



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

St. Thomas School Community Newsletter January 31, 2022

*Scholastica Term Virtue: **Decorum***

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.



Catholic Schools Week 2022

Thank you Lord for St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School!

For our families, students, teachers and staff!

*Bless this school that we may continue to give You glory
"in our school work, in the choices we make, and how we treat others."
(from our daily student pledge)*



Kindergarten students help in our Monday Catholic Schools service project activity, washing down the cafeteria tables top to bottom! Lower school and upper school students had service projects in the church and throughout the school as we give thanks for and celebrate being a part of St. Thomas Catholic School~!

Our Catholic Schools Week Activities

Monday

Student Service Projects

Inter-class Penny War Begins!

The Prize: An in-class pizza party, dessert, and class activity~!
Proceeds go to Family Life Services.

Teacher and Staff Wall of Gratitude

Student and parent notes posted outside classrooms.

Tuesday

Composition & Handwriting Contest

Kindergarten through 8th Grade

Handwriting Prize by Class—Fountain Pen

Composition Prize by Class—Publication in St. Thomas Newsletter and Yearbook



Wednesday

All-school Living Rosary

Priests and Religious Q&A

Thursday

Classroom Holy Spirit Talk & Prayer Ministry

By Mrs. Barb Yaich, Mrs. Teri Murphy, Mrs. Amy Nobuch,
Mrs. Anita Janiszewska, and Mrs. Raquel Whitlock

Classroom Trivia Bowl

Friday

First Friday Confessions

Third – Eighth Grade

Eucharistic Procession

through school to church before All School Noon Mass

Teachers v Students Volleyball Game

~ Events Calendar ~

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



Sunday, January 30th – Saturday, February 6th
Catholic Schools Week

Wednesday, February 2nd
Leadership Dress Day
Nicholas Term Virtue Recognition Ceremony
(after Noon Mass)

Wednesday, February 16th
St. Thomas School Development Committee Meeting

Note New Date~!

Parish Hall ~ 7:00 PM

Thursday, February 17th
Michael Angel House Point Winner Jean Day

Friday, February 18th – Monday, February 21st
No School – Presidents' Day Break

Tuesday, March 1st
2022-2023 Enrollment Registration Due

Thursday, March 10th
Michael Angel House Point Winner Jean Day

Friday, March 11th – Monday, March 14th
No School
Winter Break & Teacher Professional Development

From the Headmaster

Catholic School Week

A Catholic Education is simply a *human* education. A Catholic education is simply the experience, the formation, and the encounter of a child, in all the dimensions of his or her personhood—bodily, intellectual, emotional, social, and spiritual, with the One Who created them and seeks to prepare them for an eternal life with Him.

But wait--what about getting ready for high school, for college, for professional responsibilities, for making it in a competitive world? At the heart of a parent's choice to enroll their child in a Catholic School—and in St. Thomas Catholic School in particular, is *Faith*. Faith allows us to truly see the real context of our child's life, the means of their happiness, and Who will bring them to a secure and peaceful state of life. In Faith does a parent see the deeper truths of what will provide their child with the confidence, strength and self-understanding to know truly who they are, what are their gifts, and what those gifts are for.

Only in a Catholic school does a child discover their true dignity, their true potential, and the joy of living these out—for the simple reason that only in a Catholic School does a child enter into the full communion and knowledge of the One after Whom they are an image and likeness. An in this knowledge and communion a child can flourish, experiencing the joy of fully developing their human skills of language, thought, creativity, aesthetics, and moral conviction.

We are indeed celebrating Catholic Education at St. Thomas School—this gift of the Church, this gift of Jesus to his children, and we thank our parents and teachers for the gift they make of themselves for their part in Christ's love and wisdom revealed to our children at St. Thomas Catholic School.

Enrollment for the 2022-2023 School Year

Current families will have been provided enrollment registration materials due March 1st. Registration fees will be credited toward tuition only for those registrations received by this date. Beginning March 2nd, enrollment will be open to new family registration with classroom sizes limited to 16 students in Kindergarten and 18 students in 1st through 8th grades. Please feel welcome to contact Mr. DiLaura if you have any questions about your child's enrollment at St. Thomas School next school year. We appreciate your informing us of any changes in your family circumstances affecting your 2022-2023 enrollment at St. Thomas. Please also feel welcome to call the school if you have any questions on the completion of your registration materials.

St. Thomas School Library & Reading Room Update

Our school library has transformed over the past three years. During this Catholic Schools Week, we want to thank all who have donated books, furniture, and art to our library. We are creating a space that blesses our children from pre-K through to 8th grade. If you would like to donate and be a part of shaping our school community, please consider donating to our Library through the wish lists below:

Our Book Wishlist -

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/65KG2HEG9SD3?ref=wl_share

Our Art/Furniture Wishlist - <https://www.myregistry.com/organization/st-thomas-school-library-ann-arbor-mi/2658281>

St. Thomas School Bookkeeper Position Opening

Mrs Teresa Ordiway will be moving on from her position as our school book keeper by the middle of April. Applications will be accepted through February. Please see the attached position opening for a description of the responsibilities. Interested parties may send a resume and letter of introduction to apply to Mr. DiLaura.

COVID Update:

Based on revised CDC guidelines, the Washtenaw County Department of Health has issued **new requirements** in regard to isolation of positive COVID-19 cases and quarantining of exposure individuals.

- Positive COVID Case Protocols:
 - Isolate at home for at least 5 days after symptom onset: Day 0 is the day symptoms started or test sample was collected.
 - On day 5, does case have no symptoms or symptoms are resolving?
 - If yes, can stop isolation on day 6. *Continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others through day 10.*
 - If no, should NOT stop isolation - continue isolating until symptoms resolve or 10 days have gone by since tested positive or first developed symptoms. If case has a fever, continue to isolate until fever goes away.
 - "Resolving symptoms" means symptoms have gotten noticeably better. Some symptoms (like fatigue and loss of smell) may last a longer time
- COVID Exposure Protocols:
 - If exposed in a lower-risk school setting no contact tracing is required. This includes most in-school contacts, including classrooms, buses, lunch, and most extra-curricular activities. Individuals should closely monitor symptoms for 10 days.
 - If exposed in a higher-risk setting, complete contact tracing and 5 day quarantine per above.
 - Household contacts of a positive case.
 - Outbreaks: if part of outbreak class/group.
 - NOTE: High risk exposure is also eligible for the 'Test and Stay' quarantine with 10 day masking and testing based on vaccination status, previous COVID-19 illness (within last 90 days).
- **Current St. Thomas Cases:**
 - Lower School Faculty (1)—low risk exposure
 - 3rd Grade Student (1)—low risk exposure

School wide information is available on our [COVID-19 Dashboard](#).

COVID Case History:

Week of:	Number of Cases
JAN 3	2
JAN 10	11
JAN 17	1
JAN 24	2