



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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

St. Thomas K-9 School Newsletter August 13, 2022

School Mission Statement

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School exists to form disciples of Jesus Christ. Educating in the Eucharistic culture and classical intellectual tradition of the Catholic Church, students are led to encounters with the transcendental good, true, and beautiful. In wonder, confidence, and virtue, students are prepared to engage our broken world for the glory of God, the good of others, and for their own sanctification.

~ Events Calendar ~

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

August 15th-19th, 22nd

Staff Orientation

Monday, August 22nd

All-School Picnic Family Picnic at Southeast Area Park, 4-7 PM

More information to come!

Tuesday, August 23rd

First Day of School - Half Day

Students dismissed at 11:40

Friday, September 2nd-Monday, September 5th

Labor Day Weekend Break

Wednesday, September 7th

Parent Orientation Night (parish hall), 6:30-8:00 PM

Final Friday for Divine Mercy Chaplet!

We have one more Friday to go to pray a chaplet for the upcoming school year. Thank you for all your prayers already!

News

Staffing Announcement

I am pleased to introduce Mrs. Donna Nelson, who will be teaching Iconography to the 9th graders on Fridays throughout the school year. Mrs. Nelson is a member of St. Thomas and lives in Ann Arbor with her husband. She has been drawn to the truth, goodness, and beauty she sees in sacred art and architecture. After being introduced to iconography about 15 years ago, she began studying iconography under a Byzantine Catholic priest and developed a deep love for this ancient and sacred art form. She has completed several icons since then and continues to write icons. Mrs. Nelson is excited to share her love and passion of iconography with the high schoolers, always directing them to the true and perfect Icon, who is Christ!



Robotics Club

Bob DiMattia, a father of a new family who is in the process of enrolling at the school, has been running a robotics club at his children's former school and is interested in starting one at St. Thomas as well. A flyer is attached in this same email with his contact info if you have any questions or want to join. The season would run through the fall and end in December. Other details forthcoming.

Astro-Turf Has Been Installed!

I don't have a picture yet, but it looks great! Plans are also moving forward for the retaining wall around the playground. So it looks like we'll have two playground shut-downs, one in the fall (for the wall) and one in the spring (for the playground itself). But it will be worth it!

School Policies/Reminders

P.E. Clothes

I mentioned in July that the 6th-8th graders will once more be required to wear gym clothes for P.E. class. These are purchased by the school and given to the students during their first day of P.E. class. **The fee for gym clothes is \$24, which is due by Friday, August 26th.**

When Tardy...

On Tuesdays-Fridays, most or all of the school will be in the church by 8:00. **If you arrive at 8:00 or later on a day when they have Mass, please escort your child(ren) into the church so they can join their class. Please do not simply drop your child off at the church or at the office.** Mrs. Steffy is not interested in running a child-shuttle. As a reminder, doors open at 7:45, children can go to their classroom at 7:50, and the tardy bell rings at 7:55. If some classes will not be attending Mass on certain days, I'll send out a schedule so that you'll know whether your child has Mass on a given day. On Mondays, parents arriving at or past 8:00 may simply bring their child(ren) to the office.

Lunch Ordering

Hot lunch ordering will begin for the month of October (more details to come). **Please note that, this year, the school will not place a lunch order for any student whose parent did not submit an accompanying payment with their order.** That will cut down on the confusion and headache surrounding outstanding balances.

Drop-Off and Dismissal Reminders

If children are to be dropped off, they may only be dropped off on Elizabeth Street in front of the school entrance. Please note that there will be no crossing guard. For dismissal at 3:25, parents should wait in the parking lot to pick up children, who will be led by their teachers to the playground to be released from there. Children not picked up by 3:30 will be taken to afternoon ESP and parents billed accordingly.

Volunteers Needed!

St. Thomas Parish Picnic

The annual parish picnic will be held on Sunday, September 11th from 1:00-4:00 PM. We will need parent volunteers to help run various stations and provide food. I am including the sign-up form links. Thanks!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040945afae2cabff2-stthomas3>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040945afae2cabff2-parish>

Sacristans for the School Masses

Now that the school has its own Mass at 8:00, we will need to provide sacristans. Please let me know if you'd be able to help out on a consistent basis, either for part of the year or all of it. You would need to arrive by the end of the 7:00 Mass (7:40?) and help out after Mass.

Substitute Teachers

Please let me know if you'd be interested in being on the substitute teaching list. This is a major service to the school and any help would be greatly appreciated. The school pays subs \$12 an hour.

God bless you all. I look forward to meeting you all in person!

In Christ,

Michael Sauter