Fifth Grade—**Peyton Barwig**
Sixth/Seventh Grade—**Julian Magenau** (not present)
Eight Grade—**Angelina Perez** (not present)
Faculty—**Miss Morrissey**
Faculty—**Mr. Pietryga**

Please read the beautiful words given by our teachers explaining why each of these students received this recognition (attached).



Little Flowers are Blooming~!

Thank you Mrs. Hanley and all our parent and student volunteers who are making our Little Flowers community of girls grow in grace after the virtue and witness of St. Therese of Lisieux—the Our Lord's Little Flower.

~ Events Calendar

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



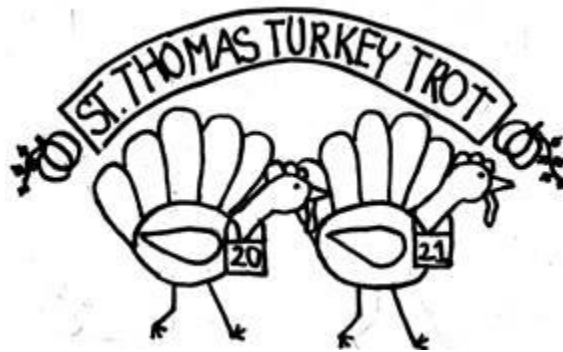
Friday, November 12th
Gabriel House Jean Day

Monday, November 15th – 19th



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

Friday, November 19th



St. Thomas 2nd Annual Turkey Trot
Raising Funds for Family Life Services Pregnancy Counseling Center
See Attached Pledge Sheet

Friday, November 19th
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: Tuesday, November 16th

Wednesday - Friday, November 24th -26th
No School ~ Thanksgiving Break

Friday, December 3rd
Gabriel and Raphael House Jean Day

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

Tuesday, December 14th
St. Thomas Christmas Choral Concert
6:30 PM ~ St. Thomas Church

From the Headmaster

As modern society continues on its course it becomes obvious, as Pope Emeritus Benedict described:

“The real problem at this moment of our history is that God is disappearing from the human horizon, and, with the dimming of the light which comes from God, humanity is losing its bearings, with increasingly evident destructive effects.”

A significant example of this dimming of the light and loss of bearings is the increasingly pervasive and vocal narrative that gender is a personal choice, an option within a spectrum of personal identity choices that an individual has the power to discard, change and adapt. The only clear voice communicating truth and health and hope in our day is the Catholic Church’s teaching of an anthropology grounded in our being created *by a Creator*, and created in the image and likeness of that Creator. In this originating act we are given a nature--inviolable and determined by a power and glory transcending any act or power of human freedom.

In this nature is our personal home, our identity, peace, and potentials. In our day, the age old effort of the human will to shirk all restraint and limits, even of our own nature, is being confronted and contained by the Church’s teaching on the Theology of the Body and its implications for the issues of sexual identity. St. Thomas School is offering a unique opportunity to grow in our personal grasp of these implications and our being able to use them in defending our children, our families and community and keeping their light from dimming in the present darkness. Join us for our upcoming presentation by Dr. Mary Healy.

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

On **Friday evening, November 19th** 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.

RSVP via email by **Tuesday, November 16th** to Laura Steffy at 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



We Welcome the Dauw Family!

This Monday we welcomed the Dauw Family to St. Thomas, Owen in 7th grade, Ellie in 5th, and Aida in 2nd. Casey and Colleen Dauw live in the Dexter area. Isaac (4) and Uzziah (2) are their two youngest boys. Welcome to our St. Thomas School Community!

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.

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

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 2nd

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

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

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

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